**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:** The visit from Mary Breslin, ACC’s liaison to The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, was a rousing success! All the scheduled sessions with Mary were well attended by a cross-section of the ACC community, including members of the ACC Advisory Council and Foundation Board. Mary commented on how much she enjoyed her visit to ACC’s campus. We have our work cut out for us now with providing evidence to demonstrate that we’ve met the 21 Core Components of the 5 Criteria for accreditation. The subcommittees of the Self-Study Steering Committee will be fanning out soon to begin collecting information for the self-study; please study the criteria and components (a link is available on the ACC intranet) to determine what pieces of evidence you and your work group can offer as documentary support.

- **Campus Planning Update:** SPU leaders, please take note that a SPU Database training session has been scheduled for Wednesday, March 9 at 3 p.m. in A1540. Leaders will be able to access the SPU Database beginning Monday, March 7 at noon.

- We bid a very fond farewell to Lin Claussen as she moves on in her career as Colorado Mountain College’s Chief Student Development Officer. Lin started at ACC in 1977 as a student hourly, was classified for 19 years and worked her way up in Admissions and Records, eventually becoming the Director of Admissions and Records, then Director of Enrollment Management, Ed Tech, and Institutional Research. Her final position at ACC was as Executive Dean of Student Services. Lin has served as a positive role model for many past and present ACC’ers – students and staff alike. Lin’s professionalism and good humor will be sorely missed at ACC.

- Please heed Louie Sliter’s reminder to direct any phone calls regarding toner to his office. Do not give out any information to these phone solicitors who may represent themselves as service technicians.

- Also, don’t forget to contact Tram Ngo in the Accounting office by March 21 if you have any items for State Surplus.

- ACC employees and students are encouraged to share their writings at an Open Mic opportunity sponsored by the ACC Writers Studio. Gather at 2 p.m. on March 24 in the Student Lounge by the big screen TV to “strut your writin’ stuff” or listen to others.

- Demonstrate the “community” in Arapahoe Community College by donating blood to Bonfils in the Half Moon on March 22 from 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Call for an appointment at 303-363-2300.

- Enjoy the fun and frivolity provided by Theatre ACC’s production of “Seussical.” This family-fare musical will continue its run at 7 p.m. now through March 6 and March 10 through 12. Matinees at 2 p.m. will be performed March 5, 6, 11 and 12. Bring the kids, sit back and enjoy the show! ACC staff are admitted for a reduced ticket price of $10.
• Heather Lawler is updating the ACC Student and Club Handbook. Please contact her by March 31 with any suggested changes or additions to this important student document. Current content can be viewed on our web site under Student Services/Student Affairs.

• Learning Connection (aka Scott’s Spot!)
  - Kim Ostrowski is serving as Interim Dean of Students effective March 1. Thank you, Kim!
  - The ACC pool financial situation has been studied closely for over a year. Due to financial constraints, the pool will be closing in mid-May after aquatic classes are completed.
  - A Solution Team is being formed to work on options for ACC’s physical education requirements, Law Enforcement Academy physical training and community fitness programming.
  - From time to time, you may ask yourself, “What is this guy thinking?” My answer is this: The model I espouse to ensure that ACC is what we say it is in our mission statement (see top of page) is “A Learning College” based on a pivotal book by Peter M. Senge. In his work entitled “The Fifth Discipline: The Art & Practice of the Learning Organization,” Senge puts forth the following core disciplines:
    1) Personal Mastery
    2) Mental Models
    3) Shared Vision
    4) Team Learning
  Watch future Learning Connections for further definition and to track how we are growing into this model. Or, for extra credit, the overachievers among us can visit the ACC library and check out this book! I am truly excited about our journey along this path. That’s what this guy is thinking!

“Organizations learn only through individuals who learn. Individual learning does not guarantee organizational learning. But without it no organizational learning occurs.”

-Peter M. Senge from “The Fifth Discipline: The Art & Practice of The Learning Organization”