Bert’s Alerts (June 3, 2005 issue)

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.

- Many, many thanks go out to Matt Jamison, Nancy Maksymovich and Dawn Olinek for coordinating a great graduation ceremony. I also want to congratulate the many volunteers who assisted with everything from handing out programs to helping with the “gowning up” process. Special thanks to Cheryl McFarren for an inspiring Commencement speech delivered in spite of a case of laryngitis (“The show must go on” is obviously her motto!). We have Hidemi Matsushita to thank for arranging for the wonderful musical performances during this special ceremony. Also appreciated are our stellar Media Center team and Campus Police. Thanks to Sallie Wolf and the Phi Theta Kappa volunteers. We received substantial local newspaper coverage on both the ACC graduation ceremony and the GED ceremony sponsored by Community Ed later that morning. As I’ve come to expect at ACC – a great team effort!

- Did you know that?

  **More than 6.5 million students now attend U.S. community colleges for credit.**

- COF: Please continue to remind current summer semester students (and late start course students) about the necessity for signing up for the College Opportunity Fund. Students and prospective students can simply click on the COF icon on ACC’s home page to complete the simple sign-up procedure. It is imperative that 100% of our students understand that this is how they will qualify for their state stipend.

- Tamra Ward, vice president for Public Affairs for the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, was elected the 2005-06 chair of the State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education during the May meeting. Barbara McKellar from Castle Rock, the principal and managing broker of Commercial Advisors LLC, was elected as vice-chair. We look forward to their leadership on the State Board.

- The community has stepped up to the plate with funds to keep the ACC pool operational. It is incredibly heartening to see the Littleton community willing to donate resources for valued non-core services in these tough fiscal times. The ACC pool will reopen on Monday, June 13 now that the boiler/heater has been replaced. Our Community Education summer aquatic classes will start on that date as well. If you haven’t been a pool user up to this point, June 13 sounds like a great day to start!

- The Colorado State Employees Credit Union (CSECU) is conducting an online survey in an effort to improve the credit union benefit to state employees and their families. To complete the survey, click on the following link: [http://www.dhilton.com/surveys/colorado_state/](http://www.dhilton.com/surveys/colorado_state/).

- Fred Giveans reports that Mark Barkmeier, an ACC student and incoming senior at Mountain Vista High School, placed 2nd in the C++ competition at the Colorado State Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) conference. He will compete this month at the national level. We wish him the best as he represents ACC.
• Congratulations to new leadership in Faculty Senate and Administrative Assembly. New Faculty Senate officers are Christine Gaudinski (president), Rosann Poltrone (vice president), Dianne Hall (secretary), Barb Stoner (faculty-at-large) and Don Melton (State Faculty Advisory Council representative). Cindy Murphy will be serving as chair of Administrative Assembly, Kim Mohr as Vice Chair and Janet Ludwig as Secretary/Treasurer.

• Kathy Holt has been a longtime friend of internationally-known ceramicists Jim and Nan McKinnell. In 1991, the ACC Ceramics program began raising the $10,000 necessary to establish the McKinnell Endowment honoring Jim and Nan McKinnell. On April 13 of this year, Jim McKinnell died at the age of 86. Nan, his wife for over 50 years, asked that friends make memorial donations to the endowment in lieu of flowers. The fund is now in excess of $12,000. In addition to her work establishing and assisting with the funding of this endowment fund, Kathy is writing a book about the lives and ceramics careers of the McKinnells entitled *Time in Tandem: James and Nan McKinnell, a Life in Clay*.

• The Office of College Development announces that ACC’s Town & Gown Society has voted to roll existing memorial donations toward the establishment of an endowment fund to be called the Town & Gown Scholarship Fund. When the fund meets the $10,000 endowment minimum, the interest will be used to fund scholarships for ACC students. The Town members of this group are longtime community supporters of ACC and its mission and we are grateful for this fundraising initiative on behalf of our students.

• Thanks to everyone for their parking patience while our parking lot resurfacing/repair work was being completed. Special appreciation goes out to the physical plant crew for scheduling this annual maintenance to avoid the fall semester registration rush.

• The Cerebral Palsy of Colorado 22nd Annual Exotic Sports Car Show and Concours D’Elegance will be held on ACC’s west lawn on Sunday. The courtesy press release with details is posted on our web site. If you like cars, this is a no-miss!

• The season is upon us when we have to be aware of the dangers of the mosquito-born West Nile Virus. Please follow these guidelines at work and away from work to decrease your risk of exposure: 1) Avoid mosquitoes by staying indoors at dawn and dusk when they are most active; 2) Wear long-sleeved shirts and pants while outdoors; 3) Apply insect repellent that contains DEET, following directions carefully; 4) Remove any standing water you see to reduce the mosquitoes’ breeding grounds. Symptoms of the disease generally appear 3 – 14 days after exposure and include fever, headache, body aches, and occasionally skin rash and swollen lymph nodes.

• The good just keeps coming from the library’s spring booksale. Phyllis Iadarola coordinated an effort with Metro State student Zack Vigil who was doing an internship with the Colorado Dept. of Corrections. Zack picked up the 25 or so boxes of books remaining after the used booksale for screening and distribution to various corrections facilities.

• Speaking of good works, have you seen Juan Greening’s new look? Juan had his 12-year-old ponytail lopped off and he donated the long hair to Locks for Love, an organization that will fashion the donation into wigs for cancer patients.

>“People often say that this or that person has not yet found himself. But the self is not something that one finds. It is something one creates.”

  -Thomas Szasz