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September 2017

## Page education partnership gains momentum



*NAU Professor of Economics Dr. Wade Rouse explains the ramifications of the Navajo Generating Station closure to members of the Higher Education Consortium Project in Page on Sept. 18.*

Page, Ariz. -- Leaders from four of northern Arizona's education institutions are gaining momentum on a bid to strengthen higher education in northern Coconino County as the city of Page faces the 2019 closure of the Navajo Generating Station.

Leaders from Coconino Community College, Diné College, Navajo Technical University and Northern Arizona University, all members of the Higher Education Consortium Project (HECP), met on Sept. 18 and 27 to discuss economic ramifications of the NGS closure and to begin working on creating course offerings at CCC's site in Page.



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"The 'Design and Structure' phase of the Higher Education Consortium Project is the most exciting in my opinion," said Kay Leum, CCC's Director of Special Projects and Grants. "The institutions have the right people at the table to begin laying the groundwork for moving forward on how best to provide quality education opportunities to meet the economic development needs of northern Arizona."

The situation for Page is in serious need of attention, said NAU Economics Professor Dr. Wade Rousse during the Sept. 18 meeting. He shared with the group the results of a study that showed the economic ramifications of the NGS closure.

The conclusion: The City of Page would immediately lose about \$51 million a year with the loss of the NGS jobs and jobs supported by the presence of NGS - a very conservative estimate, Rousse added.

"I'm just here to try to say this IS coming," Rousse told the consortium group, and somehow, the city has to fill that gap. He added that the answer will not be easy, but education will be key to helping the city fill that gap. "Whether we want to admit it or not, it's a real problem, and it's coming."

During the Sept. 18 meeting, stakeholders broke into groups to answer questions relevant to the news of the NGS closing and the need to do something different for the city to make up the gap by the plant closure.

Educational offerings by the consortium need to address the needs of an industry that can be enticed to the area. There needs to be a refocusing on training and alternative careers and a focus on more than one industry - like tourism - to help support the community. More housing is needed, and therefore, more construction skills are needed. The community also needs a more stable employee base.

In April, leaders from the four institutions signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) of the HECP to deliver collaborative, affordable and accessible higher education opportunities to northern Coconino County residents.

According to the MOU, "More specifically, HECP will enable the parties to develop pathways to promote access to higher education, allow for economies of scale not possible as autonomously functioning institutions, and increase the number of Coconino County residents who complete higher education programs and degrees."

The development of the HECP will happen in four phases: Initial discussion and planning; design and structure: implementation; and monitoring and measuring success of the project. All parties bear their own costs until implementation. The consortium is currently in the second phase of designing and structuring course offerings and hopes to offer courses and programs as early as January 2018.

## Grant helps CCC aim minority students to STEM fields

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Flagstaff, Ariz. - Coconino Community College, in alliance with three other educational institutions, will be working to steer minority students into Science Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) careers.

According to information from the University of Nevada Las Vegas, the National Science Foundation awarded the university a five-year, \$4.6 million Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) grant. The goal of the grant is to help increase the number of minority students going into STEM careers, a field which is disproportionately underrepresented with minorities.

With the grant, UNLV will fund a project called the Southern Nevada Northern Arizona LSAMP, which is an alliance of UNLV, Northern Arizona University, College of Southern Nevada and CCC.

Dr. Gonzalo Perez, CCC's Associate Vice President of Innovative Learning Solutions, said that CCC's portion of the grant will be \$50,000 a year over the next five years, or \$250,000 for the life of the grant. The funding will help fulfill the objective of recruiting 80 underrepresented minority students per year into STEM fields. CCC will hold information sessions regarding the benefits of a STEM career and work in conjunction with Dual Enrollment to identify high school students for recruitment into the program upon graduation.

"Once the students are recruited, we will provide a menu of support resources and motivational STEM activities to ensure retention and completion of their STEM program," Dr. Perez said. "Furthermore, NAU students will support our students as peer mentors to help CCC students bridge the gap from the community college into a STEM baccalaureate program."

CCC President Dr. Colleen A. Smith, PhD, said, "Jeff Jones, Dean of Learning, was instrumental in helping CCC participate in the alliance and receive the grant. Dr. Perez is now taking the lead with his considerable experience with grants and encouraging minority students to consider STEM careers."

CCC has hired a full-time coordinator to work on the program.

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## CCC partners with United Way of Northern Arizona



*CCC President Colleen A. Smith, left, and Northland Pioneer College President Jeanne Swarhout at the United Way of Northern Arizona kickoff luncheon on Sept. 7 in Flagstaff.*

Flagstaff, Ariz. -- Coconino Community College has partnered with United Way of Northern Arizona, and CCC President Colleen A. Smith has stepped in to co-chair this year's community campaign.

United Way of Northern Arizona celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year and is dedicated to a "50 for 50" drive, which aims to raise \$50,000 for KinderCamp, a summer program to help prepare preschool children for kindergarten.

With a campaign slogan of "United We Win," Dr. Smith and co-chair Jeanne Swarhout, who is president of Northland Pioneer College, aim to do their best to raise funds for the campaign this year.

In a press release, Steve Peru, United Way of Northern Arizona President and CEO, stated, "It is

very appropriate to have these wonderful educators as our co-chairs during this important anniversary year. Over the past 50 years, we have grown from an organization that was originally founded to fund Flagstaff charities to a convener with programs and initiatives throughout Coconino, Navajo and Apache counties."

United Way of Northern Arizona has 27 nonprofit partner agencies in the fields of education, health and income in Coconino, Navajo and Apache counties. A large part of the organizations \$1.7 million campaign goal comes from business and individuals.

The formal kickoff for the campaign was Sept. 7 during a luncheon at the Little America Hotel in Flagstaff. For more information about United Way of Northern Arizona, visit [naz.unitedway.org](http://naz.unitedway.org).

## CCC first president's legacy honored with scholarship

Flagstaff, Ariz. -- The Coconino Community College Foundation and the wife of the College's first president have teamed up to form a scholarship to help students for

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*The widow of CCC's first president has created a scholarship in his honor.*

years to come.

The Dr. John W. Glenn Scholarship is set to launch in the fall of 2018 with the help of Dr. Glenn's wife, Janet Glenn. Dr. Glenn passed away in February 2015.

The scholarship will be available to students returning to college or students with special circumstances. Janet Glenn designed the scholarship for students deciding to go back to school because that is just what she did in the past -- she returned to higher education later in her life and was able to graduate and become a teacher.

With the Dr. John W. Glenn Scholarship, Janet Glenn will not only honor her late husband's legacy at CCC, she will give back to the College by helping returning students achieve their dreams, just as she did.

Janet Glenn has graciously given \$20,000 to the CCC Foundation to be used as a starting amount for this scholarship fund. It will be an endowed scholarship, meaning the fund is open to contributions and will also accrue value each year through interest. Its value will never be depleted, but will increase as time goes by.

### CCC IS BORN

Dr. Glenn was at the latter end of his career when he crossed paths with CCC. He had been working at NAU as the Dean of Continuing Education and Director of Summer and Instructional TV Programs prior to his time with CCC.

When CCC first opened its doors in 1991, the College was in dire need of a president. NAU's president at the time, Dr. Eugene Hughes, offered up Dr. Glenn as a loan to CCC to become the president of the College for its first year of operation. After Dr. Glenn's time as a loaned president was up, he applied for the position permanently and became CCC's president. He served as the President of CCC until 1994.

Dr. Glenn first came to NAU in 1966, where he was a professor of Industrial Education before becoming the Dean of Continuing Education.

Prior to his professional career in education, he received an associate's degree from the Southern Illinois Vocational Technical Institute, a bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University, and an M.Ed. and a Ph.D. from the University of Missouri.

When Glenn first became CCC's president, he expected roughly 140 students to apply in the first semester. Almost 1,000 students showed up at the College to apply. By the end of his tenure, CCC had nearly 4,000 full-time and part-time students. In addition to this massive explosion in student population, enrollment levels were being reached in two years instead of the expected five to six years.

Much of this early success at CCC can be attributed to Dr. Glenn's

leadership. Without his devotion to the College in its earliest years, it would not be the same CCC that students enjoy today. And now, with the help of the Dr. John W. Glenn Scholarship, his legacy as CCC's first president will continue to live at CCC, and his name will continue to make a positive impact on students for years to come.

-- Alec Bodemer

## CCC gets grant for veteran tutoring services



*CCC staff, students and visitors were on hand for the ribbon-cutting ceremony on the newly renovated Veterans Center.*

Flagstaff, Ariz. -- Coconino Community College veterans will be receiving additional tutoring and financial services specifically for veterans as a result of a \$10,000 grant from a nonprofit institution serving veterans.

The grant was made possible through Support Education and Employment for Vets (S.E.E.4Vets), an organization that collaborates with colleges in Arizona to help keep veterans motivated to earn a degree. With this grant, tutors at CCC will assist the veterans with any additional school help needed. The intent is to bring the tutoring services to the veterans in the Veterans Center. Additionally, about \$4,000 of the funds have been set aside to offer assistance to veterans to pay fees associated with their education they might not otherwise be able to afford.

S.E.E.4Vets and CCC had already established a relationship with a donation of \$10,000 last year to give the Veterans Center a facelift. By creating a new space, CCC has given veterans the opportunity to gather, socialize, work on assignments and have a pleasant environment to mingle -- all of which encourages veterans to continue their academic careers. The grand opening is scheduled for this week.

"S.E.E.4Vets is a fairly new organization, and they're formed just to benefit veterans," said Scott Talboom, Executive Director of CCC's Office of Institutional Advancement. "The main focus is on education. It's really a way for veterans to help themselves. The Veterans Center used to be an employee breakroom, and the College's leadership team felt like the vets really needed their own space."

Bob Voytek, Director of Financial Aid and Veteran Services at CCC, said that the College's services for veterans were limited until about four years ago when CCC decided to dedicate a space for them at the College's Lone Tree campus.

"We actually serve about 150 veterans per year, and we decided to open up a whole area for them to have the services they need," Voytek said. "S.E.E.4Vets provided us with furniture, computers, work stations and other equipment."

Now, tutors and additional financial assistance are on the way.

For more information about Coconino Community College, please visit our website at [www.coconino.edu](http://www.coconino.edu).

-- *Brittany Viar*

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## Around CCC

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### Students, service featured at CCC Foundation Annual Meeting



*CCC Nursing student Tiffany Burkart gives an emotional speech during the CCC Foundation's Annual Meeting on Sept. 8 at the Lone Tree campus.*

Flagstaff, Ariz. -- Tiffany Burkart lost her father to cancer in 2009, and she remembered her father and family being surrounded by caring, compassionate hospice nurses and doctors.

To heal the "brokenness inside," she and her husband decided to become foster parents to medically fragile children. Over the course of two years, the couple adopted four baby boys.

"Our home was set up just like a hospital, if you can imagine," she told the crowd. And during the time she cared for her little boys, she thought about going to college, to become a nurse and help others.

Burkart is now a nursing student at Coconino Community College, and she

is being helped by a number of scholarships offered through the CCC Foundation. She shared her story with more than 200 people who attended the Foundation's Annual Meeting, Alumni and Awards Breakfast on Friday, Sept. 8.

During the event, Coconino County Supervisor Lena Fowler was honored with the CCC Distinguished Service Award for her longtime championing of education for county residents -- her most current effort being instrumental in the creation of the Higher Education Consortium Project in Page. CCC President Colleen A. Smith and CCC District Governing Board Chair Patricia Garcia gave Fowler her award.

Upon learning she had received the Distinguished Service Award, Fowler stated, "I am greatly humbled and honored to be receiving the Distinguished Service Award from Coconino Community College. Establishing the Page Higher Education Center has been a vision and a dream for quite some time. With dedication, collaboration and time, the dream has come true ..."

Also during the event, dozens of the 58 students who received 79 scholarship awards worth more than \$112,000 were recognized for their dedication to education. Including Burkart, student speakers included Chris Rathkey, who received the Marine League Charities Scholarship, and Joshelle Tsinnijinnie, who received the CCC2NAU President's and Northern Coconino County Page scholarships.

Burkart shared with the audience that her new babies came with a host of medical challenges - born premature, requiring blood transfusions, oxygen and surgeries. Two of the boys underwent withdrawals from drugs.

"Today, my boys are happy, healthy little 4- and 5-year-olds going to school and living life without any hindrances," Burkart said. "I feel the constant love, care and dedication to helping my babies in every possible way was a huge part of their recovery."

She is a CCC2NAU student and plans on attending NAU after she completes her studies at CCC. She has received the Dennis M. Connell, Northern Coconino County Page and CCC2NAU Raymond Educational Foundation scholarships, and thanked each for their contributions to her education.

"I also wanted to extend a thank you to all teachers and faculty who help make our education a success here at CCC," Burkart said. "This has been a positive experience for me, and I am proud to be a CCC student."

Following the Annual Meeting, guests were treated to the unveiling of the newly remodeled Veterans Center at the Lone Tree campus.

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## CCC Resource Fair a success in welcoming back students





*Students gather at the CCC Lone Tree campus for the Resource Fair.*

Flagstaff, Ariz. - Community vendors from all around the Flagstaff area came to CCC's Resource Fair on Aug. 31 to welcome back students and show them the many resources and opportunities Flagstaff has to offer.

"I'm just looking for a lot more information. Being new here, its nice to see all the different booths, be able to talk to different people, and experience what Flagstaff really is outside of the College," said Kristyn Russell, CCC student.

Russell, along with many other CCC students, was excited to find out the different resources and opportunities available.

CCC holds a Resource Fair to kick off each semester and is organized by the Student Development and planned by Student Life and Passages Program Coordinator Derik Yellowhair. The purpose of the event is to include students in the community and to encourage them to utilize the services and resources that are available to them.

"It is how CCC welcomes students back to campus and gets them immersed in the different things that are out there in Flagstaff," Yellowhair said.

There are a wide variety of programs, resources and opportunities that are showcased each semester. Military, healthcare, educational, transportation, financial, and other types of services were available at this semester's Resource Fair.

Just some of the institutions spotted at the fair were Wells Fargo Bank, BBVA Compass, the U.S. Marines, Air Force ROTC, Northern Arizona University, Grand Canyon University, Native Americans for Community Action (NACA), CCC2NAU Program, CCC TRiO Program, and much more.

For students, having a one-stop shop for opportunities and resources allows them to get information they need while at CCC. At the Resource Fair, students were able to learn about ways to advance their education, learn about careers and learn about healthcare and finance.

*-- Alec Bodemer*

# CCC Career & Tech Round-Up coming Saturday, Oct. 7



*CCC Construction Technology Management Instructor Ken Myers demonstrates how solar panels work during the 2016 CTE Round-Up.*

Flagstaff, Ariz. -- Coconino Community College is hosting a free Career and Tech Round-Up on Saturday, Oct. 7, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The curriculum includes engineering, science, technology, hospitality and other educational opportunities.

"The CTE Round-Up is one of the premier events in the area for students to investigate career opportunities and career and technical education while getting some hands-on experience with real-time demonstrations from people from the industry and faculty who teach those fields," said Jeff Jones, Dean of Learning, CTE and Director at CCC's Fourth Street Innovation Center.

The CTE Round-Up will have information sessions and activities for the whole family. Radio remote broadcasts featuring HITS 106 and KQST "The Q" will be there with food, refreshments, music, prizes and "The Money Machine."

Attendees can tour the campus and learn about CCC's Fourth Street Innovation Center, visit a blood-pressure clinic, meet Trauma Hal, a life-like mannequin used to train First Responders, manipulate solar water heaters and solar ovens and learn about fire safety. There will be fire trucks and gear for the kids to dress up like real firefighters in addition to inflatables and other activities.

The event will be held at CCC's Fourth Street Innovation Center, 3000 N. Fourth St., Flagstaff. For more details, call (928) 226-4312, (928) 526-7600, or visit our website at [www.coconino.edu](http://www.coconino.edu).

-- Brittany Viar

# Have a CCC news story or idea?

News and stories abound on the campuses of Coconino Community College.

- Stories of student success
- Stories of faculty and staff who make a difference
- Stories of innovative programs that foster learning
- The latest news and events going on at CCC

The list goes on.

News and story ideas are always welcome. Please contact Larry Hendricks, Public Relations Coordinator, at [larry.hendricks@coconino.edu](mailto:larry.hendricks@coconino.edu), or 928.226.4374.

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