ACC Mission Statement

To provide an accessible, responsive learning environment that facilitates the achievement of educational, professional and personal goals by our students and other members of our communities in an atmosphere that embraces academic excellence, diversity and innovation.

- NCA Accreditation Update: ACC’s NCA Accreditation Oversight Committee (Cheryl Traff, Scott Finger, Lin Claussen, Patrick Enright, Ted Snow, Kea Kercheval and myself) have met and drafted an NCA Self Study Outline. Please keep an eye on our Intranet postings re: NCA accreditation. We will soon be identifying and announcing the Chair of this oversight committee who will drive the process.

- Colorado has excelled in achieving the performance goals under the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act. The state’s performance in using Perkins funds is gauged with 13 different measures. Colorado’s score this year was 83.71% as compared to 44.98% last year. The large increase makes it likely that Colorado will receive incentive funds! Much credit goes to the CTE instructors around the state.

- Regis University’s Undergraduate Program staff has asked ACC staff and faculty to nominate students for the Daniels Opportunity Award. A $125,000 grant from the Daniels Fund for adult transfer students enables Regis to award up to 12 Pell-eligible Colorado community college transfer students with up to $4000 each year in order to complete their baccalaureate degrees at Regis. Applications are accepted through April 15 and students must enroll at Regis during Spring or Summer 2005 semesters. See www.transfertoregis.org and click on “Arapahoe Community College” for details.

- To refresh memories on travel procedures: Requests for travel must be submitted in advance – not after the fact or the day before you want to leave. Tickets should not be purchased until approvals have been secured. Local travel (in state) requires the signatures of the department chair, appropriate VP/Exec. Dean and me. Out of state and out of country requests require all of the above plus System approval. Due to the need for efficiencies, any travel requests not tied to accreditation of programs will be highly scrutinized and critically reviewed, no matter what the funding source. Alternate methods of gaining the information offered at a conference and/or methods of sharing information with internal and external colleagues should be explored and presented to the appropriate administrator. ACC Travel Requests and Authorization forms can be found on the Intranet. Click on Administrative Services, then Accounting, then Forms.

- The main campus looked very festive over the holidays with the colored lighting. A big thank you goes out to Randy Alldridge, Tyler Malloy and Alex Ong for putting up and taking down lights. I also want to thank Bill Bradley, Bill Crabbs, Tom Roman, Jim Provancal, Dave O'Neil, Bill Peak, Ralph Oristanio, Randy Alldridge, Alex Ong, Joe Peak, Nick Glandon, and Tyler Malloy for the quick, efficient job of snow removal being done on campus. These guys are here in the wee hours of the morning (often in unspeakable cold) to make our arrival at work safer and more pleasant.

- I received a letter of thanks from the Colorado Combined Campaign in appreciation for ACC surpassing its goal and raising $3,505 for the charitable giving program. Thank you for your generosity.
• Frank Armijo, president of Trinidad State Junior College, announced his retirement on December 14. Also in mid-December, Bette Matkowski, president of Lamar Community College, announced her resignation to assume the presidency at Johnson & Wales University’s Denver campus. I wish them both the best in their next adventures.

• Don’t forget to drop by the Open House in the new Student Affairs Office and Career Center in M2820 on January 12 from 9 – 11 a.m.

• We’re playing with the big boys now thanks to the diligent efforts of Kim Larson-Cooney and Kelly Locascio!! ACC Community Ed home/lawn improvement presentations at the annual Colorado Garden and Home Show will be hosted by TLC’s Trading Spaces designer Frank Bielec. Yes…. Really! Frank will be there hobnobbing with our folks! For a schedule of events (January 22 – 30), visit www.gardeningcolorado.com. I give a big “green thumbs up” to the Community Ed instructors who are donating their time for these presentations. This is incredible, positive exposure for Arapahoe Community College.

• Please welcome the following staff who have been hired since November: (Faculty): Nancy McNamara, nursing; (Classified): Gene Iwen, Accounting Tech II; Chrystanna Waits, Program Assistant I; Miguel Chavez, Accounting Tech I; and Jaclyn Gallegos, Custodian I; (Administrators): Laurett Barrentine, Financial Reporting Acct.; Dorothy Shallcross, Lead Cashier; Thad Spaulding, Financial Aid/Veterans Affairs Coordinator; Scott Finger, VP for Instruction; Joe Lorenzo, Controller; and Uli Keeley, General Ledger Accountant. I look forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming All College Week sessions. Welcome back!

• ACC adjunct instructor Jerry O’Halloran is on the ballot for the Board of Directors for the Colorado State Employees Credit Union. He has served for 25 years on the CSECU Supervisory Committee. Ballots will be mailed in January.

• Speaking of the credit union, the Colorado Division of Financial Services recently voted to open CSECU membership to students and alumni of the Colorado Community College System. Please pass the word along. Anyone interested in joining this financial cooperative should call 303-832-4816 or visit www.csecu.org.

• The Colorado Department of Revenue reminds us that income tax forms can be filed electronically for faster refunds. Info at www.coloradoefile.state.co.us.

• January 26 will be the kickoff of RAK, CIA and MM. What’s that, you say… Wait and see…

“Life is not a final. It’s daily pop quizzes.”
-Ann Crittenden