

President's Report, April 16, 2026

CCC-Grand Island

Dr. Matt Gotschall

- Attended Higher Learning Commission meeting on presidential and trustee updates.
- Attended American Association for Community College's annual meeting where Business Administration instructor Venus King was recognized at a Dale Parnell Faculty Excellence awardee. Also participated in the Commission for Small and Rural Colleges meeting during this time.
- Met with Ireland Consulate regarding and brought back information on culinary student exchange program and shared with CCC faculty.
- Participated in a Postsecondary International Network (PIN) executive committee retreat at end of AACC meeting. I serve as treasurer and the CCC Foundation holds the checking and savings accounts.
- Continued with weekly meetings hosted by the Department of Labor regarding Lexington response. Had a successful meeting with a donor for over \$127,000 in financial support for our training efforts in Lexington.
- Held an open forum with all faculty and staff in Grand Island/Area Office.
- Welcomed attendees at the Kansas/Nebraska Information Technology conference that the college hosted in Grand Island. Dozens of college IT representatives met for professional development, networking and problem solving.
- Participated in a meeting with multiple representatives from the Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation regarding CCC initiatives and possible funding partnerships in future. They invited CCC to send a rep to an adult education conference in North Carolina based on that meeting with more work to follow.
- Attended the UNK investiture for Chancellor Schnoor and attended a Strategic Planning "Catalyst" meeting at the invitation of UNO Chancellor Li.
- Maintained regular updates with NCCA and college peers as state budgets and bills are finalized.
- Participated in the Scott Scholar Graduation event in Omaha with our over 20 student graduates, foundation and college peers.
- Traveled to Lexington and Hastings for meetings with some faculty and staff.
- Listened to the Court of Appeals session that was held on the Grand Island Campus that was open to the public and saw great involvement, including a Q&A afterward by our criminal justice students and the three judges.
- Participated in CCC's new success coaching training.
- Participated in an AACC federal update webinar, ACCT regional update meeting and HLC virtual meeting with presidents.

Reports from area vice presidents include:

- Phase 1 scholarships for 2026-27 closed on March 1. We received 1,163 completed applications, an increase of 86 applications from a year ago. They are currently in the review process. We offered 154 Transition Advantage scholarships totaling \$188,496 to students who are on target to complete 12 CCC early college credits by their high school graduation. We also offered 75 Committed to Your Success scholarships totaling \$38,500 to students nominated from the 25-county area high schools.
- The TRIO annual report was submitted in February. The results showed the program served 213 students and successfully achieved persistence and good academic standing objectives. On April 11, CCC hosted 80 college and high school TRIO students in Grand Island for a student leadership conference. The students listened to a TRIO alum as the keynote and then attended three sessions with topics including leading with purpose, the social change model of leadership, and finding your future self.

- Twelve students were inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Chapter in Columbus, including four officers. PTK students from Columbus and Hastings attended Catalyst National Convention March 26-28 in Baltimore.
- CCC-Hastings Housing supported more than 60 students who registered to remain on campus during Spring Break. Resident Assistants facilitated a variety of programs, including rock painting, board games and pool tournaments, encouraging student engagement within the residence halls.
- Signing day has over 250 registrations, which is a large increase in preregistered numbers compared to last year. Faculty have completed their calls to prospective students, and we will have a more accurate number after registration closes on Friday.
- Beth Klitz, vice president of student success and enrollment management, will accompany representatives from the Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation and attend the Fourth Annual Belk Endowment Adult Learner Convening in North Carolina April 16-17. The program/agenda aligns similarly with one of CCC's Impactful Initiatives.
- The 2026 Nebraska Assessment of College Health Behaviors Survey (NACHB) was conducted in February-early March. The NACHB is a bi-annual survey designed to better understand student health behaviors, well-being and related experiences. The data collected through this assessment helps inform prevention education programming, campus policies, resource allocation and student support initiatives. Results directly guide our work in areas such as alcohol and other drug education, mental health promotion, and overall student well-being.
- College Central Network, our area-wide online job board, has already helped connect current students and CCC alumni with 426 job opportunities in 2026, representing a 27.2% increase from last year.
- Coordinated event planning with campus committees for NSRO and Signing Day. Signing day is going well, with registrations coming in nicely for each campus and Kearney. Efforts to make calls from program faculty started on March 16. Enrollment specialists will start calling Early College students in the upcoming weeks.
- Dr. Wanda Cloet, dental hygiene program director, represented Central Community College at the American Dental Education meeting in Montreal, Canada as a delegate for the allied program directors in March. She was also featured in an article by Schein Dental with her American Dental Hygienists' Association Educator of the Year Award.
- Shawna Stump has been elected chair of the 2026-27 Nominating Committee for the Nebraska Health Information Management Association (NHIMA). As chair, she will play a vital role in shaping NHIMA's strategic direction and supporting our mission to promote excellence in health information management across the state.
- A nursing pinning ceremony will be held in Grand Island (College Park) on May 1.
- Over 60 vendors met with nursing and health sciences students at the annual Job Fair last month.
- A total of 103 students were selected for admission into the nursing program: 23 students from Columbus and 40 students from Grand Island and Kearney. Students have until next week to accept their seat in the program. We will be able to fill any unaccepted seats at the Grand Island and Kearney locations. We accepted all applicants from Columbus.
- Nursing faculty meet on April 3 to discuss potential admission requirement changes as directed by SBON and other items. The meeting was held at the Kearney Center in the new classroom at UNK.
- The distance mechatronics course model was presented at the League for Innovations Conference in Indianapolis by Doug Pauley and Andrew Dunn on behalf CCC and the National Center for Next Generation Manufacturing.
- Provided quotes for leadership training to BonnaVilla Homes, Ryder Rosacker McCue & Huston, and Grand Island Streets Department.
- Coordinating mechatronics trainer coverage for four summer professional development workshops this summer. About 100 professional development registrations have been submitted, which is the largest sign-up that CCC has ever hosted for this event. (This is an increase in 37 enrollments since January.) Additionally, the iMec program includes building distance mechatronics equipment sets for summer professional development (20+ sets per workshop), fall Nebraska high school offerings

(TBD), business, and industry professional development (10 sets per course), and business and adult education offerings (60 sets per course).

- On March 28, the Holdrege Center helped to host the annual childcare providers conference with UNL Extension, DHHS, Nebraska Family Food Service program and several local/regional early childhood organizations. Approximately 60 people attended.
- The Early College announcement for the summer professional development workshops went out to area schools last week, reaching over 260 high school contacts within our service area, along with advertising through the state listservs. The training is arranged for educators and support staff who work directly with students in our community schools. We have 19 sessions scheduled, covering 14 disciplines as well as artificial intelligence training.
- Kickin' with the Raiders soccer campus was held in Lexington on April 11.
- The Holdrege Center hosted the Annual Career Fair on April 1 for high school freshmen. About 250 students from ESU 11 area attended.
- Workforce Education will offer the following training through June: 24-hour Hazwoper, RS Logix 500, DOT Hazmat, NEC review, forklift certification and confined space at CCC-Columbus; NEC review, VFD, mechanical systems, backflow recertification, electrical fundamentals, electro-pneumatics and motor controls at CCC-Grand Island; technical diagrams, mechanical systems, electrical fundamentals, electro-pneumatics and motor controls at CCC-Lexington; motor controls at Trenton Agri-Products in Trenton; two forklift certification classes at Cornhusker Public Power in Columbus; and three electrical fundamentals classes at KAAPA ethanol in Aurora.