Central Community College

A History: 1984-2005

John H. Dobrovolny and David L. Fulton, editors

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Central Community College is a comprehensive community college with central administrative offices in Grand Island, NE; campuses in Columbus, Grand Island and Hastings, NE; and centers in Holdrege, Kearney and Lexington, NE.

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Dedication

To the faculty, staff, and students, past and present.

They are the heart and soul

of Central Community College.

Their commitment and their accomplishments

are often unheralded.

Foreword

This attempt to record the history of Central Community College follows the book, "The First Two Decades," by Oriel Kinley, which was published in 1984. Prior to that writing, some of the highlights of the founding years had been recorded in "A History: The First Eight Years" by Stephen O. Gaines. Since that brief work deserves to be more available than it has been up to this time, it is included in the appendix of this book.

Most of the information repeated herein was gleaned from sources within the college, such as the "Central Connection," a monthly publication of the public information department. Where external sources were used, they are noted.

The opportunity to contribute to this effort has truly been a joy although we are aware that it does not do justice to the years which have passed or to the people who have quietly and unselfishly made contributions to the success of Central Community College. While it has been our hope to create a work free of errors and omissions, we know that goal is not attainable, and we accept the responsibility for those errors that do exist.

John H. Dobrovolny

David L. Fulton

Acknowledgments

Beginning in the early fall of 2004, a College History Team was formed. Members of that group who met regularly during all or part of the project and provided their insights, advice and expertise were Jim Fisher, Dr. LaVern Franzen, Dr. Greg Smith, Harold Hamel, Dee Johnson, Brian McDermott, Steve Millnitz, Leon Sanders, Jim Strayer and Dr. Dennis Tyson. Our thanks to them.

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A long list of others were relied upon for advice, assistance and information. While including such a list inadvertently overlooks many others who deserve to be recognized, we prefer to take that risk.

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Diana Watson
Jeanne Webb
Jeannie Werner
Kathy Wert
Teresa West
Joann Wieland
Linda Wiltrout
Jenny Wurdeman
Mary Young

Central Community College Chronology

July 1, 1973
Central Nebraska Technical College at Hastings and Platte Junior College at Columbus merged to form Central Technical Community College Area. Dr. Chester H. Gausman became the first president of Central Community College, with administrative offices in Grand Island.

Sept. 12, 1966
Area Vocational School #1 opened with 196 students.

Sept. 22, 1969
Platte Junior College began as Nebraska's first county-supported two-year college.

March 1, 1989
Central Community College Foundation was established.

April 1, 1977
Lexington Center opened.

2006
CCC 40th Year Anniversary
Now serving 26,000 students annually.

July 1, 2000
New CCC logo adopted.

May 10, 1966
Electors voted to establish Central Nebraska Area Vocational School #1 at Hastings.

June 20, 1967
Electors voted to establish Platte County Junior College at Columbus.

Jan. 1, 1970
Kearney practical nursing program (established in 1958 by the Kearney school district) became part of Central Nebraska Technical College.

Feb. 14, 1976
CCC-Grand Island Center opened.

April 16, 1984
Dr. Chester Gausman retired; Dr. Joe Preusser became second CCC president.

Jan. 9, 1995
Holdrege Center opened.

May 20, 2002
Dr. Joe Preusser retired as college president; Dr. LaVern Franzen became third CCC president.

1984

Dr. Gausman Retires, Dr. Preusser Becomes College President

As noted in Oriel Kinley's 1984 history of the college, "The First Two Decades," Dr. Joseph Preusser became the second president of Central Community College on April 16, 1984, upon the retirement of the founding president, Dr. Chester Gausman. Preusser first joined the Platte Campus in 1971 as a geography and political science instructor. In 1973, he became the dean of instruction at that campus. He was promoted to campus president in 1982 upon the resignation of Dr. Jerry Lee, and the positions of dean of instruction and campus president were combined. In that position, he was also vice president for educational planning, academic transfer education, and community education.

Dr. Joe Preusser

Area Office Staff

Those serving with Preusser in the area office in Grand Island included Kathy O'Neill, administrative assistant; Larry Glazier, college business officer; Dr. Eric Jones, information systems manager; and Ron Logue, public relations assistant. Doug Adler was the human resources manager.

At the May meeting of the Board of Governors, Dennis Tyson was appointed to the position of vice president of educational services. He had joined the Hastings Campus in 1967 as a social science instructor. He later served as the coordinator of instructional design and then as the dean of instruction. He was promoted to campus president upon the retirement of Dr. Hubert Reid. It was at that point that the positions of dean of instruction and campus president were combined. During the three-month period in 1983 while Gausman was an educational consultant to the government of Jordan, Tyson also served as acting college president.

Campus Administration

At the Platte Campus, Jim Fisher, the dean of students, became the interim campus president upon Preusser's promotion. When Tyson left the Hastings Campus to become vice president of educational services, Ed Minnick became the interim campus president. Minnick, the original dean of students on the Hastings Campus, had served briefly as dean of special educational services on the area level before returning to the Hastings campus as dean of students after Reid's retirement.

Larry Keller was the president of the Grand Island Campus. Don Nelson, as assistant to the campus president, served as the chief instructional officer. Dr. Lynn Black had just transferred from the Hastings Campus and begun his tenure as the associate dean of students, the first student services administrator for the campus.

At the time, the practical nursing program in Kearney, which had become part of Central Community College in 1970, was located in the Whittier Building and was administered through the Hastings Campus. Marilyn Carlson was the program supervisor. During the year, the program graduated its 54th class and capped its 52nd.

Community Education Regions

Leadership for Region One of the community education component of the college consisted of Dr. Robert Smallfoot, associate dean, and Ron Kluck, coordinator. Their offices were on the Platte Campus. Region Two-West was headed by LaVern Franzen, associate dean, with a center in Lexington. Region Two-East was covered by Les Weber, coordinator, from Grand Island. Region Three was the responsibility of Bernard Kinley, associate dean, whose office was on the Hastings Campus, and Judy Cestaro, coordinator, was in charge of the educational center in Holdrege. Diann Muhlbach was coordinator of Adult Basic Education. As a college vice president, Preusser had been in charge of community education. After he was promoted, that responsibility was assigned to Don Nelson.

Shortly after he assumed his new office, Preusser was selected by Gov. Bob Kerrey as one of 13 Nebraskans to attend a U.S. Department of Education conference in Washington, D.C. Preusser represented the Nebraska technical community college system.

Preusser served as the second president of Central Community College until his retirement on May 19, 2002, after 18 years as president and 31 years with the college.

Grand Island Campus

- A newsletter, The Grand Island Campus Communicator, was begun with the first four issues appearing in the fall of 1983. Students on the newsletter staff included Paul Osulfka, editor, and Marie Trosper, assistant editor. They served under the direction of Linda Christensen, business division secretary.
- The first student senate for the campus was organized during the fall of 1983. Dennis Biens was elected president and Linda Leach was elected vice president. Michelle Gill, student activities coordinator, served as the senate sponsor. Among the activities on campus were league teams for men's basketball and women's volleyball, intramural pool, foosball, softball, bowling, Ping Pong, arm wrestling, a spring dance and 10-point pitch.
- At the downtown location, a Women's Center was active which sponsored a weekly rap session and workshops on parenting, stress management and other topics of interest.
- Clark Equipment of the Melrose Division of Loveland, Colo., conducted three one-week training sessions on the campus for about 30 repairmen employed by Bobcat Equipment Dealers from Nebraska, Iowa, Colorado, and Missouri.
- Dr. Lynn Black became associate dean of student services as of Jan. l. He had been chairman of the business division at the Hastings Campus since 1981.
- The campus was one of eight test sites for the written portion of the statewide Plymouth Troubleshooting Contest. Ron Grabowski, automotive instructor, supervised the 18 high school seniors who participated.
- Tom Oshlo, instructor of motorcycle safety, was appointed to serve on the statewide advisory council for motorcycle education by Keil Nightengale, director of motorcycle education for the Nebraska Department of Education. The campus had offered a motorcycle safety course for the previous two years.
- Patricia Wright, a data processing major, was awarded a community college regent's scholarship to the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.
- State Senator Loren Schmit of Bellwood was opening speaker at a conference on the Grand Island Campus on the fuel alcohol industry, giving the campus an opportunity to show its progress with the $177,000 demonstration project. Conference sponsors in addition to CCC were the Nebraska Alternate Energy Association, the Nebraska Corn Board, the Nebraska Gasohol Committee, and the Nebraska Wheat Board.
- Service technicians from Melroe Company attended training programs on Bobcat Skidster Loaders held on the campus. The training programs covered hydrostatics, hydraulics, electrical equipment, and power plant service.
- About 90 people attended a two-day workshop sponsored by the Electronics Technician Association International, which was hosted by the campus.

Hastings Campus

- Dr. Carl Rolf was appointed president of the Hastings Campus following nine years of administrative experience with Des Moines Area Community College where his most recent position was dean of industrial and technical education. He received a doctorate in industrial vocational education from Iowa State University.

Dr. Carl Rolf

- Janis McReynolds, psychology instructor, presented a paper titled "Communication with the Terminally Ill and Their Families" at Florida A & M. In 1986, a similar article co-authored by McReynolds appeared in the Journal of Pharmacy Technology.

- Barry Jacobs, a 1977 graduate of the welding program from Mount Vernon, Ohio, received the third annual Outstanding Alumni Award.
- The International Association of Holiday Inns Inc. announced that it would award a $250 scholarship to a Hastings Campus student enrolled in the hotel, motel, and restaurant management program. Bill Marshall Jr., the owner of the Holiday Inn franchise in Grand Island, provided a matching grant making the total award $500.
- A Dental Hygiene Alumni Association was formed on the Hastings Campus.
- Mitch Fraser, a student in the welding program, was awarded a $250 prize from the James F. Lincoln Arc Welding Foundation for designing and fabricating a submerged arc welding table.
- Beth Ebmeier, dietetic technology instructor, was selected to join a People to People International delegation of dieticians from across the U.S. to share information with professionals in New Zealand and Australia.
- Cindy Foxhoven, career information officer, received a Young Career Woman Award from the Hastings Chapter of the Business and Professional Women and was also selected for the BPW district award.
- Mechanics and service managers from several area Chrysler dealerships completed fuel injection and electronics service training on the campus. The automotive instructors and advanced automotive students also participated in the session.

Platte Campus

- Mary Lou Holmberg, supervisor of the practical nursing program, received the 1984 Faculty Member Award from the Nebraska Technical Community College Association. She was also secretary to the State Board of Nursing and had been named Nurse of the Year in 1983 by Creighton University.
- Marv Kraenow, associate dean of learning resources, was chosen as president-elect of the Nebraska Educational Media Association.
- The Platte Campus completed a series of one-week pre-employment training programs for Sundstrand Aviation Corporation of York in cooperation with the Nebraska Department of Labor and the Department of Economic Development. The training included blueprint reading, math, and turret lathe operations.
- Poems by Chuck Taylor, communications instructor, were published in “Plainsongs,” the Hastings College literary magazine. Dorothy Babel, a former student in Taylor’s creative writing class, was also published in the magazine.
- Missouri native Chris Doney became the manager of the campus cafeteria as an employee of Professional Food Management Inc. He replaced Tom Anderson who enrolled in Platte’s data processing program.
- Nursing caps were presented to 23 students in January. Students receive their nursing caps after completing half of the 12-month practical nursing curriculum. The following month, the largest class ever to graduate from the practical nursing program up to that time received diplomas. Mary Lou Holmberg, program supervisor, said that about 30 of the 40 graduates began their studies on a part-time basis through extended curriculum arrangements offered on the Platte Campus and in Central City.
- A “brown bag” off-campus learning center opened at the Columbus Public Library. Dr. Bob Smallfoot, associate dean for community education, said that the learning center would give the Columbus people an opportunity to work on Platte Campus courses over the lunch hour. Cheryl Fisher was the learning center manager.
- Members of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes chapter earned money for their organization by serving as guides to new students during spring registration.
- More than 250 high school students from 19 Class B, C, and D schools performed in the Fine Arts Theater during the district play production competition. Dick Averett, speech and theater instructor, was the contest coordinator.
- The theater department presented “The Good Doctor,” a collection of Chekhov stories adapted for the theater by Neil Simon. Grady Wells of St. Edward had the confessor-narrator role which linked together the 11 episodes of the play. Dick Averett directed the production.
- Dick Averett chaired a committee which reviewed applications for artists-in-schools residencies funded in part by the Nebraska Arts Council.

- "Still Life with Skull" was the title of a drawing by Dick Abraham, art instructor, which was exhibited in a 10-state juried show at Nebraska Wesleyan University.
- Students from 44 northeast Nebraska junior high schools took part in a MathCounts competition held on the campus. The Northeast Chapter of the Nebraska Society of Professional Engineers sponsored the regional contest.
- Dixieland, the big band sound, and jazz-rock were included in the program which the 16-piece stage band, Brazz, performed at 14 area high schools during a winter tour.
- Hiller's Killers defeated the Wild Bunch to sew up the campus intramural volleyball championship. Members of the winning team were Alan Ferris, Bill Hanus, Lori Hiller, Carrie Janata, Andy Johansen, Mark Persson, Carmen Romshek, and Dave Struebing.
- More than 100 students from 13 high schools participated in the District V Vocational Agriculture contest sponsored by the campus. Don Engel, agriculture program coordinator, served as contest chairman.
- The Platte Campus and the Farmers Home Administration joined forces to help farmers sharpen their financial management skills. The FmHA developed a coordinated financial statement required for its borrowers and a companion course of instruction. Verne Buhl, agriculture instructor, taught the course.
- Harry Houdini's famous water torture cell escape was featured when magician Kevin Spencer appeared in the Fine Arts Theater. The show, sponsored by the Student Senate, was open to the public.
- Lisa Happ, Tim Hiemer, Jeff Johnson, Jodi Krause, Sheila Schulz and Dave Struebing were initiated into Delta Psi Omega, a national theater honorary organization.
- Keith Lunde, music instructor, directed the annual band and chorus concert. The concert also featured a guest performance by the Northeast Community College Chorus under the direction of David Anderson.
- Some of Nebraska's top vocal groups participated in the ninth annual invitational choral festival held on campus. Guest clinician Dr. Rudy Saltzer of Chicago critiqued performances by 16 junior high, high school, and college vocal groups from the area.
- More than 500 students from more than 30 Nebraska high schools participated in Recognition and Achievement Day on the campus. The top three contestants in each of eight subject-matter areas were awarded scholarships to Platte.
- The Platte Campus and Ord Public Schools sponsored an artist's tour of Chicago. Activities included visits to the Chicago Institute of Art, the Museum of Contemporary Art, a painting workshop at the Smart Gallery, and a guided bus tour of the city.
- "Brigadoon" was the summer musical produced jointly by the theater and music departments. About 50 cast members were required.
- Fifteen initiates were inducted into the Chi Sigma Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. Faculty sponsor Charles Taylor, communications instructor, conducted the initiation ceremonies. Melinda Kucera, vice president, installed the newly elected officers: Keith Walton, president; Terry Bartels, secretary; and Gina DeBlauw, treasurer and historian.
- Ron Kluck was promoted to associate dean of community education. He had been community education coordinator since joining the staff in 1982. The associate dean opening occurred when Dr. Bob Smallfoot resigned to become president of McCook Community College.
- Lisa Bobert of Columbus and Glenn Lammers of Hartington were crowned king and queen of the Emerald Ball. Coronation ceremonies were conducted by the 1983 royal couple, Michelle Nissen and Jim Tarnick.
- State Senator Lee Rupp gave the commencement address which was held in the Physical Education Center. Rupp, a representative of Legislative District 22, was a fisheries management district supervisor for the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission for 13 years before his election to the Unicameral.
- A drawing, "Fifteen Fingers," by Terry Svoboda of Columbus, won the Best Of Show award at the 14th Annual Fine Arts Festival. Dr. Larry Peterson, art professor at Kearney State College, was the contest judge. Among the many features of the festival was the distribution of the annual literary magazine, "Hilltop Review," which was first published in 1983.

- More than 2,000 high school students registered for the District II music contest held on the campus. A total of 28 Class A, B, C, and D high schools participated in the contest conducted by the Platte Campus for the 13th year.

Adult Basic Education

- Diann Muhlbach, collegewide supervisor of the Adult Basic Education Program for CCC since 1980, was granted the ABE Supervisor of the Year Award by the Nebraska Department of Education. Muhlbach joined the college staff in l976 as an ABE instructor. Also honored at the state convention was Esther Flanagin, a volunteer tutor and classroom aide in the Grand Island ABE program.

Board of Governors

- Ken Wortman, a member of the college governing board, was recognized by Secretary of Education Terrell Bell as Nebraska's top vocational education proponent during ceremonies at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.
- Jack Crowley was elected chairman of the CCC Board of Governors, replacing Merle Anderson. Anderson was later elected to the board of directors of the Association of Community College Trustees, representing the organization's Western Region.
- The budget approved by the Board of Governors for 1984-85 totaled $13,160,758 for operations and capital improvements, a 7.4 percent increase over the previous budget. The Board of Governors also approved leasing space in the old Walnut Junior High School building in Grand Island to relocate programs housed in another rented building. A computer upgrade was approved with the purchase of Prime 2250 hardware and Colleague software for a total of $584, 941.

College Administration

- Lupe Valderaz, accounts payable clerk, was appointed to serve on the Grand Island Community Development Advisory Committee by Grand Island Mayor Bill Wright.

Evaluation Team Review

- The Nebraska Department of Education provided a review team to all three campuses as part of its evaluation of vocational education programs required every four years by Title IA of the Vocational Education Act of 1963. At the time, CCC received about $150,000 a year in Title IA funding.

CCC's Lexington Center was established in 1977. See story on the following page.

Lexington Center Established Early

By Dr. LaVern Franzen, College President

Dawson County was one of the original 17 counties that voted in 1966 to join what is now Central Community College. Conversations between college administrators, members of the Board of Governors, and other individuals from Dawson County started in the early 1970s regarding requests from citizens in that region for a college office and the need for additional educational opportunities to be provided in those communities. The requests were being made because of the population in the county, the amount of property tax contributed to the college, and the distance from the main campuses.

Dr. LaVern Franzen

In 1976, College President Dr. Chester Gausman and Grand Island Campus President Larry Keller organized a steering committee that included the following members: George Keller, Lexington, member of the Board of Governors; Glenn Bartels, Gothenburg; Ivan Paulsen and DeEtta Hartman, Cozad; Joe Jeffrey, Elwood; Edith Crowley, Lexington; and Virg Meyer, Gothenburg. The steering committee made a formal recommendation to establish a college office in a Dawson County community to be staffed by college personnel. The recommendation was presented to the Board of Governors and approved by the board in November 1976.

LaVern Franzen, a 10-year college employee and Business and Office Division chairman at the Hastings Campus at that time, was appointed in February 1977 to be the full-time administrator in Dawson County and was to begin the process of identifying an office location. Franzen started in his new position in April 1977 and soon after made the recommendation that Lexington be the location for the college's regional office. Terri Sherman was the part-time secretary from 1977-79. Karen Gruntorad was in the position of administrative assistant from 1979-89.

Since Franzen left Lexington for a new position on the Grand Island Campus in 1987, the following CCC full-time personnel have been located in the Lexington Center: Eric Gunnink, associate dean, 1987-88; Paul Stubbe, associate dean, 1988-97; Kathy Neil, distance learning coordinator, 1993-96; Barb Hinrichs, administrative assistant, since 1990; and Cassie Smith, associate dean, since 1997.

For the first five years, CCC facilities in Lexington provided for office space only. The first office was on the second floor of an old bank building at a main intersection in downtown Lexington. Approximately one and one-half years later, CCC was asked to join the Lexington Public Schools in efforts to remodel the old hospital building seven blocks north of the previous location. Facilities at the new location provided two offices and one small classroom used for Adult Basic Education and English as a Second Language, a few other educational activities and meetings. In the early 1980s, a different location, previously a law office, was selected in downtown Lexington. This facility included two offices and two small classrooms.

In 1998, the City of Lexington offered to CCC a city-owned building located approximately one block from their previous location, still in downtown Lexington. The building was extensively remodeled by CCC, and once completed, the building provided space for a receptionist, two medium-sized classrooms, three offices, and storage.

Since 1977, the Lexington Center has been an important part of the college operation, providing a variety of educational opportunities and related student services to residents in the far western part of the college area. Instructional activities coordinated by staff members at the Lexington Center have served many students and met various needs: credit and noncredit courses, individualized and group instruction, certification and workshops for licensure.

Technology advances during the early 1990s provided additional opportunities for delivering instruction to off-campus locations, including Lexington. The availability of instruction via satellite, video-conferencing, and the Internet made access much easier for increased numbers of students. The vision provided by a few Dawson County area residents in the early 1970s has resulted in thousands of citizens from that area having access to much needed and appreciated postsecondary education opportunities.

1985

Grand Island Campus Growth Continues

Central Technical Community College first had a physical presence in Grand Island when the administrative offices were established on the fourth floor of the First Federal Savings and Loan Building on West Second Street with Dr. Chester Gausman as college president. Stephen Gaines, assistant to the president for community services, was joined by Larry Keller, coordinator for community education, and Les Weber, coordinator for Adult Basic Education.

CETA Partnership Begins in January 1975

A Comprehensive Educational Training Act contract was negotiated, and on Jan. 13, 1975, CETA instruction began in the Webb Building at 507 West Third Street, which had been temporarily leased for that purpose. There were 12 students, six instructors, and three certificate programs. Tom Oshlo taught building maintenance, Linda Timmerman taught secretarial, and Kathy Kranz taught sales and cashiering. Pam Kinney taught support courses in communications and Tammy Brown taught math courses. Enrollment grew to 53 students in the first six months.

The Grand Island Higher Education Center at the old Walnut Junior High School building housed many Grand Island Campus programs in 1985.

Classes Move to First Permanent Building

The first permanent facility in Grand Island was realized in February 1976 when classes were moved to the newly constructed building at 3134 West Highway 34, then called the Grand Island Community Education Center. Larry Keller was named campus president. Prior to the move, the first instruction offered at the location was an OSHA course which involved digging a trench with a backhoe and shoring it up to prevent a cave-in.

The building consisted of two pods of approximately 8,000 square feet each. One pod accommodated business and office and academic support courses. The other pod housed the industrial-related courses. The remainder of the 20,681 square feet was used for offices and for the management information systems (data processing) functions of the college area. In the fall, a 3,000-square-foot steel structure was added for the physical plant and maintenance department.

By April 1977, the industrial pod was overcrowded so the automotive program was moved to a leased facility on Old Highway 30 called the Annex or the Coachman Building. The automotive lab occupied approximately 9,000 square feet. In May 1977, an 8,400-square-foot addition was completed at the Highway 34 site to accommodate the area administration and to provide additional instructional space.

Industrial Programs Continue to Grow

Continued growth in the industrial occupations programs led to the leasing of an additional 3,000 square feet of the Coachman Building. In the fall of 1978, the electrical, electronics, and heating and air conditioning programs were moved into the space. By 1979, there was need for additional space, and the college renovated the old Sears Building. In December of that year, programs located in what came to be called the Downtown Center were child care, drafting, electronics, health occupations, heating and air conditioning, mathematics, social science, and real estate, insurance and investments.

Another steel building, containing 6,000 square feet, was constructed on the campus in 1980 to serve as the construction technology lab.

The Grand Island Campus General Education addition nears completion in 1985.

Space Added for Student Services and Automotive Lab

In 1982, a substantial construction project totaling 24,224 square feet provided space for student services and student activities and for the automotive lab. The completion of the project meant that 62,305 square feet were available on campus, and after the automotive lab was moved to the campus, the Coachman Building was no longer leased.

To gain additional instructional space and to save money on leased facilities, most programs were moved in 1984 from the Downtown Center in the Sears Building to 27,000 square feet in the old Walnut Junior High School building on Elm Street called the Grand Island Higher Education Center. At about this time, the construction technology program on the Grand Island Campus was discontinued, and the electrical and the heating and air conditioning programs were moved to the campus into the steel building previously used by construction technology. The electronics program moved into the industrial pod. Thus, the college vacated the Sears Building. In conjunction with the Nebraska Grain Board, a 6,000-square-foot steel building known as the Alternate Energy Building was constructed on the campus and occupied in January 1985.

At the beginning of 1985, Larry Keller, the first campus president and college vice president of community education, went on sabbatical to complete his doctorate. Don Nelson, who had been working as Keller's assistant, became acting campus president. In 1986, Nelson was named the campus president when Keller joined the college administration staff. As did the presidents on the other campuses at the time, Nelson also served as the dean of instruction. Unlike the others, he continued as chairman of general education.

As the Grand Island Campus marked its 10th anniversary, they reported with pride that student headcount had grown from just over 200 in 1975-76 to nearly 1,600 in 1984-85.

Grand Island Campus

- Jim Dutcher, chairman of the industrial and related programs, hosted members of the Nebraska Corn Growers Association at the campus. Focus was upon the alternate energy project which was begun by the Grand Island Campus in 1983, leading to the distillation and use of ethanol.
- Dr. Lynn Black was appointed dean of students at the Grand Island Campus. He joined the CCC staff in 1981 as chairman of business and office occupation programs at the Hastings Campus. He served as associate dean of students on the Grand Island Campus beginning in January of 1985. He had earned a doctorate in community and human resources and adult and continuing education from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.
- Thirteen persons from Nebraska cities ranging from Omaha to Thedford attended a week-long course provided for water system operators by the Nebraska State Department of Health in the Alternate Energy Building. The course prepared the operators to take the test for certification, as required by law.
- In a letter to the editor of "The Campus Communicator," Maureen Hoffman, communications instructor, pointed out in the interest of accuracy, that she had won a prize for best female Halloween costume dressed as a goblin, not as a gremlin, as had been reported.
- Larry Keller returned to his position as president of the Grand Island Campus. He had been granted a leave of absence to complete the residency requirement at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville in pursuit of a doctorate in higher education.

Dr. Larry Keller (2006 photo)

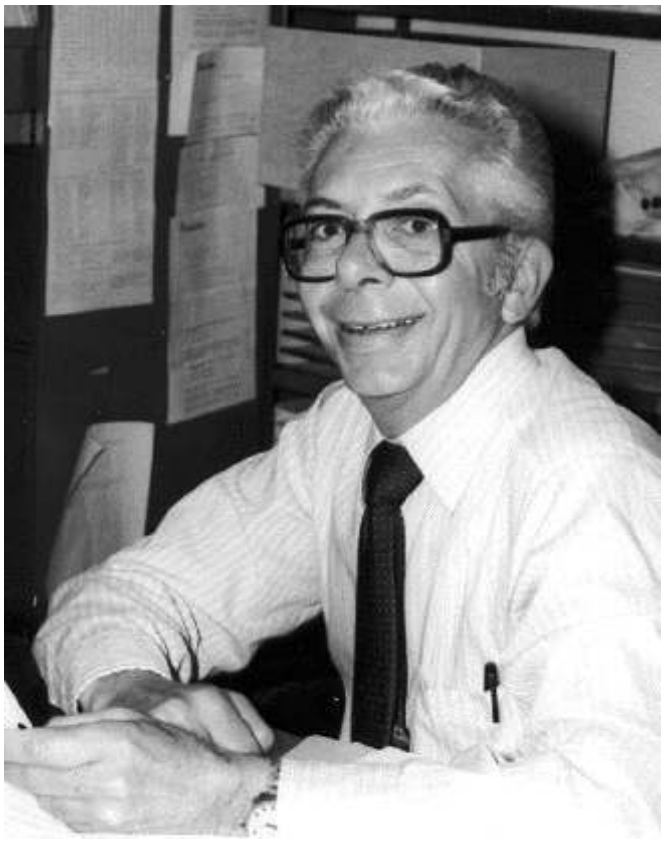
- The college implemented a shared faculty program. Don Berns, an automotive technology instructor at the Hastings Campus, taught two days a week on the Grand Island Campus to accommodate an increase in enrollment.
- The Grand Island Campus and the Electronics Technicians Association sponsored the Second Annual Electronics and Computers Workshop which involved 24 presenters, at least nine of which were CCC faculty and staff. Jim Dutcher, chairman for industrial education programs, was coordinator of

the workshop. Sixty-three technicians were enrolled.

- Jeanne Webb, child care education instructor, chaired an early childhood conference sponsored by the Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children. Approximately 400 people attended. Presenters included Dr. Paul Welter, Kearney State College; Joan Burney, columnist; and Dr. Charles Smith, Kansas University.

Hastings Campus

- Sam F. Clinton received the fourth annual Outstanding Alumni Award from the Hastings Campus. A special education teacher in Omaha, Clinton had been a student in the human services program, receiving his associate degree in 1978.
- Joe Woodward, Hastings Campus business-related programs division chairman, received a doctor of philosophy degree in vocational education from Colorado State University at Fort Collins.
- Kathleen McPherson was appointed dean of instruction. She joined the Hastings Campus staff in 1976 as chairwoman of health occupation programs. She previously was a dental hygiene instructor at C.S. Mott Community College. The native of Ann Arbor, Mich., had earned a master's degree from the University of Michigan.
- Ray Szlanda was appointed placement director and manager of the Campus Center. He continued his duties as men's basketball coach on the campus.
- Bob Glenn was appointed director of the admissions and recruiting office on the Hastings Campus. Glenn had previously served as a social science and psychology instructor and then as a counselor on the campus.
- As president-elect of the Nebraska College Personnel Association, Bob Glenn was chairman of the NCPA annual conference which was held in Grand Island. The conference related to student retention issues.
- The National Association of Radio and Telecommunications Engineers designated the Hastings Campus as a testing center for applicants seeking certification as radio and telecommunications engineers. Electronics technology instructor Alan Hartley was designated to serve as certification administrator. Because of the NARTE accreditation, Hastings Campus students who later completed an associate of applied science degree in electronic technology received a NARTE Third Class Certification without further examination.
- A two-week training course in welding was inaugurated for Union Pacific Railroad employees throughout their 21-state area.
- "Keeping It Together in the '80s" was the theme of the Second Annual Long-Range Planning Workshop for Farm Couples sponsored by the campus with the leadership of LaVern VanBuskirk, agriculture instructor. About 50 farm couples attended. Local banks and American Cyanimid Company helped to sponsor the event.
- About 150 International Harvester service technicians attended training sessions conducted on the campus. Students and staff from the campus participated in the tractor maintenance workshops.
- The Campus Center was the site for a training session on electronic ignition conducted by Friend's Motor Supply of Hastings and the Champion Corporation.



Haskell Kirkland, a hotel, motel and restaurant management instructor on the Hastings Campus, received the first Outstanding Service Award presented by that campus.

- A Career Awareness Lab was introduced on the campus with the help of a Special Vocational Needs Grant through the Nebraska Department of Education. The CAL program was provided as a pilot to help high school students in a nine-county area to help them make responsible career decisions. Terry Thayer was the CAL evaluator.
- Dr. Frank Touchstone and his staff from the Hastings Regional Center conducted a series of seminars for members of the Nebraska Professional Counselor Association for which the campus served as host.
- Ford Motor Company, Laird Motor Company of Hastings, and Schuppan's Sales and Service of Grand Island each donated an automobile to the campus for use in the automotive technology instructional program.
- Debbie Glenn, medical assisting instructor, was recipient of the Young Career Woman Award from the Hastings Business and Professional Women's Association.
- Katie Bruce, human services instructor, was chosen as president-elect of the Nebraska Health Occupations Association, a subdivision of the Nebraska Vocational Association and the American Vocational Association.
- Mark Fuerniss, math instructor, was appointed to a three-year term as a representative of the Mathematical Association of America, a national association of mathematics educators and professional mathematicians.

Retired

- Burdette "Tommy" Thompson, an automotive technology instructor on the Hastings Campus, retired after serving the college in that position since August 15, 1966.

Platte Campus

- Dick Abraham, art instructor, was selected to participate in the annual Nebraska Art Teachers Award Show at Nebraska Wesleyan University.
- Jim Fisher, dean of student services, was elected to serve as Nebraska representative to the ACT Corporation.
- Ron Kluck, associate dean of community education, received the Rookie of the Year Award presented by the Adult and Continuing Education Association of Nebraska.
- The theater department found it necessary to issue a call for an accordion player to fill an opening in the orchestra for a production of "Fiddler on the Roof." The musical was directed by Dick Averett; Gil Haase played the role of Tevye, while Kathy Bembry-Placzek played Golde. A total of 2,040 people attended the show, exceeding the previous record for a Platte Campus theater production set when 2,030 attended the 1981 production of "Music Man."
- Agricultural instructor Don Engel was recognized by the Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce for his work as a member of the organization's agri-business committee and as the first chairman of its rural-urban committee.
- The college implemented an industrial maintenance technology program on the Platte Campus. The new program included existing courses from the electrical, electronics, data processing and machine shop technology courses. Courses in machine repair, welder repair and hydraulics were introduced into the curriculum. The college received a federal grant through the Carl D. Perkins Vocational Education Act of 1984 to assist in the purchase of the hydraulics training equipment. Ron Vorderstrasse, chairman of science and health programs, was instrumental in the development of the program.
- Dr. Emily Uzendoski was selected as the college representative to the American Association of University Women.
- Dianna Parrish, Platte Campus sophomore, won first place in management competition for Nebraska at the Phi Beta Lambda Leadership Conference. Phi Beta Lambda is a national organization for college students in business-related programs. Parrish also was an honor roll student; a varsity volleyball player; and a member of Phi Theta Kappa, a national community college honorary society.
- Tom Burkhardt, management instructor, presented a paper at the annual conference of the International Society for Individualized Instruction at Rutgers University. His paper was titled, "Importance of Student Introduction to Mastery Learning."
- Under the direction of John Putnam, the Platte Campus Chorale singers served as goodwill ambassadors when they visited Austria, Germany, and France on a two-week concert tour.

- Bob Olson, Platte College Foundation president, announced the establishment of the Ben Teller Memorial Scholarship. Funds for the scholarship were provided by Irene Teller in memory of her late husband, a well-known Columbus businessman.
- Michigan native Pete Rush began his duties as president of the Platte Campus. At the time of his appointment, he was in the process of completing a Ph.D. in education from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. He also was vice president of instructional services at Northwestern Michigan College at Traverse City. Later in the year, a monograph titled, "Emerging Trustee Roles in Community College Governance," which was co-authored by Rush, was published by the Association of Community College Trustees and was distributed nationally.

Dr. Pete Rush

- Dr. Roger Augspurger was named dean of instruction after having served as acting dean for more than a year. He also provided leadership in the learning resources area after the death of Marvin Kraenow earlier in the year. He joined the college in 1974 as chairman of the creative and social division, after teaching instrumental music in Iowa for 12 years. He had earned a doctorate in education from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley.
- More than 200 students from more than 40 junior high schools participated in the regional MathCounts competition at the campus. The Northeast Chapter of the Nebraska Society of Professional Engineers sponsored the contest. Winners received trophies and advanced to the state competition. State winners competed in the national meet in Washington, D.C.
- Five subject areas were added to the seven used previously for the High School Recognition and Achievement Day competition which was held on the campus for the 14th year. Students vied for scholarships through the competitive exams. Leon Sanders, business and office division chairman, was in charge of the event.
- The Platte Campus was the site of the annual conference of the Cooperative Education Association of Nebraska. Terri Hotovy, assistant coordinator of cooperative education, was conference chairwoman, assisted by Doris Lux, coordinator for cooperative education. The conference featured a program which Chicago Citywide Community College developed under a federal grant for presentations across the nation.
- All members of the Student Senate signed a "Contract for Life" distributed by the national Students Against Drunk Driving. The senate made contracts available to other students. Becky Ness of Madison was president of the Student Senate and Patty Heimann of Snyder was secretary.
- Ken Bonk, student activities coordinator, conducted sessions on goal setting and assertiveness at a regional conference of the National Association for Campus Activities held in Denver.

In Memory

- A plaque was dedicated to the late Marvin A. Kraenow at the Platte Campus Resource Center. A charter member of the Platte Campus staff, he served as associate dean for learning resources until his death on April 2, 1985.

Board of Governors

- The Rev. Bill Doran of Grand Island was elected chairman of the college Board of Governors for the year.
- David Stubbs, a member of the college governing board, was elected president of the Nebraska Technical Community College Association Board of Directors.
- Ken Wortman, a member of the Central Community College Board of Governors since 1966, was named Champion of Small Business for the year by the Nebraska Business Development Center.
- Merle L. Anderson, CCC Board of Governors member, was elected to the director-at-large position for the Association of Community College Trustees. He had been active in the association since 1978 when he joined the CCC board.

College Administration

- The college cabinet inaugurated a plan to rotate monthly cabinet meetings among the campuses and

the administrative office. At each meeting, an open forum was scheduled to give staff and students an opportunity to address the cabinet. Cabinet members at the time, in addition to Dr. Joe Preusser, college president, were Larry Glazier, college business officer; Dr. Eric Jones, computer services manager; Ron Logue, public relations assistant; Don Nelson, Grand Island Campus president; Dr. Carl Rolf, Hastings Campus president; Pete Rush, Platte Campus president; and Dennis Tyson, vice president for educational services.

College Foundation

- Chapter EZ of P.E.O. donated $500 to the CCC Foundation to establish an emergency short-term loan fund for students at the Grand Island Campus. The money was donated in the hope that it would provide students a means to stay in school. While no interest was to be charged for such loans, they were to be repaid in 90 days.

College Nights

- Educational planning nights were scheduled by the Nebraska Department of Education throughout the state to provide information on career opportunities and educational requirements, financial aid, scholarships, and college costs. Representing CCC at various college nights were Paul Stobbe, recruiting coordinator; Bob Glenn, Hastings Campus admissions and recruiting director; Bill Torrence, Hastings Campus counselor; Norris Augustin, Platte Campus admissions director; and Jack Gutierrez, Platte Campus counselor.

Community Education

- During the 1984-85 college year, CCC employed more than 700 part-time instructors to teach community education classes in 81 communities in the 25-county service area. Enrollments included 13,808 in college credit classes and more than 4,200 in noncredit avocational/recreational classes.

Displaced Homemakers

- The Grand Island YWCA displaced homemakers program entered into an agreement with CCC to provide training for some of its clients. Funds for the project were provided by the Grand Island United Way, YWCA, and a federal Perkins grant.

Holdrege Learning Center

- The Holdrege Learning Center moved to the third floor of the former Lincoln School in Holdrege. Judy Cestaro continued as the learning center coordinator.

Kearney Practical Nursing

- Ed Loutzenheiser Jr. of Hastings presented diplomas to 25 graduates of the Kearney practical nursing program at commencement ceremonies in March. Nursing caps were presented to 35 students who had reached the halfway point in the program. Jeff Schrader of Palmer, the lone male in the class, received a lapel pin in lieu of a cap. Dr. Joe Preusser, college president, was the keynote speaker for the event.

Vocational Agriculture

- About 225 students from 21 high schools participated in vocational agriculture contests hosted by CCC. The Platte Campus was host to the District V contest and the Grand Island Campus was host to the District IX contest.

Food Service Provided by Chartwells

By Dr. Dennis Tyson, Executive Vice President

When the first campus of what is now Central Community College opened at Hastings in 1966, the College Board of Governors contracted with Professional Food Management (PFM) to provide on-campus food services for the students. Since 1966, the two partners have continued their collaboration to provide quality food service for CCC students.

Dr. Dennis Tyson

In the fall of 1996, the Compass Group North America purchased PFM. In 1999, Compass officially changed the name of their food services division from PFM to Chartwells. The owners incorporated Chartwells in England and named the company after the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill.

Food Service Managers

Since 1966, PFM/Chartwells has employed five food service managers at Hastings. David Kelly, the current manager, who started on the Hastings Campus on July 15, 1976, has served as the food service manager the longest. Since 1983, when food service operations began on the Grand Island Campus, four food service managers have served there. When CCC added dorm facilities in Columbus in 1981, PFM expanded its operation to that campus. Since opening the Columbus Campus cafeteria, Chartwells has employed five managers at that site.

Beginning in 1966, Central Community College focused efforts on providing quality food service for its students. PFM and Chartwells supported the college in its effort and willingly made modifications to accommodate the expectations of the students. David Kelly, Joan Socha and Deb Schneider, the Chartwells Hastings, Grand Island and Columbus campus managers in 2005, have won national awards in recognition of the quality of service provided by their staffs.

More Than 1,000 Served Daily

On a typical day, Chartwells at Hastings will serve from 750 to 800 retail and boarding meals to the college students, faculty, and staff. Chartwells at Columbus will serve anywhere from 240 to 250 retail and boarding meals. Chartwells at Grand Island provides a retail snack bar service with approximately 80 to 100 customers daily.

All three Chartwells operations provide an outstanding catering program tailored to the needs of the college and the community.

Changes Through the Years

Some of the big changes PFM/Chartwells has faced at CCC include:

- Moving the Hastings Campus retail (snack bar) from the old Buffalo Corral to the new Campus Center (1983).
- Renovating the Hastings Campus cafeteria (1983).
- Renovating the Grand Island snack bar four times since opening in 1983.
- Renovating the Columbus Campus cafeteria three times since opening in 1981.

More Improvements Planned

An electronic meal card, which could be used at any of the three campuses, is in the planning stages. Also, the five-year plan of the college proposes that a more centrally located cafeteria be built on the Hastings Campus. Central Community College and Chartwells have contracted through June 30, 2013, to continue their partnership to provide food service to students and staff.

In addition to providing daily food service on CCC's three campuses, Chartwells caters many special events like this Grand Island Campus graduation breakfast .

1986

CCC Responds to Farm Crisis

(Editor's note: The following article appeared in the September-October 1986 issue of the ATEA Journal. It is reprinted with permission. It outlines steps taken by CCC to assist financially stressed farmers beginning in 1985. The model described was chiefly implemented under the direction of Verne Buhl, who was an agriculture instructor on the Platte Campus. In more recent years, he has served as director of agriculture programs on that campus. With his guidance and with the assistance of area attorneys and Joan Hooker, agriculture instructor, CCC has continued to respond to requests for financial counseling and legal aid from farmers and ranchers within the college service area.)

Evaluating Farm Finances

By Dr. Joe Preusser and Jim Strayer

Dr. Joe Preusser

Last autumn [1985] will be remembered by many Midwesterners as a bittersweet season. A bin-buster harvest filled grain elevators to overflowing, and the excess was piled high on the main streets of many small farming communities.

Farmers who expanded during the boom years of the '70s had seen their net worth decline as land values dropped rapidly after peaking in 1981. Caught between low prices for the commodities they produced and high interest rates on money they borrowed for operating capital, highly leveraged farmers (those with debt-to-asset ratios of 70 percent or more) were experiencing extreme financial stress. These factors spell economic crisis in a state where 40 percent of manufacturing jobs are in agriculture-related industries, and 21 percent of all employment depends directly or indirectly on agriculture.

Unicameral Education Committee Requests Help

Jim Strayer

During the first week of October 1985, the chairman of the state legislature's education committee asked the presidents of the state's six technical community college areas what their institutions could do to help. Response and action occurred quickly. Community college officials sat down with bankers, farmers, and business people to discuss what needed to be done. By the first week of November 1985, an educational program titled the Farm and Ranch Financial Evaluation Program emerged. A detailed account of how Central Community College responded to the expressed needs is further discussed.

Major goals of the program are to help farm and ranch families assess their current financial position, set goals, and look at short-and long-term financial and farm production options. These goals were perceived as providing realistic approaches to evaluating farm finances, and were keyed to the best demographic data available. For example, the Nebraska Department of Agriculture predicted that as many as 1,200 farmers in the 25-county area served by Central Community College would be forced out of business.

Key administrators of the college felt it was critical that CCC provide services to help financially stressed farm constituents. A proposal was made to the Board of Governors to allocate venture capital to support the program. The fund transfer was quickly approved and a project team was organized under the direction of the CCC economic development coordinator.

Financial Counselors Recruited; Workshop Conducted

Letters were mailed asking people to serve as financial counselors, and a workshop was conducted in late October for 28 volunteers. The workshop was conducted by the coordinators of the CCC Nebraskaland Farm and Ranch Business Management Education Program.

By early December, CCC was ready to kick off the program. Brochures explaining the program were mailed to more than 17,000 farm families. Requests for assistance began pouring in immediately. Another workshop was required in January for additional counselors to help meet the demand. Financial counselors meet individually with farm and ranch families, usually in their home. These confidential one-on-one counseling sessions usually take about three hours, and a second session is required for some clients.

Wide Range of Services Provided

Counselors help farm families to:

- Examine farm accounting records and income tax summaries.
- Prepare a list of current, intermediate, and long-term assets and liabilities.
- Prepare balance sheets, income statements, and cash-flow statements.
- Calculate primary financial indicators including liquidity, solvency, profitability, and financial efficiency.
- Develop an action plan to achieve family and farm business goals.

A majority of clients were experiencing varying degrees of financial stress, often quite severe. Counselors were able to help most clients by suggesting alternatives for restructuring their debt (often shifted short-term obligations to a long-term payment plan) and by outlining farm production options. As a result, clients reduced debt, improved cash flow, and moved into enterprises with better profit potential.

Clients Express Sense of Relief

Counselors reported that it was common for clients to express a sense of relief at receiving help in looking at their personal circumstances objectively – something many had been unable to do on their own because of the emotional distress they were experiencing. “The evaluation program made us feel as though somebody cared about what happened to us,” one client said. Another noted, “We finally understand our complete financial situation and how we got there. Now we know what our legal and financial options are.” By the end of the 1985-86 academic year, more than 330 farm and ranch families had received help through the program.

The Farm and Ranch Financial Evaluation Program is a(n)…example of flexibility and responsiveness of a community college in meeting immediate needs of the public during a crisis. This type of rural community based program also demonstrates the importance of strong linkages between colleges, state government, local school districts, and the business community in meeting challenges. CCC will continue offering the program through 1986-87.

Grand Island Campus

- Lexington resident Bill Smets became the first student to receive an associate of applied science degree from Central Community College without ever attending classes on any of the three campuses of the college. Smets instead completed course work from each of the campuses through the Lexington Learning Center. He also transferred credits earned through Kearney State College and from the military. The associate degree was awarded by the Grand Island Campus.
- The Electronic Technicians Association International elected electronics technology instructor Fred Roeser as chairman of its Satellite Technicians Division. The division provides technical training and information to keep members informed of the latest developments in the field.
- Don Nelson was confirmed as campus president and dean of instruction. Previous positions with the college, beginning in 1969, included chairman for general education at the Hastings Campus, administrative assistant to former college president Dr. Chester Gausman, administrative assistant for instruction to former Grand Island Campus Presi-

dent Larry Keller, and acting Grand Island Campus president. He also continued to serve as coordinator of Community Education programs for the college.

Don Nelson

- More than 80 people from 10 different states attended the third annual Electronics and Computers Seminar hosted by the Grand Island Campus and the Electronic Technicians Association. A program for spouses was coordinated by Kaila Roeser.
- In late November, several programs moved from the Grand Island Education Center to the Grand Island Campus.
- For the fifth year, Tom Oshlo, maintenance instructor, who was also a certified motorcycle safety foundation instructor, offered a 21-hour motorcycle rider course which satisfied the driving portion of the motorcycle driver's test for those who successfully completed the course, and qualified them for insurance discounts.
- Everett Hinton, a science and math instructor at the Hastings Campus, began teaching science courses on the Grand Island Campus on a part-time basis.
- The spring picnic at the campus featured a Twister tournament.
- Tom Peters, data processing instructor, served as president of the Mid-State Nebraska Chapter of the Data Processing Management Association. Alan Hult, data processing instructor, was the secretary.
- In November, the east education pod consisting of 14,240 square feet was completed. This allowed the assessment center, community education, communications, personal development, real estate and investments, reading, science, math, social science, and business and management to move to the main campus. This left drafting, child care, and nursing at the Grand Island Higher Education Center.

Hastings Campus

- Hastings Campus programs in dental assisting, dental hygiene, and dental laboratory technology received notifications that their accreditation had been extended for 10 years by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association. Among other strengths, the report spoke highly of the support provided by the advisory committees.
- Jim Cronin, physical plant supervisor, received the second annual Outstanding Service Award for the campus. A charter staff member, he was cited for his role in helping students with their career potential and for his efforts to beautify the campus.
- Latham Mortensen, welding instructor, received the annual Outstanding Faculty Member Award from the Nebraska Technical Community College Association. In addition to his contributions as a vocational educator, Mortensen was cited for his involvement with the American Welding Society at the local, state, and national levels.
- Kathy Warner, a 1980 graduate of the medical assisting program, received the fifth annual Outstanding Alumni Award from the Hastings Campus. At that time, she was employed as a supervisor of medical assistants at Geiger, Vondrak, and Sutton Ophthalmology in Hastings, and she was the only Certified Ophthalmic Technician in Nebraska. She was also cited for her community involvement.
- At the 17th Annual Student Awards Convocation, a number of individuals and organizations were recognized. The student newspaper, The Rambler, received the Spirit Award, which was presented by Edwin Minnick, dean of students. Harold Hamel, communications instructor, was cited for his efforts in re-establishing the student newspaper and for serving as its adviser. Booster Club Awards were given to athletes Stacie Dowse of Comstock and John Coffey of Blue Hill. Student Senate President Tim McKeon of Ravenna presided over the convocation. Later in the year, it was announced that The Rambler also won an award in a competition sponsored by the American Scholastic Press Association.
- Lonnie Willey of Hastings, a 1986 graduate, received an Outstanding Service Award from the Nebraska Dental Hygienists' Association during the association's annual meeting in Lincoln. At the same meeting, Diane Schaaf of Valentine, a 1983 graduate of the Hastings Campus program, was elected as NDHA president, and Cindy Gaskill of Aurora, a 1981 CCC graduate, was elected as first vice president.

- Three World War II-vintage buildings were razed on the Hastings Campus. Dawson Hall was a military mess hall and later a cafeteria for civilian employees which the college had remodeled for use as a men's dormitory. The building was closed because of prohibitive maintenance costs, including an estimated $100,000 for roof repairs. The Greeley Building, a barn which the military had moved onto the property and remodeled for use as an officer's club, was used as a recreational hall by the college, and from time to time temporarily housed various instructional programs and finally was used for storage. A concrete block sand tower which the Navy had built to store sand used for road maintenance was never of value to the college but required periodic maintenance.
- With the help of federal funds through two Carl D. Perkins grants, a program in biotechnology was added at the Hasting Campus. The program was developed in response to a need for laboratory technicians. The availability of positions for graduates was demonstrated by a survey of more than 300 companies.
- The Hastings Campus celebrated its 20th anniversary with an open house and reception for the public and by inviting employees and former employees to a dinner which was served prior to the monthly Board of Governors' meeting. On behalf of the college, Bill Doran, chairman of the Board of Governors, accepted a plaque from the Hastings Chamber of Commerce.
- During three separate sessions throughout the calendar year, 13 students were chosen to participate in the Walt Disney World College Program and earn credit through cooperative education. The nine students chosen from the hotel, motel and restaurant management program were John Bierbower, Tony Chambers, and Rick Naeve of Aurora; Barbara Brown of Hastings; Kevin Deprez of York; John Hister of Wood River; Robert Lewien of Ong; Kris Musil, originally of Broken Bow; and Tim Perlinger of Omaha. The four others were broadcasting student Dawn Earlley of Wilsonville, dietetic technology graduate LeAnn Gates, business and management student Kevin Peters of Hastings and accounting student Jennifer Meads of Elm Creek.

Retired

- Mary Dean, secretarial science instructor, retired after six years with the college to move with her husband to their home in Chula Vista, Calif. She held several secretarial positions on the campus, including secretary to the campus president, before becoming an instructor.
- Betty Jackson, a business math instructor, retired at the end of the calendar year. In addition to business math, she had previously taught secretarial science and personal development classes at the campus.

Platte Campus

- Mary Lou Holmberg, practical nursing program supervisor, was appointed by Gov. Bob Kerrey to a second four-year term on the State Board of Nursing. She also was co-author of an article, "Midwest Schools Pilot Expanded LPN Programs," which appeared in the "American Journal of Nursing."
- Twenty-six students entered a part-time practical nursing program which was launched at the Bremer Center in Aurora as a satellite of the Platte Campus practical nursing program.
- The Cantari vocal ensemble was invited to perform at the Judevine Center for Autistic Children in St. Louis. Cantari Director John Putnam said the group performed one concert for the school's children and their parents and another for the St. Louis-area benefactors of the private nonprofit school.
- Marcine Wurdeman, accounting instructor and co-sponsor of Phi Beta Lambda, received the first Outstanding Postsecondary Educator Award presented by the Nebraska State Business Education Association.
- Jacquie B.R. Case of Pender won the Best of Show Award and James D. Clark of Kearney won a first-place ribbon at the 16th Annual Fine Arts Festival exhibition on the Platte Campus. Case's work was a color pencil drawing while Clark was recognized for a sculpture. According to art instructor Dick Abraham more than 200 pieces of student art were displayed at the exhibit.
- Mike Merrill, a 1986 graduate with an associate degree in pre-engineering, was accepted at GMI Engineering and Management Institute, a private college catering to the automotive industry. Merrill

was also employed as an intern by McLaren Engines. Being hired as an intern was a requirement for enrollment at GMI.

- The Platte Campus was host for the fourth annual Conference of the Cooperative Education Association of Nebraska. Doris Lux, Platte Campus cooperative education coordinator and secretary-treasurer of CEAN, welcomed the participants to the campus.
- Don Engel, coordinator of the Platte Campus Agricultural Institute, was the recipient of the first Platte Person of the Year Award. He joined the campus faculty in 1976. In addition to his efforts as agriculture instructor and coordinator, he was cited for helping to coordinate the Farm And Ranch Financial Evaluation Program and for implementing a project to explore the feasibility of commercial vegetable production as an alternative for Nebraska farmers. This project involved planting an acre of onions on the campus as part of a Carl D. Perkins grant.
- Ray Plankinton, mathematics instructor since 1971, was the first person to receive the Platte Faculty Member of the Year Award. He was cited for his teaching excellence, his dedication to students, and his contributions as a campus leader.
- Ken Bonk, student affairs coordinator, was appointed Nebraska unit coordinator for the National Association for Campus Activities. While continuing his position on the campus, as unit coordinator for Nebraska, he worked with the other colleges in the state to coordinate campus activity programming and leadership training. He also published a newsletter for a four-state region of NACA.

Retired

- Lola Martindale, the first registrar on the Platte Campus, retired after 17 years of service in that position. In November 1985 when she was chosen as the first recipient of the Platte Person of the Month Award, she was cited for her dedication to students.

Articulation Consortium

- Representatives from 16 secondary schools and four Educational Service Units attended the first meeting of the Central Nebraska Articulation Consortium, which the college sponsored. Central Community College directed the development of the consortium with the assistance of a grant provided by the federal Carl D. Perkins Vocational Education Act. The goal of the project was to articulate programs and courses so that students could continue their educational experiences at CCC without duplicating experiences provided by their high schools.

College Administration

- Dr. Eric Jones, computer services manager, was appointed to a three-year term on the Publications Standing Service Unit of the American Association for Adult and Continuing Education. The publications unit solicited articles to be included in the "AAACE Handbook for Adult Education" published in 1990. Such a handbook is published every 10 years.
- Dr. Joe Preusser, college president, received an Education Service Award from the Nebraska Vocational Association in recognition of his contributions to vocational education in Nebraska. The award was presented at a reception in the Governor's Mansion.
- Dr. Carl Rolf, Dr. Pete Rush, and Dennis Tyson were named college representatives to the National Council for Occupational Education.
- Alicia Haussler was elected to a three-year term on the Grand Island Chamber of Commerce.

College Enrollment

- Total college enrollment for 1985-86 reached 21,187. CCC provided educational services to 12.1 percent of the 18-to-64 year old target population living within the 25-county service area of the college.

College Foundation

- The Central Community College Foundation received the first installment from the Kaufmann-Cummings Trust, which endows a memorial scholarship fund available to Hall County residents attending CCC.

Federal Grants

- CCC received more than $320,000 in federal grants. The largest grant was $71,897 for special needs assessment. Another six projects were funded under the Job Training and Partnership Act for a total of $106,000, and 27 projects were funded through the Carl D. Perkins Vocational Education Act of 1984 for $155,000.

Kearney Practical Nursing

Retired

- Maxine Spongberg retired following 15 years as a clinical instructor in the CCC practical nursing program in Kearney. She was a graduate of St. Francis School of Nursing in Grand Island and Kearney State College.

North Central Association

- Faculty and staff were invited to participate in a total of 19 self-study committees leading to the renewal of North Central accreditation in 1988. Dennis Tyson was designated as the chairman of the self-study.

Vocational Agriculture

- The Grand Island Campus and the Platte Campus were hosts to more than 275 vocational agriculture students from 18 high schools. The Grand Island Campus hosted the District IX contest while the District V contest was held on the Platte Campus.

Financial Aid Vital for Students

By Steve Millnitz, Financial Aid Director, Grand Island Campus

Jane, a single parent in her early 30s, has been working at a series of low-paying jobs for the past 10 years and getting nowhere. For as long as she can remember, she has always wanted to be a nurse. Now that the younger of her two children is starting first grade, she is considering the possibility of pursuing her dream.

Steve Millnitz

She has learned that her local community college offers nursing programs, but she knows there is no extra money in her budget to pay for tuition and books. Even more disheartening is the fact that she will probably have to cut back on her work hours to take classes.

Every dollar from her wages and child support goes for rent, food, clothing, and other necessities. The more she thinks about it, the more likely it seems that college is just not in the realm of possibility.

John, a high school senior from a small community in north-central Nebraska, has been evaluating his college options. He is undecided on a program of study but is leaning toward information technology. He has checked out the costs at several Nebraska postsecondary schools and has decided to attend a community college, primarily due to cost and smaller class sizes.

He will need to move away from home since none of the schools is within reasonable driving distance. He and his parents will be able to pay for his tuition, books, health costs, and auto expenses. In addition, he hopes to work about 15 hours per week which should cover his personal spending money and leave some left over for unexpected expenses.

He is very concerned, however, about how to pay for room and board, even if he lives in a dorm on campus.

Students Share Common Concerns

Though these two individuals have completely different circumstances, they share a common concern. Where do I find the financial resources that will make it possible for me to attend college?

This is where the student financial aid office enters the picture. At Central Community College, financial aid staff members have been providing answers and guidance to students like Jane and John for nearly four decades. Administering financial aid programs requires attention to statutes, regulations, policies, procedures, forms, consumer information, and the list goes on. However, the most important aspect of working in a CCC financial aid office is serving students and providing that friendly, personal touch. It truly is “all about the student.”

Goals and Accountability

Financial aid staff members function under some basic overriding principles that guide our priorities and decision-making. We strive to “put good money to good use” and be responsible stewards of federal, state, institutional, and private funds. We also help provide access to higher education, apply reasonable consistency in our decision-making, and attempt to simplify what most of our customers perceive to be a complex process. We must also satisfy the needs of our students and the guidelines of our institution, while operating within the confines of federal and state statutes and regulations.

To this end, we have established several goals that govern the day-to-day operations of each campus financial aid office. Staff members maintain an open-door policy, provide immediate assistance whenever possible, attempt to make students feel welcome and comfortable, offer personalized assistance with financial aid paperwork and online procedures, process aid efficiently and accurately, and provide consumer information in a variety of formats.

We periodically revise forms, letters, printed informational literature, and the financial aid section of our Web site, frequently as the result of student feedback. We also evaluate our office procedures on a regular basis and make changes as needed. Finally, we attempt to know as much as we can about the other departments at

CCC, so we can refer students to the appropriate office or instructional area for assistance.

We are accountable to the U.S. Department of Education in the administration of grant, loan, and work-study programs governed by Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. We are accountable to the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education in the administration of the Nebraska State Grant Program. We are accountable to CCC in the administration of our institutional scholarship and work assistance programs. Finally, we are accountable to all our scholarship donors who entrust us to administer their funding programs.

Financial Aid Programs Offered

The financial aid offices at CCC administer grant, loan, scholarship, and employment programs funded by federal, state, institutional, and private dollars. Most of the federal and state programs are based solely on financial need; the institutional and private programs are primarily based on merit. The financial aid office also works with external agencies, such as Vocational Rehabilitation and Workforce Development, who provide funding for our students. Veterans' benefits are administered by the campus registrars.

Pell Grant

The Federal Pell Grant program is the foundation of all federal need-based programs. Other need-based grant programs are the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG) and the Nebraska State Grant (NSG). The Federal Subsidized Stafford Student Loan Program and the Federal Work Study Program are also need-based programs. The Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Student Loan Program is not based on financial need.

All institutionally funded scholarship programs are based on merit, while privately funded scholarship programs may be based on merit or a combination of merit and need. Most externally funded programs are based on need but usually have other eligibility criteria, as well.

The Pell Grant, the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, the Nebraska State Grant and the Federal Work-Study Program have specific reporting requirements that account for the accurate expenditures of these funds. Some of the externally funded scholarship programs have reporting requirements as well.

Federal regulations require financial aid offices to monitor federal, state, institutional, and external funding to prevent or adjust overawards. This effectively makes financial aid "the buck stops here" office! The CCC financial aid offices have compliance procedures in place, which may necessitate a student's having to repay federal or state aid based on the discovery of external funding.

Financial Aid Data

There has been tremendous growth in both the number of students receiving aid and the amount of aid awarded over the past 20 years. Below are some illustrations of that growth.

Unduplicated Recipients

Year	1984-85	1994-95	2004-05
Number	1,490*	2,286	3,850
Total Aid	$2,674,331	$4,875,742	$11,199,728
Scholarships	$29,885	$298,969	$1,017,284

* The 1984-85 unduplicated recipient figures are reasonable estimates.

All the financial aid programs that are currently administered by CCC were in existence in 1984 except for the Federal Unsubsidized Stafford, which was initiated in 1991-92 and replaced the Supplemental Loan for Students in 1994-95. There have also been major additions to state grant funding. The State Student Incentive Grant Program was replaced by two state grant programs in 1989-90: the Scholarship Award Program and the State Scholarship Assistance Program. These two programs existed until 2003-04 when they were replaced by the Nebraska State Grant Program. State grant funding at CCC has grown from less than $10,000 in 1984-85 to approximately $220,000 in 2004-05.

The most significant area of growth over the past 20 years has been the increase in scholarships. Scholarship dollars awarded in 1984-85 were only 3 percent of the scholarship dollars awarded in 2004-05.

Organizational Structure

Each campus at CCC has always had its own financial aid office and administered the aid for its students. Until 1989, each campus reported to the U.S. Department of Education as an independent entity. In that year, the Department of Education required CCC to report as one college with multiple sites. Making the shift and getting the department to recognize its own mandate was no small task.

Until 1994, financial aid at CCC worked under a subcommittee structure, with the position of chairman being shared among the campus financial aid directors from year to year. In addition to the directors, each campus had support staff, currently designated as technicians.

In 1994, based on the recommendations of an independent consultant, CCC moved to a central manager model. Research, reporting, and oversight for the administration of the CCC financial aid programs became the responsibility of the financial aid manager, who was housed in the college administration offices. Sheila Peterson, a Nebraska native with several years of financial aid experience in Texas, was hired to fill this position, which she held until 1999. After she left CCC, it was decided to abandon the central manager model and replace it with a team approach. This was similar to the subcommittee structure, with a couple of important differences. One of the campus directors would be the team leader and would remain in that position from year to year unless it became apparent that a change would be beneficial to the team. The team leader would organize meetings, and fulfill CCC's federal, state, and institutional reporting requirements. The other two campus directors would also have area responsibilities according to the needs of the team. Technicians might also perform collegewide tasks in areas of expertise. In addition, the team would develop common forms, correspondence, policies, and procedures. The team would meet regularly in person and via conference calls to maintain an open line of communication, discuss important issues, and revise financial aid materials and procedures. The team model has worked well and is still in place.

Staffing

CCC currently has seven financial aid staff members totaling 102 years of financial aid service. Over the past 20 years, the following changes have taken place in each campus financial aid office.

The current financial aid director at the Columbus Campus, Lisa Gdowski, started in February 1999. The current financial aid technician, Marjorie Johnson, started in August 1991 after having served the office as a work-study student. Prior to Gdowski, the director was Sandra Schmidt, who held the position from July 1986 until January 1998. Schmidt was the financial aid technician prior to assuming the position of director. During her tenure as technician, there were two directors, Jim Fisher and Jack Gutierrez. Both assumed different positions at CCC after serving in the financial aid office.

The current financial aid director at the Grand Island Campus, Steve Millnitz, started in July 1987. There are currently two financial technicians in Grand Island, Tricia Stephens and Hylee Asche. Stephens started full-time in July 1993, after having served the office as a part-time technician for one year and a work-study student for two years. Asche started full-time in financial aid in June 1995. From August 1988 until June 1995, Asche worked for the human resources and Extended Learning Services departments. Prior to Millnitz, the director was Pam Johnson, who held the position from October 1977 until June 1987. Prior to Stephens, Lavonne Braun served as a part-time technician from 1980 until 1983, then moved to full-time from 1983 until her retirement in July 1994.

Vicki Kucera, current financial aid director at the Hastings Campus, assumed the position in April 1994, after having served as technician from March 1981 until April 1994. Prior to Kucera, there were three directors between 1974 and 1994. Helen Kennedy served as director from November 1974 until July 1986, Mike Chipps served as director from July 1986 until December 1988 and Ken Rezac served as director from January 1989 until April 1994. Michele Schroer, the current technician, started full-time in financial aid in January 1994. Prior to this, from August 1988 until January 1994, Schroer split time between registration and financial aid as a full-time employee.

Summary

With all the focus on goals, accountability, programs, compliance, data, structure, models, and staffing, it is easy to lose sight of what counts the most: the student. There is a saying that goes something like this, "Customer service is not a department … it's an attitude." The impact we have had on students over the past 20 years by providing good customer service is difficult to measure. But it is the most important thing we do.

1987

College Placement Report Indicates Student Success

The CCC class of 1987 was successful in the job market according to a placement report completed by the college. During the 1986-87 academic year, 638 students received degrees, diplomas, or certificates at one of the campuses and 398 responded to a placement survey conducted by the college. Forty-seven percent of those completing who responded to the survey indicated they planned to continue their education. Ninety-four percent of those who said they were available for employment reported they were working at the time the survey was conducted, which was two months after they left college.

Dennis Tyson, vice president of educational services, noted that 94 percent of those employed were working in Nebraska and that 74 percent of them were employed within the 25 counties served by CCC. Reported starting salaries ranged from $500 a month to $2,400 a month. The highest starting salaries were reported by those who had been business and management and electronics technology students.

Employers were asked to rate the former CCC students in several areas. They gave the highest marks for technical skills, quality of work, and work attitude, Tyson said. The report also indicated that CCC graduates were well prepared to continue their education at four-year colleges. During the 1986-87 year, 144 former CCC students attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. As a group, their average grade point average exceeded the average GPA for all UNL students in the same class.

Dr. Lynn Black, Grand Island Campus dean of students, was coordinator of placement services at the time. Ken Bonk, Platte Campus student affairs coordinator, chaired the placement committee. Pam Price, Grand Island Campus, and Ray Szlanda, Hastings Campus, placement officers on their respective campuses, completed the committee.

Grand Island Campus admissions and placement officer Pam Price visits with a student.

Grand Island Campus

- Japanese journalist Fumiagi Shiraishi visited the Grand Island Campus as part of a tour of 16 American cities. He was a regional editor for the Japanese equivalent of The Wall Street Journal.
- On-campus child care services for staff and students were begun in August as part of the child care education program. Jeanne Webb continued as program director. Linda Blake was a program instructor. A number of child care students served as aides as part of a practicum.
- Interior remodeling resulted in a new secretarial lab, faculty center, student study center, small business management center, office for the dean of instruction, and relocation of the student services office and expansion of the student center. In addition, the parking lot was extended and a new access road was added.
- John Mahan became the first student to graduate from CCC by taking only night classes from the Grand Island Campus. He received an associate of applied science degree in data processing after more than four years of part-time study.
- Bruce Broberg, instructor of mathematics, became general education coordinator.
- LaVern Franzen was appointed dean of instruction and chairman of business occupations at the Grand Island Campus. He had been associate dean of community education at the Lexington Center.
- Steve Millnitz, part-time instructor, became the financial aid officer and student activities coordinator.
- Pam Price, personal development instructor, became the admissions and placement officer at the Grand Island Campus.
- Peter Meyers, deputy secretary to the United States Department of Agriculture, visited the Grand Island Campus to learn more about Ag Action Centers. The centers were established to work in cooperation with the Greater Nebraska Job Training Program to help farmers, ranchers, ag-related workers, and their families to look at options for their futures. One center was located in each of the six community college areas.
- Another pod was constructed on the main campus which allowed all programs to be housed there for the first time. Child care, drafting, and nursing were moved from the Grand Island Higher Education Center into the 6,168-square-foot addition.
- Scott Moore of Stromsburg, a Nebraska State Senator, was a visitor to the campus in October.
- A student advisory/activities committee was formed for the college year. The students and their areas of study were Shari Armstrong, business and management; Stan Thurber, electronics; Lavon Chada, accounting; Kurt Kulwicki; data processing; and Kelly Montross, secretarial. Steve Millnitz, financial aid/student activities coordinator, served as faculty sponsor.
- The Alpha-Omega players, a professional touring group, presented Neil Simon's "Barefoot in the Park" in the student center as a pre-Christmas campus function.
- As of Oct. 30, fall headcount enrollment had increased 22 percent over the previous year. Credit-hour enrollment had increased by 14 percent.
- Fel-Pro Gasket Corporation provided a clinic sponsored by the automotive program on the campus. The purpose of the clinic was to introduce students to the latest developments in sealing technology.
- About 50 people took advantage of an opportunity to have their automobiles inspected for safety. The inspections were conducted by automotive students Steve Heider, Alice Baker, Rick Plambeck, and Lonnie Larkin, supervised by Ron Grabowski, automotive instructor. AAA Cornhusker Motor Club, Friend's Motor Supply, and the Nebraska Automobile Wholesalers Association participated in the event.

Retired

- Les Weber retired as coordinator of learning centers at the Grand Island Campus. Weber worked at the college for 14 years. He began as the director of the Adult Basic Education program before switching to community education coordination. After retiring, he continued his affiliation with the college by overseeing CCC programs offered in Kearney.
- Bill Moeller retired as a custodian, concluding more than seven years of service with the college.
- Joe Kranz retired as chairman of business programs. He joined the staff in 1968 as a business instructor.

In Memory

- Gerald Spahn retired as an instructor at the Grand Island Campus. Spahn joined the CCC faculty in 1978 and taught courses in insurance, sales, marketing, and retailing. The college community was saddened when Spahn died shortly after his retirement.

Hastings Campus

- The Kansas-Nebraska Energy program was moved to the Howard Building and consolidated with the heating, air conditioning and refrigeration program. The Franklin Building, a frame structure near the main entrance of the campus, was then demolished.
- The Central Community College Faculty Association, a local chapter of the National Education Association which had been active on the Hastings Campus, disbanded and donated its funds of over $800 to the CCC Foundation to be used for scholarships.
- A desktop publishing system was purchased for the printing technology program. The equipment allowed an operator to design printed material with graphics and a number of type styles that previously had not been available.
- A computer numerical controlled (CNC) lathe was purchased for the machine shop program.
- A new program, health care administration, was added at the Hastings Campus. It was designed for those seeking management positions in residential health care facilities, especially for individuals who were preparing to be licensed as nursing home administrators.
- A video broadcasting class was begun on the Hastings Campus, taught by John Brooks on a part-time basis. A video editing system was purchased to accommodate the class.
- Ray Mueller, executive director of the Nebraska Council on Vocational Education and a graduate and former employee of the Hastings Campus, received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Nebraska Technical Community College Association.
- Roy Johnson was appointed associate dean of community education on the Hastings Campus. He had been the community education coordinator prior to his promotion.
- Frank Piskorski, photographic technician, was recognized by Industrial Photography magazine for his photo, “The Big Squirt.” The photo is of the Greeley Barn on the Hastings Campus being burned as part of a local fire department training exercise.
- John H. Dobrovolny, associate dean of instruction, was elected to the executive committee of the Nebraska Educational Television Council for Higher Education, an organization to which CCC belonged and which was devoted to teaching and learning and the producer of high quality videos and other educational materials.
- Keith Boyle, automotive instructor, was selected as a member of an evaluation team responsible for reviewing automotive technology programs seeking Automotive Service Excellence certification from the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation Inc.
- Joann Wieland, medical assisting instructor, was qualified by the National Medical Assisting Association to evaluate other medical assisting programs seeking accreditation by the association.
- Deb Fast, biotechnology instructor, and Cindy Foxhoven, assessment counselor, submitted a job title and description for “biotechnology instructor” that was accepted for publication in the Dictionary of Occupational Titles. The coding was approved by the U.S. Department of Labor and the Occupational Analysis Field Center.
- Jacklyn Smith of Hastings, Nebraska state senator, was the guest speaker at a program for leaders in student government from all three CCC campuses. Smith encouraged student interest in the legislature and politics in general. She also spoke of the importance of community colleges in the state. The Hastings Campus hosted the event.

Retired

- Bernie Kinley retired as associate dean of educational centers at the Hastings Campus, a position he had held for six years. He joined the CCC staff in 1966 when the college first opened. Initially he served as chairman of the fabrication division. He then served as an instructional resource technician before taking the position from which he retired.
- Vergale Jensen retired as an instructor in the heating, air conditioning and refrigeration department. He also was in charge of the K-N Energy training program. He had joined the faculty in 1977.

- Bob Schmer retired as chief of security, a position he had held since the campus opened in 1966. Before the Naval Ammunition Depot became the CCC Campus, he was the captain of the fire department at the NAD.
- Les Oelschlager retired from his position as a diesel technology instructor. He joined the staff in 1966 and was responsible for launching the diesel technology program of the college.

Platte Campus

- In addition to a full complement of machine shop courses, classes in computer numerical control and robotics, and equipment needed to complement them, were added on the Platte Campus.
- Pete Rush, campus president, wrote an article titled, "Nine Dimensions of Community College Effectiveness," which was published in the American Community College Trustees newsletter, "ACCT Advisor."
- Ellen Lake, coordinator of professional services, was the recipient of the Athena Award which was presented by the Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce. The annual award was designed to recognize an outstanding business or professional woman.
- Verne Buhl, agriculture instructor, was elected as president of the Nebraska Association of Adult Educators.
- Marcene Wurdeman, accounting instructor and co-sponsor of Phi Beta Lambda, was named the Outstanding Postsecondary Teacher of the Year by the Mountain Plains Business Education Association. She qualified for the regional competition after being named Nebraska's Outstanding Postsecondary Teacher in 1986.
- The Platte Campus presented the musical, "Li'l Abner," with Mark Lovci of Columbus in the title role and with Carol Meade of Columbus as Daisy Mae.
- Nick Wagoner, automotive instructor, served on an advisory committee which evaluated each automotive course at Columbus Senior High School and made suggestions for updating.
- Sandra Schmidt, campus financial aid officer, referring to information released by the U.S. Department of Education, reported that the Platte Campus had the lowest student loan default rate of any community college campus in Nebraska for 1987, and it ranked the fourth lowest among all Nebraska colleges.

Board of Governors

- Edwin J. Loutzenheiser Jr., a member of the CCC Board of Governors, was named chairman-elect and treasurer of the Nebraska Association of Commerce and Industry.

In Memory

- Chester O. Marshall, a former member of the Central Community College Board of Governors, died on Aug. 25. He joined the board in 1972 and served for 14 years before resigning due to ill health. He also was board chairman for two years.

College Administration

- Dr. Joe Preusser, college president, wrote an article, "Planning for the Future – Financial Forecasts," which was included in the "Trustee Quarterly," a publication of the Association of Community College Trustees. Preusser also received the Presidents Award from the Nebraska Technical Community College Association.
- Dr. Eric Jones was promoted to computer services and institutional research manager.
- Major updates were made in the Prime computer system which served the college to accommodate the growing needs of the college. At the same time, Prime computers on the Hastings and Columbus campuses were taken out of use, reducing the number of such machines from six to two, resulting in an annual savings.

Community Education

- A community education report stated that more than 20,000 students enrolled in CCC off-campus classes in 89 communities during the 1986-87 academic year. More than 17,000 were enrolled in courses offered for college credit, 2,468 were enrolled in noncredit avocational-recreational courses, and 1,228 were enrolled in the Adult Basic Education program.

Core Competencies

- Faculty members and administrators from all three campuses embarked on an effort to revise the curriculum of each of the programs of the college. The identification of core competencies was identified as basic to the success of the multiyear project.

College Foundation

- The CCC Foundation completed its first campaign. Previously, fund raising by the foundation had been a more informal activity.
- Through the efforts of the CCC Foundation, an emergency loan program for students that had been in operation at the Hastings Campus for several years was expanded and extended to students on the Grand Island and Platte campuses.

North Central Association

- A visiting team from the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools conducted an on-site visit in November. Team chairman Dr. Paul L. Kegel said at the exit interview that the team planned to recommend that accreditation of the college be extended for seven years.

Student Assessment

- The Grand Island and Platte campuses began using the College Board Series test and the Hastings Campus began using the ASSET test for incoming students. The results of the evaluations in reading, writing, and mathematics were used to place students in appropriate college courses based on their strengths and weaknesses.

Vocational Agriculture

- Approximately 275 students participated in the annual vocational agriculture contests held on the Grand Island and Platte Campuses.

Ram Run: Hastings Campus Tradition

By Harold Hamel, Communications Instructor, Hastings Campus

On a chilly Saturday morning in September 1983, 75 serious and recreational runners toed the mark for the first Ram Run. None knew that the road race on and around the Hastings Campus would become a much-anticipated annual event for the next two decades.

Harold Hamel

Initially conceived as an event to promote the college in the Hastings community and as a fund-raiser for the Ram athletic program, the annual Ram Run was the brainchild of three individuals on the Hastings Campus: Chuck Breunig, a longtime counselor and wellness program director; Wayne Huntley, parts sales and management instructor; and Mark Fuerniss, mathematics instructor from 1982-90.

Breunig, who has had a hand in coordinating the event since its inception, credits Huntley, the Ram Booster Club president in 1983, for the initial idea. Fuerniss, an avid runner who organized the event the first year, is one of only two individuals who have run in the race each year it has been held. Ron Tschauner, who in the 2005 race ran in the unofficial 70 and older class, is the other.

Initially, the Ram Run consisted of three events: a seven-mile run, a five-kilometer (3.1 miles) run, and a one mile walk/run fun event. The seven-mile and five-kilometer distances were selected to provide an alternative to other road races in the state at that time, most of which offered 10-kilometer (6.2 miles) runs. Awards were given for the top three finishers in the male and female divisions for six age divisions, ranging from 19 and younger to 60 and older.

Scheduled for the first Saturday after Labor Day, the Ram Run has attracted a mix of competitive and recreational runners. Most who have entered the annual

Race organizer Chuck Breunig, pointing, gives participants final race directions for the Ram Run road race held annually on the Hastings Campus. Dr. LaVern Franzen (left), who was Hastings Campus President at the time of this photo, prepares to serve as honorary race starter.

road race are from the Tri-City area of Hastings, Kearney and Grand Island, and from smaller towns in the area.

Chuck Breunig
Ram Run Organizer

In 2002, the distances were changed, due to a decrease in the number of runners registering for the longer distance, along with increased interest in the shorter recreational event. The Ram Run changed to a five-mile and two-mile event, with both distances offered to walkers and competitive runners. The change resulted in the largest fields in race history, peaking at 100 runners in 2005.

The change in race distances resulted in the retirement of course records for the seven-mile and five-kilometer events. Brian Bergt of Amherst holds the course record in both the five-kilometer distance (15:48), set in 1989, and the seven-mile event (36:58), set the following year.

Cindy Springer of Hastings, holds the women's 5K course record (19:02), set in 1996. Springer is the daughter of the late Junior Drapal, former electronics instructor on the Hastings Campus.

Perhaps the most notable runner to compete in the Ram Run is Louise Mohanna of Cairo, Neb., who will forever hold the women's seven-mile record (39:53), set in 1988, the same year she ran in the Boston Marathon. Mohanna is also a three-time winner of the Omaha Marathon.

In most years, the course began in front of the Adams Administration Building, looped through the campus, and incorporated a stretch of highway south of the campus, at which point runners reached two distinct turnaround points, depending on the race distance, and returned to campus and the finish line south of the student cafeteria.

Breunig pointed out that while the course was flat, the north-south highway stretch was often the most challenging due to wind conditions and the presence of an irritable watchdog stationed at a farmhouse along the route. The meanness of the dog, though more legendary that actual, was fueled by one recorded event of the dog getting loose during the race and nipping at the heels of the lead runner.

From then on, starting instructions included the directive: "Runners should not worry about outrunning the dog, just outrun the person next to you."

Many campus employees volunteered their time to help before and during race day. Volunteers were needed to assist with registration, manage water and safety stations and help with the hectic job of sorting finishing runners and recording race times. Campus media personnel in the Phelps Building, particularly Dick Crane, Marilyn Reynolds, and Gabby Prickett were invaluable as they designed race brochures along with the T-shirt given to runners each year, according to Breunig.

Ram Run trivia includes that the same starting gun has been used every year the race has been held. The gun, fired by an honorary starter – usually the campus president – is borrowed each year from a Hastings aquatic club. A few of the original course race signs that are still used were welded and painted by individuals in the welding and auto body programs, respectively. And, for the first 23 years of the race, it had never rained on race day.

Another final piece of Ram Run lore is that Fuerniss, concerned about the race course watchdog issue, often visited a local meat market the day before the race and pacified the canine with bones the morning of the race.

In 1995, with the end of the athletic program on the Hastings Campus, sponsorship changed from the Ram Booster Club to the wellness program on the campus.

1988

Truck Driving Program Begins

The wheels began rolling at the Hastings Campus where 12 students began learning the art of truck driving through a pilot program. Each eight-week class utilized the Department of Transportation curriculum which consisted of 320 clock hours divided into classroom, laboratory, range, and street lessons. Students learned about truck safety, driving, maintenance, and federal regulations. It was the most condensed, intensive program the college had offered up to that time with the students scheduled for study and training for 40 hours per week. Upon successful completion of the program, students earned 12 semester-hours of college credit and a Professional Truck Driver Training Certificate.

Trucks and other equipment worth about $30,000, were donated for use in the program by area businesses, including Grand Island Express, Dahlsten Trucking in Clay Center, and Rite-Way Trucking in Holdrege. “No other college program relies on equipment loaned by industry. Without the donation of that equipment, the college wouldn’t be able to run this pilot program because of the expense,” said Larry Keller, who was institutional advancement officer at the time.

The request for the truck driving program came from the local trucking industry and an economic development committee. In response to the request, Dr. Joe Preusser, college president, formed a task force chaired by Keller. It consisted of CCC staff members, representatives of the local trucking industry, and other individuals. The task force conducted two surveys, compiled the results, and presented its recommendations to the college Board of Governors.

The truck driver training program at the Hastings Campus includes both classroom work and driving on the campus driving range and over the road. The curriculum meets Department of Transportation guidelines.

Grand Island Campus

- A cooperative program between Central Community College and the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center in Grand Island was inaugurated which granted college credit to officers who completed the NLETC Basic Training Program. The credits could be applied toward an associate degree.
- Former Nebraska Gov. Bob Kerrey, who at the time was running for the U.S. Senate, visited the campus and spoke before students and staff members.
- With the retirement of Eloris Niemann, ownership of the Grand Island Campus bookstore was transferred from CCC to Follett, a Chicago-based company. Jean Satterly became the bookstore manager.
- Sandra McDaniel, registrar, reported that spring enrollment had increased by 12 percent over the same time a year earlier. Full-time students had increased by 16 percent.
- Betty Elder, practical nursing instructor, spent most of the month of August as a firefighter and a press liaison for the National Park Service in the Yellowstone National Park. For two-and-a-half weeks she was on a fire crew. During her last week there, she served as a public information officer. She was interviewed by two major television networks and appeared on a segment of "20/20."
- Diane Boye of Bradshaw, a second-year accounting student, president of the Nebraska Association for Retarded Citizens, and mother of five, was among more than 200 Nebraskans who attended the second annual New Horizons Conference for State Leaders where State Sen. Bill Barrett addressed the group. Participants then met in small groups to discuss strategies for reversing the "brain drain." Don Nelson, campus president, was also in attendance at the conference.
- Steve Millnitz, financial aid officer, made a presentation to the Rocky Mountain Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators focused on preparing for a U.S. Department of Education program review.
- Students serving on the Advisory/Activities Committee for 1988-89 included Shari Armstrong and Kelly Montross, who had served the previous year, and new members Pam Petty, Gerald Schultz, Lisa Smith, and Tony Wilson. All committee members were from Grand Island. Armstrong, Schultz, and Smith were majoring in business and management. Montross was a secretarial major, Wilson was an accounting major and Petty was in paralegal studies.

Retired

- Eloris Niemann retired as campus bookstore manager. She joined the CCC staff in 1973 as secretary in the community services office. She also worked in personnel and purchasing before taking charge of the bookstore when it opened in 1982.

Hastings Campus

- Charles Sloggett of Hastings was named the Outstanding Postsecondary Student in Vocational Education in Nebraska by the Nebraska Council on Vocational Education. A native of Broken Bow and a 20-year veteran of the U.S. Navy, Sloggett earned an associate degree in construction technology.
- Twelve staff members and two students were named to the Hastings Campus President's Advisory Council for 1988-89 by Dr. Carl Rolf. The staff members named were Linda Aldrich, secretary to the dean of instruction; Carl Brown, chairman of the trade and industry division; Dee Fate, secretarial science instructor; Mert Feikert, electronics instructor; Bob Glenn, admissions counselor; Harold Hamel, communications instructor; Clyde Hughbanks, student accounts officer; Dick Longwith, automotive instructor; Pearl Norton, physical plant secretary; Pat Sinnard, health occupations secretary; Vic Springer, security officer and maintenance; and Joann Wieland, medical assisting instructor. Student members were Jodi Brehm, a dental assisting major from Clay Center, and Donna Palmer, a printing technology major from Superior.
- Dean of Students Edwin Minnick, a charter member of the Hastings Campus staff, received the fourth annual Outstanding Service Award. Former Gov. Bob Kerrey was the guest speaker at the convocation at which the award was presented by the campus.
- The automotive program on the Hastings Campus was certified by the National Automotive Technical Education Foundation after an on-site visiting team reviewed such things as curriculum, availability

of equipment, and faculty qualifications. Among other things, automotive manufacturers are more likely to donate equipment to, and otherwise assist, instructional sites which are NATEF certified.

- Deb Fast, biotechnology instructor, received the annual Faculty Member Award from the Nebraska Technical Community College Association for her contributions to vocational education at the local, state, and national levels. She was a key organizer of the Vital Signs Health Fair, which takes place annually in Hastings. Originally a medical assisting instructor on the campus, she responded to a need for biotechnicians in Nebraska and several other states by designing the CCC biotechnology program.
- Deb Fast and eight biotechnology students received Albert Schweitzer Foundation scholarships to attend summer classes at the Catholic University of America. Fast attended a workshop for instructors on tissue culture and toxicity testing. The students were among 75 recipients selected from applicants in colleges and universities across the nation. The student scholarship recipients who attended a class on tissue culture and cell biology were Debbie Bender, Sherry Jarzynka, Mike Judy, and Nancy Schuler, all of Hastings; Jerry Forney of Riverton, Wyo., formerly of Glenvil; Linda Flathman of Shickley; Pat Hurd of Superior; and Julie Sheridan of Sutton.
- The biotechnology program was recognized by the National Council of Instructional Administrators as an outstanding two-year college program. As such, it was listed in "Exemplary Academic Programs at the Community College," a volume compiled by the NCIA. The CCC program was only the third of its kind to be established in the nation.
- With the guidance of counselor Dick Fuehrer, a fitness program was inaugurated for campus employees and their families.
- Beth Ebmeier was named president-elect of the Central Nebraska District Dietetics Association. She also was named to a committee to review and rewrite questions for the national dietetic examination required to become a registered dietetic technician.
- Dr. Janis McReynolds was one of five individuals from across the U.S. invited to Washington, D.C., to review pilot material for "Discovering Psychology," a television-based introductory psychology course for adults, which was later made available nationwide.
- Dr. Judy Schollmeyer, a member of the biotechnology advisory committee of the college and a research scientist at the USDA Meat Animal Research Center in Clay Center, had a paper published in Science Magazine. The paper, "Calpain II Involvement in Mitosis," examines the technical aspects of cell division.
- Michael Chipps was appointed dean of students on the Hastings Campus. After joining CCC in l979, he held a number of positions including social science instructor, career development coordinator, assistant to the campus president, health division chairman, registrar and financial aid officer.
- John Brooks, broadcasting instructor, was elected to a four-year term on the Hastings City Council.
- Coleen Hall, assistant special projects coordinator, was selected as an Outstanding Young Woman of America.

Retired

- Norman Skrdlant, groundskeeper, retired after more than 15 years of service to the college. A World War II veteran, he joined the CCC staff in 1972 as a custodian.
- Edwin Minnick retired as dean of students, a position he held when the college opened in 1966.
- Haskell Kirkland retired as an instructor. He joined the faculty in 1970 and converted the food service program that existed at that time into the hotel, motel and restaurant management program.

In Memory

- William L. Stevens, heavy equipment instructor at the Hastings Campus from 1966-72, died in Williamsport, Pa. He had taught heavy equipment services and operations at the Williamsport area community college after leaving CCC.
- Junior Drapal, an electronics instructor, died in Superior. A veteran of the U.S. Air Force, he had taught on the campus for 20 years.

Platte Campus

- A three-day commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the groundbreaking for the Platte Campus was held in conjunction with Gov. Kay Orr's "Celebrate Nebraska '88" campaign. In a special election on June 20, 1967, 83 percent of the voters in

Platte County had supported a ballot proposal to form a college district in the county. In March 1968, 78 percent of Platte County voters approved a $2.9 million bond issue to finance construction. The final bond from the issue was retired Aug. 15, l988. Ken Simek, television weather broadcaster for KOLN/KGIN-TV and a Platte Campus graduate, acted as master of ceremonies at an opening gathering. On the final day, a plaque was dedicated to the late Gene Torcson, the first Platte Campus basketball coach.

- The Community College Consortium, an organization of two-year colleges from across the nation, recognized Dave Fulton, history instructor, for his contributions to community college excellence. He was also honored at a banquet in Grand Island as the result of an essay contest, "My Favorite Educator," sponsored by the Grand Island Daily Independent and the Grand Island Chapter of the American Association of University Women.
- The Platte Campus received an Outstanding Partnership Award from the National Council of Vocational Education. The campus was cited for its training program at Appleton Electric Company, its pre-employment training course at Behlen Manufacturing Company, and other partnerships with Columbus area businesses.
- Barb Rebrovich, assistant to the Platte Campus president, was one of 18 people chosen to participate in the Resource Development Training Program. Participants spent one week at Holyoke (Mass.) Community College and a second week meeting with congressional representatives and personnel from various funding agencies in Washington, D.C.
- Peter Rush, campus president, received a Ph.D. in education from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. His dissertation was titled, "Community College Organizational Effectiveness: Its Measurement Through Trustee and Presidential Perceptions."
- Dr. Dana Bailey of Columbus received a Nebraska Technical Community College Association Alumni Award. Bailey, who began a dental practice in Columbus in 1979, is a 1974 graduate of the Platte Campus and a 1978 graduate of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln College of Dentistry.

Retired

- Don Engel retired as agricultural coordinator on the Platte Campus. He joined the faculty in 1976. During his 12 years with the campus, he established the Agricultural Institute, expanded the Farm and Ranch Business Management Program, and introduced commercial horticulture courses to the campus.
- Evelyn Bruegger of Columbus retired as a communications instructor. A charter staff member in 1969, she was responsible for developing the communications and language arts departments. Among the organizations to which she belonged, she was a charter member of the Midwest Regional Conference on English in the Two-Year College. Over time, she had held all executive offices in that organization.

In Memory

- Patricia Dahl, resident manager, died in Columbus on Aug. 18. She had joined the CCC staff the previous month on July 5.

Adult Basic Education

- Diann Muhlbach, Adult Basic Education director, was named the Outstanding Adult Educator by the Adult and Continuing Education Association of Nebraska. She was recognized for having organized a program during the previous year that included more than 460 volunteers and provided services to more than 1,200 students via 45 ABE centers geographically dispersed across the 25-county service area.

College Administration

- Dennis Tyson, vice president of educational services, received the Outstanding Achievement Award for outstanding and dedicated service from the Nebraska Vocational Association. He was cited as an advocate for providing strong vocational-technical programs for the Central Community College Area and for the entire state. Tyson joined the CCC staff as an instructor in 1967. He was president of the Hastings Campus from 1981 to 1984.

- Joni Ransom, assistant public relations officer, received an award from the National Federation of Press Women for her editing of the 1987 Hilltop Review for the Platte Campus.
- Jim Strayer, public information officer, presented a paper at a convention of the Nebraska Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers. The paper, "The Role of Mass Communication in College Selection," was on the findings of interviews with Nebraska high school students regarding how they use mass media information when deciding where to attend college. Strayer completed the research project while working toward a master's degree in journalism.

Community Education

- The Platte Campus acquired portable computers and software through a Carl D. Perkins Vocational Education Grant which was used to provide training on a rotating basis to communities in the Columbus area.

College Foundation

- Congresswoman Virginia Smith, who opposed a 16 percent pay raise awarded to the members of the House of Representatives, donated her $12,100 raise to colleges in the Third District of Nebraska which she represented. Each of the three CCC campuses received $1,000, which was used to establish a Virginia Smith Endowment Fund.

College Survival Course

- A new course titled "College Survival" was introduced on the Grand Island and Hastings campuses. The course was designed to give students the opportunity to learn how to make the most of their college experiences and to reduce the dropout rate. Karen Clausen, personal development instructor, and Linda Wolf, communications instructor, shared the instructional duties at Grand Island. Roger DeVries, business and social science instructor, introduced the course on the Hastings Campus. The instructors had attended a one-week training seminar to prepare to teach the course. Sharon Vanis, special services supervisor, introduced the course on the Platte Campus in 1991.

Cooperative Efforts

- CCC President Dr. Joe Preusser and Nebraska University President Dr. Ronald Roskens and members of their staffs met in Grand Island to discuss cooperative efforts between the two institutions. Also attending was Tom Johnston, executive director of the Nebraska Technical Community College Association. The officials agreed that continued cooperation between the two college systems was essential to the best interests of Nebraska. The meeting included discussion of transfer of CCC credits to the three campuses of the university, nursing education in Nebraska, the need for university services in central Nebraska, and NU assistance to CCC in staff development.

Legislative Seminar

- State Sen. Rod Johnson presented a legislative seminar to student leaders from the Grand Island, Hastings and Platte campuses.

National Conference

- Doris Lux, Platte Campus secretarial science instructor, and Tom Peters, Grand Island Campus data processing instructor, were selected to attend the National Conference on Teaching Excellence in Austin, Texas.

Software Donation

- CCC received a donation of CYMA Professional Series software from McGraw-Hill. The donation of the accounting software was arranged through Contryman Associates, P.C. in Grand Island. McGraw-Hill, who had never before donated Professional Series software to be used in an educational setting, viewed the gift as a pilot. The software was to be used to train students in computerized accounting and to provide potential CYMA clients with exposure to the Professional Series.

1989

Associate Degree in Nursing Program Inaugurated

Classes began in September on the Grand Island Campus for the 40 students accepted into an associate degree in nursing (ADN) program. Earlier in the year, the Nebraska State Board of Nursing had given its approval for the first two-year nurse education program offered by a Nebraska community college. Legislation passed in 1988 authorized community colleges in the state to offer the associate degree in nursing.

Prospective students not admitted to the first class were given the option to begin working toward an associate degree in nursing by taking non-nursing general education courses. Members of the first class became eligible to take the state examination necessary for licensure as registered nurses after their graduation in 1991.

The college also began offering the first career-ladder education option in Nebraska. With the leadership of Mary Lou Holmberg, associate dean of nursing, the practical nursing curriculum offered at the Grand Island and Platte campuses and the Kearney Center was revised so that graduates who later decided to become registered nurses would be able to apply credits already earned toward the associate degree in nursing.

College Board of Governors member Ken Wortman, who had long been concerned about the availability of nurses in central Nebraska, especially applauded these advancements in nursing education. He took pride in those interested in health careers who availed themselves of appropriate educational programs. Referring to the nursing program, he said, “Satisfaction is when you see graduation classes ... Those are the things that encourage you and get you to go forward with the effort.”

A Grand Island Campus student nurse gains clinical experience at St. Francis Medical Center.

Grand Island Campus

- Steve Millnitz, financial aid officer, was selected to work with the Nebraska Coordinating Commission on Postsecondary Education on a study of alternative methods of administering the State Student Incentive Grant program for the 1989-90 academic year.
- LaVern Franzen, dean of instruction, was appointed to the Nebraska Council on Vocational Education.

Toga-clad students take part in a wheelbarrow race event during Ram Root Days, an annual event on the Hastings Campus during the 1980s. Ram Root Days often included a campus picnic and friendly competition between staff members and students from various dormitories and educational programs. Held early in the fall semester, the annual event served as a welcome to campus.

- Dr. Lynn Black, dean of students, received an Outstanding Alumni Award from the Nebraska Technical Community College Association. Black received an associate of applied science degree from the Hastings Campus in 1969. In addition to his academic achievements, he was cited for his work in coordinating transfer of CCC credits to Kearney State College and the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.
- At the request of Chief Industries, CCC provided a conversational Spanish class to Chief employees at the Chief plant. Sara Pankontin, a Grand Island Senior High School teacher, served as the instructor for CCC.
- Sarah Cunningham, accounting instructor, was elected president of the Central Nebraska Chapter of the National Association of Accountants.
- The paralegal studies program was introduced into the curriculum beginning in the fall. Linda Wilke-Long, an attorney who had been teaching social science classes on the campus, was the founding instructor. The development of the program was partially funded by a Carl D. Perkins grant.

Retired

- Sandra McDaniel retired as the registrar of the Grand Island Campus. She joined the Hastings Campus in 1968 as a secretary in the registrar's office. In 1976, she became the Grand Island Campus registrar and student accounts officer. The two areas were later separated, and she worked solely as the registrar.

Hastings Campus

- The medical assisting program was granted continuing accreditation for seven years by the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation.
- Sixteen high school automotive instructors from across Nebraska participated in an energy awareness program sponsored by the Hastings Campus and the Nebraska Energy Office. The instructors were introduced to a new Sun Modular Computer Analyzer and developed curriculum for its use. The computer analyzer was then loaned to participating instructors for demonstration at their high schools.
- Two instructors shared the fifth annual Outstanding Service Award presented by the Hastings Campus. The recipients were Marian Bender, secretarial science instructor, and Wayne Huntley, parts sales

and management instructor. Both instructors were cited for their dedication to CCC, the time and support they gave to their students, and their rapport with other campus staff. Bender was also commended for her role in developing and promoting word processing in the secretarial science program, her participation in national and state professional organizations and campus committees, and her efforts to remain current in her field. Huntley was recognized for his efforts in securing donations and scholarships for the college and his involvement in campus activities. Later in the year, Huntley also received the Outstanding Faculty Member Award given by the Vocational Division of the Nebraska Department of Education.

- Michael Chipps, dean of students, received a Ph.D. in educational administration from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. His dissertation was on "Hiring and Maintaining Community College Presidents." Dr. Chipps joined the Hastings Campus faculty in 1979 as a sociology instructor.
- Peggy Bubak Paben of Kearney, a medical assisting student, received the Outstanding Special Populations Student Award from the Vocational Division of the Nebraska Department of Education. She enrolled at CCC after the death of her husband and became an exemplary student in spite of the need to juggle school, home and family, and commuting responsibilities. She completed her associate of applied science degree in June of 1990.
- Joann Wieland, medical assisting instructor, was a member of an accreditation survey team at Boulder Valley Area Technical Community College in Colorado. The team represented the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation and the American Association of Medical Assistants.
- Roland Beisel of Funk, a welding student, received a Silver Award with a $250 cash prize from the James F. Lincoln Arc Welding Foundation. The national program recognizes excellence in the application of arc welding techniques to school projects. Beisel received the award for the design and fabrication of a lightweight electric fence winder for use on his family's farm.
- Dick Downey, printing technology instructor, was selected from applicants across the nation to attend a two-week institute for printing instructors which was sponsored by the Graphic Arts Technical Foundation.
- The Rambler, a student newspaper, was reintroduced to the Hastings Campus. Anne Rohan was the student editor, and John Shaver was the student photographer. Reporters were students Sean Chipps, Linda Classen, Russ Markworth, E.L. Tammen, and Sherry Winebriner. Michele Gill, campus center supervisor, served as adviser. Brian Eberhardt, graphic artist, assisted with layout and design.
- Deb Brennan, a hotel, motel and restaurant management instructor, was elected secretary of the American Culinary Federation of Professional Chefs and Apprentices of Nebraska. The federation is responsible for certifying cooks, chefs, executive chefs and culinary educators.
- With partial funding from a Carl D. Perkins grant written by Latham Mortensen, welding instructor, polyethylene fusion was introduced on the campus. Mortensen became interested in the process after meeting with representatives from an Omaha natural gas company.

Retired

- Henry Weber of Hastings retired as an assistant plumber and assistant boiler. He joined the staff in 1973 as a boiler fireman and later worked in security.
- Keith Boyle retired as an automotive instructor. He joined the CCC faculty in 1968. He was a member of the National Automotive Engine Rebuilders Association.

In Memory

- LaVern VanBuskirk, an agriculture instructor, died in February 1989. He had been a member of the CCC staff for 17 years. Colleagues remembered him as an instructor who had a special rapport with students and one who would often go the extra mile to help a student with a problem.
- Clyde Hughbanks, student accounts director, died in June 1989. He had joined the college staff in 1967. He is remembered as dedicated to his family and loyal to CCC. He was one of the staff members involved in a study of child care on community college campuses in preparation for acquiring such services at Hastings.

Platte Campus

- Several staff members served on an assessment team for a management skills program for the Nebraska Public Power District. The program was designed as an aid to identify personnel to fill future management positions and to plan development and training needs. The Platte Campus assessment team included Dr. Roger Augspurger, dean of instruction; Dick Averett, drama and speech instructor; Tom Burkhardt, management instructor; Jim Fisher, dean of students; Mary Hull, communications instructor; Ellen Lake, coordinator of professional services; John Putnam, music instructor; Paul Rebrovich, psychology instructor; Leon Sanders, chairman of the business and arts department; and Karen Severson, student assessment coordinator. By 1992, they had assessed the abilities of 114 managers.
- Vincent Lempke, mathematics instructor, was chosen as vice president and president-elect of the Nebraska section of the American Association of Physics Teachers.
- The Agricultural Institute at the Platte Campus offered seven workshops which were designed for farmers who wanted to increase productivity and profits through better management. The workshops included: Farm Commodity Futures, Groundwater Quality Issues and Effects, Horse Health, Landscaping, Farm Recordkeeping, Management for Ag Women and Swine Production.
- John Putnam, music instructor, was honored by the Arizona Music Educators Association with the Presidential Recognition Award for his contributions to the development of the music education profession in Arizona. He was also recognized as a past president of the AMEA.
- Dr. Mel Krutz, communications instructor, spoke to the Northwest Regional Library System Conference regarding what libraries can do when faced with censorship.
- Gary Senff, welding instructor, was awarded renewal certification by the American Welding Society.
- Sandi Schmidt, financial aid coordinator, was named to the 16th edition of “Who’s Who of American Women.”
- Nick Wagoner, automotive instructor, achieved certification as a General Motors instructor which qualified him to teach GM courses in specialized electronics and computer command control. He was also recertified in all eight Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) areas.
- Student Kris Tracy of Bassett, was appointed to Gov. Kay Orr’s Youth Advisory Council. The 21 members, ranging in age from 13 to 21, met quarterly in the Governor’s Mansion to consider such issues as education, child abuse, and drug abuse.
- Work I, a joint business and education conference, was sponsored by the Platte Campus, the Vocational Division of the Nebraska Department of Education, Southeast Community College-Milford, Educational Service Unit 6 in Milford and Educational Service Unit 7 in Columbus. Participating business leaders pointed out the need for a greater student awareness of opportunities in technical careers and for improvements in academic areas.
- Meredith Oakes, a deputy county attorney for Adams County, was the commencement speaker on the Platte Campus. A 1981 graduate of the campus, she attributed her initial interest in law to political science instructor George Steinsberger.
- Dick Averett, speech and drama instructor, directed the Platte Valley Playhouse production of the musical, “Quilters,” which won the Nebraska Community Theater Competition that included the right to compete in the regional festival in Springfield, Mo.
- The Technicians for Industry/Education Sponsorship (TIES) scholarship program was started as a partnership between the campus and local industry to attract people in technical careers.
- Barb Rebrovich, campus grants director, served on a Federal Funding Task Force in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the National Council of Resource Development. A publication was generated which outlined the task force outcome. Later in the year, Rebrovich was promoted to assistant to the Platte Campus president, and as such she served as a discussion facilitator at a conference of the National Conference for Resource Development. The NCRD is an affiliate council of the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges.
- The campus received a Cooperative Demonstration High Technology grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The grant was to fund an 18-month project in the amount of $190,000 to identify the technical skills needed by local industries to remain competitive in the national and world markets and

to develop flexible training programs to meet those needs. Ron Vorderstrasse, associate dean for science and technical programs, was appointed to direct the project full time. In that capacity, he attended DACUM (Developing a Curriculum) Training in Columbus, Ohio. DACUM is an approach to job analysis which profiles the tasks required in a given occupation. The profile can then be used for curriculum development and the creation of job descriptions and similar functions. Jane Birkholz served as associate dean, freeing Vorderstrasse for the project.

- Dr. Pete Rush, campus president, participated in a North Central Association team chair training seminar. He also served on an NCA evaluation team which visited Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs. He had been an NCA evaluator since 1987.
- Doris Lux, cooperative education coordinator, presented a paper, "Co-op Education Articulation with Secondary and Postsecondary Institutions," at the Sixth World Conference on Cooperative Education which was held in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. Later in the year, she received the Outstanding Vocational Teacher Award from the Vocational Division of the Nebraska Department of Education. She was cited for advancing vocational education in new and related fields.

Retired

- Lola McKee retired as media technician. She joined the college staff in 1977.
- Joe Kobus of Columbus retired as assistant supervisor of the campus physical plant. He had joined the college staff in 1968.

In Memory

- A memorial display honoring the late Joseph P. Young, a noted Columbus educator, was unveiled at the Platte Campus Fine Arts Building. Young, who died in 1988 at age 93, served as superintendent of the Columbus City Schools for 17 years and of Columbus Lakeview High School for two years. He became the first paid employee of Platte College when he was appointed as the secretary-treasurer of the Board of Education for the college. His duties included establishing the first offices of the college, contacting architectural firms, seeking applicants for the president of the college, and inspecting possible building sites.
- Paul Rebrovich, psychology instructor, died in May. He had joined the faculty in 1974. He is remembered as an instructor who loved the classroom atmosphere and took great pleasure in motivating his students. A memorial was established.

Adult Basic Education

- Leonard Lemberg, a student in CCC's Adult Basic Education program, represented Nebraska at the Second National Adult Literacy Congress in Washington, D.C. He was accompanied by Diann Muhlbach, ABE director.

Associate Deans

- To parallel position titles at other community colleges, instructional managers on all three campuses previously known as division chairpersons were given the title of associate dean.

The Community Center in downtown Grand Island houses the Grand Island Campus ABE/GED program.

Board of Governors

- Ken Wortman of Aurora received the Governor's Award from the Nebraska Technical Community College Association. Wortman was founding chairman of the CCC Board of Governors and had served on the board continuously since 1966. He previously received the NTCCA Governor's Award in 1974.
- Irv Schwartz, retired Hildreth farm implement dealer, who was appointed to the founding college board in May 1966 and had served continuously from that time, retired from the board at the end of December. Homer Pierce, a Lexington banker, was unanimously chosen by the board to complete the unexpired term. Pierce took the oath of office in January 1990.

CCC Education Association

- The CCC Education Association showed its support for a fund-raising drive by presenting a check for $200 to the CCC Foundation.

CIM Training

- CCC offered computer-integrated manufacturing to its regular students and to employees from area industries beginning in the fall with the help of a $50,000 grant. The equipment was rotated among the Hastings, Platte, and Grand Island campuses. Dean Buschow, electronics technology instructor at the Hastings Campus, was selected to take the basic CIM course at the Amatrol Technical Training Institute in Jeffersonville, Ind.

Correctional Center

- Central Community College opened an adult learning center at the Hastings Correctional Center with Gary Suhr as the coordinator. There were three components to the offerings: ABE/GED classes, pre-release and pre-parole classes, and postsecondary courses offered by CCC. Inmates were also given access to a computer classroom and computer literacy instruction. In the first year of operation, 39 people passed GED tests, and one inmate completed 18 hours of course work in agriculture and commercial horticulture to earn a certificate from CCC.

College Administration

- Doug Adler, college personnel officer, received a master's degree in business administration from Kearney State College. He had earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Creighton University. He joined the CCC staff in 1978.
- Three staff members from the college computer services department gave presentations to the Colleague Users Group meeting in Alexandria, Va. Dr. Eric Jones, institutional research and computer services manager, spoke regarding the report index he developed. Tonja Brunswick, programmer, and Sherry Desel, systems administrator, reported on an automated process to handle duplicate records. Brunswick also made a presentation on the year-end close process used by the college.
- Dennis Tyson presented a paper titled "Education/Industry Partnerships" at the Mid-American Conference in Minneapolis, Minn.
- Dr. Larry Keller, institutional advancement director, received a doctor of education degree from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. His dissertation was titled "Competencies of Future Community College Presidents: Perception of Selected Community College Presidents." Keller joined the original Hastings Campus faculty as a machine shop instructor in 1966.

In Memory

- Henry W. Wendt, 79, died in November. He joined the Hasting Campus staff in 1966 as manager of buildings and grounds. He joined the area office staff when it was established in 1973 in Grand Island. He retired from that position in 1979. A scholarship fund was established in his memory from which an award is made annually to a student on the Hastings Campus.

College Enrollment

- The 1988-89 annual report stated that the college had achieved a record head count of 27,280 which was nearly 10 percent above the previous enrollment of 24,843. Services were provided to students from all 93 Nebraska counties and 35 other states. More

than 99 percent of the students were Nebraska residents. Two months after completion, 94 percent of the graduates reported they had jobs or were continuing their education. A total of 95 percent remained in Nebraska.

College Foundation

- Jack Crowley, a member of the Board of Governors from 1981-84, joined the college staff as college alumni and development director. Within the year, he announced a $1.6 million endowment campaign.

Kearney Practical Nursing

- The Kearney practical nursing program moved from the Whittier Building, which CCC had leased from the Kearney Public Schools since 1970, to a new location at Centennial Park Plaza at 512 West 11th Street. The 4,100-square-foot area, which was remodeled by physical plant personnel from the Hastings Campus, included a large classroom, a lab which included a nurses' station and six hospital beds, a library, two seminar rooms, a counseling room, and five offices. Marilyn Carlson, supervisor of the program, expressed her satisfaction with the new location. (Some information for this item came from the Kearney Hub.)

Lexington Center

- Paul Stubbe, community education coordinator at the Lexington Center, was selected to serve on the Advisory Task Force for Rural Development and the Agriculture and Food Processing Task Force of Nebraska Futures Inc.

NISOD Research Project

- David Fulton, Platte Campus history instructor, Mary Lou Holmberg, college nursing director, and Latham Mortensen, Hastings Campus welding instructor, participated in a research project conducted by the University of Texas at Austin and coordinated by the National Institute of Staff and Organizational Development. The project focused on the characteristics, teaching styles, and other qualities which constitute a good instructor. A database for future use was created.

Nebraska Futures Inc.

- Several members of the Board of Governors and the college staff were among more than 450 Nebraskans who volunteered to serve on one of the citizen task forces formed by Nebraska Futures Inc. to promote activities for the economic development of the state. Serving from the Board of Governors were Ed Loutzenheiser Jr., board chairman; and Ken Wortman, vice chairman. Representing the Grand Island Campus was Don Nelson, campus president. From the Hastings Campus were John Dobrovolny, associate dean of instruction; Roy Johnston, associate dean for community education; Dr. Carl Rolf, campus president; and Dr. Joe Woodward, special projects coordinator. From the Platte Campus were Verne Buhl, agriculture programs coordinator; Chuck Farnham, business counselor for the Center for Small Business; Barb Rebrovich, assistant to the campus president; and Dr. Pete Rush, campus president. Representing the Lexington Center was Paul Stubbe, community education coordinator. From college administration were Alicia Haussler, purchasing manager, and Dr. Larry Keller, institutional management officer.

PIN Crucial Issues Seminar

- Don Nelson, Grand Island Campus president, and Dr. Joe Preusser, college president, presented a paper titled "Individualized Instruction: Providing the Human Factor for Economic Development" at the crucial issues seminar of the Postsecondary International Network Conference held at the Fife College of Technology in Kirkcaldy, Scotland.

1990

Vice President Quayle Visits the Platte Campus

U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle, accompanied by Gov. Kay Orr, visited the Platte Campus as part of his planned trip to Nebraska and to Columbus. Orr had especially wanted the vice president to include Columbus on his visit to Nebraska in order to show him how local industry and the campus were working together under the Job Training Partnership Act, which Quayle had sponsored in the Senate in 1982.

In a brief private meeting held on the campus with members of the Columbus Economic Council, he heard how JTPA had helped Columbus companies become globally competitive. Gary Senff, welding instructor, gave the vice president and the governor a demonstration of computer-operated robotic welding systems which had been installed at Platte the previous year. The availability of the welding system was one benefit realized from JTPA.

The vice president spoke to a crowd of about 1,750 people in the gymnasium. He recalled similarities between Columbus and his hometown of Huntington, Ind. Prior to his arrival, the Platte Community Band and the Platte Campus Cantari vocal group provided music for the audience. Several students served on the welcoming committee that greeted the vice president and the governor when they entered the building. A number of other students were involved in background activities connected with the visit.

U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle (far right) observes an industrial robot in the Platte Campus welding technology program during his 1990 visit to Columbus. The robot was demonstrated by welding instructor Gary Senff (center front). Quayle greets Platte Campus students in the inset photo.

Grand Island Campus

- Peggy Wuertele, associate dean of community education, made a presentation at the annual conference of the Adult and Continuing Education Association of Nebraska titled "Developing Professional Skills Through Conference Participation." She also authored an article titled "The Business and Industry Liaison as Consultant," which appeared in the "Community, Technical, and Junior College Journal."
- Nancy Blume, nursing curriculum coordinator, gave a presentation titled, "The Effectiveness of a Cognitive Restructuring Program on the Stress Response of Nursing Students" at a research forum at Creighton University in Omaha. The presentation was based upon research she had done. The research forum was sponsored by Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society.
- Sarah Cunningham, accounting instructor, was appointed by the National Association of Accountants to serve on its committee on academic relations. Cunningham completed her term as president of the central Nebraska chapter of the organization and began a three-year term on the national committee.
- A cooperative program was initiated among the Grand Island Campus, Grand Island Senior High School, and Northwest High School whereby the college provided advanced automotive training to high school seniors. Nine students from Grand Island Senior High and five from Northwest were in the initial class. Northwest senior Chris Jones appreciated the opportunity "to work on newer cars" and to "get into more detail." GISH senior Roger Meyer said the CCC classes provided him with the chance for advanced training in several areas of interest, including transmissions. Ron Grabowski, CCC automotive instructor, said the joint venture had been in discussion for about two years, with an eye toward offering courses that the high schools couldn't provide because of equipment limitations.
- State Sen. Bill Barrett, speaker of the legislature, was the commencement speaker for the 51 associate of applied science degree and 63 diploma recipients at the Grand Island Campus. He told the graduates that they must accept change as an opportunity instead of a threat, and to be prepared to continue their education throughout their careers.
- The Central Nebraska Chapter of the National Association of Accountants won awards at the Orlando, Fla., annual conference for outstanding chapter activities and for membership acquisition. Sarah Cunningham, accounting instructor, was president of the chapter.
- For the first time, a bachelor of professional studies accelerated degree program was offered by Bellevue College and the Grand Island Campus. The program enabled employed students who had completed at least 60 college credit hours to complete a bachelor's degree in less than one year through an accelerated format and an Experiential Learning Assessment.
- A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held for the new 9,600-square-foot Center for Industrial Technology. When combined with the adjacent Trade and Industry and Alternative Energy buildings, the center provided 21,600 square feet of classroom and lab space for drafting; electronics technology; heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration; welding; and manufacturing technology. The center also provided for customized training programs for business and industry. Speakers at the ceremony were Don Nelson, campus president; Dr. Joe Preusser, college president; Ken Wortman, president of the CCC Board of Governors; and Andy Baird, president of the Grand Island Industrial Foundation.
- Judy Rosenkotter, a part-time nursing instructor, was called to active military duty. She was with the 403rd MP Company which was deployed to Saudi Arabia and given the responsibility to establish prisoner-of-war camps. Rosenkotter returned to the U.S. during the summer of 1991.
- Pernille Jensen, a native of Denmark on an extended visit to Grand Island, served as the instructor for a community education class in the Danish language which had never before been offered by CCC. Jensen was surprised when 26 people attended the first class session.
- A Senior College program to provide courses to meet the needs of retirees was begun. One of several courses offered was a writing class taught by Vicki Mackenstadt, communications instructor, which emphasized the narrating of personal experiences.
- The college was host to the 10th Annual Association of Community Professionals Conference.

Retired

- Marion Kinkade, heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration instructor, retired after 13 years of service to the college. He held an associate degree from Texas State Technical Institute in Waco and was a member of the Refrigeration Service Engineers Society.
- Bill Leighty retired as electrical technology instructor after 5 years of service on the Hastings Campus and 14 years on the Grand Island Campus. He had attended both Hastings College and Kearney State College.

In Memory

- Karen Clausen, 36, a former personal development instructor, died at St. Francis Medical Center after a lengthy illness. She held a master's degree from Kearney State College.

Hastings Campus

- Roger DeVries, business and safety instructor, made a presentation at the annual conference of the Adult and Continuing Education Association of Nebraska titled, "Helping Students Overcome Their Fear of Education."
- Ron Boehler, who joined the faculty as a data processing instructor in 1980, graduated summa cum laude from Kearney State College with a bachelor's degree in business administration and computer services.
- Al Hartley, electronics instructor and CCC alumnus, received a bachelor's degree in occupational education at Kearney State College.
- Joni Schlatz, a part-time office technology instructor, received a master's degree in business education from Chadron State College.
- Dan Small of Hastings received the sixth annual Outstanding Service Award. He was cited for his willingness to take on new responsibilities and for assisting staff and students with technical problems. He was also recognized for his good humor and his ever-present smile. He joined the CCC staff in 1980.
- Mark Carraher, a 1970 graduate in diesel technology, was named an Outstanding Alumnus by the Nebraska Technical Community College Association. He was cited for his community involvement, the success and expansion of his business providing diesel services in Spalding, Neb., and his continued commitment to vocational education and Central Community College.
- Terry Thayer, cooperative education coordinator, was honored by the Cooperative Education Association of Nebraska as the Teacher/Coordinator of the Year. Thayer had been a member of the CCC staff for nine years.
- Ten high school teams competed in the Plymouth-AAA Troubleshooting Contest hosted by the campus.
- About 200 junior high and high school students participated in the Technology Education Competition which included contests in balsa wood bridge building, mousetrap cars, metric cars, robotics, drafting, small engine troubleshooting and welding.
- Vikki Jaeger, grants and special projects director, announced that the campus had received a $500,000 nonmatching grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to provide wastewater management training throughout Nebraska. The grant allowed the college to establish an environmental training center at the campus as well as regional training sites across the state in order to provide state certification to waste water managers, which had only recently been mandated by the legislature. The college was the only agency offering

Herb Kahookele and Walt Miller pose with their 20-year service plaques in 1990. Kahookele served as a coach, athletic director and assistant dean of students during his CCC career. Miller was an architectural drafting instructor.

statewide certification. Greg DuMonthier was employed as the founding director.

- Gov. Kay Orr delivered the commencement address at the Hastings Campus. She commended the 114 associate of applied science degrees and the 200 diploma graduates for their "well-developed skills and commitment to excellence." Dr. Joe Preusser, college president, thanked the governor for her support of education, stating that Nebraska's community colleges had received more support from the governor's office during the past two years than at any time since he joined the college staff.
- Hampton native Dale Bamesberger was recipient of the ninth Outstanding Alumni Award. He earned an associate degree in welding technology in 1975. He worked for a local welding shop and as a technician for a nuclear power plant before joining the Hobart Brothers Welding Company in Troy, Ohio. After Hobart and another company formed Motoman Inc., Bamesburger became a senior engineering technician for Motoman.
- Four staff members from Dawson Technical Institute in Chicago visited the campus to study open-entry, open-exit enrollment and competency-based education. As a result, Dr. Michael Chipps, dean of students, and John Dobrovolny, associate dean of instruction, were asked to make presentations and consult for the community college system in Chicago.
- Groundbreaking ceremonies were held for a 44,000-square-foot education center and multipurpose building which would later be named the Dawson Multipurpose Complex. The $2.1 million project included space for dental laboratory technology, dental assisting, medical assisting, health care administration, child care, human services, electronic and electrical technology programs, student services offices and a gymnasium. Speakers at the groundbreaking were Dr. Carl Rolf, campus president; Gerald Whelan, a Hastings attorney; Ken Wortman, president of the CCC Board of Governors; Dr. Joe Preusser, college president; and Sean Chipps, president of the Student Senate.
- Dr. Carl Rolf, campus president, resigned to become president of Northwest Iowa Technical College in Sheldon, Iowa. He had served as Hastings Campus president since 1984. During his tenure, he promoted modernizing the physical plant, including the construction of the Dawson building. He emphasized the acquisition of instructional equipment, the need for increased staff salaries, and staff development during a period of severe budgetary constraints. Due to the restrained times of the 1980s, the campus budget he managed was $78,000 lower the year he left than the $5,936,200 in 1984-85 when he arrived.
- Upon the departure of Campus President Dr. Carl Rolf, Kathy McPherson, dean of instruction, returned from her doctoral studies at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln to assume the duties of interim campus president. John Dobrovolny, associate dean of instruction, continued as acting dean of instruction. Rod Roberts, media specialist, also continued to assist Dobrovolny by assuming some of the supervisory duties of the position of associate dean.
- An accounting alumni club was formed on the Hastings Campus to address issues facing accounting professionals through meetings, seminars, and newsletters. Maryann Bolton and Walt Boyll, accounting instructors, served as contact persons for the organization.
- Terry Thayer, cooperative education and business and industry coordinator, received the Outstanding Member Award from the Nebraska Vocational Association for significant contributions to the progress of vocational education in Nebraska.
- Timothy Keesecker, an automotive technology major from Lexington, was named Outstanding Special Populations Student in Vocational Education by the Nebraska Council on Vocational Education. The award recognized his outstanding academic performance, his responsiveness to the needs of other students, and his service to the community. He had achieved the Dean's Honor List three times, had served as resident assistant and a member of the dormitory judicial board on the campus. He was a noncommissioned officer in the National Guard and had received several military awards. He was also an officer in the Lexington Minutemen Booster Club.
- Latham Mortensen, welding instructor, received the District 16 Educator Award from the American Welding Society. District 16 includes Nebraska, Kansas, and parts of Iowa and South Dakota. Beginning in 1985, Mortensen had been providing welding training to Union Pacific employees from

Arkansas, California, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. The association between CCC and Union Pacific began with a chance meeting between Keith Boyle, a retired Hastings Campus automotive instructor, and a railroad bridge inspector who had some concerns about the quality of welding he was inspecting.

- Alan Hartley, electronics instructor, was called to active military duty as one of 180 members of the 295 Ordnance Company. The unit was stationed in Germany replacing troops that were deployed to Saudi Arabia during Operation Desert Storm. Hartley returned in early June after serving in Germany for six months.
- Deb Brennan, hotel, motel and restaurant management instructor, was named Culinary Educator of the Year by the American Culinary Federation-Professional Chefs and Apprentices of Nebraska.
- Milton Woods, assistant electronics technician, received the Operation ABLE (Ability Based on Long Experience) Employee of the Year Award which was presented by Gov. Ben Nelson. The award was designed to recognize valuable employees who effectively managed career changes after the age of 50. Woods had taken medical retirement from the postal service and then earned an associate degree in electronics and a diploma in data processing from CCC. In addition to his position as a technician, he taught adult education classes in computer operation in several communities and at the Hastings Correctional Center.
- A student success orientation program to help students make the transition to college life was begun.
- More than 450 students from 40 high schools attended Expo VI, "A Decade of Discovery." The annual event was designed to introduce students to evolving technology and to inform them about what is available through CCC.
- An associate of applied science degree in child care was inaugurated on the campus largely by adding administrative courses to the courses which already existed for the certificate and diploma requirements. Other new offerings included children's literature, responsible parenting, and middle childhood.

Retired

- Pearl Norton retired as secretary of the physical plant after having worked on the campus for ten years. She and her husband then moved to Lincoln.

In Memory

- Brigitte Ellis, 6l, former secretary of the health cluster, passed away in Fremont. She was born in Unterberg, Germany. She moved to the United States in 1960 and worked in Denver as the first secretary for the West German Consulate. She joined the college staff in 1974.

Platte Campus

- "Improving Community College Effectiveness," a paper written by Dr. Pete Rush, campus president, was included in the 1990 American Association of Community and Junior Colleges Monograph Series. Rush also served as a member of a North Central Association evaluation team which visited Nicolet Area Technical College in Rhinelander, Wis.
- Dr. Mel Krutz, communications instructor, participated in the National Council of Teachers of English 79th annual convention in Baltimore, Md. She gave a presentation on the impact of the Hazelwood decision on current intellectual freedom court cases and participated in the NCTE Standing Committee Against Censorship. She was appointed acting chairwoman of the committee for the spring semester.
- Carol Taczek, instructional services assistant, received a master's degree in business at Kearney State College.
- Dick Averett, drama and speech instructor, was named the Platte Faculty Member of the Year. He was cited for energetic teaching and for conducting interesting classes, for modeling creative problem solving, for using his sense of humor as an effective teaching tool, and for supporting students in their personal and professional goals. He joined the Platte faculty in 1970.
- John Putnam, music instructor, was named the Platte Person of the Year. He was cited for being

supportive of his students, providing a comfortable learning atmosphere, and for playing an active role in college and community activities. He became a member of the Platte faculty in 197l, and he directed the Chorale and Cantari vocal groups.

- Jan Dannelly, coordinator of the International Division of Sand Livestock in Columbus, a 1978 graduate of the Platte Campus, and vice chairwoman of the CCC Board of Governors, was the graduation speaker. As secretary to the founding president, Dr. Donald Newport, Dannelly was also the second employee to be hired by the fledgling Platte College.
- Instructors John Putnam and Dick Abraham served as tour guides for 18 people who visited Germany, Italy, and Austria as part of a Platte Campus tour during the summer. Among the participants were Dr. Roger and Donna Augspurger, Evelyn Brueger, George and Glenda Steinsberger, and Doris VanDyke.
- The musical, "My Fair Lady," was a summer production sponsored by the campus. The premier dinner-theater performance raised $1,500 to buy books for the library.
- Soccer was piloted as a varsity sport with the encouragement of Dr. Pete Rush, campus president, and Jim Fisher, dean of students. Community volunteers Tom Mueller and Todd Zeller served as coaches. Student athletes taught a soccer clinic for the first time.
- A swine management certificate pilot program was offered by the campus in conjunction with Sand Livestock Systems and several Columbus-area pork producers. Students in the program alternated classroom study with paid internships in hog confinement operations.
- Duane Waddle, agriculture instructor, was called to active military duty. He was one of 117 members of the 24th Medical Company of the Nebraska Army National Guard. His unit was sent to Saudi Arabia as part of Operation Desert Shield. From Saudi Arabia, they flew medical evacuation missions out of Iraq. Waddle and his unit returned to the U.S. in mid-April of 1991.
- Student Services initiated peer tutoring, group student orientation and drug and alcohol awareness activities.
- Kids College, providing youngsters aged 9 to 12 with classes from CPR to Just Clowning Around, was begun.
- The campus became an open site for the Nebraska CorpNet, which provided access to University of Nebraska courses from the College of Engineering and Technology. Access to workshops, seminars, and courses from other sources was also made available.

Retired

- Elaine Engel of Columbus retired as records clerk. She joined the Platte Campus in 1977 to fill the newly created position. She is remembered as being committed to her job and to the campus.

In Memory

- Earl W. Muller, 68, a former faculty member, died in Columbus. He taught machine shop technology and blueprint reading on the campus beginning in 1979. He had retired in 1986.
- Don Engel, 67, who retired in 1988 as agricultural programs coordinator, passed away in May. In addition to other recognitions he had received during his career, he was the 1990 recipient of the Agribusiness Pioneer in Education Award from the Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce. He had joined the CCC staff in 1976.

Alumni Activities

- Jack Crowley, executive director of the Central Community College Foundation, was assigned to serve as director of alumni activities for the college and its campuses. In a related matter, "C-Notes," a newsletter for CCC alumni, was launched by the college. The publication was designed to provide a link between the college and its graduates and to keep them informed of activities of the college.

Jack Crowley

Board of Governors

- The Rev. Bill Doran of Grand Island, CCC Board of Governors member, was elected vice president of the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Technical Community College Association. The NTCCA 12-member board is composed of two members from each of the six community college area boards of governors.

College Administration

- Fran Grimes, financial systems manager, received a master's degree in business at Kearney State College. She is a graduate of Chadron State College and is a certified public accountant.
- Dennis Tyson, vice president for educational services, was the recipient of the President's Award from the Nebraska Technical Community College Association. Among other things, he was cited for his extensive knowledge regarding higher education and his availability as a consultant and lecturer on individualized instruction throughout the Midwest and Canada. Later in the year, Tyson received a doctorate from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln in educational administration, curriculum and instruction. His dissertation was titled, "Instructional Unit Characteristics that Influence Budget Allocations in Nebraska Community Colleges."
- Joni Ransom, news bureau director, won three first place awards in the annual Nebraska Press Women communication contest. The awards were for news reporting in an internal publication, editing the "Central Connection" and the "Hilltop Review" produced by the Platte Campus.
- Dr. Joe Preusser, college president, in an article published in the Central Connection employee newsletter, noted that CCC was significantly involved in area economic development. He cited activities with Appleton Electric Company, Chief Industries, Fleischer Manufacturing, Ford-New Holland, K-N Energy, Lindsay Manufacturing, Monroe Auto, Thermo King, and Union Pacific Railroad. In the same article, he stated that the three campuses continued to maintain the following campus priorities: Grand Island Campus – business and industry training, community education, and high-demand programs; Hastings Campus – vocational programs and business and industry training; Platte Campus – academic transfer programs, high-demand vocational programs, and business and industry training.

In Memory

- Glenn Wiseman, 77, died in Wayne and was buried there. He joined the Hastings Campus in 1967 as the founding instructor of the food service program. In 1968, he became the division chairman of the service division which included agriculture and horticulture occupations, dental lab, dental assisting, and food service management. The following year, he was asked to assume the director of counseling and research projects. In 1973, he was promoted to the administrative assistant for personnel and government programs in the area office. He retired in 1978. He is remembered as a mild-mannered person with a wealth of experience in restaurant management and in education.

College Foundation

- Jack Crowley, foundation executive director, announced the establishment of a business incubator program which was made possible by a $150,000 donation from Dale and Delores Watley of Hastings. Interest income from the gift was to be used to provide partial funding for new businesses. Applicants for the program were to submit business plans for review by a committee which included Hasting Campus business faculty, a member of the Hastings chapter of Service Corps of Retired Executives, and representatives of the Hastings Economic Development Corporation. The first recipient of a low-interest loan was Joni Schlatz of Doniphan who opened a diaper pickup and laundry service to serve the Hastings, Grand Island, and Kearney area. At the time, Schlatz was a part-time instructor on the Hastings Campus.

Collegewide Statistics

- Dr. Joe Preusser, college president, reported that during the 1989-90 college, year CCC had served 28,755 students which was an increase of 1,475 or 5.4 percent over the previous year. There were students from all 93 counties in Nebraska and 27 other states. The age range of students was from 15

to 96. The most popular courses were business and management, data processing, office technology, nursing, communications, and agriculture.

- An associate of applied science degree in child care was inaugurated on the campus, largely by adding administrative courses to the program. Other new classes included children's literature, responsible parenting and middle childhood.

Cooperative Education

- Central Community College received a five-year, $650,000 Administrative Cooperative Education Grant from the U.S. Department of Education. It was an extension of a grant received in 1985 to develop programs on all three campuses and to develop a statewide cooperative education association. Doris Lux, cooperative education director at the Platte Campus, wrote both grants and served as the project director.

Coordinating Commission

- In the November general election, an amendment to the Nebraska State Constitution passed which provided for the establishment of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education with the authority, under the direction of the legislature, to coordinate the University of Nebraska, the state colleges, and the community colleges. The amendment provided that the commission be composed of 11 members appointed by the governor and approved by the legislature.

Emergency Medical Services

- The college was co-host for the 11th annual Nebraska Statewide Emergency Medical Services Conference in Kearney. About 640 people from 176 communities attended.

Lexington Center

- Central Community College and the Lexington Public Schools provided a number of courses to help the Lexington community adapt to the changes expected with the opening of the IBP plant in the former Sperry-New Holland building. Law enforcement officers, county employees, teachers, emergency medical technicians, merchants and others took survival Spanish classes. Still others attended seminars on coping with change.
- English as a Second Language and Adult Basic Education classes were expanded. In addition to survival Spanish, CCC provided CPR and first aid classes to IBP supervisors.
- Paul Stubbe was promoted from regional community education coordinator to associate dean of community education.

PIN Conference

- The Postsecondary International Network (PIN) held its annual conference with the Grand Island Campus serving as host. The event attracted participants from the United States, Canada, and Great Britain. CCC employees active in the organization include Dr. Joe Preusser, college president; Dr. Chet Gausman, former CCC president; and Dr. Dennis Tyson, vice president for educational services. The PIN Conference was combined with the All-College In-Service for one day allowing the combined audience to hear Myles Rademan, a consultant from Utah, speak on “Conjuring Visions and Mastering Change.”
- PIN members Abe Konrad and Geoffrey Melling also addressed college faculty and staff, using education in Canada and the United Kingdom as their respective topics.

Radiological Technology

- St. Francis Medical Center of Grand Island, Fort Hays (Kansas) State University, and Central Community College announced a cooperative arrangement to train radiology (X-ray) technicians. St. Francis was designated as a major clinical site for the radiological technology program of FHSU while CCC was chosen to offer a core curriculum of courses to students wishing to pursue the established program at Fort Hays.

1991

Assets of College Foundation Exceed $1 Million

The "Meeting the Challenge of Change" endowment campaign resulted in the growth of the assets of the Central Community College Foundation to $1,115,777.02 on June 30, 1991, according to the 1990-91 annual report issued by Jack Crowley, executive director of the foundation and Larry Butler, president of the foundation Board of Directors.

First Foundations Started in 1966, 1969

In the monograph, "Central Community College Area, a History: The First Eight Years" by Stephen O. Gaines, it was reported that in November 1966, Paul Hohnstein of Hastings, then secretary of the recently formed Board of Governors, provided a contribution of $2,000 to establish the Central Nebraska Tech Foundation as a nonprofit organization, chartered by the state. Leonard Melkus of Grand Island served as the first chairman of that foundation board. In a parallel event in January 1969, Jim Rich presented the first check to Bill Nelson, president of the Platte College Foundation. The resulting funds were designated for purchase of library books.

Merger Results in New Foundation

Crowley was appointed in 1989 to lead a new foundation, formed through the merger of the two earlier foundations with combined assets of $114,000. Later that same year, the foundation embarked on the "Meeting the Challenge of Change" endowment campaign, with the goal of raising $1.6 million over a five-year period. The initial phase of the campaign focused on Columbus, Grand Island, and Hastings.

The foundation awarded $130,000 in student scholarship support during the 1990-91 academic year. In addition, other significant allocations were made. Some $6,000 was appropriated for staff development, resulting in 10 grants being awarded. Through the Watley Incubator Fund, $146,000 was provided for low interest loans to five businesses to help with startup expenses.

Inaugurates Pro-Am Golf Tournament

The first Community College Foundation Pro-Am Invitational Golf Tournament was held in October of 1991 with the proceeds of the tournament designated for scholarship support. Twenty-four golf professionals played in the event, raising more than $10,000. The foundation also sponsored the first Central Community College Foundation dinner attended by approximately 150 people with Gov. Ben Nelson as guest speaker. The governor hailed the private and public partnership that had built the foundation.

Grand Island Campus

- Nancy Blume, an instructor and curriculum coordinator for the associate degree in nursing program, was one of the first nurses to be certified as a clinical specialist in community health nursing by the American Nurses Association.
- Betty Elder, nursing instructor, was co-author of a report published by the federal government titled "Waterfowl Values by Wetland Type Within Rainwater Basin Wetlands." Elder was involved in the project while employed as a biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- Dr. Larry Keller, institutional advancement director, was co-author of an article published in the "Community College Review" titled "Competencies and Personal Characteristics of Future Community College Presidents." The article was based on Keller's doctoral dissertation. He also made a presentation on Rural Allied Medical Business Occupations (RAMBO) at the National Conference of Adult Learners in Columbia, S.D.
- About 60 nursing students and graduates attended a job fair held on the campus. Employers from 50 hospitals and nursing homes in central Nebraska were available to interview and recruit new em-

ployees. Another 50 students took part in a separate career day in which a panel of employers discussed what they look for in prospective employees and conducted mock job interviews.

- Dave McGrath, part-time automotive instructor, and Leslie Robinson, secretary, both received bachelor of human resource management degrees from Bellevue College.
- The Rev. Lonnie Logan was the keynote speaker at the graduation ceremonies held by the Grand Island Campus at Northwest High School. The graduates included the first students to complete the associate degree in nursing and the paralegal studies programs. The alumni address was given by Ray Schiefen, director of data processing for McDermott and Miller Accounting in Grand Island. Scheifen graduated from the Grand Island Campus in 1982 with an associate degree in data processing. He sometimes served the campus as a part-time instructor.
- René Tiedt, coordinator of the child care center, received a Child Development Associate Credential for outstanding work with young children. The credential was awarded by the Council for Early Childhood Professional Recognition in Washington, D.C. after Tiedt was observed and evaluated. At another event, Jeanne Webb, director of the child care center, received a Distinguished Service to Children Award presented by the Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children.
- Sarah Cunningham, accounting instructor, was assigned the responsibility to coordinate a pilot program for distance learning in business management for CCC. To that end, she attended a conference on distance education in Augusta, Maine. She also participated in a by-invitation-only symposium on management accounting in Irving, Texas, sponsored by the National Association of Accountants and the American Accounting Association.
- Steve Millnitz, financial aid director, authored an article which analyzed President Nixon's Watergate Address to the Nation on Aug. 15, 1973. The article was published in the "Nebraska Speech Communication Association Journal." Millnitz also testified at a Federal Update Conference in Omaha before a joint commission of the American Association of Junior and Community Colleges and the American Association of Community College Trustees regarding Guaranteed Student Loan programs. At another event, he testified before the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education on the state grant programs.

The third annual Children's Groundwater Festival was held on the Grand Island Campus. Approximately 3,000 elementary students learned about Nebraska's precious water resources through more than 50 booths with educational and entertaining displays.

- Pam Price, admissions director, was elected secretary of the Nebraska Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers at a conference held on the Hastings Campus. Price was also given the Woman of Achievement Award by the Grand Island Business and Professional Women's Club.
- A NEB*SAT Telecommunications satellite dish was erected which allowed distance learning to take place on the campus.
- The annual report stated that the campus consisted of approximately 92,000 square feet of building space. Area administration occupied an additional 8,400 square feet. The buildings were surrounded by approximately 10 acres of bluegrass turf and a 450-space parking lot.
- Ann McNemer, a full-time nursing student, was selected as Mother of the Year by Diabetes Forecast, a magazine published by the American Diabetes Association. She was nominated by one of her daughters who said she admired her mother for helping her children cope with diabetes. All four of McNemer's children have the disease.
- The campus observed its 15th anniversary by inviting the public to an open house with guided tours

and refreshments. Over the 15 years, enrollment had grown from 223 students in 1976 to 2,553 in 1991.

- While they were students, 10 Class of 1991 nursing graduates had been recipients of a scholarship/loan forgiveness program initiated by St. Francis Medical Center. St. Francis also selected nine students to receive scholarships for the following year.

Grand Island Campus instructor Linda Wenn donates blood during the Red Cross bloodmobile campus visit.

- The Red Cross bloodmobile visited the campus. They were pleased to have 86 donors, 38 of whom donated blood for the first time.
- Maureen Hoffman, communications instructor, attended the Kellogg Institute for the Training and Certification of Developmental Educators at Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C.
- George Ayoub, communications instructor, was recognized as the copywriter for a 30-second spot which won a Telly Award, a national award for television advertising shown in regional markets. The spot was developed for St. Francis Medical Center.
- Jacalyn Ayoub, placement coordinator, organized a career day for students about to complete their programs of instruction. Potential employers presented a panel discussion and then conducted mock interviews during which constructive criticisms were given.
- Ford New Holland Americas of Grand Island launched a pre-employment training program to be provided by Central Community College. The program was designed to give manufacturing employees the broad range of basic technical skills the company believed they needed.

In Memory

- Eloris Carberry Niemann, 67, passed away at the Madonna Home in Lincoln. She was the first manager of the campus bookstore, retiring in 1989. She joined the college in 1973 as a secretary in the administrative office. She is remembered for her cheerfulness and her willingness to mentor younger staff members.

Hastings Campus

- Dr. Judy K. Dresser of Eugene, Ore., assumed the duties of campus president on Jan. 7, 1991, after having been appointed by the Board of Governors at its October l990 meeting. Dresser had been assistant to the vice president for instruction at Lane Community College. She received a doctorate in vocational education from Oregon State University. Upon the arrival of Dresser, Kathleen McPherson went back on leave to finish a doctoral degree. Carl Brown, associate dean of instruction for trades and industry, assumed the duties of the office of dean of instruction in her absence. Wayne Huntley, parts sales and management instructor, assisted him in the administration of the trades and industry department during that time.
- Deb Thompson of Hastings, accounting clerk, received the seventh annual Outstanding Service Award at the Hastings Campus. She was cited for her leadership in decision making, excellent judgment, dedication, cheerful attitude, and willingness to help both students and staff. Thompson was a secretarial science major and a work-study student on the campus before she joined the staff full-time in 1974. In addition to her many volunteer activities on the campus and in the community, at the time of the award she was working toward a bachelor's degree at Kearney State College.
- Sister Mary Christelle Macaluso, a Sister of Mercy, a professional speaker and humorist and a professor of biology at the College of St. Mary in Omaha, was the featured presenter at a day of in-service. Known as "The Fun Nun," her topics were "Wellness and Your Funny Bone" and "You Make a Difference."
- Robin Menschenfreund, associate dean of instruction for health occupations, completed the Manage-

ment Certificate Development Program sponsored by the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Division of Continuing Studies, College of Business Administration.

- The Hastings Campus received a 1991 LT Astro Van from the Chevrolet Motor Division for use in its automotive program.
- About 25 hotel, motel, and restaurant management students attended a career day featuring a presentation by Herman Cain, president and chief executive officer of Godfather's Pizza. Students also had an opportunity to discuss job opportunities with representatives of various businesses and to conduct job interviews.
- Two staff members received degrees: John Brooks, broadcasting instructor, a master of arts degree in speech language arts from Hastings College, and Michele Gill, campus center supervisor, a master of arts degree in education from the University of Nebraska at Kearney.
- U.S. Rep. Bill Barrett was the keynote speaker at the Hastings Campus graduation ceremonies. Barrett encouraged the students to believe in themselves and in their future. He also congratulated the campus on its 25th anniversary.
- John C. Anderson, horticulture aide at the Adams County Extension Office in Hastings, was granted the 10th annual Outstanding Alumni Award from the Hastings Campus. Anderson graduated from the campus in 1984 with an associate of applied science degree in commercial horticulture. Through the extension office, he organized the Extension Master Gardener Program in South Central Nebraska and the farmer's market in Hastings. He developed two new 4-H contests and presented programs for the State Home Extension Council. He served on the CCC Commercial Horticulture Advisory Committee and assisted the campus in other ways. Later, he also received a 1992 Distinguished Alumni Award from the Nebraska Community College Association.

The Hastings Campus celebrated its 25th Anniversary. Here, new Campus President Dr. Judy Dresser receives a plaque in recognition of the milestone from a community ambassador, while former college president Dr. Chester Gausman, left, looks on.

- John Dobrovolny, associate dean of instruction, was elected president of the Central Nebraska Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa, an international fraternity of professional educators. Dobrovolny was also asked by the international office of PDK to serve on a task force on membership during the biennial council in Indianapolis.
- Hotel, motel, and restaurant management instructors Deb Brennan and Jaye Kieselhorst accompanied 10 culinary students to the National Restaurant Association Conference in Chicago. Steve Ekwall of Gillette, Wyo., Lorraine Sweet of Minden, and Theresa Timmerman of West Point received bronze medals in the student competition in food presentations. Deb Brennan earned recognition in the professional competition in culinary centerpieces.
- Deb Brennan successfully completed requirements for certification as a culinary educator and working chef by the American Culinary Federation. This included preparing a dinner using the contents of a "mystery basket." With the help of a professional development grant provided by the CCC Foundation, Brennan also studied at the Culinary Institute of America at Hyde Park, N.Y. During the summer, Brennan enjoyed a change of pace by working as a cook at the Riverside Golf Club in Grand Island as part of a back-to-industry grant through the National Restaurant Association.
- Joann Wieland, health care administration program coordinator, was appointed to the Legislative Task Force for Nursing Home Administration by the Nebraska Health Care Association. The task force was to prepare recommendations for the state legislature.
- An academic competition known as ACTIONS Day, involving more than 600 high school students from 23 Nebraska and Kansas schools, was held on the campus for the first time. Each student was

tested in up to three of 41 possible subject areas, and awards were given to those who placed.

- The campus and community celebrated 25 years of educational service to residents of south-central Nebraska with a campus open house and banquet which served more than 400 people. The keynote speaker was Roger Welsch. Other guest speakers included Ken Wortman, first chairman of the Board of Governors, and Dr. Chester Gausman, founding college president.

Jan Dannelly, chairwoman of the Board of Governors, cuts the ceremonial ribbon dedicating the Dawson Multipurpose Complex on the Hastings Campus. Dannelly, the first woman to chair the CCC Board of Governors, is flanked by College President Dr. Joe Preusser and Campus President Dr. Judy Dresser, as members of the Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce look on. The Dawson Building includes several instructional areas, a student success center, gymnasium and a fitness center.

- With more than 200 people in attendance, the newly constructed Dawson Multipurpose Complex was dedicated. The 46,000-square-foot structure replaced 110,000 square feet of space in buildings constructed during World War II. The building was designed to accommodate instructional program areas, the Student Success Center, seminar rooms, a gymnasium, and a fitness center. Jan Dannelly, chairwoman of the Board of Governors, performed the ribbon cutting with members of the Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce in attendance. The ceremony was followed by a regular meeting of the Board of Governors which was held in the new facility.
- Valley Dorm was the site of the first fire on the campus in 14 years. The cause of the fire was determined to be an electrical extension cord. Loss was confined to furnishings and personal property in one room, with smoke damage in three other rooms. There were no injuries.
- "Memory Skills," an instructional video proposed by Roger DeVries, business instructor, was produced by NETCHE. The lesson covered several memory strategies valuable to students. The video was well received nationwide.
- The Hastings Campus was recognized as the Employer of the Year by the Nebraska Business and Professional Women's Club. The campus received the award based upon its sensitivity toward the needs of female employees, providing opportunities for career advancement, developing new talent, establishing parental leave policies and improving benefits. To become eligible for the award, the campus had been cited earlier by the Hastings chapter of the organization.

Retired

- Joe Conrad of Hastings retired from the campus where he worked as a plumber for 23 years, beginning in 1967. For a short time, he also held the position of physical plant supervisor.
- Helen Kennedy retired as a counselor and supervisor of the Student Success Center, which she started. Kennedy joined the college staff in 1969 as a secretary in the registrar's office. She also worked as secretary to the dean of students, director of financial aid and housing, and assistant dean of students before accepting the position of counselor and supervisor. She earned both a bachelor's and a master's degree from Kearney State College after she became employed on the campus.

In Memory

- Dorothy E. McArthur, 74, of Hastings died at her home after a prolonged illness. She taught secretarial courses at the campus for 19 years, retiring in l985. She was a skilled instructor whose direct approach was respected by students. Her colleagues remember her exceptional humor.
- M. Dean Blaha, associate dean for transportation and agriculture occupations, died suddenly in June. He had been a member of the college staff since 1966. He had many friends in the community and in business and industry. His networking was of-

ten beneficial to the college and its programs through equipment donations and other gifts. His colleagues remembered him as an especially colorful personality.

Platte Campus

- At the request of Lindsay Holy Family High School, Verne Buhl, agriculture program supervisor, organized a basic farm accounting class in that facility. The eight-week course attracted four high school students and two adults from the community.
- Rita Tuma, lead sales associate for Follett Bookstore, received an award from Follett in recognition for her strong commitment to customer service.
- Dr. Pete Rush, campus president, was chairman of a North Central Association evaluation team at Southwestern Technical College in Granite Falls, Minn. He was also appointed by the NCA to serve on the Accreditation Review Council for the Commission on Institutions of Higher Learning.
- Dr. Pete Rush was selected for the Archway Award by the Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce. The award is presented annually to an outstanding business or professional person. Rush also was one of 53 Nebraskans appointed by Gov. Ben Nelson to the Energy Policy Council to develop an energy policy plan for the state.
- Scott Cumming of Columbus received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Nebraska Technical Community College Association. Cumming became a co-owner of McKown Funeral Home where he first worked from 1977 to 1979 while taking academic courses on the campus before transferring to San Francisco College of Mortuary Science. When he returned to Columbus, he went back to work at the funeral home and became a co-owner in the mid-1980s. He served as board member and president of the Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce and was active in many other community organizations.
- Doris Lux, cooperative education director, gave two presentations at the National Cooperative Education Conference in Little Rock, Ark. Her talks were titled “Apprenticeship and Cooperative Education” and “Articulation Agreements between Cooperative Education and Apprenticeship Programs.”
- Kearney State College officials announced that after KSC becomes part of the university system they will continue to work with the Platte Campus to serve students in the Columbus area. An informal arrangement between the two institutions had been in place for 15 years which resulted in about 130 students receiving a bachelor’s degree in business through Kearney. At the time of the announcement, there were 40 people enrolled in the bachelor’s degree program and 45 people in the master of business administration degree program who were taking courses on the Platte Campus.
- Three staff members received degrees: Kathryn Ballobin, office technology instructor, a master of science degree in college student personnel from the University of Nebraska at Omaha; Doug Pauley, energy management circuit rider, a bachelor of professional studies degree from Bellevue College; and Dianne Moural, permanent part-time agriculture technician, an associate of applied science degree in agriculture from CCC. Moural later joined the faculty as a full-time agriculture instructor.
- Gov. Ben Nelson delivered the graduation address at the Platte Campus. He advised the graduates to be prepared to take risks and not to be intimidated by people who want to discourage them and to not allow themselves to become trapped in a situation in which there is no future.
- Dick Abraham, art instructor, was named Faculty Member of the Year at the Platte Campus and was cited for his patience and positive attitude in teaching students, his professionalism and his knowledge of various art techniques. Abraham started the art program on the campus after he joined the faculty in 1971. He also initiated the annual Fine Arts Festival.
- Steve Heinisch, biology instructor and coordinator of math, science, and home economics programs, was named Platte Person of the Year. He was cited for his willingness to assume extra responsibilities, his commitment to make the campus a better place for students and staff, and his positive attitude and sense of humor. He joined the college staff in 1981.
- Spanish 101 was offered for the first time on the campus. Leon Sanders, associate dean of business and arts, cited an increasingly diverse population in the CCC service area and the need to help students

meet language requirements at transfer institutions. Claudia Serna-Clouse of Columbus was the instructor.

- A two-way audiovisual communication system was added to the teleconference studio on the campus.
- Japanese businessman Shizuo Nakamura was welcomed to the campus to begin a one-year internship providing workshops on Japanese culture at central Nebraska schools. The internship was sponsored by Central Community College and Educational Service Unit No. 7. Among the host families with whom Nakamura stayed were Vince Lempke, Platte Campus math and physical science instructor, and Bruce Broberg, Grand Island Campus associate dean.
- Doug Pauley, energy management circuit rider, worked with at least 58 clients within the CCC service area to assist them in cutting energy costs. Included were one county, two cities, 10 hospitals, four nursing homes, and 41 school districts. Services were provided to clients free of charge. The two-year pilot project was financed by a $200,000 grant from the Nebraska Energy Office using funds from oil overcharge accounts of the state.
- Radio station KLIR-FM of Columbus began providing the "Platte Minute" each day, giving many campus staff members the opportunity to inform listeners of campus events.

Retired

- Tom Burkhardt of Columbus retired as business and management instructor. He had joined the CCC staff in 1978. In addition to considerable supervisory corporate experience, he had also taught at Midland Lutheran College and Briar Cliff College. He earned degrees from Indiana University and Western Michigan University.
- Ernestine Leach of Columbus retired as resource assistant. She joined the CCC staff in 1977 as evening circulation supervisor and later was secretary to the associate dean of learning centers.
- Ed Kasarda of Genoa retired as electronics and electrical technology instructor. He joined the CCC staff in 1978. He previously served in the U. S. Air Force as an electronics supervisor and technician. He also worked as an electrician as a civilian.

Board of Governors

- Jan Dannelly of Columbus became the first woman to chair the CCC Board of Governors when new officers were elected. Other officers elected were Don Mroczek of Columbus, vice chair; Paul Liess of Cambridge, secretary; and Harold McClure of Kearney, treasurer. Don Anderson of Grand Island was seated as a new board member, having been elected to the seat vacated by Robert Schnuelle of Grand Island. Dave Stubbs of Kearney rejoined the board after a two-year absence. He had served on the board from 1981-89.
- Shortly after his retirement from the Board of Governors, Bob Schnuelle was honored by the Nebraska Technical Community College Association with its Distinguished Service Award. In the 1960s, he promoted the establishment of the original vocational-technical schools in Nebraska. Then he worked to advance the concept of the comprehensive community college system. As a member of the Board of Governors, he supported the addition of the dental hygiene program on the Hastings Campus and the associate degree in nursing program on the Grand Island Campus. He was also cited for his involvement with many community organizations.

College Administration

- Dr. Joe Preusser, college president, testified before the Education Committee of the Nebraska Legislature regarding LB 663 (postsecondary coordinating commission) and LB 784 (state control of community colleges). Another bill before the legislature which was important to CCC was LB 167 which would permit political subdivisions to self-fund employee health insurance.
- Joni Ransom, news bureau director, won four honors in the annual Nebraska Press Women communications contest. She received first-place awards for editing the "Central Connection," news writing and feature writing and a second-place award for design of the Platte Campus Hilltop Review.
- Three staff members completed degrees: Marie Black, human resources assistant, an associate of applied science degree in business and management from CCC; and Tonja Brunswick, analyst and programmer, and Kathy O'Neill, executive secre-

tary, bachelor of professional studies degrees from Bellevue College.

- Tonja Brunswick, an analyst and programmer, participated in a staff exchange as part of a pilot program sponsored by the Postsecondary International Network. She spent three weeks at Durham College in Oshawa, Ontario, Canada. Her assignment at Durham was to bring fresh and unbiased ideas and approaches to the information systems team as a new comprehensive software was being installed in the business and student services offices of the college.

College Expenditures

- Expenditures for operations during the 1990-91 fiscal year totaled $14,544,337. Approximately 51 percent of that amount came from property taxes, 34 percent from state aid, 13 percent from tuition, and 2 percent from other sources. Expenditures for the previous year were $13,512,441.

Enrollment

- A total of 21,391 students had enrolled in college credit courses during the 1990-91 college year. Another 6,153 people were enrolled in noncredit courses and 2,020 took part in the Adult Basic Education Program. In September 1966, the Hastings Campus opened with 196 students. In September 1969, the Platte Campus in Columbus opened with 467 students. In 1976, the Grand Island Campus opened with 233 students.

Leadership Diversity

- CCC was one of 10 regional colleges to participate in an 18-month, $48,550 grant from the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges to develop projects and programs on leadership diversity. The grant specifically targeted the initiation of personnel practices to enhance the recruitment and retention of women, persons of color, immigrants, the physically challenged, and individuals from traditionally underrepresented groups for leadership positions. Classroom techniques and curriculum components to foster multicultural awareness and sensitivity also were to be developed. The AACJC grant was made possible through the W.W. Kellogg Foundation. Metropolitan Community College in Omaha was the lead college, and Vikki Jaeger, director of grants and special projects at the Hastings Campus, was the project coordinator for CCC.
- A leadership diversity task force composed of about 45 college employees began the process of developing goals and strategies for a college diversity plan. Dr. Bill Podraza, Lexington city manager, was facilitator with Vikki Jaeger, grants coordinator, providing an overview of the project objectives.
- As part of the grant project directed by Metropolitan Community College in Omaha, Dr. Richard Gilliland, president of MCC, spoke at all three CCC campuses. He observed that many traditionally underrepresented people were enrolling in community colleges, that community colleges were beginning to be recognized and respected, and that across the country, community colleges were experiencing huge growths in enrollment and demand for services.
- About 70 people attended a live, interactive teleconference at the Hastings Campus which featured Sally Helgesen, author of “The Female Advantage.” The book looked at female leadership through case studies of four successful women. The teleconference was sponsored by the American Association of Women in Community and Junior Colleges, Hastings Business and Professional Women’s Club and Grossmont College in El Cajon, Calif.

Practical Nurse Association

- Participants totaling 112 attended the annual convention of the Licensed Practical Nurse Association of Nebraska held in Kearney. The Grand Island Campus was co-host for the event.

Pre-White House Conference

- Three CCC staff members were among the 100 delegates selected to attend the Nebraska Pre-White House Conference on Library and Information Services. They were Dr. Pete Rush, Platte Campus president; George Steinsberger, Platte Campus political science and sociology instructor; and Dr. Dennis Tyson, vice president of educational services.

Professional Development

- Forty-two CCC employees received financial help in furthering their education or learning new skills during 1990-91 from the professional development fund of the college which was budgeted by the Board of Governors. From the $40,000 fund for faculty, $21,719.12 was awarded. From the $25,000 for administrative support staff, $13,990 was awarded.

Workforce Diversity

- Mike Losey, president and chief executive officer of the Society for Human Resources Management, was the major presenter at a workshop for nearly 80 CCC staff. He discussed such issues as diversity in the workforce, employee motivation, and goal setting. Dr. Judy Dresser, president of the Hastings Campus, coordinated roundtable discussions in which many business and community leaders participated, to address the challenges presented by diversity issues.

Three Phi Theta Kappa Chapters Active

By Dr. Sandra Block, Communications Instructor, Hastings Campus

Phi Theta Kappa is the international honor society of the two-year college. Today, Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 1.5 million members and 1,200 chapters located in all 50 of the United States, U.S. territories, Canada, and Germany. The innovative programs and services and the array of membership benefits offered by Phi Theta Kappa are unequaled among honor societies. Co-curricular programs focus upon the Society's Hallmark of Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Fellowship. It is estimated that 200,000 students participate in Phi Theta Kappa programs each year.

Dr. Sandra Block

100,000 Join Annually

Annually, approximately 100,000 students are inducted into Phi Theta Kappa. To be eligible for membership, a student must complete a minimum of 12 hours of college-level course work and earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. Students must maintain a high academic standing throughout their enrollment in the two-year college, generally a 3.25 GPA.

The average age of a new member is 29, ranging from 18 to 80. Part-time and full-time students are eligible for membership. The average Phi Theta Kappan is enrolled full-time with a GPA of 3.8. The most popular major of Phi Theta Kappans in 2004 was nursing, followed closely by education and business.

Central Community College chapters of Phi Theta Kappa include Chi Sigma, Columbus; Alpha Tau Tau, Grand Island; and Beta Alpha Delta, Hastings. They are members of the Nebraska-Wyoming Region, which has 20 chapters overall. All three chapters are active in regional and international activities.

Rates as Five Star Chapters

All three chapters are currently Five Star Chapters. This program, which reflects the scholarly ideals of Phi Theta Kappa, serves as a blueprint for developing a strong chapter and for earning local, regional, and international recognition. In this program, chapters do not compete against one another. Participation encourages excellence and recognizes progress in the attainment of goals set by the chapter.

Columbus Chapter Began in 1971

The first chapter chartered at Central Community College was the Chi Sigma Chapter, chartered on May 2, 1971, in Columbus. The first adviser was Dr. Evelyn Bruegger. Other advisers include Ella Wenman, Robin Coan, and most recently, Lisa Gdowski, Denette Drum, and Shelley Frear.

In 2004, the Chi Sigma Chapter won the following International awards: Service Top 25 and Outstanding Adviser Award for Robin Coan. In 2005, the chapter won the following Nebraska-Wyoming Regional Awards: Scrapbook Award, second place, and Enhancement Award, fifth place. The chapter reported 71 members in 2005. The chapter also won a Pinnacle Scholarship Award, participated in Project Graduation, and collected 50 food items and 25 books. Chi Sigma is currently a Five Star Chapter.

Grand Island Joins in 1991

The Alpha Tau Tau Chapter at Grand Island was chartered on May 9, 1991, with 77 members. It has since maintained a membership of about 100 students yearly. Bob Sanner was the adviser for the chapter from 1992–2003. Karen Cox, Michelle Dannelly, Kyle Sterner, Amber Holley, Sandy Olson, and Guy Suganuma have been advisers since 2004.

The chapter annually coordinates the campus Red Cross blood drive and a Cancer Memorial Wall. They serve as welcome ambassadors the for first two days of every semester to help new students find classrooms and as graduation ushers. In 2005, members collected $250 for Cancer Relay for Life, $201 for Feed a Family at Christmas, 188 food items for Hallum Tornado Relief, $107 for Red Cross Tsunami Relief, and 30 new toys for Christmas Cheer.

In 2004, Alpha Tau Tau achieved Four Star Status. Regionally, they were named the Nebraska-Wyoming Most Distinguished Chapter for Implementation of Leadership and won the Regional Scrapbook Award. In 2005, the chapter achieved Five-Star Status. Tod Glasgow, chapter president and regional vice president was named the International Most Distinguished Chapter President as well as the Most Distinguished President for the Nebraska-Wyoming Region. The chapter also earned the Pinnacle Silver Award for chapter growth. Regionally, the chapter was named Most Distinguished Chapter for the Implementation of Leadership and of Scholarship. Members co-hosted the regional mini-honors conference and collected 1,036 books and 386 food items for Project Graduation.

Hastings Charters Chapter in 1994

Beta Alpha Delta at Hastings was chartered in 1994 and achieved One Star Status in Phi Theta Kappa International in 1995. By 1996, the chapter had achieved Three Star Status and received the Executive Director's Achievement Award. By 1997, Beta Alpha Delta had achieved Five Star Status and again received the Executive Director's Achievement Award from International. Five Star Status was again awarded in 1998. In addition, the chapter hosted the Nebraska-Wyoming Regional Meeting. Since 1997, Beta Alpha Delta has consistently maintained Five Star Status.

Lead advisers of the chapter have included Dr. Mike Chipps, 1995-99; Bob Glenn, 1999-2001; and Dr. Sandra Block, 2001-06. Current and past advisers also include Ken Rezac, John Dobrovolny, Roger DeVries, Laura Bulas, Denise Harders, Janet Cook, Harold Hamel, Gene Friesen, and Coleen and Kent Murray.

Dr. LaVern Franzen and Beta Alpha Delta members at Unity Day 2001. Franzen was Hastings Campus president at the time.

About 100 members are inducted into the chapter each year. To maintain Five Star Status, the chapter must do several projects in each of the areas of leadership, scholarship, fellowship, and service. Beta Alpha Delta has twice been named one of the top 100 chapters internationally, in 2002 and 2005. In 2002, the chapter was named one of the top 10 chapters internationally for scholarship.

Sponsors Hastings Unity Day

A month after 9/11, the chapter sponsored a communitywide Unity Day in the city auditorium, which was attended by more than 300 people. The day honored the diversity of our community. In 2005, Beta Alpha Delta was named one of the top 25 chapters for Service. Projects, which included two highly successful bloodmobiles, were honored by the Red Cross and named Central Community College-Hastings outstanding college of the Midwest Region. The group also held a banquet and entertainment for the community focusing on breast cancer. In addition, Chapter and Regional President Ken Gallagher was selected as one of the 10 top presidents internationally in 2003, and that same year his work was also published in "Nota Bene," the Phi Theta Kappa International literary journal.

Members Help Crane Meadows

The Hastings chapter has also collaborated with Crane Meadows in organizing volunteers, worked with Head Start in gathering books and by reading to children, sponsored two art shows on campus, and collected 75 quilts for children with cancer. The quilts were delivered to Hastings, Grand Island, Lincoln, and Omaha hospitals just before Christmas in 2005. Karissa Marble was named a national New Century Scholar in 2005 and received a $2,000 scholarship. In addition, the chapter received a Pinnacle Award and participated in Project Graduation, collecting 122 food items and 34 books. Regionally, in 2005, the chapter won first place for enhancement.

Leadership is Key Benefit

Phi Theta Kappa benefits students through leadership activities. As members assume offices and participate internationally and regionally, they grow as leaders. In terms of scholarship, members benefit by studying the Honors Study Topics, as well as through earning a variety of scholarships. Perhaps the greatest benefit, however, is the service philosophy which they acquire through all the service activities of the chapters and the region.

1992

Platte Campus Volleyball Team to National Tourney

For the first time since 1979, a Lady Raiders team qualified to play in the National Junior College Association Tournament in the fall of 1992. The team entered the tournament with a 52-3 record and a ranking of seventh in the nation. The tournament began with four pools of four teams with each team playing three games against the other teams in its pool. Although the Raiders got off to a bad start in the pool play by losing all three sets to third-ranked Eastern Arizona, they came back to beat Southwestern Iowa and Northeast Christian of Villanova, Pa.

After advancing to the double-elimination tournament along with the other top two winners from each pool, the team lost to Utah Valley in the first round of the bracket play. They then lost to Wharton County, Texas, in the losers' bracket match.

The team finished the season with a 54-6 record which included six conference and regional tournament titles. School records were set for winning 23 straight matches twice and for achieving the most wins in a season. The team's final NJCAA record was 10th. Sophomore hitter Andrea Graff and Coach Sharon Vanis both received national awards.

Members of the 1992-93 Raiders volleyball team were Cindy LeCrone, Arlington; Tammy Gablenz, Misty Moser, and Brenda Silva, Columbus; Katie Craig, Diller; Michelle Preusser, Grand Island; Jody Hurlburt, Greeley; Becky Wetjen, Madison; Andrea Graff, Osceola; Kayla Kuhnel, Shelby; and Emily Sherman and Theresa Sherman, Tecumseh. Mary Schmit was student assistant and Heidi Kingery was manager.

Grand Island Campus

- A proposal submitted by Joyce Meinecke and Linda Petroff, social science instructors, resulted in a video being produced by the Nebraska Educational Council for Higher Education. The instructional video, "Country Clubs: City Gangs in Rural Areas," intended primarily for college psychology and sociology classes, was also aired on Nebraska Educational Television and made available to NETCHE members through their video library. CCC was a long-time member of NETCHE.
- The Central Nebraska Writer's Network held monthly meetings on the Grand Island Campus. The meetings were conducted by Sondra Last, a published freelance writer.
- Jeanne Olbricht Williams, a 1985 graduate with an associate of applied science degree in accounting, was honored with the Distinguished Alumni Award by the Nebraska Community College Association. In 1983, she was a divorced mother with four children. Then she enrolled at the Grand Island Campus through the Job Training Partnership Act. Upon completing the associate degree, she received a Regent's Scholarship for the University of Nebraska at Lincoln from which she graduated with honors in 1987. At the time of the award, she was a corporate tax accountant at Chief Industries.
- The Grand Island Campus was one of 82 community colleges selected to participate in a national research project sponsored by the National Council for Instructional Administrators, the Council for Student Development, and American College Testing. The project helped CCC learn how well its students met the educational objectives of the college. Participating students learned how their academic skills compared nationally with other community college students.
- About 90 students attended the second annual Job Fair for Nurses held on the campus.
- Dr. Gene Koepke, vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, was the keynote speaker for the Grand Island Campus graduation. He told the graduates that the future was going to be much different than any of them anticipated and that it was going to approach with lightning speed. He recommended that they anticipate change and prepare for it. The alumni address was given by Robert Luebbe, who earned degrees in data processing, electronics, and business and management from CCC. A senior computer analyst at Duncan Aviation in Lincoln, he told graduates that specialization, a good resume, persistence, and aggressiveness are keys to finding a good job.

- Linda Wenn, office technology instructor, was selected by the Nebraska State Business Education Association as a delegate to the 31st annual Mountain-Plains Business Education Leadership Training Conference. The Mountain-Plains Business Education Association encompasses nine states and one Canadian province.
- Seven staff members received degrees. Earning bachelor of professional studies degrees in business administration of technical services from Bellevue College were Dale Arends, business administration instructor; Alan Hult, data processing instructor; Chris Kiser-Moravek, grants and special project director; and Fred Roeser, electronics instructor. Ruby Grudzinski, food service manager for Professional Food Management, completed a bachelor of professional studies degree in management of human resources. Pam Price, admissions director, was granted a master of science degree in counseling from the University of Nebraska at Kearney, and Jan Sorahan, office technology instructor, received a master of science degree in vocational business education from the University of Nebraska at Kearney.
- Sarah Cunningham, accounting instructor, was elected as a national director for the Institute of Management Accountants.
- Construction of the 52,845-square-foot College Park facility was completed in the fall. The campus leased space in that building for science classrooms, the Reynolds Library, nursing offices, a computer lab, and general education classrooms. College Park was built immediately west of the campus.
- To accommodate increasing needs, the cafeteria was remodeled and expanded, and the business and industry building was remodeled to include several classrooms.
- Gwenlyn Brown, personal development instructor, attended an invitation-only conference in Rapid City, S.D. The conference was designed to help educators improve their personal and professional effectiveness by using the strategies they teach their students in college survival courses.
- Dr. Bill Giddings became the president of the Grand Island Campus in August. Previously, he was dean of adult and community education at Iowa Central Community College. He earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees from Iowa State University. He received an Outstanding Dissertation Recognition Award from the American Association of Junior and Community Colleges.
- The Grand Island Campus received an award from the Nebraska Department of Labor recognizing its efforts to help employees balance work and family

College Park, completed in 1992, provides space for various Grand Island Campus programs.

commitments. The campus was cited for providing on-campus day care services, employee tuition benefits, a flexible benefits plan, maternity leave, and alternate work schedules.

- The 33 members of the 1992 associate degree in nursing class achieved a 100 percent passing rate on the state licensing examination required to become a registered nurse. All 39 members of the first graduating class, which completed the program in 1991, also received a passing rate, with only one graduate being required to take the examination a second time. All but three of the ADN graduates remained in Nebraska, according to Mary Lou Holmberg, supervisor for the associate degree of nursing and allied health programs.
- About 30 employees from the Eaton Corporation in Kearney completed a two-year training program through the Grand Island Campus. The plant itself was the site for the motor controls class. Eaton employees who completed the class earned seven semester hours of college credit. The class was led by Dana Wert, manufacturing technology engineering instructor.

Retired

- Don Nelson retired as president of the Grand Island Campus. He joined CCC in 1969 as chairman of the general education division at the Hastings Campus. In 1975, he transferred to the college office in Grand Island as administrative assistant to Dr. Chester Gausman, then the college president. He later served as dean of instruction at Grand Island before becoming the campus president in 1985.

Hastings Campus

- The student-operated campus radio station KCNT-FM broadcast a 12-part series on alcohol-related issues. The series was distributed by Western Public Radio with funds provided by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. In addition to its regular programming, the station also provided live coverage for campus athletic events and other activities.
- In her address to graduates, Lt. Gov. Maxine Maul credited community colleges with providing the graduates and resources necessary for business startups and expansions. She urged her listeners to commit themselves to lifelong learning, saying that regardless of their profession, they must be willing to change.
- Two staff members received degrees: Kathleen McPherson, dean of instruction, doctorate in administration, curriculum, and instruction from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, and Vicki Papineau, reading instructor, master of arts degree in reading education and master of science degree in middle school education from the University of Nebraska at Kearney.
- Duane “Jake” Jacobs of Edgar, building services manager at the Hastings Regional Center, received the 11th annual Outstanding Alumni Award. He graduated in 1977 with an associate of applied science degree in human services. In his position, he managed about 50 employees and supervised workers who were inmates, patients, Educational Service Unit 9 students, and other trainees. While he had considerable work experience before he studied at CCC, he said he had never regretted his choice.
- The health care administration course, “Health and Social Service Delivery Systems,” was broadcast via the NEB*SAT Network to students at Scottsbluff and McCook during the fall semester. Jane Clifton, a licensed health care administrator at Tiffany Square in Grand Island, was the instructor.
- Art Stark, physical plant boiler fireman, received the eighth annual Outstanding Service Award from the Hastings Campus. He was cited for his quiet dedication to his job and the diligence with which he operated the 22 boilers that heated the campus buildings. He joined the college staff in 1966 after having worked at the Naval Ammunition Depot.
- A medical record technician option was added to the office technology program. The two-year program consisted of 30 semester-hours of courses at CCC, 37 semester-hours of correspondence work from the American Health Information Management Association, and directed clinical practice.
- Latham Mortensen, welding instructor, presented a program on “Quality Welding, Welding Procedures and Safe Practices” in Chicago at the concurrent conference of the American Railway Bridge and Building Association and the Roadmasters and Maintenance of Way Association.
- Terry Reiman of Holdrege received the top score in the state on a national competency exam in heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration. After graduat-

ing in May, he became a serviceman for Durable Service in Holdrege. Alan Krueger and Wayne Foster were his instructors.

- Campus faculty and staff conducted the fifth annual phone bank night. Ninety contacts were made to applicants and prospective students.
- Distribution of a recruiting video was begun. By the end of the 1993 academic year, 61 videos were sent to prospective students in 10 states, from California to New Jersey. "The Guide to Understanding Individualized Instruction," which was developed by campus personnel, was included with the video.

Retired

- Vince Krueger of Hastings retired as physical plant director. He was one of the first people hired by the college, starting in June 1966. He served as supervisor of buildings and grounds before accepting the position as director.
- Dr. Kathy McPherson of Hastings retired as dean of instruction. She joined the CCC staff in 1976 as chairperson of the health occupations cluster in time to provide the establishment of the dental hygiene program. After serving as an associate dean, she became dean of instruction in 1985. She served as interim college president after the resignation of Dr. Carl Rolf.
- Dorothy Beyke of Hastings retired as secretary of shipping and receiving. She started on a part-time basis in that department in 1977, advanced to permanent part-time in 1981 and became full-time in 1985.
- Roy Johnston of Hastings retired as associate dean of community education. He began working at the college in 1972 and served as a construction technology instructor and community education coordinator before accepting the position of associate dean.
- Margaret Ochsner retired as secretary and receptionist at the Instructional Development Center (IDC) although she continued to work in that position on a part-time basis. She joined CCC in 1975 as a record keeper in the community education office. A year later she accepted the position in the IDC. A native of England, she moved to the United States in 1945 after marrying a U. S. serviceman.
- Delores Ready of Grand Island retired as a bindery worker in the print shop, a position she held beginning in 1980 when she joined the staff. Known for her ability to stay on task and meet deadlines, she continued to work part-time after her retirement.
- Gene Cookus of Harvard retired as a construction technology instructor. He joined CCC in 1967 in that same position. He attended the Milford Campus, Doane College, and Kearney State College. He is a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Chosen Few, a group of the 2,200 survivors from the Chosen Reservoir in Korea where 15,000 soldiers fought against 120,000 Chinese.

Platte Campus

- Doris Lux, cooperative education director, was elected secretary-treasurer of the Cooperative Education Association of Nebraska. Terry Hotovy, cooperative education instructor-counselor, received the Distinguished Service Award from the same organization. Lux also received the Richard G. Campbell Award from the Cooperative Work Experience Education Association for outstanding contributions to cooperative education.
- The city of Columbus was vying with Emporia, Kan., to attract FLEXcon, a Massachusetts producer of pressure-sensitive film that was looking for a Midwestern location for a new plant. It appeared that the company had decided to locate in Emporia. One reason was that Columbus did not have a four-year college. FLEXcon did agree to visit Columbus, however. Company officials spent most of the day with local manufacturers before hearing Dr. Pete Rush, campus president. He endeavored to convince them that having a two-year community college with special emphasis on vocational education and industrial development training would help make Columbus a better place to locate than its rival. Rush introduced representatives of three local companies who explained their experience in working with the campus to develop employee training programs. Two weeks later, FLEXcon announced plans to locate a 200,000-square-foot plant in Columbus.
- Dr. Emily Uzendoski was the compiler and manager of a database to provide a bibliography of Nebraska authors and their published works. Several organizations provided funding for the project including the Nebraska Humanities Council and the CCC Foundation.

- About 600 people participated in training sessions offered by the Platte Campus and the Nebraska Public Power District during the fall. The training sessions were part of a two-year energy management program funded by the oil overcharge account of the state. With the support of NPPD, the energy management program expanded from the CCC service area to statewide. It was also broadened to include personnel from private industry in addition to those employed by cities, counties, hospitals, nursing homes, and schools.
- Michael Bause, a German exchange student sponsored by the Future Farmers of America and the German government, attended the Platte Campus during his yearlong stay in this country. A farmer in his native land, he was attracted to the campus because of its swine management program.
- Dr. Pete Rush, president, was chairman of a North Central Association evaluation team that visited Crowder College in Neosha, Mo.
- Wesley Johnson, a Dallas attorney and 1975 graduate of the Platte Campus, was the keynote speaker at graduation. He told the graduates that the education they received prepared them to be as competitive as they wanted to be. He also discussed the American system of trial by jury, saying that despite some questionable verdicts, the juries are an effective way to establish rule by ordinary people instead of bureaucrats.
- Leon Sanders, associate dean of business programs and operations, was honored with the Platte Person of the Year Award. He was cited for his administrative and leadership skills, his tireless attention to the smooth operation of his areas of responsibility, his openness to change and innovation, his ready wit, and unerring respect for everyone. He joined the faculty in 1970 as an accounting instructor.
- The Board of Governors approved a campus master plan to guide future construction on the campus. They also approved the construction of a roadway to connect the east and west parking lots.
- CCC and Appleton Electric Company teamed up to provide training for more than 300 production workers at the company's Columbus plant. Barb Rebrovich, grants coordinator, and Roger Wisialowski, quality control manager at Appleton, were directors of the workplace literacy project which began in 1991. The college received a $212,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education to support the project.
- Twila Wallace, an office technology instructor, was the recipient of the Faculty Member of the Year Award. She was cited for her interest in her students, her active involvement in preparing them for the job market, and her dedication as a student adviser. She also conducted business and industry training and community education workshops and was active in many professional and community organizations.
- The campus acquired a CD-ROM for the library, and the Learning Resource Center gained access to worldwide information through the Internet.
- An Honors Concert at the campus featured 147 students from 31 Nebraska high schools. John L. Gates, professor of music at the University of Wisconsin's Sheboygan County Campus, was guest conductor for the band. Retired Arizona music educator Thomas Patrick was guest conductor for the chorus.
- The campus sponsored its first Nebraska Alternative Fuel Conference, designed for owners of vehicle fleets and others interested in alternative fuels such as ethanol, propane, natural gas, and methanol.
- Marcene Wurdeman, an accounting instructor, was named Teacher for Excellence by the Platte chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, a student academic honorary organization. Wurdeman joined the faculty in 1978 and was cited for her considerable professional and community activities as well as her helpfulness to students.
- Three staff members were recipients of college degrees: Lynn Higgins, accounting instructor, master of business administration, University of Nebraska at Omaha; Karin Rieger, community education regional coordinator, master of education degree in vocational education, University of Nebraska at Lincoln; and Mary Speicher, community education secretary, associate of applied science degree, CCC.
- Sandi Schmidt was named to the training committee of the Nebraska State Association of Financial Aid Administrators.

Retired

- Don Schneberger of Shelby retired as campus operations director. In that position he supervised the campus business office, shipping and receiving, and the maintenance departments. Before joining

the college, Schneberger served for 21 years in the U. S. Navy and held several other positions.

- Hazel Stueck of Columbus retired as a custodian. She joined the staff in that capacity in 1980. She and her husband have 3 children and 4 grandchildren.
- Shirley Czuba retired as a practical nursing instructor after 15 years on the faculty teaching gerontology. She received her nursing degree while living in Brandon, Manitoba, Canada, and later earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Kearney State College. She worked as an operating room nurse in Manitoba, Alberta, and California before moving to Columbus.

In Memory

- Chuck Farnham of Columbus, 67, died in Dulce, N.M., as the result of an accident. After retiring from the Land-O-Lakes Company, he joined the campus staff as head of its Small Business Center.
- The campus established a memorial fund for the family of Lonzo Rollins. Rollins, 19, the son of Andrew and Sheila Rollins of Omaha, was a second-year Platte Campus student and a 6-foot 4-inch forward on the Raider Basketball team. He collapsed and died while playing a pickup basketball game at the campus.

AAWCJC

- Through the encouragement of Dr. Judy Dresser, Hastings Campus president, all three campuses established chapters of the American Association of Women in Community and Junior Colleges during the year.

Board of Governors

- Ed Loutzenheiser Jr. of Hastings, member of the Board of Governors, was one of the first 10 business leaders to be inducted into the Nebraska Business Hall of Fame sponsored by the Nebraska Chamber of Commerce and Industry. He was credited with having founded at least 12 successful companies over 40 years.
- Ken Wortman, charter member of the Board of Governors, was named Nebraskan of the Year by the Downtown Lincoln Rotary Club. Among other things, he was cited for his involvement with the community college movement in Nebraska including having led the efforts in l965 which resulted in legislation permitting the establishment of multicounty vocational-technical schools and for his leadership on behalf of the Aurora Memorial Hospital.
- The Rev. Bill Doran of Grand Island, a member of the Board of Governors since 1982, received the Governor's Award from the Nebraska Community College Association. He was cited for holding various offices in the NCCA and for being active in the Association of Community College Trustees. He also participated in many community activities.
- The college budget for 1992-93 totaled $16,187,090, an increase of $332,122. While state statutes prescribed that there be no increase in property tax without a super majority vote of the Board of Governors, the board did allow an increase because of a substantial increase in enrollment.

College Administration

- Four staff members completed degrees: Bev Anderson, college accounting manager, a master's degree in business administration, University of Nebraska at Kearney; Sherry Desel, systems administrator, associate of applied science degree in data processing, CCC; Jamie Meyer, educational reports specialist, bachelor of science degree in business administration, UNK; and Cathy Vega, public information secretary, bachelor of professional studies degree in management, Bellevue College.
- Alicia Haussler, purchasing manager, was chosen as the Women of the Year by the Grand Island YWCA. She was cited for her leadership skills and for having provided support and encouragement to other women.
- Dr. Larry Keller, institutional advancement director, resigned to accept a position as president of New Hampshire Technical College in Laconia, N.H. He was the first faculty member hired on the Hastings Campus in 1966 and the first president of the Grand Island Campus.
- A pay study was begun to review the compensation levels of all full-time nonfaculty positions. Representatives from each campus and the administrative office were selected by the College Cabinet to form the Project Advisory Committee. The PAC mem-

bers from the administrative office were Alicia Haussler and Dr. Eric Jones; from the Grand Island Campus were Jane Birkholz, Mary Lou Holmberg, and Pam Price; from the Hastings Campus were Dr. Mike Chipps, Dee Cochrane, Jim Krebsbach, and Jim Cronin; and from the Platte Campus were Dr. Roger Augspurger, Ron Kluck, and Rod Muller.

- As a matter of college policy approved by the Board of Governors, all forms of tobacco use were banned in college vehicles and buildings beginning Aug. 1.

Retired

- Irma Wanitschke of Grand Island retired as a purchasing clerk. She joined the college staff in 1984 as secretary for the adult basic education program and transferred to the purchasing department two years later. She later worked for the college on a part-time basis as a receptionist.

College Foundation

- Mary J. Graf, a Columbus businesswoman who died in 1991 at age 91, specified in her will that funds in excess of $250,000 were to be used for an endowed scholarship fund for Platte Campus students from the counties in and around the Columbus area. For the 1992-93 college year, ten $1,000 scholarships were awarded.
- As of June 30, 1992, the grand total of all foundation assets was $1,498,317.
- More than 500 donors of the CCC Foundation attended either the annual appreciation dinner held at Grand Island or a luncheon held at Columbus at which Dr. Thomas Sutherland, who had been held as a hostage in Lebanon for 77 months, was the featured speaker. Sutherland and his wife, Jean, also appeared at an all-college in-service held on the Platte Campus to which students from area high schools were invited. Sutherland spoke on “Lessons Learned in Captivity” to the combined audience of about 800 people.
- Dr. Willard Daggett, director of the International Center for Leadership in Education, spoke at Work 4, an annual conference focusing on education and business partnerships, and several other educational groups including the CCC Foundation. Daggett said that American schools need to continue to improve. He suggested that educators should look at what skills their students will need in a technological world.

College Enrollment

- During the 1991-92 college year, a record total of 32,329 students were served, an increase of 2,765 or 9.3 percent. All three campuses experienced an increase in both head count and full-time equivalent enrollment. (One FTE equals 30 semester-hours of credit).

Coordinating Commission

- A new Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, composed of 11 commissioners appointed by the governor with the approval of the legislature, became effective on Jan. l. An earlier coordinating commission with limited powers had been established by the Nebraska Legislature in 1976. In 1990, Nebraska voters amended the state constitution to provide for a coordinating commission with responsibility for statewide planning for postsecondary education, including the approval or disapproval of new and existing instructional programs at the University of Nebraska, the state colleges, and the community colleges.

Kearney Center

- Colleen Quadhamer, practical nursing instructor, received a master of science degree in nursing from Clarkson College of Nursing in Omaha.

Leadership Development

- Cindy Foxhoven, Hastings Campus counselor, and Carol Taczek, Platte Campus instructional services assistant, were selected to participate in a yearlong national leadership training program for women administrators and faculty. The evaluation of a project proposal was part of the selection process. The training was conducted by the National Institute of Leadership Development with the sponsorship of several educational organizations.

Leadership Diversity

- Vikki Jaeger, director of grants and special projects at the Hastings Campus and project coordinator for the leadership diversity grant, attended an evaluation conference for the grant at Metropolitan Community College in Omaha. The meeting brought together project coordinators for the 10 community colleges that were participating in the grant to report on outcomes and plan remaining activities.

Lexington Learning Center

- Kathy Neil of Lexington joined CCC as coordinator of the newly established Lexington Distance Learning Program. The program was designed for students who may wish to complete an associate of applied science degree in business and management entirely through off-campus courses at the Lexington Learning Center. NEB*Sat courses, computer conferencing, and computer-assisted instruction were among the methods of course delivery to be employed. The pilot program was developed by Sarah Cunningham, accounting instructor at the Grand Island Campus.

NEB*SAT

- The E.N. Thompson Forum on World Issues, a teleconference lecture series sponsored by the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and the Cooper Foundation which originated from the Lied Center in Lincoln, was made available on the campuses via NEB*SAT. Nobel Laureate Murray Gell-Mann, professor of theoretical physics at the California Institute of Technology, was an early featured speaker. The lectures were free and open to the public.

Negotiated Agreement

- A two-year contract for full-time faculty was approved by the Central Community College Education Association and ratified by the Board of Governors. The negotiated agreement amounted to a 6.75 percent increase for 1992-93 for the 126 full-time faculty, including $19,000 designated to equalize pay between male and female faculty. The agreement also provided for a 6.01 percent increase for l993-94.

Placement Report

- The three campus placement offices jointly reported that their survey to which 99 percent of the 1992 graduates responded showed that 97 percent were either employed or were continuing their education, 84 percent seeking employment found jobs directly related to their field of study, and 84 percent were remaining in the 25-county area served by the college, either to work or to continue their education. The three placement directors responsible for the report were Jacalyn Ayoub, Grand Island; Beth Mierau, Platte; and Ray Szlanda, Hastings.

Sabbatical Leave

- A new sabbatical leave policy was approved by the Board of Governors. The policy extended to full-time administrators and other staff opportunities for sabbaticals similar to those which had been available to faculty for about the previous 10 years.

Leadership Conference

- More than 50 students and advisers from Nebraska community colleges attended a student leadership conference sponsored by the three campuses of CCC and held on the Hastings Campus. Participants were members of student senates and student activities programming boards at their colleges. Organizers were CCC advisers Nick Freelend, Grand Island Campus; Cindy Foxhoven and Michele Gill, Hastings Campus; and Rochelle Kort, Platte Campus.

Tech Prep

- The CCC Board of Governors approved an agreement with Kearney Public Schools to develop a Tech Prep program at the college that was later to become a model for other central Nebraska schools. Tech Prep is a national movement to develop high school curricula designed to prepare students for college-level associate degree technical education programs.

Tech Prep Expands Horizons

by Stephanie Jacobson, TRiO Director

Tech Prep began as a national movement to develop high school curricula to prepare students for college-level associate degree technical education programs. The initiative, funded through federal Perkins dollars, was designed to serve the majority of students who learn best if they immediately apply what they are learning. In 1992, Kearney High School was the first to enter into an articulation agreement with the CCC Board of Governors. By January 2006, there were 65 area high schools participating in the Central Nebraska Tech Prep Consortium.

Stephanie Jacobson

Central Community College chose to implement the advanced placement model of articulation when it started the consortium. That form of articulation is most often called 4+2. It focuses on competencies that are being taught at both the secondary and postsecondary levels. Once students have mastered certain competencies at the high school level, they have the opportunity to earn college credit at CCC.

Tech Prep articulation at CCC started with the business programs at Kearney High School and has since expanded into many different areas of instruction including accounting, agriculture, auto body technology, business administration, business technology, construction, culinary arts, drafting, early childhood education, electrical technology, electronics, the health sciences, horticulture, information technology, machine tool technology, media arts, and welding. By 2005, Tech Prep credit was being accepted at both the community colleges and the four-year colleges across Nebraska.

Until the fall of 1995, Kevin Miller served as the first Tech Prep coordinator for Central Community College. Stephanie Jacobson served from 1995 through 1997. Barb Larson was then coordinator through 2002 when Stephanie Jacobson again assumed the position. In September 2005, Michelle Roggasch became the Tech Prep coordinator.

Tech Prep benefits students by saving them time and money as they advance in a career pathway. It benefits educators by creating a partnership between secondary and postsecondary instructors, allowing them to enhance curricula at both levels. It benefits the community by offering incentives to young adults to continue with their education and to be better trained for local employers.

The 67 high schools that were members of the Central Nebraska Tech Prep Consortium when this publication was printed are listed below.

CCC Tech Prep Partners in 2005-06

Following is a list of Central Community College Tech Prep partner schools in Oct. 2005.

- Adams Central High School
- Amherst High School
- Arapahoe High School
- Arcadia High School
- Aurora High School
- Bertrand High School
- Blue Hill High School
- Boone Central High School
- Cedar Rapids High School
- Central City High School
- Centura High School
- Clarkson High School
- Clay Center High School
- Columbus High School
- Columbus Lakeview High School
- Cozad High School
- Cross County High School
- David City High School
- David City Aquinas High School
- Doniphan-Trumbull High School
- East Butler High School
- Elba High School
- Elm Creek High School
- Elwood High School
- Eustis-Farnam High School
- Franklin High School
- Fullerton High School
- Gibbon High School
- Giltner High School
- Grand Island Central Catholic High School
- Grand Island Northwest High School
- Grand Island Senior High School
- Greeley-Wolbach High School
- Harvard High School
- Hastings High School
- Hastings St. Cecilia High School
- High Plains High School
- Holdrege High School
- Humphrey High School
- Kearney High School
- Kenesaw High School
- Lakeview High School
- Lawrence-Nelson High School
- Leigh High School
- Lexington High School
- Loomis High School
- Loup City High School
- Minden High School
- North Loup-Scotia High School
- Ord High School
- Osceola High School
- Overton High School
- Palmer High School
- Pleasanton High School
- Ravenna High School
- Red Cloud High School
- Sandy Creek High School
- Schuyler Central High School
- Scotus Central Catholic
- Shelton High School
- Spalding High School
- St. Edward High School
- Superior High School
- Sutton High School
- Twin River High School
- Wilcox-Hildreth High School
- Wood River High School

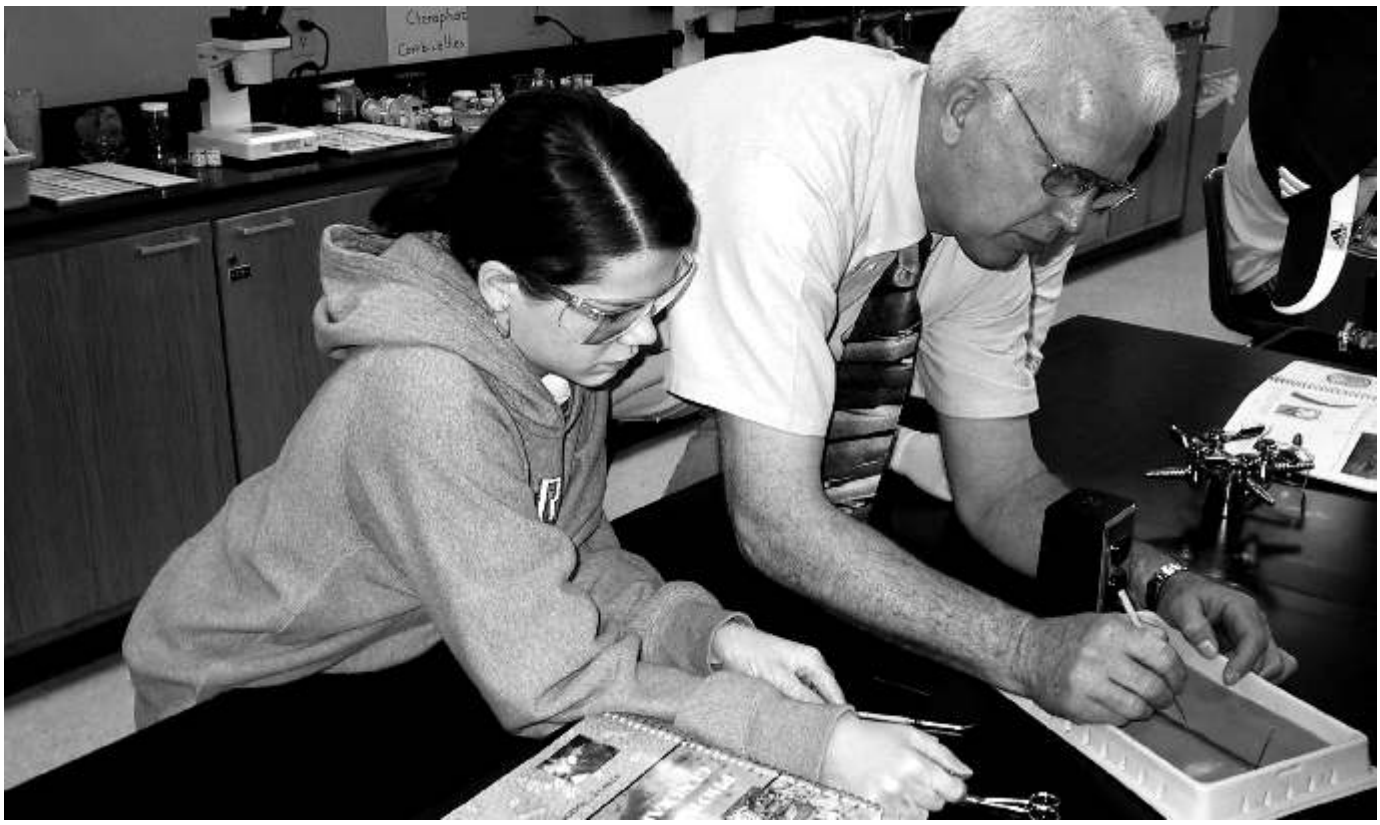
1993

Academic Transfer Program Expanded to All CCC Campuses

In June 1992, the CCC Board of Governors authorized the college administration to seek approval for academic transfer programs at the Grand Island and Hastings campuses. Earlier that year, a comprehensive statewide plan for postsecondary education completed by the Coordinating Commission had encouraged community colleges to develop proposals for transfer programs on campuses that did not have them. A CCC proposal was presented in October 1992 and approved by the commission in March 1993. An academic transfer program providing the first two years of a bachelor's degree had been available at the Platte Campus from its beginning in 1969. Under legislation enacted in 1973, Platte had been the only CCC campus authorized by state law to offer an academic transfer program.

College President Dr. Joe Preusser said at the time that support for vocational programs on the Grand Island and Hastings campuses would remain as strong as ever and that adding transfer programs wouldn't have a big budgetary impact because the two campuses had always offered general education courses as support courses for technical programs. Faculty in those areas were well qualified to teach the transfer courses, making the implementation of transfer programs relatively easy. In fact, historically, many students from the Grand Island and Hastings campuses had transferred credits earned in general education to four-year colleges.

When the plan was implemented in the fall of 1993, the Platte Campus continued to offer transfer courses in some areas that weren't available at the other campuses, and there was some sharing of instruction via satellite among the three campuses.



Grand Island Campus biology instructor Dr. Wayne Vian assists a student. A full range of science classes, including biology, chemistry and physics, is offered as part of the CCC academic transfer program.

Grand Island Campus

- Grand Island attorney Patrick Brock received a certificate of appreciation from the Nebraska Council on Vocational Education for his exceptional contributions to vocational education. He chaired the paralegal studies advisory committee beginning in 1989. He also worked with faculty on course content, textbook selection, and library resources, and he taught a semester of family law.
- Guy Suganuma's class in Principles of Economics I staged a debate on the North American Free Trade Agreement. The purpose was to provide pertinent information to the student body regarding NAFTA. Class member Lowell Tuma served as the moderator.
- Orval Poor Bear, an instructor for the Adult Basic Education program in Grand Island, presented a program on Sioux culture to an attentive audience at the Grand Island Campus. Poor Bear was born in Scottsbluff where his father and uncles made a living in agriculture.
- Bob Schleicher of Grand Island was recognized as the Outstanding Postsecondary Student in Vocational Education by the Nebraska Council on Vocational Education. He earned an associate degree in data processing with an emphasis in microcomputer science.
- Ford New Holland was honored by the Nebraska Council on Vocational Education as the state's leader in business-education partnership. The company helped establish the manufacturing technology program at CCC and has members on the advisory committee of the program. It also played a crucial role in starting the pre-employment training program at CCC and then contributed $10,000 to the CCC Foundation to be used for scholarships in the pre-employment program.
- Sandy Blank, coordinator of the Grand Island Adult Basic Education program, received the Rookie of the Year Award from the Adult and Continuing Education Association of Nebraska for having demonstrated exemplary service.
- Fred Roeser, electronics instructor, presented "Applications of Electronic Communication in the Classroom" at the Second Annual Central Nebraska Tech Fair in Grand Island. He was also recipient of the Frank Alexander Award from the Mid-Nebraska Users of Computers for his contributions to the club and to computing.

Hypnotist Jim Wand works with a receptive group on the Grand Island Campus.

- Graduation for the Grand Island Campus was held at the Grand Island Senior High School with Dr. Bruce Stahl, executive director of the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, as the keynote speaker. The alumni address was given by Jan Franzen, a registered nurse at Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital in Hastings.
- Vicki Mackenstadt, communications instructor, and Kathy Woitaszewski, mathematics instructor, received a Vocational Teacher Stipend for $225 from the Vocational Foundation of Nebraska. The money was used to finance visits to businesses and industries during the summer to gain practical up-to-date information which they used to adapt courses for associate degrees for Tech Prep. Participating businesses and industries were Leon Plastics, Alda; Bonnavilla Homes, Century Manufacturing Company and Iams Company, Aurora; Chief Automotive, City of Grand Island, Ore-Ida and St. Francis Medical Center, Grand Island; Thermo King Corporation, Hastings; and Eaton Corporation, Kearney.
- Seven staff members received degrees: Danielle Bangs and Barb McGraw, nursing instructors, master of science degrees in nursing from Bishop Clarkson College; Sandy Blank, Adult Basic Education coordinator, a bachelor of professional studies degree in management of human resources from Bellevue College; Sharon Dryer, community education secretary, a bachelor of science degree in business administration from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln; Patricia Gifford, financial aid technician, an associate of applied science degree from CCC; and Paul Sears, drafting instructor, a

master of science degree in technology education from the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

- Jeanne Webb received an Honorary Life Award from the Jefferson Elementary PTA and the Nebraska Congress of Parents and Teachers.
- Bellevue College began offering its accelerated master of arts in management program on the Grand Island Campus.
- Vicki Mackenstadt, communications instructor, was certified by the Institute for Reality Therapy at the completion of a three-year process. The system of therapy was developed by Dr. William Glasser.
- The campus inaugurated a speaker's bureau featuring 17 staff members available to provide programs to community groups on a variety of topics.
- With the addition to the staff of Lynn Meyer, counselor and special populations advocate, the campus increased its services to students who needed assistance because of physical handicaps, cultural background, or other special needs.
- The campus was co-sponsor for the annual conference of the Nebraska Association of Emergency Managers held in Kearney.
- More than 1,500 people from 277 Nebraska communities attended the Nebraska State Fire School held on the campus.
- The associate degree in nursing program received accreditation for five years from the National League of Nursing. Mary Lou Holmberg said that five years was the longest period possible for initial accreditation. Among other strengths, the NLN visiting team applauded the development of curriculum which provided for a smooth transition from the practical nursing program offered by CCC into the associate degree nursing program.
- The 43rd annual convention of the Licensed Practical Nurse Association of Nebraska, which met in Kearney, was co-sponsored by the Grand Island Campus.
- About 180 people from 70 Nebraska towns attended the Custodial Conference and School held on the campus.

Retired

- LaVonne Braun of Grand Island retired as a financial aid technician, a position she had held since 1983. She had joined the staff in 1980 as a part-time employee in the student services department.

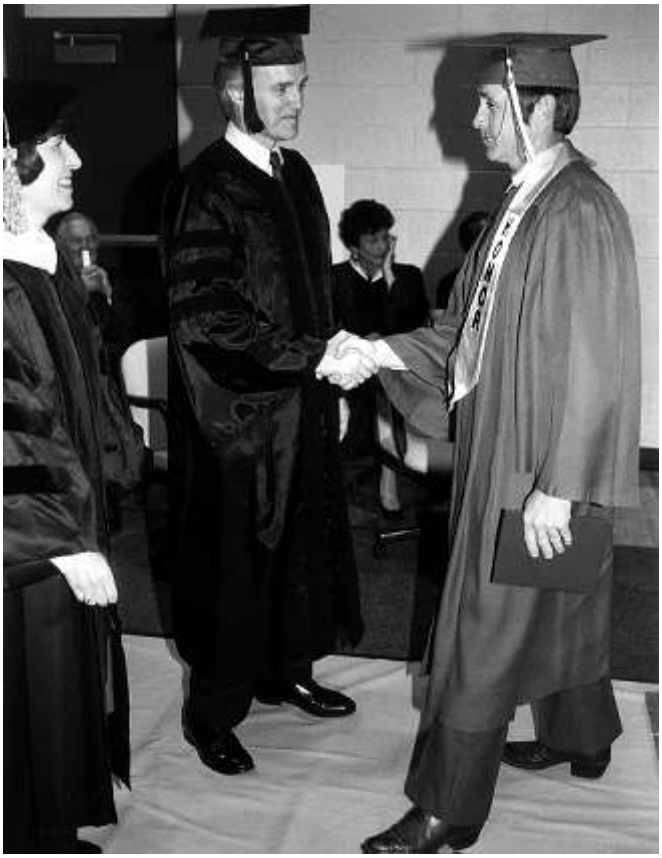
In Memory

- Don Nelson of North Platte died at his home after a lengthy illness, having retired in 1992 as campus president of the Grand Island Campus. Burial was in Fort McPherson National Cemetery in Maxwell. He was remembered for his friendly approach and his professionalism.

Hastings Campus

- Deb Brennan, hotel, motel and restaurant management instructor, was named Chef of the Year by a vote of the membership of the American Culinary Federation of Professional Chefs.
- A new tower was installed for KCNT-FM, the student-operated radio station on the campus. The older tower was toppled by strong winds during the summer. After the storm, Rick Horn, electronics technician, rigged a 10-watt antenna that allowed the KCNT signal to reach Hastings on days when conditions were favorable. When its 2,300-watt antenna was back in place, the station could be heard within a 35-mile radius.
- The CLASS (Coordinated Learning Assistance for Student Success) Project which was funded by a Perkins grant, provided tutoring, evaluation, and adult renewal education to 861 special needs students beginning in the 1992-93 academic year. The project also provided learning strategies training for 90 faculty and staff. Bob Shields, counselor, directed the project.
- About 50 people attended the annual school transportation maintenance workshop held on the campus.
- Sixty students participating in the Eight-Man All Star Football Camp lived and practiced on the campus.
- About 400 people from across the country attended QuiltNebraska on the Hastings Campus. The event featured displays and a variety of classes in which quilters could sharpen their skills.
- Grand Island Contract Carriers donated a 45-foot flatbed to the truck driving program. Marilyn Lange, truck driving program supervisor, said the flatbed was especially helpful in teaching additional backing skills. GICC General Manager Bob Winters and GICC Safety Director Richard Cordray were members of the CCC truck driving advisory committee.

- Latham "Mort" Mortensen, welding instructor beginning in 1967, received the ninth annual Outstanding Service Award from the campus. Among other things, he was cited for his professional image, positive attitude, genuine interest in students, and his recruiting efforts through his contacts with industry.
- The Hastings Campus joined with the Nebraska Telecourse Network to offer telecourses on composition, science, math, business, Spanish language, psychology, and sociology on the statewide ETV Network. The cooperative arrangement provided an opportunity for those who wished to further their education by studying at home.
- U.S. Senator Bob Kerrey was the keynote speaker at the Hastings Campus graduation, which was held in the Dawson Multipurpose Building. A total of 117 graduates participated in the ceremony, a 44 percent increase from the previous year. Total awards conferred in 1993 were 423, including 109 associate degrees, 104 diplomas, and 210 certificates.



U.S. Senator Bob Kerrey congratulates a graduate during 1993 commencement ceremonies at the Hastings Campus. Kerrey gave the commencement address at the event. Campus President Dr. Judy Dresser is shown on the left.

- Both the Technology in Education Competition, in which about 500 junior and senior high school students participated, and the Nebraska Plymouth-AAA Troubleshooting Contest were held on the campus.
- Dr. Nan Graf, assistant professor of English at Nebraska Wesleyan University, was a guest on campus and presented, "Willa Cather on Technology." The program was sponsored by the local chapter of the American Association of Women in Community and Junior Colleges and the Nebraska Humanities Council.
- For the first time, a college fair was hosted by the campus. The fair had outgrown its previous location at the Clay Center Public Schools.
- Bradley J. Foster of Grand Island received the 12th annual Outstanding Alumni Award. A 1984 associate of applied science honor graduate in commercial horticulture, tree and shrub care, and landscape gardening, he also completed the requirements for an associate degree in greenhouse maintenance in 1992. He began working for the Grand Island Parks and Recreation Department in 1984 and designed and supervised the planting and maintenance of all the city's flowerbeds. He developed a specialized watering system, and the city built a greenhouse under his direction.
- Robin Menschenfreund was appointed dean of instruction. A doctoral candidate at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, she first joined CCC as dental hygiene instructor in 1977, becoming an associate dean of instruction in 1988. A native of New Jersey, she received a bachelor of health science degree and a master's degree in education from the University of Kentucky.
- Six staff members received degrees: Nancy Bjorklund, transitions program director, a master of arts degree in speech communication from the University of Nebraska at Kearney; Maryann Bolton, accounting instructor, and Deb Brennan, hotel, motel and restaurant management instructor, master of arts degrees in teaching from Hastings College; Jan McReynolds, psychology instructor, a doctorate in adult education, community and human resources from UNL; Ron Meyer, electrical technology instructor, a master of science degree in education from UNK; and Darlene Synek, communications

instructor, a master of arts degree in teaching English from Hastings College.

- Joni Schlatz, cooperative education job developer, was selected to participate in a yearlong training program for college women administrators sponsored by the League for Innovation in Community Colleges and the American Association of Women in Community and Junior Colleges. The program required attendance at a week-long conference and the completion of a project. Schlatz chose a study on student retention under the direction of Dr. Dennis Tyson, CCC vice president of educational services.
- The Explore Your World transition program received a Displaced Homemakers Grant for $22,994 and a Single Parent Grant for $22,985. Both grants were administered through the Nebraska Department of Education and were used to expand program offerings and provide direct vocational training for students in transition. Nancy Bjorklund was coordinator of the transitions program.
- About 1,000 fifth- and sixth-grade students from six nearby counties attended a Water Jamboree at Liberty Cove in Webster County. The Nebraska Environmental Training Center at the Hastings Campus was among the sponsors.
- Bev Denman, CCC educational coordinator, reported that 176 inmates at the Hastings Correctional Center had received high school equivalency diplomas since 1989 when CCC began offering the classes at HCC. Classes were also available in English as a Second Language, parenting, pre-release, critical thinking, career English, and computers. Selected college courses were also available as independent study.

Retired

- Charlotte Smith of Hastings retired as secretary to the dean of students. A charter member of the Hastings Campus staff beginning on July 1, 1966, she served as a bookkeeper, as secretary for the business office, and as a proofreader in the print shop before she accepted her position with the dean of students in 1974. She was active in the original women's club of the campus and as a member of many campus committees, including membership on the scholarship committee from its inception. She was also actively involved in the planning for the 15th, 20th, and 25th anniversary celebrations of the campus.
- Marian Bender retired as an office technology instructor, a position she held beginning in 1971 when she joined the college. She was the recipient of the Hastings Campus Outstanding Service Award in 1989. She and her husband chose to retire in Lincoln.

Platte Campus

- Dick Averett, drama and oral communications instructor, and Ellen Lake, associate dean of arts and sciences, gave a joint presentation at the 13th annual Conference of Staff Development in Lincoln. Their talk was titled ”Shock the Future: Creative Problem Solving as a Means of Survival.”
- More than 1,600 students from 25 high schools participated in the District II Nebraska High School Music Contest held on the campus.
- An agriculture mechanics certificate, designed for students who plan to farm or work in a closely related field, was offered for the first time. Classes in the 12-semester-hour course of study included basic engines, basic wiring, machine shop for agriculture, and welding for related occupations.
- Don Mroczek, manager of Gateway Realty and Insurance in Columbus, a 1975 graduate of the campus, and a member of the CCC Board of Governors from 1985-93, was keynote speaker at the Platte Campus graduation.
- To commemorate its 25th year, the campus sponsored a variety of programs which were free and open to the public. The presentations during the fall were: “The Family Album” and “The Nebraska Promoter” by Robert Manley, Nebraska Department of Economic Development; “Exploring the West with John C. Fremont” by Vernon Volpe, the University of Nebraska at Kearney; “The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln” by Richard Kimbrough, Doane College; “The Dust Bowl Experience” by Bill Ganzel, NETV; and “Willa Cather and Women’s Art” by Evelyn Haller, Doane College.
- Former student Stephen Vavra made a sketch of the Fine Arts Building which was then used on commemorative mugs to mark the 25th year of the campus. A series of similar mugs were produced for several years.
- A program titled “A Cultural Diversity Plan” was presented at the annual meeting of the North Cen-

tral Association in Chicago by Kathryn Ballobin, office technology instructor; Dr. Pete Rush, campus president; and Jan Wisalowski, student services secretary and chairwoman of the campus cultural diversity committee. The presentation also was published in a collection of papers by the NCA.

- The University of Nebraska at Kearney presented the Deans Council Award to Dr. Pete Rush, campus president, and Carol Taczek, instruction staff assistant, for their support of the continuing education efforts on the Platte Campus. Taczek served as the UNK on-site coordinator and ombudsman beginning in 1986.
- Dr. Mel Krutz, communications instructor, provided a session on effective children's writing at the 13th annual Nebraska Writing and Storytelling Festival at Southeast Community College.
- Gordon Hellbusch, printer and audiovisual technician, was named the Platte Person of the Year. A former Platte Campus student, he was cited for his professional expertise, dependability, and willingness to accommodate unusual and last-minute requests.
- The Marty Indian School of Dance Club, whose members ranged in age from kindergarten through high school, appeared on the campus at the invitation of the Platte Campus diversity committee. The committee also invited 450 Columbus area fourth-graders to the program.
- Dick Bentz, physical education instructor for 15 years, received the Faculty Member of the Year Award. He was cited for his caring approach, his ability to make classes fun and interesting, his involvement in sports events, and his willingness to make time for his students.
- "Perfectly Frank," a revue-style production featuring 55 works of composer Frank Loesser, including his five Broadway shows, was presented as a summer musical under the direction of Dick Averett, drama instructor.
- Dianne Moural, agriculture instructor, submitted the winning entry in the North Central Accreditation Self-Study Theme Contest: "Saying What We Do; Doing What We Say."
- Representatives from more than 70 educational institutions provided information to prospective students, parents, and others at the East Central College Fair held at the campus.
- Two vehicles were donated to the alternate fuels training and awareness program: a 1993 Ford Escort from Ford Motor Company and a 1992 Buick Skylark from General Motors. One vehicle was converted to run on natural gas and the other on propane.
- Charles Wickerstrom, executive director of the Mid-States Natural Gas Vehicle Coalition, visited the alternative fuels program and was very complimentary. He volunteered to help arrange presenters for the annual alternative fuels conference sponsored by the program.
- The Peter Kiewit Foundation awarded a grant of $43,349 to the alternative fuels program. Doug Pauley was the program director.
- The Platte Campus and its energy management circuit rider program were among the sponsors of the National Alternative Fuel Conference held in Lincoln. Presenters from across the United States discussed legislation affecting organizations with fleet vehicles, the cost and process involved in converting vehicles to different types of fuel, the advantages and disadvantages of various alternate fuels, and other topics.
- Paul Rehberg, associate dean, reported that during the 1992-93 academic year, an even 1,700 people from about 30 companies took more than 20,000 clock hours of work-related training and instruction through the campus. Training was provided in welding, business communications, technical writing, math, drafting, blueprint reading, accounting, hydraulics, pneumatics, statistical process control, quality control, and various management and computer skills.
- Doris Lux was elected secretary of the Cooperative Work Experience Education Association during the American Vocational Association Convention in Nashville, Tenn.
- Dr. Roger Augspurger of Columbus, dean of educational services, became the interim campus president upon the death of Dr. Pete Rush. Augspurger joined CCC in 1974 as chairman of the creative and social cluster. In 1985, he was promoted to dean of instruction, a title that changed in 1997 to dean of educational services.
- International manufacturing quality standards was the topic of an ISO 9000 workshop provided by the campus.

- The theater department presented "Crimes of the Heart."
- Shawn Macken of Columbus won the Best of Show Award at the 23rd annual Fine Arts Festival on the campus.
- Lynne Kotrous, math instructor, participated in the National Women's Tennis Association tournament in San Antonio.
- Lee Robbins, communications instructor, was selected by the Columbus Arts Council for a monthlong display of his photography.
- Bill Erwin and Steve Heinisch, science instructors, were presenters at the Nebraska Junior Science Academy at Wayne State College.
- The theater department and the Platte Valley Playhouse co-produced "You Can't Take it With You."
- The music department presented its annual Christmas concert.

Retired

- Doris Van Dyke retired as secretary for campus operations. She joined the Platte staff in 1969 as a charter member. She served variously as a secretary and assistant for the physical plant, campus president, business department, as well as campus operations. She received an associate of applied science degree in business and management in 1987. She was instrumental in the writing and compiling of the booklet commemorating the first 25 years of the Platte Campus. In a previous position as secretary for Platte County Superintendent of Schools Gladys Breidert, she assisted in conducting the bond election for Platte College and in setting up the first board of the college.

In Memory

- Campus President Dr. Pete Rush, 53, died at his home on Nov. 25, 1993. Services were conducted Nov. 30 in the Platte Campus Field House. He had been campus president since 1985. He had received a bachelor's degree from the Michigan State University at Lansing, a master's degree from the University of California at Berkeley and a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. Prior to joining the CCC staff, Rush held several positions with California and Michigan community colleges.
- Lola McKee, 68, of Columbus died at the Columbus Community Hospital. She joined the college staff in 1977 and worked as a media technician until her retirement in 1989.

Board of Governors

- Harold "Mac" McClure of Kearney was elected chairman of the CCC Board of Governors. Other officers elected were Homer Pierce of Lexington, vice chairman; Paul Liess of Cambridge, secretary; and Don Anderson of Grand Island, treasurer. Newly elected board member Bill Schneider of Dwight took the oath of office for the first time. Joining him were re-elected members McClure, Liess, Bill Doran of Grand Island, Ed Loutzenheiser of Hastings, and Ken Wortman of Aurora.
- John Higgins of Grand Island was appointed legal counsel after the death of Gerald Whelan. For some time before his death, Whelan's law partner, Steve Scherr of Hastings, had provided legal services.

In Memory

- Gerald Whelan, long-time Hastings attorney and former lieutenant-governor, and legal counsel to the Board of Governors, beginning in 1984, passed away after a lengthy illness. His interest in community projects is considered legendary. Gerald Whelan, long-time Hastings attorney and former lieutenant-governor, and legal counsel to the Board of Governors, beginning in 1984, passed away after a lengthy illness. His interest in community projects is considered legendary.

College Administration

- Carolyn Terjak, human resources receptionist, completed an associate of applied science degree in business and management and data processing at CCC.
- Larry Glazier, business officer, was named Outstanding Business Officer for Region V of the National Council of Community College Business Officers. Region V comprises five states. Glazier joined CCC in 1977 and became the business officer in 1985.
- The CCC Board of Governors extended Dr. Joe Preusser's contract as college president through 1997. Preusser decided to accept, at least partly because a survey of the college employees indicated that he had an overall approval rating of 96.3 percent.

College Enrollment

- Dr. Dennis Tyson, vice president for educational services, reported to the CCC Board of Governors that a record 34,083 people enrolled at CCC during the 1992-93 academic year, representing a 5.4 percent increase over the previous year. FTE enrollment increased by 4.3 percent to 2,985.83. Students who were residents of the CCC service area comprised 81 percent of the total, but there were also enrollees from every Nebraska county, 38 other states, the District of Columbia, and three foreign countries.

College Foundation

- Re-elected as board officers of the CCC Foundation were Larry Butler of Hastings, president; Jim Scow of Columbus, vice president; and Jan Dannelly of Columbus, secretary. Linda Kruse of Grand Island was elected treasurer. Rod Rudebusch of Aurora was appointed as a new member of the foundation board.
- Jack Crowley, foundation executive director, reported that the foundation had $1.7 million in assets. The foundation had provided about $230,000 in support of each of the three campuses, including $173,500 in scholarships, $9,000 in equipment, and $5,000 in staff development during the fiscal year. In addition, nearly $15,000 was provided in small business loans through the Watley Fund.
- The third annual CCC Foundation Pro-Am Golf Tournament was held at Lochland Country Club. Originally scheduled for Riverside Country Club, it was moved due to flooding conditions. More than 125 golfers participated in the tournament, raising more than $10,000 for scholarships.
- The CCC Foundation for the first time sponsored a dinner on each of the campuses for all associate degree graduates. In addition to the meal, the graduating students received their initial membership card in the alumni association and a variety of gifts from the foundation.
- Lois Behlen donated her home to the CCC Foundation with all future proceeds from the home to be used to provide scholarships for students attending the Platte Campus. Behlen's family founded Behlen Manufacturing Company in Columbus. She and her late husband, Mike Behlen, were among the leaders who worked for the establishment of Platte College in 1969.
- To honor the 25th anniversary of the Platte Campus in Columbus, an appreciation dinner was held at the New World Inn. The featured speaker was Dr. Donald Clifton, president and CEO of Gallup Inc. Lois Behlen was also named as the first recipient of the Central Community College Foundation Hall of Fame Award. She was recognized for her support of the college, the campus, and the foundation, beginning with the founding of Platte College.

Collegiate Assessment

- All three CCC campuses invited graduating students to take the Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency exam in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the educational programs and services of the college.

College Budget

- The CCC Board of Governors approved an $18,410,680 budget for 1993-94 which represented a 4.69 percent increase over the previous year. Revenue from state aid was down $106,044 from the year before.

Developmental Education

- Maureen Hoffman, communications instructor at the Grand Island Campus, and Vicki Papineau, reading instructor at the Hastings Campus, were certified as Developmental Education Specialists by the Kellogg Institute for the Training and Certification of Developmental Educators. The certification was awarded in conjunction with Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina.

Leadership Identification

- Eight CCC staff members participated in the Leadership Identification Project at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The project was designed to help women in education develop leadership skills. In addition to educational workshops, participants selected projects that would use their leadership skills and help their institutions. CCC participants and their project were: Grand Island Campus-Jane Birkholz, associate dean of community education, "Assessment of Leadership Potential;" Platte Campus-Katherine Ballobin, office technology instruc-

tor, "Business Department In-Service Retreat"; Kathy Harsh, staff assistant, "Alternative Fuels Educational Video"; Doris Lux, cooperative education director, "International Education"; Dianne Moural, agriculture instructor, "Agricultural Leadership Program"; Beth Mierau, career planning and placement coordinator, "Diversity Field Trip"; Ella Wenman, job developer, "Multicultural Diversity Workshop"; and Jan Wisialowski, student services secretary, "Columbus Leadership Program."

Leadership Diversity

- CCC and the college chapters of the American Association of Women in Community Colleges sponsored a multimedia show entitled, "Women, Fire, and Dangerous Things," in the Hornady Marshall Auditorium at College Park. The show was produced by Lincoln artists Nancy Childs and Nancy Marshall.

NCCA

- Dennis Baack who most recently had been speaker of the legislature became the executive director of the Nebraska Community College Association, beginning in December.

Satellite Delivery

- Platte Instructor David Fulton began satellite delivery of U. S. History I to students at the Grand Island Campus. Platte Instructor Lee Robbins, began teaching Spanish I to Grand Island Campus students via two-way satellite.

Tech Prep

- About 200 individuals attended the first-ever Nebraska Tech Prep Institute which was held on the Hastings Campus. Attendees represented Nebraska's community colleges, high schools involved in Tech Prep programs, business and industry, four-year educational institutions, and educational agencies. Keynote presentations were given by Myrtle Stogner, director of the North Carolina Tech Prep Center, and Jerry Ogren, general manager of Cushman Company in Lincoln.
- At the end of the 1992-1993 college year, Kevin Miller, CCC tech prep coordinator, reported that CCC had Tech Prep affiliations with five high schools: Centura, Gibbon, Grand Island Northwest, Kearney, and Sandy Creek. About 25 more high schools were involved in similar consortiums with the other Nebraska community colleges.

President Looks Back, Ahead

by Dr. Joseph W. Preusser

(Editor's note: Each month while he was college president, Joe Preusser wrote an article for the "Central Connection." The following article appeared in the "Central Connection" of January 1994. It is included here in its entirety as a summary of his thoughts about the year which had just concluded.)

The last five weeks of each year are a special time when we are thankful for the abundance of special pleasures realized during the past year, we enjoy the holiday season, and we prepare for a new year. It is a time of Thanksgiving and Christmas cards as well as New Year greetings.

Dr. Joseph W. Preusser

All of us at Central Community College extend to you the very best wishes for the entire holiday season. As we begin the new year, I want to share with you why we are so thankful about the year 1993 and why we are excited about the new year of 1994.

In 1993, CCC experienced a record enrollment of 34,083 students, telecourses were offered at off-campus centers, the foundation topped the $2 million mark, transfer programs were expanded to the Grand Island and Hastings campuses, and the Platte Campus in Columbus raised funds from private sources to establish a national training center for alternative fuels for vehicles.

The theme of the college annual report is "Talent, Training, and Technology." These are the key ingredients of the innovation that has been a hallmark of CCC since it was founded. Talented faculty and staff have made it possible for CCC to continue to provide training in the application of technology that has become so essential to our economy locally, regionally, nationally, and globally.

We also experienced challenging times this past year. Gerald Whelan, legal counsel, died Jan. 2, 1993, and Don Nelson, the president of our Grand Island Campus, died on May 1, 1993. On Thanksgiving Day we were all shocked with the sudden death of Dr. Pete Rush, president of the Platte Campus in Columbus. All three were major players in the development of CCC. We are thankful for their contributions, and we will miss them greatly.

Students continue to be our number-one priority. Last year some 700 skilled graduates entered the workforce. A recent follow-up study shows that 97 percent of the graduates are employed or continuing their education. We are pleased to report that 94 percent are employed in Nebraska, and 80 percent are employed within the 25-county service area of CCC.

The student profile for CCC is some 2,000 full-time and 6,500 part-time students on the campuses. Fifty-three percent of our students are women; 47 percent are men. Students range in age from 16 to 92, with an average age of 35.

Off-campus courses are offered in 92 communities. There are more than 14,000 students in off-campus credit courses, including more than 1,500 that also take courses on one of the campuses. An additional 8,000 students are enrolled in noncredit courses, nearly 2,500 more are enrolled in the Adult Basic Education program, and nearly 1,100 are enrolled in noncredit reimbursable courses. The off-campus programs consist of more than 1,400 college credit courses and 188 noncredit, avocational/recreational courses. Some 360 citizens serve on local community education advisory committees to assist the college in addressing the needs of the citizens in our 25-county service area.

CCC continues to emphasize service to business. More than 365 business, industrial, and professional training programs were conducted during 1992-93 and even more are planned for 1993-94. More than 200 companies participated in these programs, accommodating in excess of 10,000 employees.

The students who attend CCC need both educational and financial assistance. Last year, 75 percent of all students attending half-time or more received financial aid, with an average award of $2,025. Nearly

$4,700,000 of total aid was disbursed, including more than $270,000 in scholarships. The majority of student aid (90 percent) was based on financial need. The other 10 percent was based on academic and other personal skills.

CCC, with campuses in Columbus, Grand Island, and Hastings, has an operational budget of nearly $17 million. Our revenue sources are 32 percent state aid, 53 percent local property tax, and 15 percent tuition. The budget emphasizes instruction (59 percent) and students (7 percent for student services and 1.5 percent for student aid). The other one-third of the budget is allocated to institutional support (22 percent) and physical plant (11 percent).

CCC serves a 25-county area in central Nebraska that has 282,000 people living in a 14,000-square-mile area. To serve this vast area, CCC utilizes a variety of instructional delivery systems including campus instruction, off-campus sites, and individualized programs.

We look forward with special anticipation to 1994. In the Tech Prep program, the college is working with several high schools in the service area to assure that future students will be prepared for advanced study in technical areas. Satellite courses, videotape, and computer-assisted instruction are among the technologies we have available to provide courses throughout the 25-county service area.

We are thankful for people like you that are friends and supporters of CCC. It is your support and encouragement that makes us excited about the new year. From all of us at CCC, we hope you had a special holiday season and we wish you the best for the New Year.

1994

North Central Visiting Team Recommends Reaccreditation

After an 18-month self-study and a two-day on-site review, Central Community College was informed that the North Central Association evaluation team recommended that the college be granted continued accreditation for 10 years, the maximum granted by the regional accrediting agency. Carroll Bennett, executive dean of the Newton Polytechnic Campus of Des Moines Area Community College, chaired the eight-member evaluation team, which included educators from eight community colleges in seven states.

NCA Team Visits CCC Campuses and Administrative Office

Team members visited each of the three campuses and the college offices. They met with the Board of Governors, students, faculty, staff, learning center managers, and advisory committee members. Prior to arriving in Nebraska, the team members familiarized themselves with the college through the self-study report, college videotape, catalog, and other publications. The report of the visiting team was quite complimentary. They did note that there were some structural complications due to the multicampus nature of the organization.

More Than 400 Participate in Self-Study

Dr. Joe Preusser estimated that more than 400 individuals participated in the self-study process. The self-study and the compilation of the report led to the development of a revised mission statement. The mission statement read: "As a public higher education institution, CCC is dedicated to providing quality technical, occupational, transfer, economic development, and public service education to diverse individuals and organizations in central Nebraska."

Steering Committee Guides Process

Coordinators for the self-study process were Dr. Dennis Tyson, vice president of educational services, and Dr. Linda Wilke-Long, paralegal instructor at the Grand Island Campus. Steering committee members were Kathryn Ballobin, office technology instructor, Platte Campus; Linda Bowden, librarian and science instructor, Grand Island Campus; Dr. Mike Chipps, dean of students, Hastings Campus; Dr. LaVern Franzen, dean of instruction, Grand Island Campus; Lawanda Gengenbach, hotel, motel and restaurant management student at the Hastings Campus; Larry Glazier, college business officer; Vikki Jaeger, grants and special projects director, Hastings Campus; Dr. Eric Jones, college management information systems officer; Vicki Mackenstadt, communications instructor, Grand Island Campus; Paul Rehberg, associate dean, Platte Campus; Karin Rieger, community education regional coordinator, Platte Campus; Jim Strayer, college information officer; and Stacy Zwiener, business administration student at the Hastings Campus.

Campuses Accredited as Single Institution in 1980

As North Central documents verify, both Central Nebraska Technical Community College (CNTCC) and Platte Community College were in the candidacy process when they merged in 1973. Platte was subsequently accredited in 1974 and CNTCC in 1976. In 1978, the college requested accreditation as a single institution. This request was granted in 1980 following a comprehensive evaluation in 1979. After a focused visit in 1983, the commission approved continued accreditation through l987-88. Following that visit, continued accreditation was approved for seven years through 1994-95.

Grand Island Campus

- The Grand Island Campus received one of three Partners in Progress Awards from the Grand Island Area Chamber of Commerce at its annual meeting. The award was given to the campus in recognition of its exemplification of progress, partnership, and commitment to the community. The Children's Groundwater Festival and College Park were the other two award recipients.

Grand Island Campus President Dr. Bill Giddings receives a Partners in Progress Award from the Grand Island Area Chamber of Commerce.

- Gov. Ben Nelson was the keynote speaker at the Grand Island Campus graduation ceremonies.
- Kenneth Meyer of Grand Island received an Outstanding Alumni Award during commencement exercises. He graduated in 1983 with an associate of applied science degrees in electronics technology and computer automation. He began work at Data Systems Inc., the year before his completion at CCC. He was promoted to systems analyst where he had responsibilities for grocery store software applications installed in more than 4,000 sites in the U.S., Canada, and South America. He served in the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Navy Reserves. He was cited as an active member of his church and as a seminar speaker.
- A writer's seminar was offered on campus through the community education office. Published author Peter Davidson was the presenter.
- Four staff members received associate of applied science degrees from CCC: Hylee Asche, student services receptionist, in accounting; Jody Luce, general education secretary, in office technology; Marilyn Rott, admissions technician, in accounting and office technology; and Kathy Voss, general education secretary, in data processing.
- Five staff members received degrees from other higher education institutions: Beth Babcock, community education program secretary, and Kathy Voss, general education secretary, bachelor of science degrees in human resource management from Bellevue University; Gene Manhart, a master of science degree in business administration from the University of Nebraska at Kearney; Tim Ziller, electronics instructor, a master of science degree in vocational education from UNK; and Liz Zimmerman, registration technician, a bachelor of science degree in management from Bellevue University.
- Kathy Woitaszewski, math instructor, and Tim Ziller, electronics instructor, made presentations on the principles of technology project at the National Tech Prep Conference in Minneapolis.
- A total of 112 high school seniors from six high schools enrolled in an "early bird" college credit written communications class offered by the college at 7 a.m., during the fall semester. Students from Cambridge, Centura, Grand Island, Grand Island Central Catholic, Lexington, and Pleasanton high schools took the course either in the classroom or by satellite through CCC's Early Entry program. Vicki Mackenstadt was the instructor.

Hastings Campus

- Marie Cecil, supervisor of the dental assisting program, received the 10th annual Outstanding Service Award. She was cited for her poise and professionalism, her dedication to students and her involvement in both campus activities and the community. She graduated from both CCC and Kearney State College.
- Dr. Mike Chipps, dean of students, was selected by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools to serve as a consultant-evaluator for its Commission on Institutions of Higher Learning.
- Employees of the Santa Fe Railroad began taking advantage of the two-week training course in welding

which Latham Mortensen, welding instructor, developed for the Union Pacific Railroad, beginning in 1985.

- The first-ever Nebraska state conference of the American Association of Women in Community Colleges met at the Hasting Campus. Keynote speakers were Dr. Carole Leland, author of "Women of Influence, Women of Vision," and Dr. Linda Moore, author of "Release from Powerlessness."
- Dr. Judy Dresser, campus president, received the Presidential Award for Outstanding Service and Support of the American Association of Women in Community Colleges. Dresser was cited for her years of active involvement with the American Association of Community Colleges and AAWCC and her promotion of AACC chapters on Nebraska campuses after she came to the state in 1991.
- Nancy Bjorklund, director of transitions, was honored with a Women of the Year Award by students in her Explore Your World program. She was cited for her contributions to the program and her sensitivity to the needs of her students.
- The Explore Your World Transitions Program received an Exemplary Program Award from the Region VII Women Work Conference for its leadership in providing services to displaced homemakers and single parents. The program, which was funded by a Perkins Grant beginning about 1985, was expanded during 1994 to provide services at selected off-campus locations. The first off-campus workshops were held in Holdrege followed by a 10-week life planning class for men at the Hastings Correctional Center. Nancy Bjorklund, director of transitions programs, accepted the award on behalf of the college.
- State Sen. Ardyce Bohlke was the keynote speaker at the Hastings Campus graduation ceremonies.
- Garry Coleman of Hastings received the 13th annual Outstanding Alumni Award during commencement exercises held on the campus. After graduating in 1969 with an associate of applied science degree in drafting technology, he began working at the Silas Mason Company in Grand Island where he was quickly promoted to the engineering staff. In 1971, he joined the Hastings Irrigation Pipe Company where, as plant engineer, he had the responsibility for engineering, quality control, and programming of all computer-operated machinery. He was also cited as an active member of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers and as an active member of his church.
- The Hasting Campus, especially the community education department, was one of many organizations that helped prepare for the state Chautauqua which came to Hastings. The theme of the Chautauqua was "American Writers of the Gilded Age." The featured authors were Kate Chopin, Stephen Crane, W.E.B. DuBois, Jack London, and Mark Twain.
- Four staff members received degrees: Laura Bulas, business administration instructor, a master of arts degree in teaching from Hastings College; Pat Cecil, dental lab supervisor, a bachelor of science degree in occupational education from the University of Nebraska at Kearney; Alan Hartley, electronics instructor, a master of science degree in education from UNK; and Wayne Huntley, parts sales and management instructor, an associate of applied science degree in parts sales and management from CCC.
- Bob Shields, counselor, became a certified professional counselor in Nebraska.
- Evart Barton, machine shop instructor, attended a four-day school on super abrasives in Columbus, Ohio, and joined the General Electric Partnership

Students of the first Drag Race Team pose aboard a 1959 Ford Ranchero pickup donated by George Anderson (third from left), owner of Gessford Motors. The truck was donated to help the club get started, and with student effort, raced in several area drag races during the following years. Dr. Robin Menschenfreund and club sponsor and parts sales and management instructor Wayne Huntley are on Anderson's left.

for Manufacturing Productivity. As part of the partnership, GE provided 12 videotapes, a textbook, a course outline for an 80 clock-hour course, and grinding wheels and lathe and mill cutting tools using super abrasives. GE also pledged technical assistance to help add super abrasives to the machine shop program.

- When the Mid-America Cheese Plant in Superior announced its decision to close affecting its 90 employees, CCC developed a Superior Transition Team coordinated by Nancy Bjorklund, director of transitions programs, and Vicki Kucera, financial aid director, under the direction of Dr. Judy Dresser, campus president. Information was provided on career and academic assessment, counseling, admissions, financial aid, and other college services.
- The dental assisting, dental hygiene, and dental laboratory technology programs were granted approval for reaccreditation by the Commission on Accreditation after a self-study by program faculty, a site visit by an evaluation team, and a review by the commission. Approval is the highest accreditation status granted by the commission. The next review was scheduled for 2001.
- Forty-five students were inducted as charter members of the new Beta Alpha Delta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. Phi Theta Kappa is an international honor society for two-year college students who qualify. Eric Glassmyer, accounting student, was the president of the new chapter. Chapter advisers were Dr. Mike Chipps, dean of students; John Dobrovolny, associate dean of instruction; Bob Glenn, admissions director; and Ken Rezac, associate dean of students.
- About 1,200 students from Hastings area elementary schools attended the first "Science Is Fun" Day on the campus. The event was conceived by 13 students in Dr. Georgianna Whipple-VanPatter's biochemistry class. Any department on campus where chemistry had an application was invited to provide demonstrations.
- Beverly Denman, coordinator of the Adult Basic Education program at the Hastings Correctional Center, announced that in the five years since CCC began offering the ABE program at the correctional center, 216 inmates had earned GED diplomas. Through the ABE program, inmates were also given the opportunity to take classes in English as a Second Language, parenting, critical thinking, pre-release and computers, while those who qualified could take selected courses.
- A successful reunion was held for diesel program alumni. Elwood Onken, diesel instructor, was among those who organized and hosted the event.

Construction instructor Dale Janitscheck, right, tests a bridge's weight-bearing ability during the 1994 Tech Day activities on the Hastings Campus. The annual event featured competitions between area high school students in bridge building, CO2-powered car construction, and robotics.

Retired

- Katie Bruce of Juniata retired as a human services instructor. She joined the college in 1972 as chairwoman of health occupations. She had considerable prior experience as a registered nurse and in vocational rehabilitation services. She was active in the Nebraska Education Association, the Nebraska Health Organization, and Vocational Rehabilitation.
- Art Stark, a founding staff member of the Hastings Campus, retired as boiler fireman. He was first employed by the college as a boiler specialist in 1966. In 1992, he was recognized for his loyalty to the campus when he received its Outstanding Service Award.

Platte Campus

- Continuing the commemoration of its 25th year, the Platte Campus sponsored a series of presentations during the spring semester: "Nebraska, a State Divided?" by Dr. Jane Renner Hood, Nebraska

Humanities Council; "Nebraska Football, the Coaches, the Players, and the Experience" by James Sherwood, University of Nebraska at Lincoln; "Black Women of the Great Plains" by Bertha Calloway, Great Plains Black Museum; "Growing Up in the Sandhills with Mari Sandoz" by Barbara Rippey, College of St. Mary; "Stories of the Irish in Nebraska" by Dr. Thomas Kuhlman, Creighton University; "The Platte River as a Theme for Nineteenth Century Artists" by Gary Zaruba, University of Nebraska-Kearney; and "Our Plains Indian Heritage" by Phyllis Stone, Rosebud Sioux Tribe.

- On March 27, the Columbus Telegram published, "CCC-Platte Campus, a Partner for 25 Years" as a Sunday supplement in recognition of the anniversary of the campus. The supplement was dedicated to the memory of Dr. Pete Rush.
- Robert Stachura, vice president and executive manager of Douglas and Lomason in Columbus and a 1974 graduate of the campus, received a Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Nebraska Community College Association. In addition to his contributions to his company and to the Platte Campus, he was recognized for his community involvement and for continued education.
- John Putnam, music instructor, received the Faculty Member Award from the Nebraska Community College Association. He joined the CCC faculty in 1971 when he began the Platte Campus music program. Among the accomplishments for which he was recognized were the Chorale and Cantari vocal ensembles at the campus for which he served as the director.
- The eighth annual National Ridge Till Conference was dedicated to the late Dr. Pete Rush, campus president. The campus sponsored the event in conjunction with Fleischer Manufacturing, a Columbus company known for its innovations in conservation tillage equipment.
- The Energy Management Program received a Special Recognition Award from the U.S. Department of Energy acknowledging the services it had provided to a wide variety of organizations in helping them to manage their energy consumption and educate their personnel. Doug Pauley, director of the energy management program, was the guest of Secretary Hazel O'Leary at the awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Donald Newport (right) congratulates a member of the Platte Campus Class of '94. Newport was founding president of the campus and gave the commencement address in 1994, the 25th anniversary year for the campus.

- Dr. Donald Newport, founding president of Platte College, was the keynote speaker at the Platte Campus graduation ceremonies.
- Michael Moser of Columbus received an Outstanding Alumni Award during commencement exercises. He graduated from Platte College in 1971 with an associate degree in speech communications. While at Platte, he was active in music groups and theater productions, was elected to the first student senate and was a member of an award-winning college debate team. After completing a bachelor's degree at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, he returned to Columbus and, in 1977, became owner of the Columbus Music Company. He was cited as active in both his church and community and loyal to Platte. He served on the original Platte College Foundation and taught community education classes.
- Ron Kluck was recognized as the Platte Person of the Year. He joined the Platte Campus in 1982 as a community education coordinator and was promoted to associate dean of community education in 1984. He was cited for his leadership, fairness, sense of humor, ability to work hard, and to think clearly. He was active as a member of the Schuyler Grade School Board, the American Heart Association, and the Adult and Continuing Education Association of Nebraska.

- Mary Hull was recognized as the Faculty Member of the Year. She joined the college in 1988 as a communications instructor. She was also certified as a trainer for business and industry seminars. She was cited as an innovative and engaging instructor, an active community leader, and as the author of two books.
- Barb Rebrovich, campus grants director, received a master of science degree in education from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.
- Diane Stankoski, a medical secretary student from Silver Creek, became the first Platte Campus student to serve as an intern at Walt Disney World. She worked as a fast-food hostess at the park during the spring semester. Upon her return to the campus, she commented that she had become acquainted with someone from all but two states of the union.
- Ella Wenman, job developer, was certified as a leadership instructor for both Phi Theta Kappa and the Kellogg Leadership Program after successfully completing training provided by the two organizations.
- Dr. M. Richard (Dick) Shaink of Omaha was appointed president of the Platte Campus beginning July 1. He had been vice president for community and economic development at Metropolitan Community College in Omaha where he developed and implemented training programs for business and industry as well as community economic development activities, community outreach programs, and services for special populations. Before Omaha, he lived in Michigan where he had administrative positions at Kalamazoo Valley Community College and Jackson Community College.

Dr. M. Richard Shaink

- The Nebraska Humanities Council speakers appearing on campus during the fall semester were: "The Holocaust" by Oliver Pollak, attorney and professor of history at the University of Nebraska at Omaha; and "Gateway, Coming to America" by Phil Martin, instructor of theater at Western Nebraska Community College.
- Ella Wenman, job developer, received the Distinguished Service Award in recognition of her work with the Cooperative Education Association of Nebraska and with cooperative education. Behlen Manufacturing of Columbus received the Employer of the Year Award from CEAN.
- The 1990 Farm Bill required farmers to complete two years of training when they apply for new loans. The Farmers Home Administration in Lincoln determined that it could best reach the farmers through the community college system. Thus, the Platte Campus launched CCC's training program under the direction of Verne Buhl, director of agricultural programs. About 190 people were enrolled in sites in Albion, Aurora, Cedar Rapids, Columbus, David City, Fullerton, Grand Island, Hastings, Holdrege, Lexington, and Ord. Instructors for the program took 40 hours of training to prepare to teach the standardized curriculum.
- George Steinsberger, political science and sociology instructor, initiated a course in international relations.
- The campus was host to Nebraska poet Nancy McCleery as a result of a mini-grant written by Dr. Mel Krutz.
- An article, "Hazelwood: Results and Realities," by Krutz was included in "Preserving Intellectual Freedom," a publication of the National Council of Teachers of English.
- Music instructor Keith Lunde's original instrumental arrangement of Bach's "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" was accepted for publication by Mid-America Publishers.

In Memory

- Leo Iwan of Columbus, 73, died at the Columbus Community Hospital. He served as a custodian on the campus from 1972-74.

All-College In-Service

- Lt. Gov. Kim Robak gave the keynote address titled "Getting Fit for the Next Century in Nebraska" at the all-college in-service. Dennis Baack, executive director of the Nebraska Community College Association, was also a major presenter.

Board of Governors

- Homer Pierce of Lexington was elected as chairman of the Board of Governors. Other officers elected were Paul Leiss of Cambridge, vice chairman; Don Anderson of Grand Island, secretary; and Ken Wortman of Aurora, treasurer. Harold "Mac" McClure of Kearney, immediate past chairman; and Jan Dannelly of Columbus were appointed by Pierce to represent the governing board on the Nebraska Community College Association Board of Directors.
- The Rev. Bill Doran of Grand Island resigned from the Board of Governors as he was retiring as pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church and was moving to Broomfield, Colo. Doran was first elected to the board in 1982.
- Tom Pirnie, owner of Grand Island Express trucking company and affiliated companies, was appointed to the Board of Governors to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of the Rev. Bill Doran as a representative of District 4. A former electronics student at the Hastings Campus, Pirnie is active in several community organizations.

Budget

- The operating budget for 1994-95 was established at $19,169,529 after the Board of Governors reduced the proposed budget by $135,000. Dr. Joe Preusser, college president, explained that during the preceding three years, the budget had increased by about 5 percent while the enrollment had increased 17 percent.

Child Care Conference

- The Hastings Campus received an Excellence in Team Programming Award from the Nebraska Cooperative Extension in recognition for campus contributions to the Child Care Provider Conference. Jeanne Webb, child care program instructor, and Leslie Robinson, community education assistant, both from the Grand Island Campus, received certificates of appreciation. The conference was held at College Park.

College Administration

- Electronic depositing of paychecks became mandatory for full-time employees.
- Dr. Joe Preusser, college president, in an article written for the August issue of "Central Connection" stated, "CCC must prepare central Nebraskans for a changing world rather than a world of permanence. Our mission is not so much to teach as it is to create a culture driven by technology in which students, faculty, and staff are continuously learning."
- Tonya Brunswick, analyst and programmer, made a presentation on the Tech Prep listserv and gopher at the National Tech Prep Conference in Minneapolis.
- Larry Glazier, college business officer, was appointed by the Central Association of College and University Business Officers to its Two-Year College Committee. CACUBO is a nonprofit association representing chief business officers at more than 600 institutions in the north central region of the United States.

In Memory

- Ronald Logue of Grand Island, 46, died at his home after an extended illness. He was institutional advancement officer for the college from 1979 to 1986. He was associated with Chief Automotive Systems, Inc., from 1986 until his death. He is remembered as having been the first to develop radio and television promotional spots for the college.

College Foundation

- CCC employees pledged or contributed more than $17,000 to the 1994 campaign of the foundation. Gifts could be tagged for the specific program or campus or designated for the general endowment.
- Jack Crowley, executive director of the CCC Foundation, received the Nebraska Community College Service Award. He was recognized for the growth of the foundation under his leadership, for the establishment of an annual Pro-Am golf tournament and other innovative foundation activities, and for his efforts to establish communication among other community college foundation directors.
- The foundation worked with the Nebraska Department of Economic Development, St. Francis Hos-

pital in Grand Island, as well as CCC and Rural Allied Medical Business Occupations. More than $60,000 was given to the foundation for student scholarships for those interested in entering the medical field. The Edgar Reynolds Foundation of Grand Island provided $30,000 of that amount.

- Retired United Airlines pilot Captain Al Haynes was the keynote speaker at the annual Foundation Appreciation Dinner. Haynes was the pilot of United Flight 232 which crashed in Sioux City, Iowa, in 1989.
- Ken Wortman was inducted into the CCC Foundation Hall of Fame. The Aurora businessman was recognized as one of the leaders of the community college movement in Nebraska as well as a founding member of the CCC Board of Governors who had served continuously since its inception and who had been its chairman for seven years.
- The CCC Foundation received $7,500 in scholarship funds from Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD). The funds were raised at the annual Nebraska Open and Invitational Pro-Am Golf Tournament, which is coordinated by NPPD and the Nebraska section of the Professional Golf Association.
- The Ford Motor Company and Anderson Ford Lincoln Mercury Inc. of Grand Island donated a 1994 Ford XLT pickup and a Ford Escort LX to the Hastings Campus for use in the automotive technology department. The combined worth of the vehicles was $24,619.
- Since 1990, 19 small business loans had been made through the Watley Incubator Fund, ranging in size from $2,000 to $10,000 and totaling more than $76,000. Loans were provided at half of the national prime rate.
- As of June 30, total assets of the CCC Foundation totaled $2,021,499.22. During the 1993-94 college year, the foundation awarded $198,338 in scholarship support, either directly or with flow-through dollars.
- The CCC Foundation again provided $6,000 for staff development grants. A total of 47 such grants were awarded since l989.

Enrollment

- Enrollment totaled 34,068 during the 1993-94 college year, including full- and part-time students attending on- and off-campus. Full-time equivalent enrollment was 2,967. Eighty percent of the students came from the 25 counties which support the college. Students came from 92 counties in Nebraska. Forty-three students came from out of state. There were also students from Canada, Egypt, Malaysia, Russia, and the Virgin Islands.

Lexington Center

- The Lexington Learning Center received a $5,000 C-band satellite dish DownLink receiver through a TCI Education Project grant. The dish allowed the center to provide a variety of educational and informational services to the community.
- Barb Hinrichs, community education secretary since 1990, received an associate of applied science degree in business and management from CCC.
- Six manufacturing technology courses were offered for the first time at the Lexington Center. The 12 semester-hours of independent study included OSHA rules and regulations, introduction to computer-integrated manufacturing, statistical process control, manufacturing processes laboratory, production operations management, and time and motion study. Kathy Neil, distance learning regional coordinator, stated at the time that the courses could be used as electives in the distance learning program.

Nursing Program

- Mary Lou Holmberg moved from associate dean of instruction to curriculum development coordinator. Linda Walline, associate degree of nursing program director, became the associate dean for nursing.

North Central Association

- Joseph Jeffers, Grand Island Campus student, and Fred Roeser, electronics instructor, won the first place prize in the Self-Study Report Cover Contest. Dr. Joe Preusser presented a $100 check to Jeffers for his personal use. Roeser received a $500 check for use in the electronics program.
- Largely through the efforts of Dr. Dennis Tyson, vice president for educational services, the college designed “A Plan for the Assessment of Student Learning.” The assessment was required of all accredited institutions by North Central. Once it was provided for in the college mission statement and

implemented, the purpose of the assessment was to assure educational excellence through continuous quality improvement of student learning, curriculum content and design, faculty teaching, teaching and learning resources, and through the educational environment.

School-to-Work

- The federal School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994 was passed into law. It seemed clear from the language of the legislation that the school-to-work system was to build on existing educational activities including cooperative education, Tech Prep, youth works, school to apprenticeship and entrepreneurship.

Tech Prep

- A workshop was held on the Hastings Campus to prepare science and technology instructors to teach the principles of technology curriculum developed by the Center for Occupational Research and Development of Waco, Texas, to give students a strong understanding of physics and how it is used in the world of work. Many of the instructors constructed the equipment required for the curriculum, resulting in substantial savings. High school instructors came from Alliance, Centura, Genoa, Gibbon, Grand Island, Grand Island Northwest, and Sandy Creek. CCC instructors from the three campuses also participated. Kevin Miller, CCC Tech Prep coordinator, was in charge of the workshop.

Vocational Education Awards

- Several awards were presented to members of the CCC family by the Nebraska Council for Vocational Education. Certificates of achievement went to Grand Island Campus students Terri Oleson of Grand Island and Sonia Kounovsky of Ord as outstanding postsecondary vocational students. Eileen Ivers of Grand Island received a certificate of appreciation for her work as a postsecondary local advisory committee member for the paralegal program. The Douglas and Lomason plant in Columbus and Friend's Motor Supply in Hastings received certificates of appreciation for their support of postsecondary vocational education. The awards were presented at a regular meeting of the CCC Board of Governors by Ray Mueller, executive director of the Nebraska Council for Vocational Education. Later in the year, Kounovsky, Ivers, and Friend's Motor Supply received the corresponding state awards from the council.

President Shares Legislative History

By Dr. Joseph W. Preusser

(Editor's note: The following article appeared in the "Central Connection" of May 1994. It is included here in its entirety because it provides a concise summary of Nebraska legislation related to community colleges.)

"The college is a locally governed educational entity, separate by law from both the established elementary and secondary schools and other institutions of higher education. Central Community College is authorized by the Nebraska Legislature and operates under the provisions of Revised State Statute 79-2636 Rev. Sup. 1976."

This quotation is from the current mission statement of Central Community College. Since the mission statement was adopted, there have been some changes in the statutes (Section 85, Articles 1501-1540, Rev. Sup. 1993). In this article I will share a brief legislative history of the development of two-year colleges in Nebraska.

Junior College Roots in 1920s

Beginning in the 1920s, school districts were permitted to establish junior colleges within their boundaries. Five junior colleges were founded under the legislation: McCook in 1926, Norfolk in 1928, Scottsbluff in 1931, Fairbury in 1941, and North Platte in 1961.

Junior colleges were authorized to offer academic transfer programs that provided the first two years of a four-year degree as well as occupational programs designed to prepare students for agricultural, industrial, commercial, and homemaking vocations. Other legislation led to the establishment of other types of two-year colleges. Article XIV of the Nebraska School Law created the Nebraska Vocational Technical School at Milford in 1941. A second state-supported vocational/technical school was added at Sidney in 1965.

1960s Bring Vocational Schools

LB 581 was enacted in 1965, permitting multicounty area vocational-technical schools. On May 10, 1966, electors in 17 counties – including Platte County – voted by a nearly five-to-one margin to establish Area Vocational School #1 at Hastings. This later became Central Nebraska Technical College. Vocational/technical schools also were established at Norfolk and North Platte under this legislation. Omaha and Lincoln schools were added to the list of two-year postsecondary vocational-technical schools through legislation enacted in 1967.

County-Supported Community College

A law enacted on March 17, 1967, (LB 452) provided the enabling legislation needed to establish Platte Junior College as Nebraska's first county-supported community college in 1969. The bill spelled out the duties and responsibilities of members of junior college boards of education and amended the law so that junior college districts could be established with boundaries identical with the boundaries of the county within which the school was located.

The Unicameral in 1971 enacted LB 759, which combined six junior colleges, five area vocational-technical colleges, and two state vocational-technical colleges into a unified system of two-year technical community colleges. It required that after July 1, 1973, the 13 campuses would merge into technical community college areas and that all counties in the state would be part of the area.

Central Nebraska Technical College at Hastings and Platte Junior College at Columbus merged to form Central Technical Community College Area, encompassing 25 counties.

Enabling Legislation Challenged

The new technical community colleges were supported through local property taxes but governed by a State Board of Technical Community Colleges.

In December 1972, Banner County residents seeking 100 percent state funding for the technical community colleges challenged LB 759. Sheridan County refused to pay the property tax levy included in the law and filed suit against the state.

The Nebraska Supreme Court determined that the community college system set up by LB 759 was state controlled because it had a state governing board. It found the law to be unconstitutional because it used local property taxes for a state purpose, which was prohibited under the Duis Amendment to the state constitution.

In January 1973, a bill was introduced to provide 100 percent state funding for the community colleges but it failed to pass. LB 553 was enacted later in the year, providing for seven technical community college areas.

The bill levied a one mill tax in all counties to support the colleges. Local governing boards were to be appointed, but the State Board of Technical Community Colleges would continue to have general supervision and control over the state system.

State Governing Board Questioned

The provision for a state governing board again raised questions of constitutionality, and LB 344 was enacted in 1975 as a corrective measure. It established six technical community college areas, retained local governing boards, eliminated the state governing board, and established the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Technical Community Colleges, which was eliminated by further legislation in 1977.

This law withstood a constitutional challenge when the Nebraska Supreme Court found that the technical community colleges were now locally controlled and governed and not in conflict with the Duis Amendment.

Bill Sets Role and Mission

LB 756, enacted in 1978, required that each public college in Nebraska establish a role and mission. First priority of mission was given to vocational-technical educational programs. In addition, six community college campuses in the state, including the Platte Campus, were authorized to offer academic transfer programs. At the time, it was the only authorized location for academic transfer programs within Central Community College, which by then included campuses at Hastings and Grand Island and central administrative offices, also in Grand Island.

Coordinating Commission Founded

A law enacted in 1991 created the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, giving it much broader power than a previous commission, including authority to approve applications for new programs.

An earlier legislative study had recommended expanding academic transfer programs to other campuses in the technical community college system. In 1993, the commission approved a proposal by Central Community College that the Grand Island and Hastings campuses join the Platte Campus in offering transfer programs.

The priority service region of the college is the state-designated, 25-county central Nebraska area. The following counties make up the college service area which has a population of 282,321 and more than 14,000 square miles: Adams, Boone, Buffalo, Butler, Clay, Colfax, Dawson, Franklin, Furnas, Gosper, Greeley, Hall, Hamilton, Harlan, Howard, Kearney, Merrick, Nance, Nuckolls, Phelps, Platte, Polk, Sherman, Valley, and Webster.

1995

Future of Hastings Campus Examined

Dr. Joe Preusser, college president, told Hastings community leaders that the Hastings Campus will remain CCC's flagship campus for technical education. The Hastings Chamber of Commerce had requested a meeting with college officials to discuss concerns resulting from decisions to shorten the contracts of some faculty and to eliminate intercollegiate athletics.

President Expresses College Commitment

Preusser assured those attending that the college remained committed to a strong campus in Hastings, noting that the Hastings Campus facilities represented a $13 million investment. Although some budget reductions had occurred based on enrollment figures, Preusser said the college had allocated a special $100,000 to the campus for 1995-96 to enhance programs and enrollments. Preusser also said that the college was developing plans to renovate the Furnas Building to house the automotive technology, auto body technology, diesel technology, parts sales and management and truck driving programs.

Dr. Dennis Tyson, vice president for educational services, outlined a plan under development to coordinate curriculum across the three campuses of CCC. Under the proposal, administrators at the Hastings Campus would be responsible for providing leadership in manufacturing technology, mechanics and transportation, construction technology, and health and human services programs.

Dean Explains Variety of Instructional Methods

Dr. Robin Menschenfreund, Hastings Campus dean of instruction, told the group that the campus continued to utilize individualized instruction methods which had made the campus a national leader in competency-based education, but that the campus also offered some lecture classes for students who prefer a more traditional approach to learning. Menschenfreund also said that the campus used satellite and computer technology to expand opportunities for students at the campus and throughout the service area of CCC. Dr. Judy Dresser, Hastings Campus president, emphasized that in addition to offering more lecture classes, more structure was being provided to self-paced courses to encourage students to complete assignments in a timely manner.

Recruiting Strategies and Activities Discussed

Dr. Mike Chipps, Hastings Campus dean of students, discussed a variety of recruiting methods including visits to high schools and activities including an Expo of Technology Day, competitions such as Technical Education Day, and an ACTIONS Day which attract large numbers of high school students to the campus.

Grand Island Campus

- Natasha Pozdnyakova received an associate degree in business from the Grand Island Campus after receiving two auto body certificates – one in basic sheet metal and the other in refinishing – from the Hastings Campus. Pozdnykova arrived in the United States in January 1993 and became a student at CCC. Her journey to Nebraska began when she served as an interpreter for a group of Americans who were in Moscow to tour body shops. The delegation included Bob and Pat Hancock, owners and operators of Bob's Body Shop in Grand Island.
- The Center for Industry and Technology welding laboratory on the campus was approved as a certified testing facility by the American Welding Society. "The advantages of this program are many," said Vinton Gubbins, welding instructor. "The most important is that employers will be able to eliminate their own testing while still being assured that the welding candidate for employment is qualified according to a well-known standard."

- Dennis Fierstein of Aurora received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Nebraska Community College Association. Fierstein earned an associate of applied science degree in data processing in 1984. Before graduation, he had started an internship with Business Management Services of Grand Island through the cooperative education program and then stayed on as a full-time junior programmer after graduation. Over the years, he earned advancements, became a shareholder, and in 1994 was elected president of the organization.
- Dr. Bill Giddings, campus president, was elected to serve a three-year term on the Grand Island Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. He also served on the Business/Education Partnership Committee, the Governmental Affairs Committee and the President's Club.
- Dr. Linda Wilke-Long, paralegal instructor, was selected to serve as a consultant-evaluator for the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education for the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.
- The Accreditation Council of Accountancy and Taxation selected the campus as a testing site for its six-hour nationwide exam. The accreditation program recognizes practitioners and students who demonstrate a practical level of knowledge in accounting. Sarah Cunningham, accounting instructor and distance learning coordinator, served as a local contact.
- Dr. LaVern Franzen, dean of instruction, received the Outstanding Adult Educator Award from the Adult and Continuing Education Association. Franzen, who joined the college in 1967 as an accounting instructor on the Hastings Campus, was cited for his broad range of experience in vocational education and his leadership in community education. ACEAN had previously recognized Franzen with a Rookie of the Year Award.
- About 50 students and 10 Grand Island employers participated in a career day sponsored by the Phi Theta Kappa Honorary Society and the placement office. The event included a panel of employers who discussed what they look for in prospective employees, a luncheon, and mock interviews conducted by the panelists.
- Steve Millnitz, financial aid director, was chosen by ballot as president-elect of the Nebraska Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators for the 1995-96 fiscal year and as president for the following year.
- Lt. Gov. Kim Robak was the keynote speaker for the Grand Island commencement.
- Robert Schleicher of Grand Island was honored with an Outstanding Alumni Award. He graduated in 1993 with an associate of applied science degree in data processing and accepted a position with the Principal Financial Group as a management trainee where he was responsible for the PC hardware and software for the Grand Island office. He had been a part-time data processing instructor for the campus and had worked in the management information services department. He also helped to set up the Academic Success Center. He holds a bachelor's degree from Wayne State College.
- Four staff members received degrees: Dale Bernth, building service technician, an associate of applied science degree in mechanical drafting from CCC; LaVern Franzen, dean of instruction, a doctor of education degree from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln; Tom Peters, data processing instructor, a master of science degree from University of Nebraska at Kearney; and Linda Wenn, office technology instructor, a bachelor of arts degree in education from UNK.
- Thirty-five of the 100-plus persons eligible participated in the General Educational Development graduation held in June at the new Walnut Junior High School. Dr. Bill Giddings, campus president, welcomed the graduates and their guests. Chuck Winkler and Cindy Thiemann from Da-Ly Realty were the guest speakers.
- Kevin Miller changed positions from Tech Prep coordinator to associate dean of industrial technology.
- Sarah Cunningham, accounting instructor, received certification in stress management from Biofeedback Certification Institute of America. The certification involved completion of 12 graduate hours, a national certification test, and teaching 20 hours of stress management classes.
- Plans were made to build an 11,000-square-foot addition to the existing Center for Industrial Technology.

Retired

- Jim Dutcher of Greeley retired as associate dean of business and industry. He did, however, teach for the college on a part-time basis until 1999. He began

work at the college in 1966 as an electronics instructor on the Hastings Campus. He also served as chairman of the electronics, electrical, and heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration programs before accepting a position as director of industrial occupations at the Grand Island Campus in 1976. Before owning his own electrical and electronic business, he served in the U.S. Air Force where he taught at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois.

Hastings Campus

- A groundbreaking cooperative agreement between CCC and Hastings College resulted in Ryan Fahey receiving an associate of applied science degree in culinary arts from CCC and a bachelor of science degree in business and culinary arts from Hastings College. The personalized plan allowed Fahey to attend Hastings College on a football scholarship while pursuing his career goal of becoming a world-class chef.
- Terry Kothe, technical assistant in trade and industry, attended a 12-day training session on hazardous waste materials at Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, which was sponsored by the National Institute of Environmental Health and Safety.
- Herb Scott, Nebraska Environmental Training Center program coordinator, received a $900 scholarship to attend a six-day training course and earn certification as an environmental trainer in water and wastewater specialties from the National Environmental Training Association.
- Walt Miller of Hastings, drafting instructor, and Elwood Onken of Glenvil, diesel instructor, shared the 11th annual Outstanding Service Award presented by the campus. Both were cited for their commitment to their students, knowledge of job opportunities in their respective fields, ongoing contact with graduates and their rapport with other staff. Likewise, both are active on campus and in their communities.
- Through the efforts of the CCC Board of Governor's, the CCC Foundation, the Hastings Economic Development Corporation, and the Nebraska Department of Economic Development, a small business incubator building was provided on the campus to help smaller startup companies. Ken and Donna Gray, owners of A-MAIZE-ING GRAYS Pop Corn were the first tenants to occupy 5,000 square feet of the Kearney Building.

1995 marked the end of the intercollegiate sports program on the Hastings Campus, which at one time fielded teams in women's volleyball and basketball, and men's golf, wrestling, basketball, and baseball. The Lady Rams are shown in a game against the team from the Platte Campus in the Dawson Multipurpose Center.

- Dr. Judy Dresser, Hastings Campus president, was the recipient of the President's Award given by the Nebraska Community College Association. She was cited for having implemented a staff leadership development program, for having worked with the Hastings Economic Development Corporation to develop a small business incubator, for her part in developing a transition crisis response team when a major employer went out of business, and for expanding the Nebraska Environmental Training Center.
- The Hastings Youth Leadership Council, which consisted of students from Adams Central, Hastings Senior, and St. Cecilia high schools, began a weekly radio program on KCNT-FM. The program, produced by students in the broadcasting program on the campus, highlighted music, community events, student activities, and student opinions.
- Cammie Farrell, human services instructor, was honored by the Adams County YWCA with its Tribute to Women Program, which recognizes women for using their leadership skills to promote community betterment.

- An Intercultural Forum was sponsored by the Business, Industry and Education Council of the Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce and the Hastings Campus Diversity Team. Panel members said that overcoming misconceptions and difficulties in communication were the biggest barriers they faced as recent immigrants. The forum, which was open to the public, was attended by about 75 persons.
- About 450 junior high and high school students took part in the annual Technology Education Competition which included balsa wood bridge building, custom show car, metric 500 car, mousetrap-powered vehicle races, robotic arm, and small engine troubleshooting competitions.
- Wanda Cloet, dental hygiene supervisor, was appointed to a three-year term on the American Dental Hygiene Association Committee on National Boards at a district conference in Chicago.
- Lt. Gov. Kim Robak was the keynote speaker for the Hastings commencement.
- Peggy Paben of Kearney was honored with an Outstanding Alumni Award. She returned to school after 23 years when her husband died in 1988. She earned a high school equivalency diploma and then enrolled in CCC's medical assisting program, graduating with honors and receiving her associate of applied science degree in1990. She then enrolled in the College of Nursing at the University of Nebraska at Kearney where she earned a bachelor of science degree in nursing before accepting a position in the children's and adolescent unit at Richard Young Hospital in Kearney.
- Nineteen of the 115 people eligible participated in the General Educational Development graduation held in June on the campus. Dr. Judy Dresser, campus president, welcomed the graduates and their guests. The keynote address was given by Lana Svobado, educational coordinator at Nebraska Aluminum Castings.
- Seventeen of the 22 inmates who were eligible participated in the June General Educational Development graduation at the Hastings Correctional Center. Beverly Denman, Adult Basic Education coordinator, welcomed the graduates and their guests. Members of the graduating class served as the speakers. Special recognition was given to two inmates who had completed programs of study through CCC. One had received a diploma and the other a certificate, both in data processing.
- Three staff members received degrees: Shelly Kort, residence life and campus center director, a master of business administration degree from the University of Nebraska at Kearney; Ann Pattno, office technology instructor, a master's degree in education with an emphasis in agency counseling from UNK; Margaret Stutzman, Adult Basic Education secretary, an associate of applied science degree in data processing from CCC.
- Jane Stratman, dental hygiene instructor, was installed as president of the Nebraska Dental Hygienist Association.
- A member of the parts sales and management advisory committee, Hastings businessman George Anderson was named the Outstanding Postsecondary Advisory Committee Member by the Nebraska Council on Vocational Education. Anderson's business, Gessford Machine Shop, served as a cooperative education site and donated a pickup, parts, and machine shop services to the college and to the drag racing team. Anderson is active in a variety of civic affairs, and he and his wife established a $300 annual scholarship for a high school student.
- Dustina Donner, a 1995 graduate with an associate of applied science degree in data processing, was named the Outstanding Postsecondary Special Populations Student by the Nebraska Council on Vocational Education. In spite of a series of personal problems and a serious medical condition, she found her way to CCC. After a semester on campus, she met Nancy Bjorklund, transitions program director. She became associated with the program where she established some goals which helped her to become an outstanding student. She served as a tutor on campus, as chairwoman of her son's home room at Hastings Head Start, and as a mentor for pregnant teens and teen mothers.
- The Thermo King Corporation received the Outstanding Postsecondary Business/Labor Involvement Award. The Hastings corporation was nominated because of the high priority it places on education and training for its employees. Through a partnership arrangement, CCC provided facilities and instructors to the corporation and Thermo King contributed employee time and equipment to the college. At the time, basic refrigeration and electrical classes had been offered on-site for 15 years

and a number of employees took evening classes on campus. Thermo King had hired a number of CCC graduates, and had made significant donations to the college.

- Twelve electrical students wired a Habitat for Humanity house in Hastings during the fall semester with the supervision of Ron Meyer, electrical instructor. The project gave students a chance to experience a sense of community, to volunteer for a good cause, to review material they had learned in class, and to see the residential wiring process through from beginning to end.
- The Chrysler Corporation and Great Plains Chrysler-Plymouth-Dodge in Hastings donated a 1994 LeBaron convertible to the campus to be used in its automotive and auto body programs.
- In 1990, the Environmental Protection Agency provided a $500,000 nonmatching five-year grant to establish the Nebraska Environmental Training Center on the Hastings Campus. Through the center, more than 50 workshops were being offered annually. Based on its success, the EPA extended the grant for two additional years. Greg DuMonthier served as NETC director, and Herb Scott, who taught about half of the workshops himself, was NETC program coordinator. After DuMonthier resigned in the fall, Scott became the director. The growth of the center brought about its move from the Gausman Building to the Webster Building.
- Nebraska Gov. Ben Nelson appointed Dr. Robin Menschenfreund, dean of instruction, to the 30-member Nebraska Commission on the Status of Women.

Retired

- Marilyn Gerritsen of Hastings retired as a child care and human services instructor, a position she had held since 1973 when she joined the college staff. A registered nurse, she previously worked at Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital in a variety of positions, including instructor at the school of nursing and assistant director of nursing education. She has also been active in the community in a number of capacities.
- Leon Schafer of Johnson Lake retired as electrician, a position he held beginning in 1978. Prior to joining CCC, he worked for Krieger Electric in Hastings. Earlier he was a supply sergeant in the U.S. Air Force and worked at the Navy Ammunition Depot which later became the Hastings Campus. He also was a volunteer fireman for 20 years.
- Virginia Trail of Hastings retired as a printing assistant. Prior to joining CCC in 1989, she worked in commercial printing for 27 years. She also worked at a subcontracting firm where she wrote and edited the manuals for the Atlas and Titan missile systems.

In Memory

- Lillian Rasmussen Melton, 82, of Kearney died at Good Samaritan Hospital. She began at the campus in 1966 as a bookkeeper, later transferring to facilities and grounds. She retired in 1975 as secretary to the associate dean of students. She was remembered as having been a good and faithful employee.
- Kathy Gilbert, 36, of Hastings died at Mary Lanning Hospital after an extended illness. She was an accounting clerk at the campus for 13 years. She is remembered for the determination and grace with which she faced her illness and for her commitment to her family.
- Haskell Kirkland, 69, of Hastings died at Mary Lanning Hospital after an extended illness. He was a hotel, motel, and restaurant management instructor from 1970-88 and was the first recipient of the Outstanding Service Award. After being retired for two years, he returned as a part-time reading instructor. He is remembered as an especially accommodating person and as a hardworking and loyal faculty member.

Platte Campus

- Among the Nebraska Humanities Council programs presented on campus were: “Nebraska Folklore, Folkies, and Fakelore” by Winfield Dell and the department of history and geography at Nebraska Western College; “African-American Gospel Music” by Janice Collins Brooks, independent scholar of music; “Women Artists: Why We Don't Know Them” by Helen Lewis of Western Iowa Tech College; and “Pioneer Nebraska Women Writers” by Susan George, assistant professor of English at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.
- Plans to create a new Business Center were announced. The project included a 5,950-square-foot addition to the North Education Center and remodeling 2,500 square feet of existing space in order to

provide additional classroom space and allow accounting, business administration, data processing, and office technology to be in close proximity.

- Dr. Dick Shaink, campus president, presented a session at the Cooperative Education Association of Nebraska conference on marketing and getting employers to become involved in cooperative education programs.
- Ella Wenman, cooperative education/home economics instructor, was named Teacher/Coordinator of the Year by the Cooperative Education Association of Nebraska. Elaine Dvorak, cooperative education secretary, received the Distinguished Service Award from the same organization.
- Thirty-five of about 90 people who were eligible participated in the June General Educational Development graduation on the campus. Betsie Wotherspoon, Adult Basic Education coordinator, welcomed the graduates and their guests. Ann Chambers, ABE assistant/coordinator for the 25-county service area of CCC, gave the graduation address.
- Ed Eaton of Columbus was selected to participate in the Science and Engineering Research Semester by the U.S. Department of Energy. A pre-engineering graduate at Platte and an employee of Behlen Manufacturing at the time of his selection, Eaton's research appointment was at the Los Alamos National Laboratory.
- The state conference of the American Association of Women in Community Colleges was held on the campus. The keynote speaker was Dr. Gwendolyn Stephenson, chancellor at St. Louis Community College in Missouri.
- An Arbor Day tour to Nebraska City was sponsored by the Humphrey, East Butler, and Silver Creek community education programs and the Platte Campus. Arbor Lodge, Morton Apple Orchard, John Brown's Cave, and the Arbor Day Fair and Festival were among the attractions visited.
- The spring concert tour of the Chorale vocal ensemble included performances in Greenville, Miss., New Orleans; Disney World; Washington, D.C.; and St. Louis. John Putnam, music instructor, was director of the group.
- C. Thomas White, chief justice of the Nebraska Supreme Court, was the keynote speaker for graduation.
- James Havelka, superintendent of the Howells and Dodge public schools, was honored with an Outstanding Alumni Award. He received an associate of arts degree in education from the Platte Campus in 1971. In 1973, he was awarded a bachelor of science degree summa cum laude from Kearney State College. He then taught at Papillion-LaVista while finishing a master's degree at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and a specialist degree from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. He served as assistant principal at Aberdeen, S.D., and as superintendent at Rising City before accepting the Howells and Dodge position. Prior to enrolling at Platte, he served in the Marine Corps. While attending classes, he worked as a reporter at the Columbus Telegram.
- An original speech on writing by Dr. Emily Uzendoski, communications instructor, was published in "Writing it Down for James: Writers on Life and Craft" by Beacon Press.
- Dr. Mel Krutz, communications instructor, and Ray Plankinton, math instructor, were co-recipients of the Teacher of Excellence Award from the campus chapter of Phi Theta Kappa.
- About 2,100 students from 30 high schools participated in the District II Nebraska High School Activities Association Music Contest held on the campus.
- Doug Pauley, alternative fuels director, was selected to participate in a joint project between the National Automotive Technician Education Foundation and the Department of Energy to develop certification standards for programs to train alternative fuels technicians. Four trips to Washington, D.C. were involved in the project.
- Dick Abraham, art instructor, and Lee Robbins, communications instructor, organized and hosted the European Heritage Tour. Forty-eight persons composed of students, staff, and members from the community journeyed to Spain, England and France.
- The Platte Campus was one of six college sites to be designated as a regional training center for a national project on alternative fuel vehicles, each college receiving up to $35,000. According to Doug Pauley, coordinator of the alternative fuels program on the campus, the grant provided for a mobile "train the trainer" program, making it possible for the campus to provide on-site training in sev-

eral states including Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

- Alice Plettner, practical nursing instructor, was recipient of the Faculty Member of the Year Award. She joined CCC as a nursing instructor in 1971. She was cited as an excellent role model with both a very caring and professional attitude toward her students. Her outside activities included membership in the Nebraska Nurses Association, co-founder of the Parish Nurse Group within the Methodist Church, and serving as a Big Pal/Little Pal and I Can Cope volunteer. She served on the board of directors of the Rainbow Program and was treasurer of the campus chapter of the American Association of Women in Community Colleges.
- Beth Mierau, career planning and placement coordinator, was recipient of the Platte Person of the Year Award. She joined the college in 1989. She was cited for her pleasantness and her genuine commitment to make students her first priority. She was president of the campus chapter of the American Association of Women in Community Colleges and active in the American Association of Counseling and Development, American College Personnel Association, National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, and the Nebraska Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers.
- The Pathways and Partnerships Council, designed to involve leaders from a nine-county region in identifying career paths which elementary and secondary students should consider and the types of training and services workers needed to stay competitive in the job market, was established by the Platte Campus with the leadership of Dr. Dick Shaink, campus president. Council membership included employers, employees, educators, students from middle school through college, and representatives from community organizations. Counties represented on the council were Boone, Butler, Colfax, Greeley, Merrick, Nance, Platte, Polk, and Valley.
- A joint machine tool program was developed between the Platte Campus and Columbus High School, which continued from ninth grade through the second year of college. In the fall of 1995, the program had 39 high school juniors and 11 high school seniors taking machine tool courses at the campus.
- Rooms for 10 students were added to the residence center, bringing the capacity to 106.
- The Raider basketball team, coached by Jack Gutierrez, finished first in the Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference and qualified for the NJCAA Division II playoffs in Emporia, Kan., where they were defeated by Bismark State College.
- Four staff members received degrees: Shelly Cornwell, student services secretary, an associate of arts degree in social sciences from CCC; Leon Finecy, machine technology instructor, a bachelor of arts degree in business and management from Concordia College; Dee Johnson, resource center assistant, an associate of arts degree in business administration from CCC; and Jody Solbach, a bachelor of science degree in management from Bellevue University.

Albion Learning Center

- Kathleen Williams, manager of the Albion Learning Center, received the Distinguished Service Award from the Adult and Continuing Education Association. She was hired as manager of the Albion Learning Center in 1980. About 1993, she also became coordinator of the Albion Distance Learning Program provided by the college. She was cited for her genuine interest in people, her dedication, and helpfulness. ACEAN had previously recognized her with a Rookie of the Year Award.

Board of Governors

- The CCC Board of Governors unanimously passed a resolution opposing a proposal by State Senator Bob Wickersham to strip the community colleges in Nebraska of their authority to levy property taxes and replace them with state dollars. Dr. Joe Preusser, college president, said the community colleges were the only one of the three public college systems in the state that had recently closed programs or a campus in response to program demand or fiscal constraints. Preusser also pointed out that community colleges accounted for only 3 percent of total property taxes across the state, so

eliminating their ability to levy taxes would have provided little in the way of property tax relief.

- Harold "Mac" McClure of Kearney received the Governor's Award from the Nebraska Community College Association. He joined the CCC Board of Governors in 1989. He was cited for having served in all board offices, including chairman in 1993, for serving as a member of the NCCA board of directors, and representing the state's community colleges on the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission.
- Donavon Heimes of Columbus was appointed to the Board of Governors to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Jan Dannelly who had served since 1987. Heimes, an active Columbus businessman, represented District V which includes Butler, Colfax, Platte, and Polk counties and parts of Boone and Nance counties.
- The college governing board held its May meeting in Ord to establish a dialogue with local leaders about the role of the college in the community. At the time, CCC offered community education and Adult Basic Education classes and operated a learning center in Ord.
- The CCC Board of Governors approved a $20,279,951 operating budget for 1995-96. Also approved was a $340,000 budget for removal of hazardous materials and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, a $2.8 million capital improvement fund budget, and a $10.3 million budget for auxiliary accounts and revenue bonds. The budget total represented a 6.25 percent overall increase. Because of a $13 billion increase in property valuations in the 25 counties served by the college, however, the property tax levy was down 1.6 percent from the previous year.

College Administration

- Joni Ransom, news bureau director, won four awards in the annual Nebraska Press Women communications contest. She received first place for news reporting in an internal publication, first place for a nonprofit public relations promotion for the 1994 Great Plains Chautauqua in Hastings, second place for editing the Platte Campus Hilltop Review, and third place for editing the Central Connection. From the National Federation of Press Women, she won two awards: second place for the public relations promotion of the 1994 Great Plains Chautauqua and third place for the news story, "Aids in Nebraska: Norfolk woman shares her story."
- Ann Nowak, purchasing secretary, received an associate of applied science degree in accounting from CCC.

College Foundation

- Industrialist Jim Merrick and his wife, Norma, of Alda contributed a lead gift of $100,000 toward a $500,000 fund-raising campaign initiated by the CCC Foundation to help expand the Center for Industry and Technology at the Grand Island Campus and to increase scholarship funds for the campus. In addition to the lead gift, a gift of more than $100,000 was received from the Edgar Reynolds Foundation. More than 350 other donors from Aurora, Doniphan, Grand Island, Kearney, and Wood River contributed, allowing the campaign to exceed its goal by more than $70,000. Merrick and E.S. "Bud" Wolbach of Grand Island were honorary chairmen for the campaign. The chairmen were Doyle Hulme, manager of the Grand Island New Holland plant, and Larry Mace, president of Country General Stores.
- A memorial plaque honoring the late Dr. Pete Rush was unveiled at the Platte Campus following a fall meeting of the CCC Foundation. Rush's wife, Pat, and his son, Jeff, were in attendance.
- The fifth annual foundation dinner was held at the New World Inn in Columbus. The featured speaker was Daniel "Rudy" Ruettiger who authored the book, "Rudy's Rules" and was also the subject of the movie, "Rudy." In addition to speaking at the dinner, he spoke to area high school students and to college personnel at an all-college in-service.
- More than $10,000 was raised for scholarships at the fifth annual CCC Foundation Pro-Am Golf Tournament held at Lochland Country Club. About 125 people participated in the event, including 24 professionals.
- Ken Torczon of Columbus was inducted into the CCC Foundation Hall of Fame. Torczon was hailed as one of the community leaders responsible for founding Platte College in 1969. He was one of the original members appointed to serve on the Platte College governing board. When Platte and Central

merged, he was appointed to the Central Technical Community College Area governing board.

- Approximately 200 graduating students attended the breakfasts sponsored on each campus by the CCC Foundation and Alumni Association. A drawing was held for an autographed Nebraska national championship football at the conclusion of each breakfast.
- Sixty-four loans totaling $10,265 were made by the foundation through the special emergency student loan program during the 1994-95 college year.
- The foundation continued to assist the RAMBO program and the alternative fuels project.
- Total assets of the foundation increased to $2,692,008 as of June 30. Scholarship support of $160,000 had been provided, either directly or with flow-through dollars, during the college year.
- The Nebraska Public Power District Board of Directors presented $8,498 to CCC to be used for scholarships. The money was raised through the NPPD Nebraska Open and Invitational Pro-Am Golf Tournament, which resulted in $40,500 in scholarship funds being distributed to the five community college systems located within the service area of the power district.
- New Holland Manufacturing Inc. of Grand Island donated an industrial single-spindle computerized numerical control (CNC) machine to the Grand Island Campus as part of the capital fund-raising campaign of the foundation. New Holland provided the personnel and equipment needed to move the machine, valued at $35,000, from the factory to the Center for Industry and Technology at the campus.

College Web Site

- CCC developed its own Web site. Kristi Bish, reports technician in management and information systems, was given the responsibility of adding new information to the site as it evolved.

Community Education

- In addition to the regular Spanish classes being offered on the Platte and Grand Island campuses, Spanish classes were made available through community education in several locations. Interested employees were invited to enroll when possible.

Diversity Issues

- Lists of a wide variety of resources relating to diversity issues available at the three campuses and the college administrative office were published in the “Central Connection.”

Financial Aid Workshops

- The three CCC financial aid directors, Steve Millnitz of the Grand Island Campus, Vicki Kucera of the Hastings Campus, and Sandi Schmidt of the Platte Campus, continued their practice of providing financial aid workshops to area high school students and their parents. Together, they conducted about 20 workshops.

Holdrege Center

- The Holdrege Center was re-established as the result of $40,000 being allocated for that purpose by the CCC Board of Governors. Diana Watson was named as the secretary and Barb Allen was the part-time coordinator who assumed the management of educational services provided by the college in Franklin, Harlan, Kearney, and Phelps counties with the supervision of Bob Baker, associate dean for community education at the Hastings Campus. The Holdrege Center had first been open from 1981 to 1986 with Judy Cestaro as the part-time coordinator.
- Diana Watson, secretary, was named the 1995 Young Careerist by the Holdrege Business and Professional Women’s Club.
- A contribution by Becton-Dickinson Co. made it possible for the college to offer computer classes in the Holdrege area. The donation was used to purchase laptop computers to provide on-site computer training at Becton-Dickinson and other businesses and industries as well as at the Holdrege Center, which coordinates programs offered by the college in 21 communities located in Franklin, Harlan, Kearney, and Phelps counties.

Kearney Center

Retired

- Marilyn Carlson of Kearney retired as coordinator of the Kearney practical nursing program. She

joined the college in that position in 1970 at the same time that the nursing program became part of CCC. Prior to working for the college, she was head nurse in the ICU at Good Samaritan Hospital. She had also served as a nurse and as a missionary, spending three years in Africa and two years in Belgium.

In Memory

- Marion Melson, 76, of Kearney died at Good Samaritan Hospital. She spent the last 17 years of her career as a registered nurse and as a geriatric nursing instructor for CCC in Kearney before she retired in 1984. She is remembered as an instructor who was well liked by her students.

Library Automation

- An automation process was completed by the college which allowed students, college staff, and the public to access catalogs of the library holdings of all three campuses. Metropolitan Community College made the automation possible at a reduced cost by sharing its library computer hardware and software.

Lexington Center

- Barbara Vondras, a business administration student through the distance learning program in Lexington, was named the Outstanding Postsecondary Vocational Education Student by the Nebraska Council on Vocational Education. She pursued the degree while continuing to work full-time and remain active in community affairs. She served as an advisory board member for the Dawson Area Development Leadership Program, as a task force member for the Lexington Women's Center, and as a member of the Board of Trustees for the Nebraska P.E.O. Home. She also was the community liaison for the Alternative Spring Break Program for students from Vanderbilt University.
- Twelve high school seniors received training as part of a cooperative effort by CCC-Lexington Center, Lexington Public Schools, Nebraska Job Training, the Lexington Chamber of Commerce, and participating businesses. CCC provided instruction on customer service, time management, communication skills, and worker responsibility. When the classroom training was completed, the students worked part-time at one of the participating businesses. Nebraska Job Training provided supervision and support for the students at the work sites.

Peer Institutions

- The Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education identified 12 peer institutions for Central Community College for purposes of comparison and study. Those institutions were:
  - Aims Community College, Greeley, Colo.
  - Fox Valley Technical College, Appleton, Wis.
  - Indian Hills Community College, Ottumwa, Iowa
  - Laramie County Community College, Cheyenne, Wyo.
  - Metropolitan Community College, Omaha, Neb.
  - Mid-Plains Community College, North Platte, Neb.
  - Moraine Park Technical College, Fond Du Lac, Wis.
  - North Central Technical College, Wausau, Wis.
  - North Idaho College, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
  - Southeast Community College, Lincoln, Neb.
  - Southeastern Community College, West Burlington, Iowa
  - Trinity Valley Community College, Athens, Texas

  The chief executive officers of each institution were asked to complete a questionnaire providing basic information about the college. They were also asked to identify the major issues they perceived community colleges to be facing. In the fall of 1995, Dr. Joe Preusser, college president, visited eight of the peer institutions. Dr. Dennis Tyson, vice president of educational services, visited the remaining four, concluding in the spring of 1996. A report was then prepared for the CCC Board of Governors.

Student Records Procedures

- A collegewide student services committee was formed in 1994 to review student records procedures and recommend changes so full services could be provided to students at any campus site. "Our initial goal was to allow students to register,

be invoiced, and make payments for any class at any campus site," said Linda Kruse, college accountant and a member of the committee. The committee exceeded that goal and developed a new mailer that included a complete schedule of a student's on- and off-campus classes and a single billing for those classes.

Tech Prep

- The college signed agreements with five additional high schools to develop Tech Prep programs. They were Clay Center, Grand Island, Harvard, Lexington, and Shelton. Seven other schools that had previously joined were Centura, Genoa, Gibbon, Grand Island Northwest, Kearney, Minden, and Sandy Creek.
- Instructors from eight high schools participated in a Tech Prep training workshop held at Northwest High School in Grand Island.
- CCC was the sponsor for a "Schools that Work" Tech Prep/Integration Conference at Kearney under the direction of Kevin Miller, CCC Tech Prep coordinator. At that time, about 70 high schools were involved in Tech Prep consortiums with one of the six Nebraska community colleges.

CCC Foundation Hall of Fame

By Dave Fulton, Retired Columbus Campus History Instructor

In 1993, the Central Community College Foundation established the CCC Hall of Fame as a way to honor individuals who have demonstrated exceptional support for the college and its mission over the years. Honorees are announced during the annual appreciation dinner.

A permanent display honoring members of the Hall of Fame was dedicated in July 2000. Plaques bearing pictures and brief descriptions of the exemplary support of each Hall of Fame member are displayed in the entrance to the college administrative offices in Grand Island.

"The support of the Hall of Fame recipients permanently benefits the college, and we thought it was appropriate to have a permanent display to recognize their achievements on behalf of the college," said CCC Foundation Executive Director Jack Crowley.

Current members of the Hall of Fame include:

Lois Behlen of Columbus was selected as the first member of the College Foundation Hall of Fame in 1993. She has been a staunch supporter of Central Community College for more than 30 years and was a leader in the foundation kickoff fund-raising campaigns.

Ken Wortman of Aurora received the honor in 1994. He was instrumental in creating Central Community College and served on the CCC Board of Governors from its inception until his death in 2004.

Ken Torczon of Columbus was named in 1995. He was instrumental in founding a college campus at Columbus and served as a member of the first Platte College board after the campus was established in 1969.

CCC Foundation Hall of Fame members shown in this 2003 photo are then College President Dr. Joe Preusser, now of Fairfield Bay, Ark.; Carol Cope, Kearney; Rita and Bud Fleischer, Columbus; Ken Wortman, Aurora; Lois Behlen, Columbus; Ken Torczon, Columbus; and Norma Merrick, Alda.

Wuanita Butler and the Butler family of Hastings were selected for membership in 1997. They were recognized for their early and continuing support of the college and the foundation.

Norma and Jim Merrick of Grand Island were also chosen for membership in 1997. They were honored for their outstanding leadership in a successful capital improvement campaign for the Grand Island Campus.

Delores and Dale Watley of Centerville, Iowa, formerly of Hastings, were honored as members in 1998. They were recognized for establishing a small business incubator loan fund to provide low-interest loans to startup businesses through the Small Business Institute on the Hastings Campus.

Carol Cope and her late husband, Ron, of Kearney received the honor in 2000. They were cited for supporting the development of the CCC-Kearney Center and establishing the Ron and Carol Cope Foundation Scholarship Fund for CCC nursing students.

Bud and Rita Fleischer of Columbus were selected in 2001 for their long-standing support of CCC and the CCC Foundation, most notably through their ongoing commitment to the development and improvement of the Columbus Campus.

Dr. Joseph Preusser of Fairfield Bay, Ark., was honored in 2002 for his 31 years of dedicated service to CCC, including 18 years as the college president, and in grateful appreciation for his ongoing support of CCC students through the endowment of the Preusser Scholarship Fund with the CCC Foundation.

Dr. Jack Yost and his late wife, June, of Hastings were chosen in 2004 in grateful recognition and appreciation for their ongoing support of CCC and the establishment of the June Yost Nursing Scholarship Fund.

1996

Music, Music, Music

"On the Road Again" could easily have become the annual theme song for the Chorale and Cantari singing groups that represented CCC and the Platte Campus. Once again in 1996, the ensembles prepared to take to the road for performances in Nebraska and elsewhere in the United States. The Chorale, and a smaller ensemble selected from members of the Chorale called the Cantari, were the groups which toured. Beginning in 1971, John Putnam, director and founder of the two groups and music instructor at the Platte Campus, prepared his singers to hit the road for another year of performances. Putnam joined the Platte Campus faculty in 1971 and was given the task of initiating a music program. Putnam's ensembles earned a fine reputation for their upbeat and innovative performances. Mastering the music and choreography required many hours and days of rehearsals from the students who were members of the groups. There was a new theme each year, which meant there were new tunes and new dance steps for the students to learn each fall semester. While the number of student performers in the groups varied each year, 20 to 25 student singers were typical. They were very dedicated students who clearly enjoy performing, and their enthusiasm was communicated to their audiences.

While some of the members of the ensembles planned to major in music after they transferred to a four-year college or university, membership in the singing groups was open to all students at the Platte Campus, regardless of their future areas of study. Wide ranges of program majors were represented over the years. All the members of the singing groups were required to complete a satisfactory number of credit hours each semester and earn satisfactory grades in order to remain in the singing groups.

The Chorale and Cantari were successful ambassadors for CCC and the music program at the Platte Campus. While it is difficult to quantify the impact they had on recruiting students for CCC, it is clear that they presented to the public the quality that CCC works to maintain in all its programs. Each spring the groups visited and performed at more than 20 Nebraska high schools, and each year the Chorale and Cantari toured and performed in locations outside of Nebraska. Under the direction of John Putnam, the Chorale and Cantari established a national reputation with their impressive performance style. The vocal ensembles were invited to perform in many places throughout the United States, and more importantly, were invited to return to places to perform again. One example of their performances being well received and being asked back is the 1997 invitation to perform at Disney World. The singing group was invited to perform at the 25th birthday of Disney World, and this marked the 20th appearance of the Chorale and Cantari at one of Disney's Magic Kingdom attractions. The annual spring and summer tours beginning in 1971 took the singing ensembles to Europe, the Bermuda Music

Cantari was a vocal music ensemble founded during the early years of the Columbus Campus. Music instructor John Putnam (standing, center) is shown with members of the 1973-74 Cantari in this publicity photo.

Festival, on cruise ships and many places in the United States. A partial list of places in the United States where the Chorale and Cantari performed included: Disney World; Disneyland; Sea World; Knott's Berry Farm; Washington, D.C.; New Orleans; St. Louis; Greenville, Miss.; Las Cruces, N.M.; and Sun City, Flagstaff and Tucson, Ariz.

Central Community College and especially the Platte Campus were well represented wherever John Putnam's singers performed. A special loyalty and a strong bond were built up among the performers. That special bond carries on beyond the years they actually performed for the college. Periodic "homecoming" gatherings of former members of the Chorale and Cantari have been well attended, and it is easy to see how meaningful those years of performing together were. In the years since Putnam formed the singing groups in 1971, several hundred students had the opportunity to perform and be special ambassadors for CCC and the Platte Campus music program as they presented their music to appreciative audiences in many locations.

Grand Island Campus

- CCC received approval from the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education to implement an associate degree of applied science degree program in criminal justice. The program was established on the Grand Island Campus with individual courses available at all campus sites via satellite.
- Vicki Mackenstadt, communications and personal development instructor, was awarded the 1995 Faculty Award by the Nebraska Community College Association at its annual convention in February 1996. Mackenstadt was recognized for her pioneering work in distance learning and early entry programs, which offered English composition courses to several high schools via satellite broadcasts.

During its annual convention in February 1996, the Nebraska Community College Association awarded its 1995 Faculty Member of the Year Award to Vicki Mackenstadt, Grand Island Campus communications and personal development instructor.

- Thomas Conlon, director of development for Central Nebraska Goodwill Industries, received an Outstanding Alumni Award during commencement exercises. He received an associate of applied science degree in commercial horticulture in 1986 and an associate of applied science degree in business administration in 1988. In his position, he was responsible for the annual and capital campaigns, special events, and planned giving program throughout the 22-county service area of Central Nebraska Goodwill Industries. He also had earned a bachelor's degree in education in 1968 and a master of public administration degree in 1991 from the University of Nebraska at Omaha.
- A jointly supported cultural awareness project held an open house to show the progress that had been made with the "Visions and Voices" project, a joint effort sponsored by the Community Committee on Cultural Diversity, Grand Island Public Schools, the Grand Island Chamber of Commerce and the CCC-Grand Island.
- Communications instructor Terry Lee Schifferns had three of her works published. Two poems were published by the "Many Mountains Moving" literary journal and a short essay was published by "Rhythms for Women," a daily desk calendar publisher. Two other poems were accepted for publication in other literary journals.
- Jeanne Webb, child care instructor, was co-chairwoman for the Midwest Association for the Education of Young Children Conference held in Lincoln. Some 3,000 professionals from 12 states attended the conference. She also attended the annual convention of the National Association for the Education of Young Children in Dallas, Texas.
- Dr. Eric Jones, management information systems officer for the college since 1984, was appointed

dean of educational services on the Grand Island Campus, replacing Dr. LaVern Franzen who became the Hastings Campus president.

- Electronics instructor Fred Roeser was elected the educator division chairman of the Electronics Technicians Association International at a convention in Fairbault, Minn.
- Pam Price, admissions director, started her term as president of the Nebraska Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers.
- Steve Millnitz, financial aid director, was installed as president of the Nebraska Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators at the spring conference. Millnitz has served as community college representative and president-elect of the Nebraska association, which is a member of the eight-state Rocky Mountain Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.
- The campus was the host for the sixth annual Job Fair for Nurses. Thirty-two facilities which provide nursing care in central Nebraska were represented at the event, along with 76 nursing students and 34 faculty and staff. Students were given the chance to visit with prospective employers and investigate possibilities of furthering their nursing education.
- Some 3,000 students from 85 elementary schools attended the eighth annual Children's Groundwater Festival at the Grand Island Campus. The festival was co-sponsored by CCC, Cargill Inc., and Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District. Special guests on hand included U.S. Geological Survey Director Dr. Gordon Eaton and Nebraska Gov. Ben Nelson.
- The campus Alpha Tau Tau Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa initiated 42 new members. Chapter adviser Bob Sanner reported the new officers elected for 1996-97 included Audrey Volk of Grand Island, president; Kristi Peters of Hastings, vice president; Colette Loseke of Kearney, secretary; and Shirley McKinney of Fullerton, treasurer.
- An operational computer-integrated manufacturing (CIM) cell hookup between Central Community College-Grand Island and Chadron State College was completed. Instructor Dana Wert said the hookup allowed students and staff at Chadron State to operate a CIM cell located in Grand Island that contains two robots and a computer numeric controlled lathe. A telephone connection between the two campuses allowed computer signals to be transmitted and a satellite audiovisual contact was also established between the two campuses. The CIM operation benefited educational training needs for manufacturing engineering students and helped fulfill the needs of industry.

Retired

- Gene Budde of Cairo retired as business administration instructor, a position he accepted in l976. Having had a varied background, he was known as a personable, well informed, and energetic instructor who was active in many community affairs.

Hastings Campus

- Dr. Judy Dresser, campus president, announced her resignation to take a position as executive vice president of instructional services at Lake Washington Technical College in Kirkland, Wash.
- Todd Jensen, store manager for Friend's Motor Supply in Aurora, received an Outstanding Alumni Award during commencement exercises. He graduated in 1979 with an associate of applied science degree in parts sales and management. After graduation, he became a member of the advisory committee of the program and provided career guidance sessions for students in the program. In 1995, he was named Outstanding Salesman of the Year by the National Auto Parts Association/Omaha Distribution Center. He was also named Optimist of the Year by the Aurora Optimist Club.
- Jason Cockrell, a chief electronics technician in the U.S. Coast Guard, received an associate of applied science degree in electronics. He was chosen for the Advanced Computer and Training Program of the Coast Guard through which senior technicians are sent to civilian colleges to earn associate of applied science degrees. Cockrell chose the Hastings Campus because of the quality of the electronics program, because it was relatively close to Chadron where his parents were living, and because the system of individualized instruction allowed him to move faster through material with which he was already familiar.
- The Hastings Campus opened an office at the Imperial Mall in Hastings. Students could register for classes at the new site and complete some course work there.

- Alan Hartley, associate dean of instruction, received the 12th annual Outstanding Service Award at a staff recognition assembly on the campus. In addition to being a popular faculty leader, he was recognized for having been instrumental in many campus projects involving technology. He helped design the campus radio station, designed and supervised the installation of the first distance learning classroom and microwave link to Hastings College, helped with the design and installation of the campus computer network, and developed a proposal whereby Hastings Campus students helped to build more than 150 computers for CCC.
- Beverly Denman, coordinator of the Adult Basic Education program, reported that 15 inmates at the Hastings Correctional Center received GED diplomas. Since 1989 when the program began at the Correctional Center in Hastings, 265 inmates had earned GED diplomas.
- The Hastings Campus, with funding and support of the Nebraska Assistive Technology Project, the CCC Foundation, and Thermo King Corporation, launched the Rural Education Accessibilities Project (REAP). This outreach project assisted individuals with disabilities to achieve greater independence at home, school, and in the workplace through the use of assistive technology. The technology included a voice-activated computer and a "reader" that can scan a page and then read it as well as other assisted technology devices.
- Marilyn Lange, supervisor of the truck driving program, was a presenter at a Las Vegas convention of the Association of Publicly Funded Truck Driving Schools held in March 1996. Lange served on the executive board and was a member of the association's legislative committee.
- The CCC Board of Governors named Dr. LaVern Franzen as president of the Hastings Campus. He joined the CCC faculty as an accounting instructor at the Hastings Campus in 1967 and served as chairman of the business occupation programs on that campus, associate dean of the Lexington Center of CCC, and dean of instruction at the Grand Island Campus.
- A unique program, funded by a Carl D. Perkins Grant, offered a special eight-week truck driving course for women. The program was designed to help women become more self-sufficient – especially women who were single parents or displaced homemakers. Twelve students took part in the course during the program's first year. The successful innovative approach was recognized by the American Association for Women in Community Colleges with a Model Programs Award. Nancy Bjorklund, transitions program director, accepted the award in Atlanta on behalf of CCC.
- Jaunice Meyers, admissions secretary, received a $2,000 individual artist's fellowship from the Nebraska Arts Council for playwriting. Her full-length play, "Carrion," was in competition with a wide variety of works from the creative arts.
- Bob Glenn, admissions and recruiting director, received the Spirit Award at the annual awards convocation. The award is presented to an individual or campus organization that has shown outstanding support and commitment to the campus. Glenn was cited for helping students get a good start at CCC, for filling in as "Dorm Dad" at Clay Hall when a vacancy occurred, and for his devotion to the college.
- Recipients of Student Senate Appreciation Awards included the following: Dr. Mike Chipps, dean of students; Nancy Fricke, student services testing technician; Bob Glenn, admissions and recruiting director; Wayne Huntley, parts sales and management instructor; Brad Lang, agriculture instructor; Deb Schmitz, student services secretary; Breck Tuttle, assistant electronics technician; and Joanne Wieland, medical assisting and health care administration instructor; the physical plant staff; and the staff of Professional Food Service Management.
- Dr. Mike Chipps, dean of students, served on an international educational consultant team in Germany. The purpose of the team's visit was to assess and help improve the quality of college and university programs at military installations around the world.
- Latham Mortensen, welding instructor, earned certification as a welding educator and welding inspector from the American Welding Society. Mortensen was required to pass a six-hour examination and a skilled welding test for his certification.
- Bob Shields, counselor, had an article published in the "International Forum of Logotherapy Journal." Shield's article was titled "Meaning Potentials of Burnout in Helping Professions." Logotherapy is a form of psychotherapy based on the premise that

people must have meaning in their lives to be mentally healthy.

- Lori VanBoening, science technology instructor, was one of 16 people selected to participate in a program sponsored by the National Science Foundation and Georgetown University. Participants were part of a one-week program designed to begin the process of developing a standardized biotechnology curriculum by examining industry skills and standards.
- Dr. Georgianna Whipple-VanPatter, chemistry instructor, received the Catalyst Regional Award for Excellence in Chemistry Teaching from the Chemical Manufacturers Association. As a Catalyst Award winner, Whipple-VanPatter received a certificate, a medallion, and $2,500.
- Custom application technology became a new option in the CCC agriculture program. Due to the high demand for trained operators from the fertilizer and chemical dealerships, two-year degree and one-year diploma options were initiated in the agriculture program. CCC was the only school in Nebraska to offer such a program.
- Ron Meyer, electronics instructor, passed the national certification exam for construction code inspectors. Meyer was certified as an inspector for one- and two-family dwellings and electrical general.
- The 13th annual Outstanding Service Award was presented to Dee Cochrane, associate dean of business and health occupations, at a staff recognition assembly. Cochrane was recognized for her character, intelligence, and integrity, and for her many contributions to the college and community. She began her employment at CCC in 1984 as a part-time instructor in business and management.
- Sherri Portenier, registration technician, received an associate of arts degree in academic transfer from CCC.

Retired

- Carl Brown retired as associate dean of industrial occupations. He joined the faculty of the Hastings Campus in 1967 as an electronics instructor and was later promoted to chief instructor. During his tenure he also served as acting chairperson, chairperson, associate dean, and acting dean of instruction.
- Dick Downey of Hastings retired as a printing technology instructor, a position he accepted in l981. Before joining CCC he had experience as a printer and shop owner, as a printing teacher and adult educator, as a vocational department supervisor for the Missouri Department of Education, and as a member of a special contract division where he helped set up and operate schools for Arabian students in the Middle East.
- Dick Longwith of Hastings retired as an automotive instructor, a position he held beginning in 1983. Prior to becoming a faculty member, he worked as a mechanic for several dealerships and owned and operated Longwith Sales in Hastings for 13 years. He was awarded Automotive Service Excellence certification through several automotive training programs.
- Dr. Jan McReynolds of Harvard retired from a position as psychology instructor. She joined the CCC faculty in l976. She earned master's degrees from both UNL and Creighton before completing a doctorate from UNL.

In Memory

- Edwin Minnick, 70, died unexpectedly in Tucson, Arizona. He served as dean of students from the beginning of the campus in 1966 until his retirement in 1988. He served as interim campus president in 1984. He is remembered for his dedication to CCC and for his kind and friendly approach.
- Henry (Herky) Weber, age 69, died on February 2 in Hastings. He joined the CCC staff in 1973 as a boiler fireman and then later worked with security. He retired in 1989 as assistant plumber and assistant boiler fireman.

Platte Campus

- Robert Stachura, vice president and executive manager of Douglas and Lomason Company in Columbus, received an Outstanding Alumni Award during commencement exercises. He graduated from Platte in 1972 and from Kearney State College in 1979. He worked as an industrial engineer at Dale Electronics and Fleischer Manufacturing before joining Douglas and Lomason in 1974. He was elected vice president in 1990.
- The 26th annual Fine Arts Festival, under the leadership of Richard Abraham, was held on the campus. Some 300 examples of student work were displayed and represented a wide range of media

and subject matter. The public had the opportunity to buy some of the pieces.

- Nick Wagoner earned alternative fuel light duties certification in compressed natural gas from the National Institute for Automotive Excellence. Only one percent of ASE-certified automotive technicians had passed the specialized written exam, which tested competence in converting vehicles to use compressed natural gas and providing service to them.
- Karin Rieger, community education regional coordinator, was honored at the fourth annual Rural Enterprise Assistance Project Conference in Columbus. Rieger received the "Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Every Time" award for her support.
- Carol Taczek and Ella Wenman, staff advisers for the Phi Theta Kappa chapter at the Columbus Campus, were awarded the Paragon Award for New Advisers at the International Phi Theta Kappa convention in Washington, D.C. The award is presented to deserving advisers from among the more than 1,200 chapters of the scholastic honorary society. Taczek and Wenman were honored for their contributions that led to the success of the local Columbus Campus chapter.
- The Faculty Member of the Year was Pat Karsk, nursing instructor on the campus since 1980. She was recognized for the excellent rapport she maintained with the nursing students and with staff members, her outstanding teaching skills and her high degree of professionalism.
- Platte Person of the Year was Kathy Harsh. She joined the Columbus Campus staff in 1972 and worked in a variety of secretarial positions on campus and became staff assistant in 1989. Harsh was recognized for her dedication and enthusiasm, and her willingness to go the extra mile.

Retired

- Dr. Mel Krutz retired as a communications instructor. Dr. Krutz joined the CCC staff in 1989. Prior to teaching at CCC she taught English courses for Hastings College and Concordia University.
- Dick Bentz retired as the physical education instructor. Bentz joined the CCC staff in 1978. He was a high school coach for many years before coming to CCC, and was a well- known athletic official for high school and college athletic contests in Nebraska.
- Alice Plettner, of Columbus retired as a clinical nursing instructor, a position she held beginning in l971. Among her several community activities related to human services and health care, she had experience as a parish nurse and taught parish nurse training through CCC.
- Mary Lou Holmberg of Columbus retired as curriculum development coordinator. She was the first faculty member hired when the Columbus Campus opened in 1969. She developed the practical nursing program for the campus and served as director of the program until 1988 when she transferred to the Grand Island Campus to develop the associate degree in nursing program. She served as associate dean of nursing until 1995 when she became curriculum coordinator.
- Ray Plankinton of Columbus retired as a mathematics instructor, a position he held beginning in 1971. Prior to joining the CCC faculty, he taught at Emmetsburg Junior College in Iowa. He served as a member of the board of trustees of the Nebraska Hemophilia Chapter.

AAWCC

- The American Association for Women in Community Colleges presented the 1996 Presidential Award to Dr. Joseph Preusser during its annual conference in Atlanta. The award was presented to a person who showed exceptional support of the AAWCC by promoting issues that concern women and encouraging others in their institutions to become more involved.

Board of Governors

- Don Anderson of Grand Island was elected the chairman of the Central Community College Board of Governors for 1996. Other officers selected were Bill Schneider of Dwight as vice chairman, Paul Liess of Cambridge as secretary, and Tom Pirnie of Grand Island as treasurer.
- The Central Community College Board of Governors approved construction bids for projects on the Columbus and Grand Island campuses. The construction projects totaled about $1.l million dollars and were used to increase the classroom space on each campus. Grand Island received an addition to the Center for Industry and Technology, and the Columbus Campus received an addition to the

North Education Center as well as some renovation in that building.

College Administration

- Joni Ransom, CCC news director, won three awards in the Nebraska Press Women's Communication contest. She won first-place awards for writing and news photography in an internal publication and a second-place award for newsletter editing.
- Tom Peters, data processing instructor at the Grand Island Campus beginning in 1981, became the computer manager for the college, replacing Dr. Eric Jones, who became the dean of educational services at the Grand Island Campus.
- The practice of selecting a faculty representative to serve on the College Cabinet was inaugurated. Marcy Echternacht, nursing instructor at the Grand Island Campus, was chosen to be the first to serve in that capacity for the 1996-97 college year.

College Foundation

- The CCC Foundation initiated a new charitable gift annuity plan. Under the provisions of the plan, donors could make a gift to the college but were able to retain lifetime rights to a tax-free, fixed-rate income as long as they were alive. The value of such gifts strengthened the financial future of the college and provided opportunities to help students finance their education.
- Despite rainy weather, the 1996 CCC Foundation Pro-Am Golf Tournament raised almost $10,000 to be used for student scholarships by CCC students. About 115 people played in the tournament that was held at the Elks Country Club in Columbus.
- Air Force Captain Scott O'Grady was the keynote speaker at the annual CCC Foundation recognition dinner. O'Grady was shot down by a surface-to-air missile in June 1995 while helping to enforce the no-fly zone over Bosnia. He was forced to eject from his damaged F-16, and he spent the next six days evading searchers before he was rescued.
- Also receiving Hall of Fame awards at the annual CCC Foundation dinner were Jim and Norma Merrick of Alda. A scholarship fund established by the Merricks had already provided $37,000 in financial assistance to 45 CCC students. In addition, the couple made a $100,000 lead gift to the capital campaign for the Grand Island Campus.

Distance Learning

- Central Community College received a $19,548 grant from the U.S. West Foundation to improve distance learning training in Nebraska. A spokesperson for U.S. West stated that teachers and students in Nebraska needed to know how to best use the new technology, and the grant provided opportunities for that training. CCC used the grant in its partnership with the Tri-Valley Distance Education Consortium which included 17 sites where distance education training was conducted.

English as a Second Language

- U.S. Rep. Bill Barrett visited the English as a Second Language classrooms of CCC at the old Walnut Junior High building in Grand Island. In talking with the students, he found that they came from many different countries, that some had been prisoners of war, that some had been college students, and that still others had left professional careers to come to the United States.

HIMS

- The Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education gave approval to CCC to offer an associate of applied science degree in health information management services in cooperation with Nebraska Western Community College. The two colleges shared resources and delivery of instruction through telecommunications.

Tech Prep

- The CCC Tech Prep Consortium, in partnership with the chambers of commerce from Columbus, Grand Island, Hastings, Kearney, Lexington, and Schuyler sponsored a two-week summer internship program for teachers. Participants had an opportunity to determine firsthand the skills that were required in the workplace. Teachers from 17 area schools served as interns in the "Building Partnerships" project. High school science teachers from several area high schools participated in a training workshop on the Hastings Campus, learning how best to teach the principles of a technology curriculum in order to give students a strong understanding of physics and how it is used in the world of work. Dr. Don Carlson, a physics professor from the University of Nebraska at Kearney, led the workshop.

1997

CCC Makes Positive Economic Impact on the Area

In 1996, Central Community College commissioned the Applied Social Research Unit of Illinois State University to conduct a study of the economic benefits the college brought to the 25-county area the college serves. The economic impact study, titled "Economic Impact Study: A Study of the Income Generation, Job Creation, and Credit Base Expansion Effect of the Community College on the Local District," was completed by the Research Unit of ISU and published in July 1997.

College Accounted for $19 Million in Income

The first of the economic benefits considered in the study was income generation. The study found that in 1996 Central Community College made purchases in excess of $6 million and had a total employee payroll (take-home pay) of more than $9.1 million. College Foundation expenditures and capital expenditures were more than $1.6 million and financial aid to students amounted to almost $2.6 million. Total income generated in the service area in 1996 was $19,315,416. The report further stated that these factors alone did not represent the total amount of income generated by Central Community College because the $19.3 million generated by the college created further spending by local businesses and individuals not directly associated with CCC. The study indicated that for each new dollar that had been spent by CCC in 1996, additional local spending was produced. Using a multiplier of 2.0, the total income generation effect of CCC spending was $38,630,832 for 1996 – clearly a substantial contribution to the local economy in the CCC service area.

As CCC continued to grow, so did its impact on the economy of central Nebraska. A 1996 study showed that the college generated more than $19 million in income within its 25-county service area.

Job Creation Tops 2,700 Mark

The second major economic benefit considered in the study was job creation. During 1996, the study showed the full-time equivalent number of faculty, staff, and administrative employees of CCC totaled 1,182. The college provided jobs for area residents both directly and indirectly. The study indicated that many additional jobs were created indirectly as a result of the financial transactions of the college and its employees. It was estimated that because of the existence of the college, an additional 1,545 jobs were created locally. Combined with the 1,182 jobs directly related to employment by the college and the 1,545 indirect jobs resulting from business generated by the college and its employees, the study indicated it was reasonable to conclude that more than 2,727 jobs were available in the central Nebraska region in 1996 due to the existence and operation of CCC. The Illinois State University researchers based their conclusion on a job-creation coefficient of 80 jobs for each $1,000,000 of college expenditures.

Credit Base Expanded by $10 Million

The third major economic benefit considered in the study was the expansion of the area credit base. The study found that financial institutions throughout the CCC area benefited from the investments and checking and savings deposits made by CCC and its employees. Those funds added to the credit base of those financial institutions and increased the availability of funds for business and consumer loans. In 1996, the economic impact study indicated CCC had an average of $9,307,316 in deposits and investments with area financial institutions. In addition, of the $9,111,036 of take-home income earned by college employees living in the service area, it was estimated that approximately 8 percent or $728,154 was added to the credit base of area financial institutions. These dollars then flowed through the area in the form of loans, and served as a stimulus to the local economy. The total expansion of the area credit base attributed to CCC and its employees amounted to $9,307,316 plus $728,154, or $10,035,470.

Although an institution of higher education is generally regarded as an educational asset to a region, the study showed that in addition to providing educational services and improving the quality of life for area residents, Central Community College added substantially to the economic well-being of the central region of Nebraska and represented a “return-on-investment” for those who paid taxes to help support the operation of the college in 1996.

Substantial portions of the above article were taken from the Economic Impact Study report and from related materials provided by the Research Unit of Illinois State University.

Grand Island Campus

- A 10,400-square-foot addition to the Center for Industry and Technology was dedicated Feb. 20, 1997. Special recognition at the dedication was given to Jim and Norma Merrick of Alda for their leadership and financial support in making the expansion project possible. The new addition housed the automotive technology program and provided additional classroom space and shop areas.
- Drafting students were involved in assisting Stuhr Museum with a special project. The drafting students, under the direction of instructor Paul Sears, drew the floor plans and elevations of the buildings located in the museum’s Railroad Town. There were several historic buildings and homes in that area of the museum, including the birthplace of Henry Fonda and the railroad depot. Drafting students worked on nearly 20 museum buildings in the project.
- Mary Klein was honored as alumnus of the year at the graduation ceremonies. Klein was a member of the first class to graduate with an associate degree in nursing at the campus in 1991. Nursing was her original goal, but she was persuaded to change her major to zoology and earned a bachelor of science degree from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln in 1971. She worked as an assistant to the head of virology at Norden Labs, was a buyer for Ben Simon Clothing, and started and ran her own catering business in Grand Island before deciding to return to college at the Grand Island Campus. After earning her nursing degree from CCC, she became employed as a registered nurse at St. Francis Medial Center in the hospice department.

- Communications instructor Maureen Hoffman had one of her essays published in a new book titled "Courage of Conviction: Women's Words, Women's Wisdom." Her essay, "Tillie Olsen: Catching a Lifetime in a Phrase," was a rewrite of her 1990 master's thesis.
- The Child Care Center celebrated its 10th anniversary with an open house. Director Jeanne Webb noted how the operation of the Child Care Center had changed over the last decade. Enrollment steadily increased and the center became licensed to handle 26 children. The child care program was also expanded to allow students to earn a certificate, a diploma and an associate of applied science degree as they gain work experience at the center.
- Terry Lee Schifferns, communications instructor, was honored for her contributions at a book publications party held at Devils Tower National Monument in Wyoming. Schifferns was one of more than 50 contributors who attended a kickoff celebration for the release of the book, "Leaning into the Wind: Women Write from the Heart of the West." The event included readings, book signings, and a barbecue hosted by the Crook County Cattlewomen.
- Linda Dalton, nursing instructor, was one of nine nurses in the nation elected to participate in the Ambassador 2000 Program sponsored by the Oncology Education Service Association. The oncology group is a national organization that promotes sharing information about managing pain, fatigue, and nutrition in cancer care with the general public and health care professionals. Dalton provided seminars on the subjects through the Ambassador 2000 Program.
- Dee Rogers, art instructor, received the 1997 Association of Nebraska Art Clubs Art Award. Representing more than 50 art clubs in Nebraska, the association presents the award annually to an individual who made an outstanding contribution to art and art education in the state. Rogers taught art at Grand Island High School for 25 years before retiring.
- The Electronics Technicians Association International elected electronics instructor Fred Roeser as secretary and treasurer of the certified technician division.
- Contryman Associates P.C. in Grand Island and the Grand Island Campus developed a partnership effort that allowed information technology students to receive extensive training on the AS/400 computer located at Contryman Associates.
- Dr. Eric Jones, dean of educational services, graduated from the Institute of Leadership Training and Development. The institute is a program created by the Chair Academy in Mesa, Ariz. Jones was eligible to receive professional certification from the Chair Academy after completing the yearlong program.
- Four employees received associate of applied science degrees from CCC: Sheila Hansen, computer technician, in business administration; Jody Luce, general education secretary, in data processing; Michelle McConnell, printing mailroom coordinator, in printing technology; and Karen Miller, admissions technician, in paralegal studies.

Retired

- Head custodian, Harold Buhrman, retired after 10 years of service. Buhrman farmed near St. Libory before moving to Grand Island. He worked for Servicemaster for 10 years and was head of housekeeping at Grand Island Memorial Hospital for 13 years before joining the college staff in 1987.

Hastings Campus

- The campus made the Work Keys system available to businesses and high schools in south central Nebraska. Work Keys was developed by the American College Testing Program and was used for job profiling, skill assessment, and instructional support. High schools were able to get help with their career planning, and businesses were able to help current employees update their skills.
- Lori VanBoening, biotechnology instructor, attended an advanced technology training meeting in Washington, D.C. She was one of 16 individuals selected to participate in the program that was established to promote math and science.
- Janice and Dave Nervig became the proud owners of a new house that was constructed by students enrolled in various technology programs on the campus. Students from drafting, electrical, construction, and heating and air conditioning all assisted in the construction, gaining much valuable and practical experience in the process. The 1,580-

square-foot house, which was the first to be built by students on the campus, was sold at auction for $68,500. The Nervigs then moved it to a home site which they owned.

- The Trailblazers Resource, Conservation and Development District recognized the campus for its cooperation in promoting the district's goals through the annual Expo of Technology. The campus expanded Expo to bring information about technology careers to young people in central Nebraska. Hands-on experiences were provided to more than 2,000 young students.
- The campus and Baldwin Filters Consumer Products were the co-sponsors of an informational seminar held in Kearney on precision metal working careers. A panel of faculty members and business representatives discussed job opportunities and the training requirements for jobs in the metal working industry.
- The Franklin County Memorial Hospital was a regular meeting place for 10 students and three Hastings Campus instructors each Thursday evening for 18 months. Students and instructors met at the hospital to complete courses in general education. The on-site instructional venture was part of an agreement between Bryan Memorial Hospital in Lincoln and CCC to provide general education courses to students who planned to enroll in the registered nursing education program offered by Bryan Memorial.
- Dr. Georgianna Whipple-VanPatter, chemistry instructor, was selected as chairwoman-elect for the Nebraska Section of the American Chemical Society. In her position, she arranged for speakers for the 1998 meetings and served as chairwoman for the society's meetings.
- The ninth annual Clay County Cruise was held on the campus. The cruise was a bicycle tour sponsored by the CCC Wellness Program, the Hastings Amateur Radio Club and Hastings Cycling and Fitness. The annual tour offered a choice of three routes: a 19-mile tour to Glenvil and back, a 35-mile route to Clay Center and back, or a 52-mile tour past Clay Center on highways 14 and 74 and back through Glenvil.
- Welding instructor Latham Mortensen gave a presentation at the 78th annual American Welding Society Convention that was held in Los Angeles. The society's convention was held in conjunction with the International Welding and Fabrication Exposition.
- Roger Scott of Aurora was recognized as outstanding alumnus during graduation ceremonies. Scott graduated with an associate of applied science degree in architectural drafting in 1975. Following his graduation, he worked in a lumberyard and handled building materials and then joined the staff of Chief Industries in the housing division of Bonnavilla Homes in Aurora. Scott first worked as a draftsman in the engineering division and then became assistant engineering manager before becoming plant manager in Aurora. He later became plant manager for Bonnavilla's new manufacturing plant in Bradshaw.

Student Senate is an example of one of the many active student organizations on the Hastings Campus. The senate sponsored a variety of campus activities and promoted social interaction among students. Members for 1997 are shown here.

- Four 1996 graduates of the dental hygiene program had their student research abstracts published in the 1997 March/April issue of "The Journal of Dental Hygiene." The four student researchers and graduates of the program were Sara Bohl of Madison, Wis.; Belinda Bridges of Elkhorn; Maxine Wehling of Broken Bow; and Jodi Hanson of Fremont.
- Dale Janitscheck, construction technology instructor, received the 1996-97 Spirit Award at the 28th annual student awards convocation. The award is given annually to an individual or group that shows outstanding commitment and support for the campus and the students. He also received the 14th annual Outstanding Service Award in December at a staff recognition luncheon. Janitscheck was cited for his honesty, sincerity, excellent skills and devotion to his job.
- As part of the School-to-Work Initiative, CCC received approval from the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training and Accreditation by the National Center for Construction Education and Research to offer an apprenticeship-training program to develop skilled workers for the construction industry.
- A new scholarship program was initiated for students by Nebraska Machinery Company in order to address the critical shortage of diesel technicians in the state. The company paid for tuition, fees, books, supplies and tools. In return, students earned an associate degree in diesel technology from CCC and agreed to work two years for Nebraska Machinery Company.
- Dr. Mike Chipps, assistant to the vice president of educational services, was selected by the North Central Association's Commission on Institutions of Higher Education to serve a four-year term on its Accreditation Review Council. About 35 consultant-evaluators are selected annually to sit on the 120-member council, which made recommendations to the commission on institutions seeking NCA accreditation. Chipps became an NCA consultant-evaluator in 1994.
- Wanda Cloet, supervisor of the dental hygiene program, was appointed to serve a second three-year term on the committee of national boards of the American Dental Hygiene Association. Cloet was reappointed to the committee by association president Maria McKenzie.
- Dental hygiene instructors and 15 dental hygiene students attended the district conference of the American Dental Hygiene Association in Carthage City, Mo. The conference provided an opportunity for participants to learn more about the ADHA and to meet other participants from Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska.
- Wayne Huntley, parts sales and management instructor, was named to the parts specialist testing and certification program committee of the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence. He was one of about 15 technical experts chosen nationwide to serve on the committee.
- The Hastings Elks Club announced plans to construct a new nine-hole golf course on the campus. The location of the new golf course enhanced the curriculum for Hastings Campus students in several fields of study, including horticulture, food service and construction.
- Dale Janitscheck, construction technology instructor, received the 1996-1997 Spirit Award at the 28th annual student awards convocation. The award is given annually to an individual or group that shows outstanding commitment and support for the campus and the students.
- About 1,000 elementary school students attended the fourth annual Science is Fun Day. During the event, students were able to see demonstrations and participated in a wide variety of activities. More than 65 Hastings Campus staff and students assisted with the activities. About 20 elementary schools were represented. A number of home-schooled students were also in attendance.
- Nancy Bjorklund, grants and special projects director, was appointed by Gov. Ben Nelson to the 30-member Nebraska Commission on the Status of Women. Dr. Robin Menschenfreund, dean of educational services, was also reappointed to the commission for an additional term.
- Pam Koch, health information management-office technology instructor, served as second-year director on the executive board of the Nebraska Health Information Association. Koch also represented Nebraska at the American Health

Information Management house of delegates in Phoenix.

- Two employees received associate of applied science degrees from CCC: Karmen Hoos, REAP assistant project coordinator, in business administration; and Vicki Kucera, financial aid director, in business administration.

Retired

- Dee Cochrane, associate dean of instruction for business and health, retired. Dee Cochrane joined the CCC staff in 1984 as a part-time business management instructor but became a full-time staff member in 1985. During her tenure with CCC she served as a classroom instructor, became acting chairperson of the business occupations department in 1987 and then chairperson of the department in 1988. Later her title was changed, and she assumed supervision of health programs on campus. Cochrane is a member of many community groups and served on several key college committees during her tenure with CCC.
- John Haizlip of Hastings retired as dental hygiene instructor at the Hastings Campus. Haizlip joined the faculty in 1978. Hailzlip earned a bachelor's degree in physical education from Iowa State and a master's degree from Adams State College. He was awarded an associate's degree in Dental Hygiene from Colorado Northwestern Community College in Rangely.
- Latham "Mort" Mortensen retired from his position as a welding instructor. Mortensen became a member of the Hastings Campus faculty in 1967. While at the Hastings Campus Mortensen developed many unique and specialized training programs and received many local, state and national honors for his accomplishments.
- Electronics Instructor Gene Young retired. Young joined the Hastings Campus faculty in 1972. Prior to joining the CCC faculty, Young owned and operated his own business in Superior and also worked for United Telephone Company and Vern Bruce Appliances, both in Scottsbluff.
- Long-time faculty member Moe Rucker retired as commercial horticulture instructor. He joined the Hastings Campus faculty in 1967. He was a two-time recipient of the Hastings Campus Student Senate Appreciation Award and a recipient of the Aggie Award from the agriculture committee of the Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce.

In Memory

- Richard Gerald Downey of Henryetta, Oklahoma, died February 17, 1997, at Prowers Medical Center in Lamar, Colorado. He had joined the faculty in 1981, and he retired in 1996. While he was quiet and easy going, he is remembered as a knowledgeable instructor.

Platte Campus

- The campus received two donations that were used for alternative fuels training. AmeriGas in Bridgeport, Ohio, donated a Clayton Dynamometer that was used to simulate the load placed on an engine as if the vehicle were actually moving on the road. The second donation came from the Chrysler Corporation, a 1995 Dodge Dakota pickup truck valued at more than $20,000. The pickup ran on compressed natural gas.
- The alternative fuels and energy management programs received a certificate of recognition from the U.S. Department of Energy. The award was given to recognize programs throughout the United States that have done outstanding work in promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies. Energy Management Circuit Rider Doug Pauley reported that the Columbus Campus was one of only six colleges designated as a training center for alternative fuels. The campus trained both students and technicians who were already working in the industry and needed to update their skills. The energy management program provided energy accounting for schools and hospitals as well as training in energy conservation and preventative maintenance for their maintenance workers.
- Professional singer and actress Emily Walter, a 1987 Platte Campus graduate, returned to the campus to direct a musical revue, “Some Enchanted Evening.” The performance developed by Walter included a cast of four other Platte Campus graduates who performed in vocal groups under the direction of music instructor John Putnam. A native of Racine, Wis., Walter appeared in many productions and performances at the Columbus Campus and then, following graduation, she became a vocalist with the U.S. Air Force Strategic Air Command Looking Glass band for four years. While performing with the Air Force, she toured exten-

sively throughout the Midwest and later toured the Middle East, entertaining troops in the Persian Gulf region. After leaving the Air Force, Walter continued her education and her career as a professional performing artist throughout the nation.

- Agricultural Director Verne Buhl was elected to a two-year term on the board of directors of the Nebraska Association of School Boards. Buhl served as a school board member at Newman Grove for more than 10 years.
- Wakana Nakamura of Tokyo, Japan, graduated from the Platte Campus with an associate of arts degree. In the process of earning an associate degree, Nakamura also earned a certificate and diploma in commercial art. By studying in the United States, she followed in the footsteps of her her father, Shizuo Nakamura, spent time with CCC as part of the International Internship Program in 1991-92. Wakana planned to major in art when she transferred to a four-year college.
- The Chorale, a vocal ensemble under the direction of John Putnam, gave a concert at College Park in Grand Island. It was the same concert the Chorale performed before 22 high schools in Nebraska and during its tour of southeastern United States in the spring.
- Ron Kluck, associate dean of community education, was one of several individuals honored at the 14th annual Nebraska Emergency Medical Technician Association conference held in Columbus. Kluck was given the Presidential Award in recognition for his efforts in organizing and publicizing the programs and training efforts of the NEMTA.
- Jim Fisher, dean of students, was re-elected to a three-year term as the representative from Nebraska on the American College Testing Corporation. Fisher had been a representative from Nebraska on the ACT since 1985.
- Lee Robbins, a communications instructor since 1993, was the recipient of the Faculty Member of the Year Award. He was cited for his creativity, vitality, and unassuming demeanor; for having started the Spanish classes on the campus; for building a Spanish language collection; and for developing customized Spanish instruction for banking, manufacturing, and medical and emergency groups. He also resurrected the photography course.
- The Platte Person of the Year Award was presented to Karin Rieger. Rieger joined the Columbus Campus staff in 1987 as regional community education coordinator. She received praise for her leadership and dedicated professionalism. She was cited especially for her determination and persistence in making a satellite chemistry course a success.
- Chuck Hassebrook was honored as the outstanding alumnus at the graduation ceremonies. Hassebrook graduated from the Platte Campus in 1975 with an associate of arts degree. Following his graduation from CCC, he transferred his credits to UNL where he earned a bachelor's degree in university studies. Hassebrook was program director for the Center of Rural Affairs, where he started as part of the Volunteers in Service to America in 1976. He also worked as a leader of the Stewardship and Technology Program and was a legislative aid to State Senator Bill Burrows in 1978. Hassebrook was elected to the Nebraska Board of Regents in 1994 and held various positions with groups dealing with issues related to sustainable agriculture research programs and family farm preservation in Nebraska.
- Dedication of the new addition to the Business and Technology Center was held in May. The almost 6,000-square-foot addition to the North Education Center and another 2,500 square feet of renovated space were dedicated with a ceremony directed by Campus President Dr. Dick Shaink.
- Bonnie Campbell, director of the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Violence Against Women, was the keynote speaker at a Domestic Violence Conference sponsored by the campus. Campbell was appointed to her position by President George H.W. Bush in 1994 after having been elected as Iowa's first female attorney general in 1990. Campbell spoke about efforts to make the judicial system more victim friendly for women by shifting the focus from the victim to the crime. The conference was attended by some 200 people.
- Two employees earned degrees from CCC: Doug Hann, communications-media technician, received an associate of applied science degree in business administration and Kerry Larson, NETV distance education technician, received an associate of arts degree in academic transfer.

- Ella Wenman, family and consumer science instructor, received the first Columbus Campus APPLE award. The award was presented to a campus faculty member who was creative, innovative, enthusiastic and used outstanding teaching techniques. Wenman also received a $1,000 cash bonus from the CCC Foundation, a certificate and a golden apple for classroom accomplishments.
- An accelerated degree program was launched on the campus so that students were able to earn an associate of applied science degree in business administration. The accelerated program was divided into 15-week terms with four courses offered during each term, allowing students to finish their degree in a shorter length of time.
- Special honors were given to four individuals connected with the Platte Campus volleyball team. Head coach Mary (Owens) Young was named Coach of the Year by the Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference for the second year in a row. The team finished the year with a 33-8 record and was ranked 16th in the nation by the National Junior College Athletic Association. Three players on the Platte Campus squad also received honors for their outstanding performances. Monica Caspar of Grand Island, ReeAnna Morgan of Lincoln, and Lindy Muhle of Columbus were all named to the All-Conference Team of the Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference. Morgan and Muhle were also named to the All-Region Team for Region 9, which included teams from Nebraska, Wyoming, eastern Colorado and eastern Montana.
- The annual Phi Theta Kappa Excellence in Teaching Award for 1997 was presented to Doris Lux, cooperative education director. The honoree was chosen through a review of student nominations.

Retired

- Norry Augustin retired as registrar at the Columbus Campus after 27 years of service to the college. Augustin joined the Columbus Campus staff in 1970 as an academic counselor and later was given responsibilities for admissions and registration. Prior to his employment at CCC, Augustin was a music teacher at Campbell High School, a high school counselor at Blue Hill, and director of guidance for the Columbus Public Schools.
- Elaine Gertsch retired from her position as clerk in student accounts, a position she held for 20 years. Prior to her employment by CCC Gertsch worked as a long distance telephone operator for GTE. She was a graduate of Columbus High School and she and her husband operated the Evergreen Tree Farm in Monroe.

Academic Transfer Initiative

- Dr. Dennis Tyson reported to the CCC Board of Governors that progress continued on the development of statewide partnerships with other postsecondary institutions in Nebraska. An Academic Transfer Initiative was signed in November 1995, and Nebraska community colleges worked together to identify and develop a common core of courses that were offered by the community colleges in the state. When these common core courses were identified, students were then able to transfer those selected courses to virtually all the four-year colleges in Nebraska.

Adult Basic Education

- Adult Basic Education courses were made available in 33 communities throughout CCC's 25-county service area. ABE classes were free and available to any person more than 16 years of age who was not enrolled in a secondary school. The classes prepared students to receive their high school equivalency certificate or GED.
- Margaret Stutzman, Adult Basic Education assistant, received an appreciation award during the 16th GED graduation ceremonies at the Hastings Correctional Center. The award was presented to Stutzman by the correctional center's education department in recognition of her dedicated service. Since 1989, 310 inmates had earned their GED diplomas at the Hastings Correctional Center.
- ABE Staff Assistant-Coordinator Ann Chambers, Grand Island ABE Coordinator Arshi Nisley, Hastings GED Instructor Marilyn Harris and Columbus ABE Coordinator Aditha McLaughlin attended the Commission on Adult Basic Education Conference in Detroit. The conference featured workshop presenters and speakers from the U.S. and foreign countries.

Board of Governors

- New board member Paul Krieger of Hastings took the oath of office along with four other members of the board who were re-elected: Harold McClure of Kearney, Tom Pirnie of Grand Island, Bill Schneider of Dwight and Ken Wortman of Aurora.
- Approval was given by the CCC Board of Governors to proceed with the purchase of 102 microcomputers and accessories for the three main campuses and the Area Office. The board also gave authorization for the college administration to seek bids for the remodeling of the Area Office in Grand Island.
- The CCC Board of Governors approved a budget of about $40.6 million, up about 3.02 percent. Included in the plan was $21.9 million for operations, $1.79 million for capital improvements, and $323,404 for hazardous material removal and Americans With Disabilities Act compliance. The final budget also included $11.9 million in self-supporting funds and $4.7 million in cash reserves, bringing the total to be certified to the state to $40,629,953.

Campus Activities Association

- Fourteen CCC students and their sponsors attended the National Association of Campus Activities regional conference in Denver. CCC participants were able to watch entertainment and lecture showcases so they could better decide which individuals or groups to contract for appearances at the campuses.

Career Fair

- Career Fair 1997 was held at Fonner Park in Grand Island in November. More than 70 professions and 12 colleges were represented. The fair was co-sponsored by Central Community College, Central Nebraska Partners for the Future and the Grand Island Area Chamber of Commerce. Participants at the fair were given an opportunity to explore career interests, watch demonstrations, and learn about educational options and job availability in Nebraska.

College Administration

- The 1996-97 college year saw an important efficiency measure completed when a shift occurred in the administrative structure of CCC. The previous positions of dean of instruction and dean of students on each campus were combined into a single position of dean of educational services. Combining the former two deans' jobs into one position was designed to pull the campus committees closer together and provide for more responsive decision making. The collegewide responsibilities of the deans were also increased. Serving in the new positions were Dr. Roger Augspurger, Platte Campus; Dr. Robin Menschenfreund, Hastings Campus; and Dr. Eric Jones, Grand Island Campus. Serving as associate deans of students were Jim Fisher, Columbus Campus; Dr. Lynn Black, Grand Island Campus; and Ken Rezac, Hastings Campus.
- Jaye Kieselhorst, hotel, motel and restaurant management instructor at the Hastings Campus, was designated as the faculty representative to the college cabinet for the college year 1997-98. Chosen as alternates were Sharon Maul, commercial horticulture instructor, Hastings Campus; George Steinsberger, social sciences instructor, Columbus Campus; and Marcene Wurdeman, accounting instructor, Columbus Campus.

Co-op Education Conference

- Three employees of CCC attended the 1997 Cooperative Education Association of Nebraska Conference in Kearney. They were Virginia Ahlschwede from the Grand Island Campus, Karen Anderson from the Hastings Campus and Doris Lux from the Platte Campus. Anderson received a Distinguished Service Award for her work on the Hastings Campus and Lux was one of the presenters at the conference.

Community Education

- Grand Island Campus President Dr. Bill Giddings reported that the increased enrollment in CCC's community education program was high enough to consider it as a "fourth campus." There were more

than 33,500 registrations in off-campus programs and courses, yielding 740 full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollments. (One FTE is equal to 30 semester-hours of college credit.) CCC offered college credit courses in about 90 communities throughout a 25-county area served by CCC.

College Foundation

- About $10,000 in scholarship funds was raised during the September 1997 seventh annual Pro-Am Golf Tournament. The golf event was a fundraising effort sponsored by the Central Community College Foundation and was held at the Riverside Golf Club in Grand Island. Foundation Director Jack Crowley said the annual golf event had raised more than $72,000 that was used to provide scholarships to attend CCC.
- Pat Stange of Juniata, alumni association coordinator, received an associate of applied science degree in accounting and a diploma in data processing from CCC.

Global Leaders Conference

- Two students attended the Global Leaders Program held at Confederation College in Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada. Barb Huffman from the Grand Island Campus and Sheila Whitten from the Hastings Campus were selected to attend the program and were accompanied by dental lab technology instructor Pat Cecil during the 12-day conference.

Graduation Ceremonies

- David Pierce, president and CEO of the American Association of Community Colleges, was the commencement speaker for ceremonies at all three CCC campuses in early May.

Hastings College Bound

- CCC graduates who planned to transfer credits to Hastings College benefited from the new Hastings College Bound program. An agreement was reached that allowed CCC graduates to transfer credits to Hastings College after completing an associate of arts degree from CCC with at least a 2.4 GPA. Scholarship and tuition benefit opportunities were also available to qualified graduates from CCC.

Holdrege Center

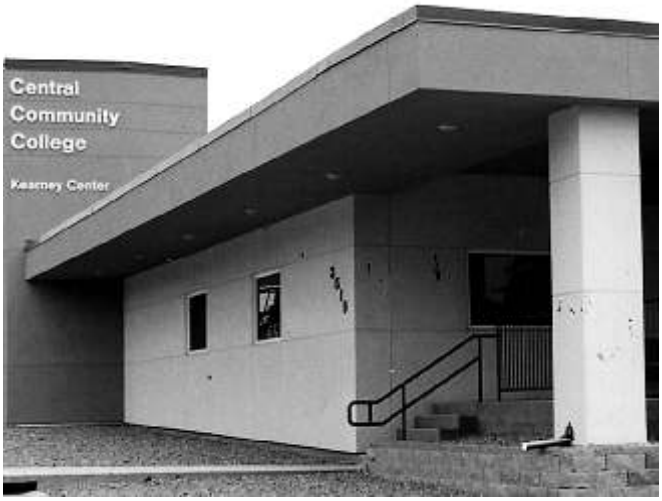
- The CCC Center in Holdrege was a co-sponsor for the “Family Enrichment: A Journey for Parents and Children” event held in Franklin. The program was designed to help parents learn how to respond to their children without anger or guilt and to teach children how to make good choices and become responsible citizens.

Kearney Center

- The CCC-Kearney Center found a new home at the Hilltop Lanes building that was donated to the college foundation by owners Kent and Joan Smallcomb. The Kearney Learning Center had been housed at a church in Kearney, but the church was seeking to sell the building. The donated building contained about 17,000 square feet of space. Services provided at the Kearney Center included: a practical nursing program, credit and noncredit classes, customized training programs, and ABE and GED courses for people who did not graduate from high school. Enrollments at the Kearney Center totaled about 4,000 people in 1996-97.

Leaders Program

- Four CCC employees were selected to participate in a national leadership training program for people in higher education. The CCC employees who were chosen for the leaders progam were Nancy Bjorklund, grants and special projects director, Hastings Campus; Sarah Cunningham, instructional technology and advancement director, Grand Island Campus; Stephanie Jacobson, college registrar; and Michele Lutz, student services assessment coordinator, Platte Campus. The employees were selected because of their professional abilities, their interest in advancement, and the quality of their proposed projects. The Leaders Program was a yearlong training program designed to enhance the skills participants needed to assume major decision-making roles in their institutions.



After being located in a series of rented buildings, the Kearney Center found a permanent home in 1997 in the former Hilltops Lane building at 3519 Second Ave.

Lexington Center

- The Lexington Community Education Center of CCC offered a program in Lexington in honor of Secretary's Week. The program was titled "New Strategies for Women Working with Women." Training consultant Sue Schlichtemeier-Nutzman discussed the dynamics of predominately female work groups and the challenges of a predominately female workplace.
- Paul Stubbe and his wife, Kathy, left their jobs and joined the Peace Corps. Kathy gave up her job as a comptroller with Home Federal Savings and Paul resigned from his position as CCC associate dean of education at the Lexington Center. Their new home-away-from-home was in Kyrgyzstan, a former republic in the Soviet Union that gained its independence in 1993.

Phi Theta Kappa

- The Phi Theta Kappa chapters at CCC received recognition at the April International PTK Convention held in Dallas. Wakana Nakamura, president of the Columbus PTK chapter, was selected as the Nebraska flag bearer and as one of 12 students nationwide to represent PTK's diverse membership in the opening ceremonies.
- Nina Morgan, president of the Hastings Campus chapter of PTK, received a Distinguished Chapter President Award from International PTK and the Most Distinguished Chapter President Award from the Nebraska-Wyoming-Western Iowa Region. PTK Chapters on all three CCC campuses received Milestone Awards at the convention for their increased involvement in regional and international activities.
- More than 70 students from Nebraska, Wyoming, and western Iowa attended the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society regional conference held on the Platte Campus. Participants heard from a variety of speakers, square danced, toured the Indian School and Pawnee Indian Museum in Genoa, and enjoyed a chuck wagon meal at the Burke Ranch near Genoa. The event also concluded the term of office in the regional organization for two CCC students. Nina Morgan completed her term as regional president and Wakana Nakamura completed her term as regional vice president.
- New regional officers were elected to fill positions in Phi Theta Kappa for 1997-98. CCC students elected to offices were Jason Gladney from the Hastings Campus, elected as regional president; and Shana Olson from the Platte Campus, elected as regional secretary.
- Hastings Campus student Nina Morgan represented the Phi Theta Kappa Nebraska-Wyoming and Western Iowa Region at the European Honors Institute in Mannheim, Germany. The event was the first of its kind to be sponsored by PTK.

Staff Development Grants

- Five CCC staff members received staff development grants for the l998-99 college year. Receiving $1,000 grants were Stephanie Jacobson, college registrar; Dee Johnson, resource center assistant, Platte Campus; Wendy Keezer, nursing instructor, Grand Island Campus; and Vicki Kucera, financial aid director, Hastings Campus. Dr. Georgianna Whipple-VanPatter, chemistry instructor at the Hastings Campus, received a $2,000 grant from the college.

Tech Prep

- About 30 teachers from more than 20 central Nebraska high schools participated in the Building Partnerships Program. The program was a teacher-business summer internship sponsored in part by the CCC Tech Prep Consortium and other agencies in central Nebraska. Teachers in the internship pro-

gram gained firsthand knowledge of the many changes occurring in today's workplace by spending three 40-hour weeks in specially designed positions in businesses located in central Nebraska. The teachers then applied what they learned to their teaching duties and shared information with others in their school.

Telecommunications System

- A new telecommunications system was approved that linked the Columbus, Grand Island and Hastings campuses, eliminating some long-distance charges. Aliant Communications was approved for the project. The new system provided direct calls between campuses.

Tuition and Fees

- The CCC Board of Governors agreed not to raise tuition for 1997-98. The cost of tuition remained at $41 per semester-hour, and the $75 per week for room and board for students living in the dorms at the Hastings and Columbus campuses also remained unchanged. The only change approved by the CCC Board was the addition of a $1.60 per semester-hour technology fee to help pay for equipment needed to keep instructional programs current with emerging technologies.

1998

Alternative Fuels Program Looks to the Future

By 1998, the alternative fuels program on the Platte Campus of CCC had been functioning for five years, and it had gained a national reputation as a leader in the development of the use of alternative fuels. The 1990 Clean Air Act and the 1992 National Energy Act created a need for more training and promotional activity in the area of alternative fuels. The National Energy Act established a time line for owners of fleets of vehicles of 50 or more to convert those vehicles to some alternative fuel – including the fleets of vehicles owned by the federal government (postal service, military and other government agencies).

Law Requires Cities to Use Alternative Fuels

The 1992 law further said that cities with a population of more than 250,000 would be required to convert their vehicles to use some type of alternative fuel. The 1992 law stated that 75 percent of the vehicles should be converted to use an alternative fuel source by 1994. Although that time line was delayed by later federal legislation, it was clear that such a federal mandate would eventually become a reality.

Platte Campus alternative fuels instructor Nick Wagoner (center, with arm extended) conducts a training session in India in January 2003. He was part of a three-person training team from the National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium that provided training requested by the Indian government after it passed a law requiring all vehicles in the nation to operate on something other than gasoline.

In 1983, an alternative fuels energy project had begun at the Grand Island Campus under the direction of Jim Dutcher, chairman of industrial and related programs. The project involved the distillation and use of ethanol. This effort did not, however, lead to the establishment of an instructional program. As early as 1990, there was discussion on the Columbus Campus about creating an alternative fuels program.

Platte Campus Part of National Training Program

By 1992, the campus became part of the National Alternative Fuels Training and Awareness Program. Federal funding for alternative fuels programs was first granted to the University of West Virginia and they looked for partnerships with other interested colleges. In 1993, the Platte Campus received a grant of nearly $63,000 to help establish an alternative fuels training and educational program on the campus. The funding came from natural gas companies and four other organizations: Nebraska Soybean Association, Nebraska Ethanol Board, Propane Gas Association of Nebraska, and Nebraska Blue Flame Association.

Training, Awareness, Conference are Key Goals

The goal was to create a nationally recognized alternative fuels center on the Platte Campus. The campus began to offer educational programs in the spring of 1993 and had training programs in place by the early fall. The alternative fuels program had three main goals: (1) to develop training programs to certify automotive technicians to work on vehicles using alternative fuels and to train others so they could in turn do training, (2) to promote greater awareness of alternative fuels by taking educational programs to area schools and community organizations, and (3) to make an alternative fuels conference an annual event. (The Platte Campus sponsored the first conference in November 1992.)

The Central Community College Foundation Annual Report of 1993-94 states that the foundation was involved in helping to solicit funds for the alternative energy fuels program and that over the previous two years more than $100,000 had been committed to the project. The purpose of the project in 1994 continued to focus on the importance of educating the public about the use of alternative fuels.

Alternative Fuels instructor Nick Wagoner and others admire an alternative fuel vehicle participating in an event on the Platte Campus.

Training Provided for Technicians from Across Nation

By late 1997 and early 1998, the Platte Campus was offering hands-on, interactive training sessions to automotive technicians from around the nation, thanks in large part to a grant received from the National Automotive Technicians Educational Foundation. The director of the alternative fuels program was Doug Pauley. Platte Campus automotive instructor Nick Wagoner taught training sessions on the campus. Wagoner had earned certification as an Automotive Service Excellence Master Mechanic and as an Automotive Service Excellence Alternative Fuels Instructor and Inspector. Training session participants were automotive technicians, fleet managers and other automotive instructors. The sessions covered systems integration and emissions, electronic systems and diagnostic methods. Participants actually converted test vehicles to operate on natural gas. The program received calls and inquiries about the training from many interested parties in this country and in foreign countries.

Platte Campus Named Regional Training Center

By 2001, the Platte Campus was one of 20 national alternative fuel training centers in the United States. More than 3000 technicians received training at these centers located across the nation. The Platte Campus, in addition to being a training center, was named one of six colleges to be a regional training center and a member of the National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium. As a consortium member, the campus gets annual funding from the Environmental Protection Agency and helps to develop training manuals and textbooks used in the training centers. Nick Wagoner serves on the curriculum committee of the NAFTC.

Training Provided for Disney World, Atlanta Olympics

Because the campus became one of the six regional training centers in the nation, it was sometimes called upon to provide special training sessions. At the request of Disney World, Nick Wagoner traveled to Florida to certify the maintenance workers at the park. Most rides at Disney World are powered with alternative fuels. In 1996, Wagoner was invited to the Summer Olympics in Atlanta as part of a team that prepared the alternative fuel vehicles that were used to transport the athletes and Olympic officials during the games. There were 269 light-duty vehicles and 250 buses used in the fleet at Atlanta. Wagoner also traveled to India in January 2003 as part of a three-person training team from the National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium. The Indian government requested the training sessions in alternative fuels after passing a law that requires vehicles in India to operate on something other than gasoline.

Alternative fuels such as natural gas, propane and ethanol were commonly the focus of training sessions and remain a vital part of the alternative fuels program. Another type of fuel that the college program has emphasized is electricity. Electric-powered vehicles have received much attention in the training program. The Omaha Public Power District and Nebraska Public Power District became very active promoters of educational programs that promote interest in electric-powered vehicles.

Campus Sponsors Power Drive Event for Electric Vehicles

A unique educational activity called Power Drive involved 75 high schools and six colleges in projects with electric vehicles. Each interested school was given the identical core equipment for the construction of an electric vehicle, and each school was to use the same size battery. Using the basic core ingredients donated by Omaha Public Power District and Nebraska Public Power District, students proceeded to design and build their own vehicle. Students from a variety of disciplines contributed to the construction of the school's vehicle. Students in programs such as automotive, drafting, machine technology and even journalism and public relations played a role in the construction and promotion of interest in the school's vehicle. After the vehicle was built, the school entered the vehicle in the National Alternative Fuels Vehicle Day Odyssey where student-built cars were judged and raced. The winners of the racing contests were determined by speed achieved and the distance the vehicle traveled. OPPD and NPPD sponsored the one-day Odyssey event. Some schools constructed a new car each year for three to four years. The Platte Campus played host to an Odyssey event in 2004.

State Ethanol Board Sponsors Fuel Quality Workshops

The Nebraska Ethanol Board has made good use of the expertise and experience of the Platte Campus personnel in the alternative fuels program by sponsoring free fuel quality workshops around the state of Nebraska since about 2002. The evening workshops are designed to educate automotive technicians, teachers and the general public about the positive features of using ethanol and to teach workshop participants the value of conducting fuel quality tests in their place of work. Automotive technicians working in dealer's shops are given information about existing additives in gasoline, fuel system deposits, fuel-vapor testing and information about automaker fuel recommendations. Comparison fuel testing is conducted during the workshops, using gasoline and ethanol in order to show the reliability and dependability of ethanol fuel used in today's automobiles. Interest and participation in these Fuel Quality seminars has steadily increased, and Nick Wagoner, who conducts the seminars, remains much in demand.

Program Role Expected to Grow

While progress and advancements in technology for the use of various alternative fuels has been a bit slow nationwide, there are some indications more time and effort will go into programs in the future. As the price and availability of gasoline become a greater concern in this country, the Central Community College alternative fuels program will remain on the cutting edge of advancing technology in the use of alternative fuels.

Grand Island Campus

- Grand Island Campus graduate Kenneth Meyer was honored by the Nebraska Community College Association at the annual convention in Lincoln. He was given the Distinguished Alumni Award. He began his career with Data Systems Inc. as a part-time employee through the cooperative education program. In 1983, he earned an associate of applied science degree in electronics technology and became a full-time employee of Data Systems where he worked as development manager for Software 4 Retail Solutions. As manager, he coordinated the manufacturing of software used in more than 4,000 stores in this country, Canada, and South America.
- The human services faculty began offering all eight courses required by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services for provisional alcohol counselor certification. The campus had offered five of the courses beginning in 1991.
- Arshi Nisley, coordinator of the Grand Island Adult Basic Education program, was honored by the Continuing Education Association of Nebraska at the annual convention in Kearney. Nisley was presented the Rookie of the Year Award given annually to an individual for distinguished service during his or her first year of ABE duties. Nisley joined the CCC staff in 1996 and taught applied writing and communication in addition to her work with ABE.
- About 96 students from the nursing programs in Columbus, Grand Island, and Kearney attended the annual Job Fair for Nurses held on the Grand Island Campus. Students were able to meet and talk with representatives from 34 hospitals, nursing homes, seven other colleges, and three health-related organizations. The event also allowed employers to meet and recruit potential employees.
- Gender equality in the workforce was one topic in Clarence McConkey's Ethics in America class. Addressing the class on the subject was State Sen. Chris Peterson who served as co-chairwoman of a task force that aimed to promote gender equality. The task force targeted areas such as law, colleges, business and boardrooms in an attempt to bring more opportunities to women and minorities in Nebraska.
- Kevin Miller, associate dean of industrial occupations, graduated from the Academy for Leadership Training and Development. The training was created by the Chair Academy and was a yearlong program that included on-site training, a practicum, and a final on-site training experience.
- Dr. Linda Wilke-Long, paralegal and history instructor, presented a paper at the 41st annual convention of the Missouri Valley Historical Society in Omaha. Her paper was titled "Finding Her Voice: Nebraska Clubwomen and Indian

Reform." Her master's thesis, "Clubwomen and Indian Reform," showed how women's clubs of the 1920s and 1930s prepared women to enter the political arena.

- Kathleen Hurst was honored with the 1998 Outstanding Alumni Award during the May graduation exercises. Hurst earned a diploma in management in 1994 and an associate of applied science degree in business administration in 1996. She worked as a dental assistant for 14 years before becoming office manager for the Midwest Dermatology Clinic in Grand Island. As office manager for the clinic, she negotiated building maintenance contracts, supervised employees, scheduled patient care and completed insurance billing. She kept close ties with CCC by participating in many college programs as a speaker and a member of college committees.
- Barb McGraw, nursing instructor, was inducted into Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. McGraw became a charter member of the Omicron Epsilon Chapter at Clarkson College in Omaha. Sigma Theta Tau had more than 400 chapters and 200,000 members throughout the world at the time.
- The campus chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society collected nearly 300 books. The books were then divided between the Crisis Center and the Humanitarian Resource Center.
- Hylee Asche, financial aid technician, and Nick Freelend, counselor and student activities director, formed the Thunder and Lightning bowling team that won the fall competition in the CCC bowling league. It marked the fourth time the team had finished among the winners.

Hastings Campus

- A child care service center, Pooh Corner College, operated by the Child Development Council of Adams County, was established on campus in the Sherman Building which was remodeled for that purpose. Remodeling the old fire station was made possible by a $135,000 matching grant from the Peter Kiewit Foundation and a $10,000 grant from Aliant Communications, as well as contributions from area businesses and individuals and from the CCC Foundation. The center was licensed for 90 children from six weeks to 12 years and provided a full preschool program. The center also became a lab for students in the early childhood program. Additional funding for the center was provided by a $10,000 grant from the Nebraska Health and Human Services System. That grant money was used to purchase cribs, tables, chairs, cabinets, car seats and other essentials for the 5,000-square-foot facility.

Housed in the campus' refurbished fire station, Pooh Corner College, a day care center for the children of students and staff, opened in 1998. The on-campus day care center also offered students in the child care and related programs the opportunity for on-site work training and experience.

- Students from the campus who were members of the Hastings Campus drag racing club completed work on a 1959 Ford Ranchero pickup truck. The completed project represented two years of work by some 50 students. George Anderson of the Gessford Machine Company located in Hastings donated the pickup truck to the college. Students rebuilt the transmission, overhauled the engine, and finished the interior and exterior of the vehicle. The drag racing club then ran the car at the Kearney Raceway. The students named their modified pickup "The Educator."
- Instructor Wayne Huntley received the Faculty Member of the Year Award from the Nebraska Community College Association. Huntley was recognized as a faculty member in the parts sales and management program and as the faculty sponsor for the drag racing club. Huntley was commended for his well-designed course materials

and his work as an adviser and counselor to his students. He organized an annual volleyball tournament that raised more than $5,000 for student scholarships. Huntley won the Nebraska Vocational Association's Outstanding Achievement Award in 1989 and the Hastings Campus Student Senate Appreciation Award in 1997.

- Cindy Gaskill and Jane Stratman, dental hygiene instructors, attended the Nebraska Dental Hygienists' Association executive board meeting and fall session in Kearney, along with Kathy Bowers, president of the Student Dental Hygienist Association. Gaskill was elected NDHA alternate representative and attended the ADHA conference in San Diego in June 1999.
- Pat Sinnard of Hastings received the 15th annual Outstanding Service Award. Sinnard joined the CCC staff in 1979 as a part-time secretary and became a full-time secretary in the health occupations program in 1982. She was recognized for her helpful and pleasant manner, and her dedication to the college.
- A 1998 Chevrolet car valued at $12,500 was donated to the college by Chevrolet Motors Division and Sullivan Motors of Albion, and was used to train automotive technology students. A Challenger farm tractor, used by diesel technology students, was made possible by the generosity of the Nebraska Machinery Company in Doniphan. The farm tractor was valued between $125,000 and $150,000.
- Printing technician Marilyn Reynolds held an art show in Hastings. The exhibition of her work was titled "The Color of My World" and featured a wide variety of artwork she had produced. The exhibition was displayed at Phelps Fine Art Gallery in Hastings.
- Juanice Myers, secretary for the admissions office, was honored at the 29th annual Student Awards Convocation. Myers received the Spirit Award during the convocation which is given each year to an individual or campus group who showed outstanding support and commitment to the campus and campus activities. Myers was recognized for the friendly and attentive way she addressed student needs. She made communication skills presentations at campus workshops, served as editor of the campus newsletter, and regularly attended many Student Senate functions and activities.
- Dr. Robin Menschenfreund, dean of educational services, was awarded the prestigious Athena Award from the Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce during its annual meeting. The award is presented each year to a person who has attained the highest level of professional excellence and devoted time and energy to the community and opened doors of opportunity for women. She was also made an admiral in the Nebraska Navy by Gov. Ben Nelson. Menschenfreund was also one of 35 community college leaders from across the U.S. selected to attend the 1998 Executive Leadership Institute in California.
- An event sponsored jointly by CCC-Hastings Campus and Action Ideas brought professional speaker, Richard Flint, to Hastings. Flint spoke to the audience about the risks of staying in the "circle of sameness" and the reasons why people must improve and show they can develop a plan for improving their lives.
- Janelle Grabowski of Ravenna was honored as the Outstanding Alumni during the graduation ceremonies. Grabowski earned an associate of applied science degree in human services in 1980. After graduating from CCC, she went on to earn bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Nebraska at Kearney. Grabowski taught journalism, English, reading, and mathematics in the Ravenna Public Schools. In addition to her teaching duties, she coordinated the Aiding Adolescent Development Program, led a week-long training session for people in the Ravenna Community Plus Program, supervised 50 high school students who participated in an elementary mentoring program, and sponsored a Youth Leadership Program for high school students.
- Chief Automotive of Grand Island donated a Chief EZ Liner 25 frame alignment machine to the auto body technology program. The machine, valued at $30,000, was used to train students to align frames on small trucks, vans and cars. The donation is a result of a partnership between CCC and Chief Automotive to keep the auto body program up-to-date.
- More than 50 individuals from about 21 learning centers attended an in-service training program in August. Sessions were available for learning center

managers, instructors, and staff members where they learned about the Tech Prep program, learning center forms and procedures, student services, and other topics.

- The 1998 Ram Run was held in September under the direction of Chuck Breunig, wellness coordinator and counselor. The event was open to all runners and featured a seven-mile and five-kilometer run and a one-mile walk-run. The male and female winners in the two runs received gift certificates for Hogan's Sporting Goods, and the top three finishers in each division received medals for their performances.
- Two programs were combined into one in order to provide a broader range of opportunities for students. The former broadcasting and printing programs were united into the new media arts program that included training in graphic arts and photography, as well as printing, broadcasting, and video production. The new media arts program complemented the commercial art program at the Platte Campus.
- Juanita Buschkoetter, a Hastings Campus graduate, brought national attention to Central Community College as a result of a six-hour telecast on the Public Broadcasting System in September 1998. The PBS production was titled "The Farmers Wife" and focused on a three-year struggle by Buschkoetter and her husband to save their family farm from economic failure. The farm and ranch management program at CCC played a key role in their efforts to turn things around and save the farm and their way of life.

Hastings Campus retirees in 1998 included Gary Minnick, automotive instructor; Rodney Roberts, media specialist; and John Dobrovolny, associate dean of education. Rita Vacek, industrial occupations secretary, retired later in the year.

Retired

- John Dobrovolny retired from his position as associate dean of instruction for general education, human services, the family and consumer science programs and the instructional development center. He joined the CCC staff in 1968 as a speech instructor and served in that position until 1975 when he accepted the associate dean's position. Prior to joining the CCC staff, he had 13 years of teaching and administrative experience in public school systems and at a junior college.
- Gary Minnick retired from his position as an automotive instructor. Minnick joined the campus faculty in 1967. He held an Automotive Service Excellence certificate in engine performance, electrical and engine rebuilding. Prior to joining the CCC staff, Minnick worked as a heavy equipment operator for a construction company and as a technician at Laird Motors in Hastings.
- Rod Roberts of Hastings retired as media specialist, a position he held beginning in 1984. In that capacity, he shared some supervisory responsibilities in general education and the instructional development center. Prior to joining the college, he had been with the Hastings Public Schools for 23 years. He earned both a bachelor's and a master's degree from Kearney State College. He was active with the Nebraska Library Association and the Nebraska Educational Media Association. He is a charter member of the Hastings Chorus of the Plains.
- Rita Vacek of Hastings retired as the industrial occupations secretary. She joined the college in 1974 as secretary of the transportation division. Subsequent reorganizations expanded the instructional areas which were served by Vacek and the associate dean with whom she worked. A diploma graduate of CCC, she had previously worked for the Sioux Ordinance Depot in Sidney and for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Nebraska City.

Platte Campus

- A collaborative effort of 10 employers from Columbus, Lindsay, Norfolk, and Platte Center resulted in a $229,246 grant from the Nebraska Workers Training Program which provided

training by the campus for nearly 1,200 employees. Training was provided in industrial management, leadership development, industrial maintenance, computer software, and quality concepts. The emphasis of the project was on employee retraining and career development. The state had made funds available to the 40,000 employers who contributed to the State Unemployment Trust Fund.

- The 1998 volleyball team performed superbly on and off the court during their fall season. The team completed their season with a 38-9 record, finished 7-1 in conference play, won the conference tournament, placed third in the Region IX tournament, and was ranked 13th nationally. Coach Mary Young was equally proud of the team because it was ranked fifth nationally in team academic standings. The team had an overall grade point average of 3.35 on a 4.0 scale. Another special honor for the Lady Raiders was winning the Sheila Worley Sportsmanship Award at the Region IX tournament.
- The campus and a Columbus radio station, KJSK-KLIR, saw a successful end to the Brainstorm contest. In an effort to promote academics, 40 area high school teams of five members each competed in the contest. Each team went through two rounds of answering 10 questions during a live radio broadcast and the teams with the best scores moved on to the next round. The field of teams was narrowed from 40 to 32, and then from 32 to 16, then to the final eight schools. The last eight schools came to the campus for the final competition, and Seward High School became the eventual winner. The first-place prize was $2,000. About 20 faculty members created approximately 1,500 questions that were used during various rounds of questioning in the contest.
- The campus hosted the high school agriculture contests for districts V and VI. Approximately 550 students from 18 high schools were involved in the daylong event. The contests involved tests in farm management, agriculture mechanics, agronomy, livestock production, floriculture, meat competition and an envirothon contest sponsored by the Natural Resources District.
- The 26-member Chorale celebrated the 25th anniversary of the founding of the special vocal ensemble. The director and founder of the group was music instructor John Putnam. By its 25th anniversary, the Chorale had performed more than 1,500 times and traveled more than 225,000 miles. They sang at 129 Nebraska schools and made more than 100 special appearances throughout the state. The Chorale annually took an out-of-state tour each May. Past tours included Austria, Germany, France, Italy, Switzerland and various places in the United States.
- The Platte Community Band, Chorus and Chorale vocal ensembles were featured at the annual Christmas concert in the Fine Arts Theater. Music instructor Rex Hash directed the band and John Putnam directed the vocal groups. A full-house audience enjoyed a combination of traditional and contemporary music for the Christmas season.
- The Platte Campus Community Band attracted people of all ages who wanted to perform with a band. One of the youngest players was Becky Hadcock, a 15-year-old student at Scotus Central Catholic High School in Columbus. Encouraged by her high school band teacher to join the community band, Becky enjoyed her experiences as a band member. The community band was the largest of the instrumental music groups, usually having 35 to 40 members who rehearsed weekly and gave four performances during the year.
- A new leadership program called “Tomorrow’s Leaders Today” was introduced. The program stressed leadership development and community volunteerism. Curt Beck. program director and career services coordinator, was pleased that 26 students from the campus and the three local high schools were able to participate in the program. U.S. Sen. Chuck Hagel was the keynote speaker for the student group. Each student performed at least 20 hours of volunteer service in the Columbus community as part of the program.
- Bill Erwin, science instructor, received the Excellence in Teaching Award from the Phi Theta Kappa chapter. This annual award from PTK is determined from nominations submitted by students. Students who nominated Erwin spoke about the high expectations he set in his courses and the way he went the extra mile to be sure students met those expectations.
- Dr. Emily Uzendoski, communications instructor, and Vincent Lempke, mathematics instructor, shared the Platte Campus APPLE Award in 1998. The APPLE Award stands for “Accomplished

Platte Professor and Leader for Excellence," and is presented each year to an instructor who demonstrated innovative and creative teaching.

- A special class provided 32 area residents with an opportunity to take a 16-day tour of Germany, the Czech Republic, Austria and Switzerland. Instructors Richard Abraham and George Steinsberger organized and led the tour to many famous locations and to places beyond the traditional tourist stops.
- The Adult and Continuing Education Association of Nebraska honored Ron Kluck at its annual convention. Kluck, associate dean of community education, was given the Distinguished Service Award by the association. He joined the staff in 1982 as community education coordinator and was promoted to associate dean in 1984. He received the ACEAN's Rookie of the Year Award in 1985.
- The Faculty Member of the Year Award was given to Gary Senff. Senff was hired as a welding instructor in 1979 but his connections to CCC started after his high school graduation when he earned an associate of applied science degree in welding technology from the Hastings Campus. He worked several years for a company in Fullerton and then for the Nebraska Public Power District's Nuclear Station before returning to Hastings to teach welding at CCC. Sneff later left his job at the Hastings Campus and took a job with Hobart Brothers in Ohio. As a welding technician for the company, he had the opportunity to travel extensively in the United States as well as Korea, the Philippines, and South America. The faculty award is given annually to an individual who has displayed excellence in teaching and rapport with students and the institution.
- Jim Swanson received the annual Platte Person of the Year Award. The award is presented each year to a campus employee who has demonstrated dedication, enthusiasm and innovation, as well as rapport with students and other staff members, and the willingness to go the extra mile. Swanson joined the staff in 1989 as a building service technician and worked on many campus construction projects. He had extensive experience as a carpenter prior to joining the campus staff.
- The Outstanding Alumni Award was presented to David Maurstad. He graduated from the Platte Campus in 1973. He worked as a golf professional in Beatrice, Lincoln, and Sioux Falls before joining an insurance agency in Beatrice. He was president of Maurstad Insurance Services in Beatrice at the time he received his award. Maurstad was elected to the Nebraska State Legislature in 1994 and also had served as mayor of Beatrice. He received many awards for his community service and his work in the insurance field.
- Ella Wenman was named Outstanding Vocational Instructor by the Nebraska Vocational Association at the annual convention. Wenman was a family and consumer science instructor. She was given the award for the new and related division.
- For Troy Gustafson, enrolling in his first real art class with art instructor Richard Abraham in 1980 was an important step toward a career as a special-effects illustrator for the Disney Feature Animation Corporation in Florida. Gustafson completed his first two years of college at the Platte Campus in 1982. He went on to earn a bachelor's degree from the Kansas City Art Institute and completed an internship with the Disney Corporation. The internship eventually led to his position as supervising animator.
- Controlled mayhem ruled in late June when more than 60 elementary and junior high school students descended on the gym to work on their volleyball skills. Volleyball coach Mary Young directed activities at the annual volleyball camp where young girls were able to improve all phases of the game. Varsity volleyball players assisted at the four-day camp.
- Elena Dodd of Vermont brought her one-woman theater show, "Meet Eleanor Roosevelt: Private Citizen and First Lady of the World" to the Fine Arts Theater. Dodd brought to life Eleanor Roosevelt's experiences in the years following the death of President Roosevelt in 1945 until her own death in 1962. The performance was open to the public free of charge.

Retired

- Lynn Higgins retired as a business administration instructor. Higgins joined the CCC staff in 1974. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Nebraska in Kearney. He also earned a second master's degree in business admin-

istration from the University of Nebraska in Omaha. Prior to joining the CCC staff, Higgins taught business classes at Loup County High School in Taylor for eight years.

- Keith Lunde retired as a full-time music instructor. He had been a member of the staff since 1979. Prior to joining the faculty, Lunde taught music at public schools in Iowa and Wisconsin and at Laurel-Concord Public Schools. He was a member of the Nebraska and American Choral Directors Associations, Nebraska Bandmasters Association, and the Nebraska Music Educators Association. Lunde started the Honor Band Program and directed the campus chorus and the Platte Community Band.
- Sandi Schmidt retired as financial aid director. Schmidt joined the college staff in 1971 as secretary to the dean of students and veteran's service officer. In 1982 she became the financial aid director for the campus and held that same position at the time of her retirement. Prior to joining the college staff, Schmidt was a secretary and bookkeeper at Franklin High School and an office manager at Risk Industries in Columbus. She was a member of the American Association for Women in Community Colleges and served as secretary and community college representative to the Nebraska Association of Financial Managers board.

Adult Basic Education

- The Grand Island Adult Basic Education Program moved from the old Walnut Junior High School to new spaces in the former Grand Island Salvation Army Building.

Board of Governors

- The Central Community College Board of Governors elected new officers at the January meeting. The new officers were: Bill Schneider of Dwight, chairman; Tom Pirnie of Grand Island, vice chairman; Paul Liess of Cambridge, secretary; and George Hasley of Hastings, treasurer. Schneider and Harold McClure of Kearney were reappointed to represent CCC on the Nebraska Community College Association Board of Governors.

Budget

- The CCC Board of Governors approved the college budget. The approved budget was increased by less than 3 percent, and resulted in an $800,000 reduction in property taxes. It was possible to reduce dependency on property taxes for 1998-99 because of an increase in state aid. The total budget approved was $36,922,348, up $1,010,313 from the previous year.

College Administration

- Gov. Ben Nelson appointed Dr. Dennis Tyson, vice president of educational services, to the Propane Education and Research Safety Council. The council was authorized during the 1998 legislative session and was created following an industrywide referendum in September. The purpose of the Council was to develop programs to encourage the safe, efficient use of propane; to educate the public and industry employees on safety; and to promote the use of propane and its environmental advantages.
- The North Central Association selected Dr. Mike Chipps, assistant to the vice president of educational services, to serve a four-year term as a team chairman of the association visitation teams and to serve on the Accreditation Review Council. Chipps completed team chair training in Chicago.
- Duane Waddle, agriculture instructor at the Platte Campus, was designated as the faculty representative to the College Cabinet for the 1998-99 college year.

College Foundation

- The eighth annual Central Community College Foundation Pro-Am Golf Tournament was played at the Lochland Country Club in Hastings. Twenty-one professional golfers played in the event, along with 84 amateur players. Proceeds from the event were used for scholarships for Central Community College students. About $10,000 was raised in the event, bringing the total amount raised by the eight tournaments to about $82,000.
- More than $600,000 was pledged or promised in the drive to obtain funds for the construction of the new Elks Club Golf Course constructed on the Hastings Campus. Elks Golf Club members worked on the final designs for the course that opened for play in 1999.
- The CCC Foundation Board approved $6,000 in funding for the 1998-99 Professional Development

Grant Program. A $1,000 grant was available to each campus and the administrative office while the remaining $2,000 was used for collegewide awards. The grants are awarded each year and used by staff members to take courses or attend seminars that contribute to increasing an employee's expertise. A committee reviewed the applications for the grants and decided which staff members received the awards.

- Dr. Tom Osborne was the featured speaker at the eighth annual CCC Foundation Appreciation Dinner. He shared with the more than 280 people in the audience his views of what it takes to win in the game of life, not just on the playing field. A highlight of the evening was the induction of Dale and Dolores Watley into the Foundation Hall of Fame.
- As of June 30, 1998, the total assets of the CCC Foundation were $5,471,656, a gain of $1,637,521 over the previous year. It was the first time that the assets exceeded the $5 million mark.

Emergency Services

- Central Community College entered into a partnership with five other community colleges and six government agencies which allowed people in Nebraska to earn a certificate or associate's degree in emergency services management without having to leave the state. The joint effort resulted from the passage of LB 43 that mandated every town, city, and county must have a full-time, certified emergency management director. In addition to meeting this need, the partnership program provided for the delivery of educational services in many locations that allowed workers in the field to update their skills conveniently.

Holdrege Center

- Holdrege High School students earned college credit while traveling in Europe. High school teachers Pat Peterson and Ron Uribe of Holdrege and Judy Schrock of Loomis planned the trip through the American Council of International Studies. They also worked with Diana Watson, Holdrege Center coordinator, and Bob Baker, associate dean of community education at the Hastings Campus, and found that students making the European trip could earn three hours of personal development credit. To earn the credit, students were required to write a research paper.
- About 100 people attended an open house to see the new location for CCC's Holdrege Center in the Phelps County Agricultural Center. The Holdrege Center moved into its new quarters in July 1998, having outgrown space previously used in a downtown location. The new site provided access to three classrooms, three conference and workshop rooms, and an exhibition hall that can accommodate up to 500 people.

The Holdrege Center moved into office space in the Phelps County Agricultural Center in July 1998.

Kearney Center

- Regional Community Education Coordinator Michael Cox was a presenter at the 14th annual Farm And Ranch Management Conference. The theme for the conference was "Women in Agriculture: The Critical Difference." Cox presented a session on "Opportunities Beyond the Farm Gate," which covered the process of going back to school and venturing into the work world.
- The CCC Board of Governors approved a $536,000 contract to remodel the donated Hilltop Lanes building in Kearney. CCC acquired the building after it was donated to the college by former owners Kent and Joan Smallcomb in September 1996. The Kearney Center, including the Kearney practical nursing program and the learning center, moved to the new, more permanent location in August 1998. The center had been located in a series of rented facilities and had moved four times in the previous 10 years. The new location was re-

modeled for use as an educational facility by college staff.

Nebraska Academic Team

- Jo Dietz from the Grand Island Campus and Nina Morgan from the Hastings Campus were among the 17 community college students who were named to the first Nebraska All-State Academic Team, which was sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa and the Nebraska Community College Association. A ceremony recognizing the students was held in the state capitol building in Lincoln. Medallions were presented to each honoree by Gov. Ben Nelson and Dr. John Harms, president of Western Nebraska Community College.

Phi Theta Kappa

- More than 30 students and advisers attended the Nebraska-Wyoming Regional Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society Conference that was held on the Grand Island Campus. Participants attended several programs, conducted their annual business meeting, heard reports from the PTK chapters, and elected new regional officers. Jeanne Bonin from the Hastings Campus was elected regional president for 1999.

Placement

- CCC released a placement report which showed that the 1997 graduates of the college did well in the job market. Ninety-seven percent of the graduates who answered a survey said they were either employed or continuing their education. The report also showed that 79 percent of the 1997 CCC graduates stayed within the 25-county service area of CCC.

Tech Prep

- Tech Prep Coordinator Barb Larson was appointed by Gov. Ben Nelson to serve on the Southeast Regional Workforce Development Board of the Nebraska Department of Labor. The board keeps the Human Resource Investment Council informed of the needs and concerns of the region.
- The Tech Prep Consortium of Central Community College sponsored a presentation by Chad Foster, a successful entrepreneur. Foster spoke to nearly 3,000 high school students, educators, and business people during his talks in Grand Island and Columbus. His message shared advice about following dreams and the need to prepare properly with a good education. Foster, who retired at age 33, now works full-time speaking to audiences across the country.
- The Tech Prep program of CCC organized two one-day agriculture education workshops – one on the Platte Campus and the second one on the Hastings Campus. The informational workshops were designed to familiarize high school agriculture instructors, counselors, and administrators with the CCC agriculture program. Information was shared about college facilities, course offerings, and diploma and degree opportunities. Participants also learned how high school students could earn college credit while taking high school agriculture classes and gain practical experience through internship and apprentice programs.

1999

Extending the Possibilities in Central Nebraska

From the beginning of the college, there was a commitment to provide comprehensive educational opportunities to all types of students. The comprehensive philosophy for two-year colleges involved three main areas of learning activities – academic programs, technical programs and community education programs. The academic and technical programs at Central Community College have continued to change by offering courses that reflect technical advances and the demands of society. Those changes have affected the education opportunities that Central Community College extends beyond its campuses, as well.

Community education was described in a 1973-74 college catalog as the revolutionary division of the college, offering courses, activities, and services that seldom conform to traditional academic time, space and content restrictions. Although that statement is more than 30 years old, it still applies to what has evolved into Extended Learning Services.

Community Services Becomes Community Education

Before the name Extended Learning Services was adopted in 1999, there had been two earlier names assigned to this department of the college. When the Nebraska Technical Community College System was formed in 1973, the departments on both the Hastings Campus and the Platte Campus were called Community Services Offices.

Lexington Center students take advantage of CCC extended learning programs.

Later the name was changed to Community Education and a separate Community Education service area was established for each of the campuses. The office at each campus provided services to the counties located within the assigned region, and local advisory committees were established in communities in each region to suggest the type of courses and programs that would best serve the needs of the people in that region. Community Education offices on each campus began to establish permanent learning centers in communities that offered a variety of courses and programs.

The centers were located in high schools, libraries, church basements, and wherever there was space available to house instructional materials and places for students to work on tests and assignments. By the end of the 1970s, learning center managers had been hired as part-time college employees to supervise operations at the off-campus learning centers. By the early 1980s, dozens of learning centers had been established throughout the 25-county service area and college credit classes were being offered that used curricular materials developed by college faculty members for use in their on-campus individualized courses.

Courses, Degrees Available Throughout Service Area

The coordinated and cooperative efforts of the campuses and the positive efforts of individual faculty members allowed students in distant locations to take a host of college credit courses and complete degrees, diplomas, and certificates without ever setting foot on a campus. In 1985, Community Education services from the three campuses and the Lexington Office were budgetarily split from the separate campuses, and Community Education at CCC became a collegewide operation, resulting in a more cooperative spirit that led to a better coordination of workshops, training programs, and course offerings. Enrollments at all of the Community Education offices increased dramatically from the mid-1980s to the mid-1990s. In 1997, a report to the Board of Governors referred to the high enrollments in Community Education courses as a fourth campus without walls because during the 1996-97 college year there had been more than 30,000 registrations in off-campus programs and courses in nearly 90 towns throughout the 25-county area served by CCC.

In 1997, a study committee was formed to review the existing structure and organization of the CCC Community Education program and to make recommendations for possible changes in organization, title, or programming. The plan was to conduct a review in various stages. In December 1998, the study committee recommended that the title of the program be changed from Community Education to Extended Learning Services, effective with the start of the 1999-2000 college year and that the existing area-wide, campus-based structure be continued.

Extended Learning Services Continues to Expand

Since the name change, Extended Learning Services has continued to expand its efforts to help students achieve their educational goals by offering courses and training programs in the most convenient and practical manner possible. From a rather simple beginning in the early days when Community Education classes in cake decorating, dog obedience, or the use of the slide rule, seemed to be the primary role, ELS has continued to reinvent itself in order to meet the demands of people for the latest in educational information and training. The current ELS bears only a slight resemblance to the early Community Education program of the early 1970s. The role and scope of ELS functions in the 21st Century are in-step with the ever-changing demands for access to learning opportunities.

While craft and hobby-type classes continue to be offered by ELS, these avocational classes that once nearly dominated the list of classes offered by the former Community Education department now make up less than 15 percent of the ELS enrollments since 2000. About 80 percent of the more than 30,000 enrollments now come from credit and noncredit reimbursable courses, and these two types of courses produced 930 FTE (full-time equivalent enrollment) for CCC during the 2004-05 fiscal year.

Technology Opens New Opportunities

Developing technology has greatly influenced ELS instructional delivery methods since the early 1980s. ELS utilizes a wide variety of communication systems, including video by telephone, by Internet, and by satellite broadcasts. Web-based courses are increasingly used to reach off-campus students who can use their own computers or computers located in the learning centers to complete course work. When there might be differences in the capabilities

between the updated computer systems of the college and older computers used by some students, a new project called Tarantella allows students to remotely access updated software directly from the college so they can complete course work and perform other functions.

Early Entry programs have allowed selected and qualified high school students to earn college credit at local learning centers or by attending classes on any of the CCC campuses. ELS has made available a variety of health-related courses and training programs, including EMT training and nursing classes. Adult Basic Education programs in 2004-05 provided classes to more than 2,300 people, and that included many individuals who were able to earn a GED and also receive instruction in English as a second language.

ELS constantly develops new markets and strategies to provide courses and training to satisfy the diverse needs of people and businesses in the CCC service area and across the state. ELS has continued to reinvent itself as it lives up to its mission statement that dedicated it to enhancing the quality of life by helping learners achieve their educational goals through quality local and distance education.

Grand Island Campus

- The Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce Small Business Division recognized Grand Island Campus graduate Bob Lubbe of Ashland. As the owner and president of Connections 2000 Inc., he received an Omaha 25 Award that is given annually to the city's 25 fastest growing companies. Connection 2000 employs more than 50 computer professionals who provide creative information solutions to organizations throughout the Midwest. Lubbe earned associate degrees in electronics, data processing, and business administration from the Grand Island Campus.
- A 16-session class on basic automotive shop practices was taught in Spanish during the fall semester. Fifteen Spanish-speaking students completed the class. The students in the class learned about safety practices, tools and equipment, hazardous materials, electronic equipment, and measuring devices. The instructor for the class was Vince Mendez, automotive instructor. Mendez first taught a similar bilingual automotive class on the Hastings Campus during the previous semester.
- Graduate Melissa Duerr completed an internship during the summer of 1999 at the Department of Education in Washington, D.C. She worked with the America Reads Project at the Department of Education. Duerr became eligible for the internship when she was named to the 1998-99 All-USA Academic Team sponsored by the American Association of Community Colleges, USA Today, and Phi Theta Kappa. She graduated from the Grand Island Campus in May 1999 and planned to attend the University of Nebraska at Kearney as an education major.
- Students and staff members had the opportunity to emphasize the importance of the Alcohol Awareness Week in October by participating in a mock field sobriety test on campus. Hall County Deputy Sheriff Mark Hogue conducted the mock sobriety test called "walking the line." In the mock test, participants wore the Fatal Vision goggles that are used to train law enforcement officers to detect drivers under the influence of alcohol. The goggles impair the vision to duplicate distinct stages of inebriation.
- Drafting technology students gave the Goldenrod Girl Scout Council more than they asked for when the Council asked them to help plan improvements at its Camp Cosmopolitan. The drafting students and their instructors surveyed the 34-acre camp located a few miles south of Grand Island and ended up giving the council a 5-by-12-foot scale model of the camp, in addition to topographic drawings and plans for cabins and other structures. Council leaders said the model and drawings would be very helpful in their planning.
- Nick Freelend and the student activities/advisory committee he sponsored won an award at the Central Plains Red Cross Chili Cook-off. Thirty-six groups prepared chili for the 11th annual event. The campus group won with a chili recipe called "Y2K Meltdown Chili."
- Paralegal studies and history instructor Dr. Linda Wilke-Long had an article published in the May 1999 issue of The Nebraska Lawyer. The article, "Populists, Politics and Prohibition," focused on the controversial Nebraska state election of 1890

and the resulting Nebraska Supreme Court case, State v. Elder. Wilke-Long was also recognized as an "Extraordinary Person" by the Grand Island Daily Independent.

- Several staff members attended the 21st annual international conference of the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development in Austin, Texas. Dr. Bill Giddings, campus president, was a presenter on the topic of "Cooperation Pays: Creative Cost-Sharing for Quality Education." Maureen Hoffman, Linda Petroff and Dr. Wayne Vian made a presentation on the topic, "Magic or Myth: Individualized Instruction Works." Hoffman, Vicki Mackenstadt and Vian all received a NISOD Excellence in Teaching Award at the conference.
- About 100 students and 75 health care representatives attended the ninth annual Job Fair for Nurses in March at the campus. The event gave nursing students enrolled in the associate degree in nursing program and the practical nursing program an opportunity to meet representatives who employ workers in the health care field.
- Dr. Bill Giddings, campus president since 1992, received an Outstanding Educator Award from the Adult and Continuing Education Association of Nebraska for the many advances made in adult and continuing education under his guidance and direction.
- Approximately 300 persons attended a job fair held on the campus. KOLN/KGIN-TV and the Grand Island Area Economic Development Corporation co-sponsored the event in addition to the campus. About 30 employers were represented, some of whom were accepting applications. Later in the year, the campus placement office and the campus chapter of Phi Theta Kappa sponsored a career day during which 19 students participated in mock interviews conducted by members of the business community.
- The Reynolds Library marked its seventh year at the College Park location at the end of the year. Linda Bowden, librarian, recalled that the creation of the library had actually begun on the main campus two years prior to the move to College Park. By 2005, the collection numbered about 6,000 volumes, with an emphasis on social science and nursing.
- Chief Justice of the Nebraska Supreme Court John V. Hendry was the graduation speaker at ceremonies which were held at the Grand Island Senior High auditorium.
- René Tiedt of Beatrice was recognized with an Outstanding Alumni Award during commencement ceremonies. Tiedt graduated in 1991 with an associate of applied science degree in child care and development. She previously worked as a toddler teacher for the U.S. Army in Berlin, Germany, and was the child care center coordinator at the Grand Island Campus. Beginning in 1992, she worked for the State of Nebraska as a child care resource specialist who inspected child care facilities in six southeast Nebraska counties.

Hastings Campus

- Wanda Cloet, dental hygiene supervisor; Barb Neubacher, dental hygiene instructor; and four dental hygiene students participated in the Special Smiles for Special Athletes occasion at Creighton University as part of a Special Olympics event. The athletes were given a general screening and they learned about caring for their teeth.
- The campus received a check for $25,000 for its diesel technology program. The money completes the funding of a $75,000 matching grant from the Caterpillar Foundation. The money was used for student scholarships, the purchase of equipment and recruiting new students for the program.
- More than 1,000 first, second, and third graders attended the sixth annual Science is Fun Day on

ROOT 1, a campus organization designed to promote cultural awareness and understanding, was formed on the Hastings Campus. The group evolved into the Multicultural Club, members of which are shown here in a campus performance in 2003.

the campus. The annual event is co-sponsored by the Hastings Campus, the Hastings Chamber of Commerce, and the Nebraska American Chemical Society. Students were able to visit some 30 booths staffed by CCC students and staff who used demonstrations and hands-on activities to show the young students how science relates to everyday life. Students from more than 25 elementary schools were invited to attend.

- The Bike Shop in Hastings and the Hastings Campus wellness program sponsored the 11th annual Clay County Cruise. The bicycle tour started from the campus and included a 19-mile route to Glenvil, a 35-mile route to Clay Center, and a 50-mile ride through Clay Center and Fairfield. The cruise, which typically attracted about 60 riders, was designed as a recreational ride rather than a race. The event was organized by Chuck Breunig, counselor and wellness director.
- The Hastings Campus started training truck drivers for one of the largest carriers in the United States. Werner Enterprises Inc., with headquarters in Omaha, recruited nationwide for the six-week training program. Graduates of the program were qualified to take the test for a commercial driver's license. The CCC Board of Governors approved the construction of a 1.8-mile driving track and range on the campus for the truck driving training activities.
- Shaun Schleif of Grand Island received the 1999 Outstanding Alumni Award during graduation ceremonies. Schleif graduated with an associate of applied science degree in broadcasting in 1978. His broadcasting career began in 1976 with KICS in Hastings and in the 10 years with that station he worked in numerous positions, including station manager. He was also general manager of a station in Pensacola, Fla., before joining KRGI and KMMJ in Grand Island where he became the general manager.
- Sherri Portenier of Hastings received the 16th annual Outstanding Service Award. She joined the staff in 1973 as a switchboard operator and a year later became a technician in the registrar's office before becoming the student records coordinator. She received the award in recognition of her pleasant, positive and professional demeanor, and her willingness to help with any task.
- Juanita Buschkoetter, a 1997 Hastings Campus graduate, received a Distinguished Alumni Award from the Nebraska Community College Association at its annual meeting. She and her family were featured in a six-hour documentary on PBS in September 1998. The documentary, called "The Farmer's Wife," chronicled the family's struggle to save their family farm operation.
- While being interviewed for an article in the Central Connection, Dave Jenner credited his success in radio to the broadcasting technology program at the Hastings Campus from which he received a diploma in 1990. For seven years, Jenner was a popular radio personality heard by many listeners in central Nebraska. Each weekday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Jenner and a partner teamed up on the Hits 106 Morning Zoo program. He gave special credit to Hastings Campus instructors John Brooks and Gordon Wheeler for sharing their knowledge and experience with him.
- The Rural Education Accessibility Project at the Hastings Campus received a $3,000 grant from Nebraska Assistive Technology Partnership. REAP was designed to help individuals with disabilities to achieve greater independence in their lives through the use of technology. The grant money was used to upgrade equipment and computer software in the demonstration center.
- GED graduation ceremonies were held on the Hastings Campus for 16 individuals who earned their GED diplomas. Speakers for the graduation exercise were Dr. Robin Menschenfreund, dean of educational services, and GED graduate Maybel Scheiding of Blue Hill.
- Jim Cronin of Bladen was one of 10 individuals honored at the annual Nebraska State Arboretum banquet. Cronin retired as the physical plant director at the Hastings Campus. The award was given in recognition of his efforts in helping to make the Hastings Campus a more beautiful place. Cronin spent more than 30 years developing landscape schemes and planting more than 100 species of trees and shrubs.
- About 180 dental hygiene students and faculty members from Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska attended the American Dental Hygienists' Association District VIII Student-Faculty Conference. The Hastings Campus served as host for the conference. About 36 Hastings

Campus students and staff members attended the two-day conference.

- The South Platte Regional School-to-Work Partnership awarded $22,500 to the Work Keys Satellite Center at the campus. The money was used for profile development and assessment at businesses and schools in south central Nebraska. Work Keys was developed by the American College Testing Program to do job profiling, skill assessment, and to provide instructional support.
- Beginning with the fall semester, those who completed the diploma program in medical assisting were eligible to become certified by taking the National Certification Examination for Medical Assistants. Joann Wieland, program instructor, stated that the diploma program could be completed within two semesters and one summer session.
- Alan Hartley was promoted to dean of educational services. An early graduate of Central Community College, he was employed by the college in 1969 as a basic electronics instructor. After holding several positions with the college, he became an associate dean of instruction in 1996. He received a master of science degree from UNK.

Retired

- Walt Boyll of Kearney retired from his position as an accounting instructor at the Hastings Campus. Boyll joined the faculty staff in 1981. Prior to becoming an instructor he worked as an accountant for Bobcat and Boughton Equipment companies in Grand Island. After retirement, he continued working for the college on a part-time basis through the Kearney Center.
- Cammie Farrell of Hastings retired as a human services instructor. She joined the CCC staff in 1983 as a reading instructor and also served as coordinator of the Explore Your World Program and taught basic mathematics before becoming a human services instructor in 1991. She earned a master's degree in counseling from UNK.
- Juanice Myers retired from her position as admissions secretary at the Hastings Campus. She joined the CCC staff in 1994 as a switchboard operator. Prior to joining the CCC staff she worked at Wayland University Bookstore in Texas and as administrative assistant for the Southeast Texas Arts Council in Beaumont, Texas. She won two national playwriting contests and won a $2,000 fellowship in playwriting from the Nebraska Arts Council. She authored five one-act plays and five full-length plays that were produced in five different states.
- Elwood Onken of Glenvil retired from his position as diesel instructor. He joined the faculty in 1972. Prior to joining the CCC staff he worked as a mechanic at Alliance Tractor and Implement in Alliance and as shop foreman at McClelland Farm Equipment in Hastings. He was also a diesel instructor at Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs, Iowa. He is a graduate of Glenvil High School and the Nebraska Trade School in Milford. He completed courses at Iowa State and Kearney State College and received Automotive Service Excellence certification in diesel engines and electrical.
- Alica Throckmorton of Hastings retired as library assistant. Prior to joining the staff in 1991 she taught English and worked in the X-ray department office at Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital.
- Willis Gabbert of Harvard retired from his position as a drafting instructor. He joined the faculty in 1968. Throughout his tenure he was an active and respected member of the campus community He was a graduate of Kearney State College with a master's degree in vocational education.
- Bob Baker of Hastings retired as associate dean of community education. Baker joined the CCC staff in 1993. Baker had been a dean for continuing education and regional services for Peru State College and had worked as dean of adult education at Highland Community College in Illinois. He was the recipient of a Distinguished Service Award presented by the Adult and Continuing Education Association of Nebraska.

In Memory

- Richard Fuehrer, age 56, of Neligh, died of an apparent heart attack. Fuehrer had worked as a counselor on the Hastings Campus and was working as a school psychologist at ESU #8 in Neligh at the time of his death. He is remembered as being both caring and professional.
- Frank Piskorski, age 62, died in rural Adams County. He served in the Navy from May 1955 to May 1959, and again from December 1959 to October 1962. Piskorski joined the Central Community College-Hastings Campus staff in 1968 as an

audio-visual technician, a title that was later changed to media production technician. He is remembered as an expert photographer whose gruff exterior masked the fact that he often came to the aid of students or staff members who were in need. A scholarship fund was established in his memory with the CCC Foundation.

Platte Campus

- Marjorie Johnson of Leigh, a financial aid technician who joined the staff in 1991, was named Platte Person of the Year. She was recognized for her dedication, enthusiasm, and innovation, and for establishing good rapport with students and other staff members. She earned an associate of applied science degree in office technology at the Platte Campus in 1997.
- The Platte Campus provided the leadership that resulted in $1.2 million in grants from the U.S. Department of Labor and the Nebraska Training Program. Nebraska was one of 12 states to receive such a grant. The grant was used to enhance training programs for businesses and industries with fewer than 500 employees throughout the state. A total of 1,200 workers received training through the use of the grant dollars administered by the Platte Campus, although CCC was only one of several collaborative partners across the state.

English instructor Bill Tuttle makes a purchase from bookstore assistant manager Rita Tuma in the Platte Campus bookstore. Follett Corporation also operates bookstores on the Grand Island and Hastings campuses.

- Representatives from the Nebraska Department of Labor awarded the 1999 Celebrate Nebraska Worker Award to representatives of the Platte Campus. The campus was chosen for the leadership it provided in business and industry training and for the grant funding received for workforce development. Labor Commissioner Fernando Lecuona presented the award.
- The Chorale presented its annual home concert in the Fine Arts Theater. The concert was based on the theme, Straight to the Top, and included a mixture of musical selections, including a song in which the group used sign language. Proceeds from the concert were used to help pay expenses for the group's spring tour of the southeastern part of the United States.
- Mike Bower, associate dean of technical programs, graduated from the Academy for Leadership and Training at Mesa, Ariz. The program was designed to advance academic and administrative leadership in community and technical colleges. The year-long program included on-site training, a practicum, and a final week of additional on-site training.
- The campus earned the Automotive Service Excellence certification from the Department of Energy National Automotive Technician Education Foundation. The campus was also certified in the alternative fuels area. The college also received $7,500 for scholarships for students interested in alternative fuels training.
- The music department presented its annual Christmas concert before a full house in the Fine Arts Theater. Music instructor Rex Hash directed the Platte Campus Community Band, while music director John Putnam directed the College Chorus and the Chorale. The annual concert was open to the public without charge.
- Five members of the Lady Raider volleyball team and Mary Young, volleyball coach, earned honors for the 1999 fall season. Skye Greenland of Arcadia, Holly Johnson of Daykin, April Olson of Pickstown, S.D., Katie Stepanek of St. Paul and Cara Truitt of Hastings were named to the 1999 All-Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference Volleyball Team. Greenland, Olson and Truitt were also named to the All-Region IX Team. Coach Mary Young was named Coach of the Year in the athletic conference. In the five

years she had coached at the Platte Campus, her teams captured the NCCAC conference title every year.

- Six members of the Raiders volleyball team were awarded academic honors for the 1998-99 academic year. A.J. Dugan of Greeley, Kelly Johnson of Daykin, and Anne Kozal of Scottsbluff were named to the Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference All-Conference Academic Team. Athletes must complete 45 semester-hours of credit and have a minimum GPA of 3.25. Dugan, Johnson and Kozal along with freshman Sara Anderson of Pleasant Dale, Skye Greenland of Arcadia and Erin Malmkar of Milford received Academic All-Region IX recognition.
- Gary Senff received the regional Faculty Member Award from the 11-state Western/Pacific Region of the Association of Community College Trustees at the regional conference at Lake Tahoe in June. Senff was a member of the Platte Campus faculty since 1979 and was recognized for his efforts to provide customized training programs for Columbus area manufacturers and his development of a welding curriculum that prepares his students to meet the demands of a modern world of work. Sneff earlier had received the Nebraska Community College Faculty Award and previously had been named Platte Campus Faculty Member of the Year.
- The spring tour of the Chorale included performances in Kansas City; Fayetteville, Ark.; Greenville, Miss.; New Orleans; Tallahassee; the Epcot Center; a cruise to the Bahamas; and at the St. Louis Cathedral.
- Nick Wagoner of Columbus was named Faculty Member of the Year during the commencement ceremonies. Wagoner joined the Platte Campus as an automotive technology instructor in 1983. In this position, he provided training on alternative fuels, helped with the FFA agricultural contests and administered the Ford test in area high schools. The award is given annually to a faculty member who displays excellence and innovation in teaching.
- Meredith Oakes Peterson of Kenesaw received the 1999 Outstanding Alumni Award during graduation ceremonies. She earned an associate of arts degree from the Platte Campus in 1981. She then earned a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in journalism from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, and completed her law degree from the University of Nebraska Law School. Beginning in 1988, she was employed as deputy attorney in the Adams County Attorney's Office in Hastings, working as a prosecutor.
- Central Community College sponsored a special recognition luncheon to honor the Loup Power District for its support of Platte Campus students through its scholarship awards over the previous 28 years. The Columbus-based power district had provided scholarships to 198 students which covered 467 semesters of study at the Platte Campus. Francis Sand and Bob White accepted a plaque on behalf of the power district.
- An associate of applied science degree in quality control technology was begun at the campus, as approved by the Board of Governors. By 2002, instruction was expanded to the other campuses through the Web.
- Mike Bower, associate dean of business and technical education programs, told the CCC Board of Governors about partnerships between industry and the Platte Campus designed to improve the skill levels of manufacturing employees. In Project NEON (Nebraska Employment Opportunities Now), a total of 1,197 area employees had completed training in industrial management, leadership development, industrial maintenance, computer software, and/or quality. In Project NICE-TIM (Nebraska Interactive Computer-based Education-Training in Industrial Maintenance) the campus, with the assistance of employers from six communities, compiled a library of training compact disks which were made available for a fee throughout the state. Project Elevation (Bringing Nebraska Employers to a New Level in Technical Training) grew out of the concerns of 20 Columbus-area employers. The result was a statewide project involving employers and Nebraska's community colleges working together to provide training in industrial maintenance, safety, instrumentation, quality, and human relations.

Retired

- Data processing instructor Gary Williams retired. Prior to joining the college in 1970, he was a high school teacher. He also did photography and audio-visual work for the Church of the Brethren in

Elgin, Ill., and performed relief work with refugees in Austria and Germany as a conscientious objector. He earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from McPherson College in Kansas and a master of arts degree degree from Colorado State University.

In Memory

- Joseph Kobus, age 78, died April 14, 1999. When Kobus was hired by the college he became the first person to serve as supervisor of the physical plant after the campus was built. He served in that position until the time of his retirement. He was named Platte Person of the Month in April 1989. Prior to joining the Platte Campus staff Kobus worked for the Railway Express Agency, associated with the Union Pacific Railroad. His wife, nine daughters, five sons, and 42 grandchildren survived him.

Adult Basic Education

- Ann Chambers, ABE coordinator, was selected by the Nebraska Department of Adult and Community Education to attend a Bridges in Practice Conference held in Chicago. Chambers also attended the National Adult Literacy and Technology Conference in St. Paul, Minn, after which she gave a report on the conference to state ABE personnel.

Board of Governors

- Tom Pirnie of Grand Island was elected chairman of the CCC Board of Governors. Other officers elected were: Paul Liess of Cambridge, vice chairman; George Hasley of Hastings, secretary; and Paul Krieger of Hastings, treasurer. Liess and Harold McClure were appointed to represent CCC on the Nebraska Community College Association Board of Governors.
- Diane Keller of Harvard, assistant administrator at Memorial Hospital in Aurora, was named to fill the vacancy on the CCC Board of Governors created by the resignation of George Hasley of Hastings. Keller is a graduate of the Lincoln General School of Nursing and holds a master's degree in hospital administration from the University of Minnesota.
- Ken Wortman of Aurora received the regional Trustee Leadership Award from the 11-state Western/Pacific Region of the Association of Community College Trustees at its conference at Lake Tahoe. Wortman was widely recognized as one of the key architects of Nebraska's community college system. He helped lead the drive to establish the first community college at the Hastings Campus. He served continuously on the CCC Board of Governors from its beginning in 1966 and was chairman four times. He supported CCC's efforts to develop a system of competency-based individualized instruction and was a leader in establishing the dental hygiene program at the Hastings Campus. Wortman was also recognized as being active in community and economic development efforts throughout the state.

Budget

- The Central Community College Board of Governors at its September meeting approved the college budget for 1999-2000. The approved budget cut the college property tax levy by almost 50 percent, but the board said the tax cut wouldn't be permanent. The tax reduction was the result of a one-time increase in state aid for Nebraska's six community colleges. State aid for CCC increased from $7.1 million in 1998-99 to $15 million in 1999-2000, thus allowing for the cut in property taxes for college support.

College Administration

- Nancy Bjorklund, grants manager, graduated from the Resource Specialist Training Institute. She spent a week at Utah Valley State College and a second week in Washington, D.C., where she learned about advanced grant writing and foundation fund-raising and alumni program development. The institute was a yearlong program in which participants developed a long-range plan and completed additional training.
- Bob Sanner, accounting instructor at the Grand Island Campus, was designated as the faculty representative to the College Cabinet for the 1999-2000 college year. Jeanne Webb, child care instructor and coordinator of the child care center at the Grand Island Campus, was named an alternate.

Retired

- Paul Stobbe, recruiting director for Central Community College, retired. Stobbe joined the college staff in 1979 as an accounting instructor, recruiter

and public relations officer. In 1980, he was promoted to his position as recruiting director for the college.

College Foundation

- The Central Community College Foundation approved funding for the 1999-2000 Professional Development Grant Program. Employees of the college who had been employed by the college for at least a year were eligible to apply for a grant. The foundation made $6,000 available for grants, to be divided into $1,000 allotments for each campus and the administrative office. The remaining $2,000 was used for collegewide awards.
- Tiffany Roberts, a member of the U.S.A. Women's World Soccer Championship team, was the featured speaker at the CCC Foundation Appreciation Dinner at the New World Inn in Columbus. Roberts played midfielder on the squad that beat China in an overtime shoot-out match before 91,000 stadium fans and a worldwide TV audience of 2.9 million viewers to win the 1999 world championship for the United States.
- Jack Crowley, executive director of the Central Community College Foundation, reported to the CCC Board of Governors that the foundation's assets increased from $5.2 million in 1998 to $5.7 million in 1999. About $3 million of the total is in a permanent endowment and interest earned from the endowment fund was used to provide scholarships and other types of support for the college. Crowley reported that scholarships totaling $188,000 were awarded to CCC students in 1998 during the fall semester. The ninth annual Pro-Am Golf Tournament added more than $10,000 to scholarship funds for CCC students.

Enrollment

- Population growth in the service area and the Tech Prep and Early Entry programs contributed to a substantial growth in enrollment at CCC for 1998-99. A total of 7,257 people took classes on the three campuses and 21,902 people took credit courses off campus. Enrollment in noncredit courses was 3,817, and 3,123 students enrolled in Adult Basic Education classes, bringing the final total enrollment to 28,842.

Farm Crisis

- Because of the farm crisis, Central Community College offered a free workshop, "Options in Agriculture," for people who might be forced to leave the farm. Meetings were held in November in Lexington, Columbus and Grand Island. An accountant and an attorney made participants aware of tax consequences, legal issues and other details that should be considered when leaving or reorganizing their farm business.

Holdrege Center

- GED graduation ceremonies were held at the Holdrege Center to award GED diplomas to 12 individuals. Speakers for the graduation exercise were Dan Atchison, the ABE coordinator, and Rosemary Reiter, co-chairwoman of the Holdrege Literacy Council.
- Enrollments in classes offered by Central Community College increased by 66 percent in Franklin, Harlan, Kearney and Phelps counties after the college opened its Holdrege Center in 1995. The Holdrege Center coordinated individualized classes through learning centers in 10 communities, community education classes in nine communities, and classes broadcast from the CCC campuses to four communities. In 1995, enrollment was 731 students, and in 1999, it was more than 1,200 students.

Kearney Center

- Central Community College-Kearney began to offer General Education Development testing in addition to GED classes. CCC received the contract for GED testing at the Kearney Center in May 1999 from the GED Testing Service in Washington, D.C. Virginia Wiegand of Kearney completed training to be the GED chief examiner. Previously the University of Nebraska at Kearney had conducted the GED testing.

Phi Theta Kappa

- Phi Theta Kappa sponsors Dr. Mike Chipps, Bob Glenn and Ella Wenman, along with 10 students, attended the 81st annual PTK International Convention at Anaheim, Calif. Chipps received the Paragon Award for New Advisers in recognition of outstanding service to PTK.

- Nebraska Lt. Gov. Dave Maurstad, a 1973 Platte Campus graduate, presented awards to 21 Nebraska community college students in April in recognition of their selection as members of the Phi Theta Kappa Nebraska All-State Academic Team. CCC had four students on the team. They were: Jeanne Bonin of Davenport, a media arts major at the Hastings Campus; Melissa Duerr of Grand Island, a pre-education major at the Grand Island Campus; Anne Kozal of Scottsbluff, a pre-nursing student at the Platte Campus; and Eric Novotny of Schuyler, a pre-medicine student at Platte.

2000

Raider Men Finish Fourth at National Tournament

The men's basketball team played its way to a fourth-place finish at the National Junior College Athletic Association Division II Tournament held in Danville, Ill., in March 2000.

The Columbus Campus Raiders compete as members of the Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference during regular season. All of the other colleges in the Nebraska conference are NJCAA Division I schools. In order to qualify for the Division II National Tournament in Illinois, the Columbus Campus squad had to finish the regular season with a better than .500 record and win a playoff game against the winner of the Region 13 championship.

Win Over United Tribes CC Earns Berth in National Tourney

The Raider men finished their regular season schedule with a 19-11 record against some top quality NJCAA Division I colleges. To qualify for the 2000 tournament, the Raiders defeated a very good team from United Tribes Community College located in Bismarck, N.D. The United Tribes team had gained national attention with its high scoring, run-and-gun offensive style of play during the 1999-2000 season. Using a home court advantage in the field house on the Columbus Campus, the Raiders were victorious over United Tribes in a thrilling game, 112-106.

Raider coach Jack Gutierrez had little time to find out much about the team they would be playing in the opening round of the national tournament. As it turned out, the unranked Raiders had to play the #5 nationally ranked team in Division II, Lackawanna Junior College from Scranton, Pa. The Raiders surprised the Pennsylvania team with a hard-fought 71-69 victory and moved to the next round in the winner's bracket. In the second game, the Raider squad went on to defeat Northwest Shoals Community College from Phil Campbell, Ala., 90-83. Unfortunately, the Columbus Campus team dropped its next two games, falling to the tournament's eventual champion Dundalk Area Community College from Baltimore, Md., 88-77, and then losing the consolation game to the host college, Danville Area Community College, 88-77.

The Raiders finished their season with a 21-13 record. Gutierrez attributed the team's post-season success to the difficulty of its regular season schedule where the Raiders played many teams that recruited nationally and internationally for good players.

Columbus Player Sets Tournament Record for Three-Pointers

The Raiders had a player who earned special honors with his tournament play, Jesse Heart from Kyle, S.D. Heart set a tournament record when he hit 10 three-pointers in a single game, and he was runner-up for tournament MVP honors.

"Our kids did a good job," said Coach Jack Gutierrez. "They worked hard all year. We had a lot fun, and it will be an experience that the players, coaches and fans will remember for a long time."

The members of this successful team were Beau Brown, Gayle Carey, Bryan Doke, Jeron Epting, Jesse Heart, Andy Johnson, Vernon Johnson, Jeff Kopecky, J.J. Oberg, Bill Parker, Travis Ratzlaff, T.J. Rickert, Ted Standing Soldier, and Justin Vogt.

A final post-season honor for the Raider basketball program presented at the national tournament was given to Coach Jack Gutierrez when he was named National Junior College Athletic Association District 11 Men's Basketball Coach of the Year. Gutierrez serves as the Columbus Campus athletic director and physical education instructor and has been the head coach of the Columbus Campus Raiders men's basketball program for more than 20 years.

Columbus Campus

- In conjunction with the adoption of a new logo for Central Community College, the name of the Platte Campus was changed to the Columbus Campus. While there was considerable support for maintaining the original name, a study indicated that beyond the immediate area of Columbus, the older name was creating some confusion. With the change, all campuses and centers were designated by the city in which they were located.
- The Columbus Campus was named the winner of the 2000 Bellwether Workforce Development Award. The award was presented at the Community College Futures Conference in Orlando, Fla. The award honors outstanding and innovative practices by a community college that is leading the way into the 21st century. The Institute of Higher Education-University of Florida and the National Council for Occupational Education sponsored the award. The campus was selected because of its efforts to establish a Statewide Interactive Multimedia Training Library in Nebraska. By January 2000, there were 3,680 individuals from 93 Nebraska businesses involved in the training.
- The Raider volleyball team captured its fourth conference tournament title in five years by winning the Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference Tournament in Beatrice in November, and finished second in the Region IX East Tournament. The Raiders finished their season with a 27-18 record. Holly Johnson of Daykin, Cara Truitt of Hastings, Missy Shaw of Madison and Mandy Wood of Overton were named to the 2000 All-Conference Team. They also received All-Region honors, along with Katie Stepanek of St. Paul. Coach Mary Young was named Region IX East Coach of the Year.

Students have an opportunity to display their artwork at the annual Fine Arts Festival at the Columbus Campus.

- The theater department presented a production of Neil Simon's "The Good Doctor" in the Fine Arts Theater. The play was a collection of eight vignettes inspired by the stories of Anton Chekhov. The production was under the direction of Columbus Campus theater instructor Gwen Jensen.
- Mike Bower was promoted to dean of educational services. He joined the college in 1997 as associate dean of industry and technology. He had earned a master of business administration from Indiana Wesleyan University in 1992.
- Gary Schafer of Columbus was named the Faculty Member of the Year during the commencement ceremonies. Schafer joined the staff as a drafting instructor in 1978. Prior to joining the faculty in Columbus, he taught drafting at McCook High School and Columbus Senior High. He also owned and operated his own construction business for several years. Schafer is a graduate of Albion High School and the University of Nebraska at Kearney where he earned a bachelor's degree in industrial education.
- Dee Johnson was named the Columbus Campus Person of the Year for 2000. Johnson started work on the campus in 1993, as a part-time employee in the Resource Center and became a full-time resource assistant in 1994. She was recognized as a team player and a person who maintains good rapport with students and staff members.
- Seven students earned their certificate in the quality control program on the Columbus Campus. The program involved a minimum of 15 credit hours and included courses in design of experiments; statistical process control, parts I and II; technical math; and a course in tools and gauging procedures. In 2000, CCC was the only college in the state to offer a two-year associate degree in quality control. CCC had contacts from people all over the state about the quality control program.

- William Fox of Arlington, Va., was named as the Outstanding Alumni for 2000 from the Columbus Campus during graduation ceremonies. Fox graduated from the Columbus Campus in 1981 with an associate of arts degree and then earned bachelor's and law degrees from Creighton University in Omaha. In 1988, Fox went to work for the U.S. Treasury Department's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms as senior attorney for the Chicago Field Office. In 1997, he became ATF's senior counsel and then was promoted to deputy chief counsel for ATF in 1999.
- Major Tami Averett-Brauer's career in the U.S. Air Force took her to many exotic locations throughout the world after her graduation from the Columbus Campus in 1980. After receiving an associate of arts degree, she earned a bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and a master's degree in nursing in critical care and oncology from the University of Washington in 1997. On active duty as a flightnurse, a flight-nurse instructor and examiner, she logged more than 1,000 hours in air evacuations from Bosnia, Dhahran, Pakistan, Germany, Africa, Russia, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, and other locations. She is the daughter of Dick Averett who retired from the Columbus Campus. (In 2005, she was promoted to lieutenant colonel in the Air Force and was stationed in South Korea.)
- Karin Rieger from the Columbus Campus received the Outstanding Adult Educator Award from the Adult and Continuing Education Association of Nebraska at its annual conference. Rieger served as Extended Learning Services regional coordinator for the Columbus Campus beginning in 1987. She was recognized for her efforts to use technology to expand educational opportunities for students at off-campus locations, such as offering cyber-tutoring assistance with the use of e-mail to off-campus students.
- Lt. Gov. David Maurstad received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Nebraska Community College Association. He was a 1973 graduate of the Columbus Campus. He completed a bachelor's degree at UNL and became president of an insurance company in Beatrice. After having been mayor of Beatrice, he was elected to the Nebraska legislature in 1995. He became lieutenant governor in 1998.

Michelle Bentz, career and transitions coordinator, (second from right) shares information with high school counselors at a Career Connections event at the Columbus Campus.

- Dr. Roger Augspurger, dean of educational services, became the interim campus president upon the resignation of Dr. Dick Shank. Augspurger joined CCC in 1974 as chairman of the creative and social cluster. He was promoted to dean of instruction in 1985. He had previously served as interim campus president in 1993-94 after the death of Dr. Pete Rush.
- The spring tour of the Chorale vocal ensemble included performances in Clearwater, Kan.; Las Cruces, N.M.; Yuma, Prescott and Flagstaff, Ariz.; Rolling Hills, Calif.; Knott's Berry Farm; and Disneyland. The tour concluded in Denver.
- In August 2000, the Columbus Campus began offering a 15-week English as a Second Language class for individuals who wanted to become fluent in reading, writing and speaking English. Students completed a testing interview before enrolling in the ESL course.
- The Columbus Campus Diversity Committee's Latino Strategic Team sponsored a "Bridges to Success 2000" conference for Latino students in July. During the two-day conference, participants toured the campus and were given firsthand information about college attendance. They stayed overnight in the dorm, ate in the college cafeteria, attended information sessions and enjoyed some recreational activities during their time on campus.

- The CCC Board of Governors appointed Dr. Glenda Gallisath as campus president. She filled the post held by Dr. Dick Shaink, who resigned to accept a community college presidency in Michigan. Gallisath is a native of Wymore and earned her bachelor's degree in business administration from Wayne State College. She received a master's degree in business administration from the University of South Dakota and a doctorate from Iowa State University in professional studies in higher education. "Dr. Gallisath has the breadth of experience in community college administration and record of community involvement we know is important for a campus president," said Dr. Joe Preusser.
- The 30th annual Fine Arts Festival was held on the Columbus Campus in April. Visitors were able to listen to performances by the college chorus and the Platte Community Band, and to view student-produced artwork. The artwork on display included computer graphics, designs, photography, prints, sculptures and pottery.

Retired

- Ken Cielocha of Columbus retired from his position as a building service technician. He joined the Columbus Campus staff in 1973. Prior to joining the college staff he built homes for local contractors in Columbus and was employed by B.D. Construction and Sands Hog Confinement. He had also worked for Nitz Furniture Store in Columbus in service and sales.
- Richard Averett retired from his position as a speech instructor and director of the drama department. He joined the faculty in 1970 and was responsible for the development of the theater/drama program. He earned a bachelor's and a master's from Idaho State University. During his time with the college he produced more than 200 stage productions through the college and the Platte Valley Playhouse.
- John Putnam retired from his position as a music instructor at the Columbus Campus. Putnam joined the faculty in 1971 and was responsible for developing the music program for the campus. He was the founder of the popular vocal ensembles, Chorale and Cantari that traveled and performed extensively and brought wide exposure to the college and the Columbus Campus music program for many years.
- Kathy Harsh-Pollard of Columbus retired from her position as administrative assistant to the campus president. She joined the campus staff in Columbus in 1972 as a counseling center secretary. She also served as a secretary for the creative and social department and to the dean of instruction before accepting the position in the office of the campus president in 1992.
- Larry Funkhouser of Shelby retired from his position as a building service technician. Prior to joining the campus staff he worked as a section man for the Union Pacific Railroad and as a radar technician for McDonald-Douglas in St. Louis.
- Dr. Nell Burnham of Columbus retired from her position on the Columbus Campus. She joined the staff in 1970 as a secretarial science instructor and became associate dean of the learning center in 1985. She earned a doctor of education degree in administration, curriculum and instruction from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln.
- Dr. Roger Augspurger of Columbus retired from the Columbus Campus. Augspurger joined CCC in 1974 as chairman of the creative and social cluster. In 1985, he was promoted to dean of instruction, a title that changed in 1997 to dean of educational services. He also served two seven-month terms as interim president of the Columbus Campus, the first one in 1993-94 after the death of Dr. Peter Rush and the second one in 2000 after the resignation of Dr. Richard Shank.

Grand Island Campus

- Eighteen individuals received scholarships through the YWCA Next Step and Self-Help programs for use on the Grand Island Campus during the 2000 spring semester. Fourteen of those students received scholarships through the Next Step Program, which provided assistance to single parents and displaced homemakers. The other four recipients were part of the Self-Help Program, which provided help to women who have been detained in the criminal justice system.
- Marcy Echternacht, nursing instructor, received the Outstanding Achievement in Nursing Award from the Nebraska Nurses Association/District I. She had a longtime association with the Hastings Regional Center where she provided an educational experience for students in her psychiatric nursing class.

- About 100 students and 75 health care representatives attended the 10th annual Job Fair for Nurses March 10 at the Grand Island Campus. CCC nursing students were given the chance to meet and visit with representatives from hospitals, nursing homes, colleges and other institutions in Nebraska and get information about potential employment opportunities.
- Tonja Broadwell of Doniphan was presented the Outstanding Alumni Award during graduation ceremonies. She graduated in 1990 with an associate of applied science degree in data processing. She was information technology director at Kelly Supply Company/KDS Internet in Grand Island. She previously worked at Central Community College as a computer analyst and programmer and served as a business information system professor for Bellevue University. She holds a bachelor's degree from Bellevue University and a master's degree from George Washington University in Washington, D.C.
- A celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Grand Island Campus was launched on Sept. 30, 2000, with a Founders Day Breakfast and open house. This was the start of a yearlong celebration and was attended by 70 guests, including many of the individuals who were instrumental in the formation of the campus in Grand Island.
- Dr. Bill Giddings, campus president, received the Chief Executive Officer Award from the Nebraska Community College Association. Giddings was recognized for his efforts to increase public awareness of the Grand Island Campus, strengthen ties with the community, and increase educational opportunities at off-campus sites.

In Memory

- Lester Weber of Kearney, age 80, died in Ogallala. Following his graduation from Plainview High School, he taught in rural schools before moving to Washington, D.C., to work for the federal government. After returning to Nebraska he began a career in broadcasting. He joined the Grand Island Campus staff in 1973 and served as ABE director and community education coordinator until he retired in 1987. He is remembered for his positive attitude.

In 2000, the Grand Island Campus celebrated 25 years of challenges and changes as depicted in this cover from a special 25th anniversary publication.

Hastings Campus

- Dr. Georgianna Whipple-VanPatter, science instructor, reported that Kansas State University approved the CCC pre-veterinary program as fulfilling all the prerequisites for its veterinary medicine program. At that time, CCC was the only community college in Nebraska to meet all the Kansas State requirements. Pre-veterinary students took 76 semester-hours of credit at CCC, 70 of which transferred to Kansas State.
- The Spirit Award was given to Ken Rezac, associate dean of students, during an annual awards convocation. He was recognized for his outstanding support and commitment to the campus and to student activities.
- Linda Dill of Doniphan was given the Outstanding Alumni Award during commencement exercises. She graduated from the Hastings Campus in 1975

with an associate of applied science degree in parts sales and management. She joined the staff of Big G Stores in 1975 and has distinguished herself as a valued, professional employee. In 1997, she graduated from the Ace Retailing Management Institute. She actively supported many community clubs and organizations.

- About 75 people attended an open house in February. The open house was sponsored by the multicultural club ROOT 1, and was designed to provide students and their friends and families with a chance to get better acquainted with the services offered by the campus. ROOT 1 was formed in 1999 for students with a variety of ethnic and language backgrounds.
- The Hastings Campus organized a local chapter of SkillsUSA-VICA to enhance the occupational skills of students in communications, leadership and teamwork. Members have the opportunity to make contact with potential employers and participate in activities that focus on goal setting and career planning. Randy Manning, diesel instructor, and Vince Mendez, automotive instructor, served as faculty sponsors.
- Dr. Sandra Block, associate dean of instruction, was selected to participate in the yearlong Leaders 2000 Training Program. The program was designed for individuals in higher education who wanted to enhance their skills to assume leadership roles at their institutions. Block worked with Dean of Educational Services Alan Hartley, who served as her mentor during her training program.
- Jane Stratman, dental hygiene instructor, was appointed to a five-year term on the Nebraska Board of Dentistry by the Nebraska Department of Health. She was one of only two dental hygienists on the board who oversaw the rules and regulations for the practice of dentistry and dental hygiene and heard discipline cases and served as state examiners.
- Jim Krebsbach of Hastings received the 17th annual Outstanding Service Award at a recognition ceremony on the campus. He joined the staff as the student accounts director at the Hastings Campus in 1989. He was recognized for going the extra mile to meet students and staff needs and for setting a professional and personal example in his dealings with students and staff.
- Marilyn Harris of Hastings reached a very important personal goal in her job as a general education development instructor. She helped a young man in the Adams County jail who had worked two years to get his high school equivalency diploma. That young man became the 1,000th student Harris had helped to earn a GED. Harris began working in the Adult Basic Education program at the Hastings Campus in 1978.
- The house constructed by Hastings Campus students enrolled in the construction, electrical, and heating, air conditioning and refrigeration programs was placed on the auction block. The 1,680-square-foot, one-story ranch-style house was built according to the Uniform Building Code. It had three bedrooms, two baths and was auctioned by Ruhter Auction and Realty. The company donated part of its sales commission to the CCC foundation to support the construction program. The house sold for $83,400.
- A Career Connections event attracted 40 high school counselors to the Hastings Campus in June. The event was coordinated by the CCC Admissions and Recruiting Committee and was designed to allow counselors to learn more about Central Community College. Counselors learned about the various services the college provides for students and they were able to tour several program areas. Evaluation surveys indicated the counselors felt the day was very beneficial and highly informative for them.

Retired

- Alan Krueger retired as a heating, air conditioning and refrigeration instructor. He joined the Hastings faculty in 1970. He earned an associate degree in applied science from CCC and attended Kearney State College. He also completed special training programs sponsored by ThermoKing and General Motors.
- Julie Persinger of Grand Island retired as a communication instructor on the Hastings Campus. She joined the CCC faculty in 1969 as an accounting instructor and transferred to the communications department in 1970. She graduated from the University of Nebraska with a bachelor's degree in English and business and earned a master's degree from the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

In Memory

- George Petr, age 83, formerly of Hastings, died in Wichita on December 19, 1999. He was born in 1916 in Lawrence and graduated from Deweese High School and earned a degree from Hastings College. Petr worked on the Hastings Campus of CCC as an agriculture instructor from 1967 until he retired in 1982. He is remembered as an exceptionally kind person, whose humility often masked the fact that he was very intelligent.

Academy for Leadership

- Four members of the CCC administrative staff graduated from the Academy for Leadership Training and Development in Mesa, Ariz. The yearlong training program was designed to advance academic and administrative leadership in community and technical colleges. Graduates were CCC administrators Matt Gotschall, associate dean of trade and industry at Columbus; Alan Hartley, dean of educational services in Hastings; Ellen Lake, associate dean of arts and science at Columbus; and Linda Walline, associate dean of nursing at Grand Island.

Board of Governors

- The budget for 2000-01, which was approved by the CCC Board of Governors, included $25.8 million for the operating fund, $2.2 million for capital improvements and $313,800 for removal of hazardous materials and compliance with the American With Disabilities Act. The total amount approved was $28,432,733.
- The Nebraska Community College Association presented the annual Governor's Award to Homer Pierce of Lexington, a member of the CCC Board of Governors. Pierce was cited for his leadership in promoting distance learning and for playing a key role in acquiring the building for the CCC-Lexington Learning Center.

In Memory

- George Keller, age 83, of Lexington died Jan. 8, 2000. He was born in 1912 in Eustis and attended Eustis High School and graduated from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. He played a significant role in helping to start Central Community College and served on the CCC Board of Governors for 10 years. He also had been a member of the Lexington City Council and had served as mayor of Lexington. The Extension Service and the Walter Dunlap Company employed him before he joined the Lexington State Bank in 1952, where he worked until he retired in 1977.

College Administration

- Community College Business Officers named College Accounting Manager Linda Kruse as the 2000 Outstanding Business Officer for Region 5. Region 5 includes Iowa, Minnesota, North and South Dakota, and Nebraska. Kruse received her award at the organization's International Conference in Nashville, Tenn.
- Craig Shaw, information technology instructor at the Hastings Campus, was designated as the faculty representative to the College Cabinet for the 2000-01 college year.
- Ron Kluck was promoted from associate dean of Extended Learning Services to dean of Extended Learning Services, thus giving him collegewide supervisory responsibilities.

College Foundation

- A space traveler with roots deep in Nebraska was the featured speaker at the 10th annual CCC Foundation appreciation dinner. U.S. astronaut Clayton Anderson, a native of Ashland and a Hastings College graduate, was the featured speaker for the annual dinner. About 250 people attended the event where appreciation was expressed for support given to the college by private sector donors. A highlight of the evening was the induction of Carol Cope and her late husband, Ron, into the Foundation Hall of Fame.
- The Central Community College Foundation awarded more than $4,000 in staff development grants for the 1999-2000 academic year. The recipients were: Peggy Pape from the Administrative Office, Karin Rieger from the Columbus Campus, Diana Watson from the Holdrege Center, Sarah Cunningham and Vicki Harvey from the Grand Island Campus, and Dan Gompert and Liz Kohout from the Hastings Campus.
- Thanks to funding provided by MFS/York/Stormor Inc. in cooperation with the Virgil Eihusen Foundation, financial assistance was available to farmers and their spouses who wanted to further their

education at CCC. The money was available to individuals who were thinking of leaving farming as well as those who planned to keep farming but needed outside sources of income. The funds were used to get training and take courses from CCC in more than 30 career programs offered by the college.

Electronics Technology

- Central Community College and the U.S. Navy teamed up to offer a special associate of applied science degree in electronics technology. The degree was awarded when a participant completed 30 or more college credits at CCC and 30 or more credits through the Navy electronics and other technical training programs. High school students interested in the program began by taking college courses through CCC's Early Entry program.

Holdrege Center

- The first two individuals to complete associate degrees entirely through off-campus classes at the Holdrege Center graduated from the Hastings Campus. Kay Brown of Oxford and Nancy Hammack of Holdrege were awarded associate of applied science degrees in business administration and accounting, respectively.

Kearney Center

In Memory

- Maxine Spongberg of Kearney died at the age of 78 on June 23, 2000. She was born in 1921 in Pleasanton and graduated from Pleasanton High School in 1937. She received her registered nursing diploma in 1941 from St. Francis School of Nursing in Grand Island. After living in California for more than 20 years, she returned to Kearney and received a degree in nursing from Kearney State College. She worked at Good Samaritan Hospital and taught practical nursing classes for Central Community College until she retired in 1985.

Logo

- Central Community College unveiled a new college logo at the July 2000 meeting of the Board of Governors. The three "C's" that make up the new logo have several graphic interpretations. They represent the three main campuses, are viewed as ascending steps created by progress and continued education, and represent a strong foundation of a college education. There is a freedom of movement in the new logo that represents the academic and creative components of Central Community College. The new logo is designed to give the college a fresh, modern image as it enters the new millennium.

Ord Learning Center

- The CCC Learning Center at Ord became an important hub for education services in the surrounding area. The enrollment in community education classes jumped from 138 in 1998-99 to 320 in 1999-2000. Student enrollments in credit classes also increased at the Ord Center with more than 50 students taking credit classes in 1999-2000.

Phi Theta Kappa

- Nebraska Gov. Mike Johanns presented awards to 22 Nebraska community college students in April. Those students were members of the Phi Theta Kappa All-State Academic Team, and among those receiving the awards were four students from Central Community College. Recipients from CCC were: Anahi Serrano of Heartwell from the Grand Island Campus, Andrew Sexton of Cambridge from the Hastings Campus, Skye Greenland of Arcadia from the Columbus Campus, and Joseph Harrington of Columbus from the Columbus Campus.
- Four CCC students were elected to offices at the Nebraska-Wyoming Regional Phi Theta Kappa Conference at Western Wyoming Community College. Fred Wigington of Schuyler, a business administration student at the Columbus Campus, was elected Nebraska regional vice president. Lois Hafer of Hastings, an office technology student at the Hastings Campus, was elected a regional secretary. Katie Sedersten of Hastings, a media arts student at the Hastings Campus, was elected as regional newsletter co-editor. Ken Reilly of Spalding, a drafting student at the Columbus Campus, was elected public relations officer. Naomi Hughes of Rising City, who received an associate of arts degree from the Columbus Campus in 2000, was the outgoing regional president.

R-16 Software

- A new version of Colleague software was loaded in February 2000. The new R-16 (short for Release 16) made a major change in how the college handled the transfer of information throughout the college. Virtually all operations of CCC were affected. The college had to purchase a new server to handle the system. Extensive studies and preparations were made by an R-16 Team long before the major transition became a reality.

Science Technology

- CCC students who wanted to complete a bachelor of science degree in food service and technology were the benefactors of a new transfer agreement between CCC and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The agreement allowed students to transfer up to 66 semester hours of college credit to the university. All CCC students took a common core of general education and science courses. CCC students graduated from CCC with an associate of applied science degree in science technology.

Dr. Bill Tuttle, English instructor, teaches a class in a distance learning classroom at Columbus Lakeview High School. For more on distance learning, see the story on the following page.

2001

CCC Leaps Into Distance Education

by Dr. Eric Jones, Dean of Educational Services, Grand Island Campus

(Editor's note: In the fall of 2001, more than l00 students began courses which CCC offered via the Internet. Some students enrolled for what college officials believed to be the first online associate of applied science degree in industrial technology in the U.S. To acknowledge the importance of the development of distance education, Dr. Eric Jones was invited to write the following article for this publication.)

Characteristics Important to Distance Education

Dr. Eric Jones

Two major characteristics of the college make distance education key to the college's role, mission, and character. First, the college was founded with a focus on competency-based individualized instruction and second, the rural nature of the service area.

The concept of competency-based individualized instruction at Central Community College has four unique features. Students can:

- Enroll in specified courses any day of the week, any week of the semester the college is in session.
- Progress independently of other students and acquire skills as quickly or slowly as needed to attain the competency.
- Enroll in single units or credits. If a student can show competency in the material, it is not necessary to enroll in the unit to repeat known material.
- Use a learning guide or packet and are assigned to labs or areas where equipment and faculty are available to assist the student.

The second characteristic of the college is to reach out to its constituents who may be place- or time-bound.

Distance Education via Learning Centers

The college reaches out to communities by a network of learning centers. Learning centers have been established in approximately 70 communities within the college service area, each staffed with a part-time manager. They act not as experts in the curriculum, but as resource persons who provide encouragement, proctor tests, provide basic advising, collect assignments to send to the campus and faculty for grading and to redistribute graded material to students. During the 2004-05 year, the learning centers generated 13,308 credits. These centers provide support services for individualized and video courses received in the local community. Unless the student has access to the equipment by some means, learning centers are limited to offering courses focused on knowledge-based material as opposed to courses requiring specialized equipment.

Internet Increases Efficiency

Before the advent of computers, e-mail, the Web, and file sharing, managers and students sent completed course and test materials via the standard post office. With the development and expansion of the Internet, electronic delivery has made the distribution, submission, and management of course materials more timely and efficient.

When Internet access broadened to Nebraska schools, Central Community College collaborated with school districts with learning center sites to provide computer networking support and technical assistance. Central Community College also teamed with the schools to purchase network hubs and routers and paid for data circuits to the schools.

Distance Education Via Video

With other postsecondary institutions of the state, Central Community College participates in the NEB*SAT (Nebraska Satellite) video system. This system, operated by the Nebraska Public Broadcasting System, offers two modes of operation. The first has 16 sites around the state (mostly at public postsecondary institutions). It offers full two-way video and audio interaction. Central Community College has 12 classrooms – five at Grand Island, two at Columbus, two at Hastings and one each at Lexington, Holdrege, and Kearney. Two more, one at Kearney and the other at Lexington, are scheduled to be added soon. The second system provides one-way video and, with phone connection, two-way audio connections for any site that can receive digital satellite signal.

During the mid-1990s, the state public schools used funding from the state lottery to install a system to deliver courses transmitted over land lines with the goal of sharing curriculum and staff for areas not available to all districts. Central Community College was among the first community colleges to participate in this program.

Central Community College participates as a founding member of four "pods" to provide courses to advanced high school juniors and seniors and to others in the communities in the college service area. Today, two-way interaction is available to approximately 60 communities in central Nebraska. Additionally, by way of a statewide video system, the potential for instruction expanded to approximately 34 additional locations, including colleges, hospitals, and clinics.

Kathy Ewers, English instructor, interacts with students in one of CCC's Distance Learning classrooms.

Web-Based Delivery

In the mid-1990s, Central Community College began developing instruction using the Web with a software package called "Toolbook." With course development on the Internet moving at a rapid pace, the college could not develop, set up, and install a system to match the next stage of software or technology before it was out of date. In 2000, the college chose course management software (WebCT). Selected faculty began offering limited course work.

In 2005, Central Community College offered:

- 361 total courses on the WebCT server.
- 52 instructors teaching 106 Web-based courses in the fall of 2005, an increase from 80 Web-based courses in the fall of 2004.
- 115 faculty members with courses on the WebCT server (counting those teaching both Web-based courses and those using WebCT for supplemental purposes). This includes 10 high school instructors using WebCT courses to teach Tech Prep courses.

Among the courses being offered on the Web was a new nine-month Web support specialist program. It was designed for individuals who already have a working knowledge of computers but who need competencies in HyperText Markup Language (HTML), scripting, and Web creation and maintenance in order to qualify for jobs.

Web-based instruction at CCC is managed by the teaching and learning centers on each campus, with Wendy Beal at the Columbus Campus, Tracy Watts at the Grand Island Campus, and Steve Buss at the Hastings Campus. Buss also manages the software which is required for the instruction.

Columbus Campus

- Pat Karsk, a nursing instructor, reported to the CCC Board of Governors that the college developed refresher courses for licensed practical nurse and registered nurses who have not practiced for two years. They must take a state-approved refresher course in order to be licensed again. CCC is one of three colleges in Nebraska to offer such courses.
- The Columbus Campus Chorale completed a nearly 5,000-mile, 20-day tour after the end of the spring semester. The 15 student singers and director David Smith made performing stops in Kansas City; Fayetteville, Ark.; Greenville, Miss.; New Orleans; Tallahassee and Orlando, Fla.; Freeport and Nassau in the Bahamas; Nashville, Tenn.; and St. Louis. The tour included a trip on the Carnival Fantasy cruise ship, and several on-shore excursions.
- A casual conversation between two participants at a conference led to a partnership between Central Community College-Columbus and Festo, an international company with headquarters in Germany. Festo is a hydraulic and pneumatic supply company that does business in more than 50 countries. Festo helped to sponsor Matt Gotschall, trade and industry associate dean, and Doug Pauley, business and industry development director, to attend the 2001 VIP Tour during the world's largest industrial expo in Hannover, Germany. Festo used some CCC faculty as judges for the Mechatronics Contest of the SkillsUSA-VICA competition in Kansas City. This partnership resulted in significant discounts on Festo's state-of-the-art interactive software and manufacturing simulation equipment which the college purchased with grant money.
- Mike Trader of Hastings was recipient of the 2001 Outstanding Alumni Award during graduation exercises. Trader graduated from the Columbus Campus in 1972 with an associate of arts degree. He

FFA members visit the Columbus Campus.

earned a bachelor's degree in 1974 and a master's degree in education in 1992, both from Hastings College. He has served as the men's head basketball coach at Hastings College since 1986. He also served as head coach at Omaha Northwest, Omaha Bryan and Hastings Senior high schools.

- The Platte Community Band and College Chorus performed a variety of musical selections before a full-house at the annual winter concert in the Fine Arts Theater.
- Thirty-nine area high school teams participated in the first qualifying round of the KJSK News-Talk 900 Brainstorm contest. Columbus Campus faculty members created the questions that the teams attempted to answer on live radio broadcasts each weekday morning. Questions for the teams dealt with contemporary events, humanities, science and math, social sciences, and technology. Teams with the highest scores advanced to additional rounds of questioning until all but eight schools were eliminated. The surviving eight schools then competed in the finals that were broadcast live from the campus. The East Butler High School team won the final round and was awarded a trophy and $1,000 for its school.
- Dr. Thomas Gouttierre, director of Afghanistan Studies at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and a nationally recognized authority on Afghanistan, spoke to a full house in the Fine Arts Theater. He outlined some of the political and historical conditions that led to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and explained the role and origins of the Taliban organization in Afghanistan. The Columbus Campus diversity committee and the campus chapter of Phi Theta Kappa sponsored his appearance at the campus.
- A $39,433 Nebraska Worker Training Grant provided an opportunity for Columbus area retail and service businesses to send employees who work directly with the public to training sessions to enhance their customer service skills. The grant money established a pilot program called Retail BEST (Business Employee Service Training), a collaborative effort between the Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce, area businesses, and Central Community College-Columbus. Thirteen area businesses have sent 196 of their employees for training.

Instructor Gary Senff explains use of an industrial welding robot in the Columbus Campus welding lab.

- Sam Cowan of Stromsburg was named the 2001 Faculty Person of the Year at the Columbus Campus. Cowan, a quality control instructor, received his award during commencement exercises. He was cited for his ability to apply subject matter to real-world situations and for his commitment to making the quality control program a success. He joined the staff in 1993 as an electrical technology and electronics instructor. He has written two books related to his technical expertise.
- Doug Pauley of Columbus, director of business and industry development, was named the 2001 Employee of the Year on the Columbus Campus. The award is presented annually to an individual who demonstrates dedication, innovation, and enthusiasm and is noted for a willingness to go the extra mile in their position. Pauley was recognized for his efforts to provide customized training to businesses and industries throughout the CCC service area. More than $1.5 million in training grants were acquired under his leadership. The alternative fuels program gained national recognition with his guidance. Pauley joined the staff in 1990 as an energy management circuit rider. He became business and industry development director in 1999.
- Columbus native Andrew Jackson Higgins was once called "the man who won the war for us" by Dwight D. Eisenhower because of Higgins' boat-building know-how. Higgins designed the LCVP "Higgins Boat" that was a flat-bottom landing craft used to bring fighting men ashore on beaches

during the Second World War. To commemorate the contributions of Higgins, Jerry Meyer, Columbus High School history teacher and project chairman, along with his students, spent more than a year promoting the idea of building a memorial in Columbus' Pawnee Park. The memorial in the park includes a carefully researched reproduction of the famous boat, a wall of bricks with donors' names, a circle of flags from every state, a historical marker and a walk of 58 four-inch inlaid brass circles with a five-point raised star that bears the name of each of the 58 beaches where the Higgins boats were used during World War II. The brass circles are actually lids for below-the-ground vaults filled with sand from the named beaches where the boats were used. Leon Finecy, machine tool instructor at the Columbus Campus, and Columbus High School vocational education teacher Tracy Dodson worked together to design the brass lid covers. Drawings of the designs were then translated into a machine code and the 58 brass covers were produced. Columbus High School and Columbus Campus machine technology students utilized the technology available at CCC-Columbus and operated the machines during the production process. Finecy and others on the Columbus Campus felt it was a special honor to contribute help to Jerry Meyer and his high school students who devoted endless hours to erect a fitting memorial to Andrew Jackson Higgins for his role in helping to achieve a victory in World War II.

- The campus was awarded three $500 scholarships to be used by students in the trades and industry programs. Hamilton-Sunstrand of York proposed that CCC-Columbus receive the scholarship funds because the campus had been responsive to its requests for training. United Technologies, the parent company of Hamilton-Sunstrand, made the $1,500 in funds available.
- For the 31st year, the Columbus Campus hosted the District II High School Music Contest. It is one of the largest district music contests in the state, with about 450 entries involving mixed choirs, small ensembles and soloists.
- Dan Rumsey, electronics instructor, successfully passed the Cisco certified network administrator exam on his first attempt. Such certified professionals are qualified to install, configure, and operate local area networks, wide area network, and dial access services.

Retired

- Richard Abraham retired as an art instructor. Abraham joined the Columbus Campus faculty in 1971 and was responsible for initiating the organization of the art program for transfer students and of the commercial art program. He also earned a master's degree in art from the University of Northern Colorado. His art has sold throughout the United States, and he has work that is part of the permanent collections at the University of Northern Colorado and Joslyn Art Museum in Omaha. The annual campus Fine Arts Festival of 2001 was dedicated to Abraham for his 30 years of service to his art students.
- Tom Hastings of Columbus retired from his position as accounting clerk Hastings joined the campus staff in 1984, working in the security maintenance department and was transferred to the campus accounts department in 1988. Prior to his employment by CCC, he worked as an accountant at Hinky Machine, Alshouse Auction and Mr. Wize Buys Carpet Shop. Hastings graduated from Osceola High School and C.E. School of Commerce in Omaha where he earned a degree in accounting.

Grand Island Campus

- Industrial quality management techniques were successfully introduced into a health care setting, thanks to a cooperative effort between St. Francis Medical Center in Grand Island and CCC-Grand Island. Dana Wert, an industrial technology instructor, helped develop a quality improvement program for the hospital, incorporating statistical processes used by manufacturing industries. The program improved the quality of patient care, the time for returning blood test results and pain level for orthopedic patients.
- Student housing became available on the Grand Island Campus in the fall of 2001. The Grand Island College Apartments were constructed on three acres of leased land, on the north side of the campus. Forty two- and three-bedroom apartments were available for students to rent in the fall, with 40 more units scheduled for completion in the fall of 2002. A private development company in Central City built the apartment complex and manage

the property. The college retained the right to buy the complex at the end of five years.

- Pete Kortum of Grand Island was recipient of the 2001 Outstanding Alumni Award at the commencement ceremony. Kortum graduated from CCC in 1999 with an associate of applied science degree in criminal justice. He joined the Grand Island Police Department in 1974 and was promoted to the rank of captain in 1998. He graduated from the FBI National Academy in 2000.
- Bob Lubbe was one of six community college graduates to receive the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Nebraska Community College Association. He earned three different associate of applied science degrees at the campus. One associate degree was in data processing in 1984, another degree was in electronics in 1985, and his third associate degree was in business administration in 1990. Lubbe's computer consulting business called Connections 2000 received awards in 1998 and 1999 as one of the 25 fastest growing companies in Omaha.
- Using a booth full of students dressed as astronauts and a space shuttle model, the student activities and advisory committee won the most original chili award at the annual Red Cross chili cook off in February. The chili was called "2001: A Space Odyssey."
- The campus placement office and the Phi Theta Kappa chapter were sponsors of a career day. Ten Grand Island employers participated. A panel of employers discussed what they look for in a prospective employee, and a mock interview was conducted for the benefit of CCC students in attendance.
- About 100 students and 75 health care representatives attended the 11th annual Job Fair for Nurses at the campus. The job fair provided an opportunity for students enrolled in the associate degree in nursing and practical nursing programs at the Columbus and Grand Island campuses and the Kearney Center to meet representatives from hospitals, nursing homes, four-year colleges with nursing degree programs, and other health care institutions in Nebraska.
- The ConAgra Beef Company of Grand Island announced a new scholarship program for employees and families of the Grand Island company. The scholarship program, funded by a partnership between ConAgra and the United Food and Commercial Workers Union #22 – the bargaining unit that represents the ConAgra employees – provided $5,000 in scholarships each year for four years to be applied to any educational program offered at Central Community College.
- Campus President Dr. Bill Giddings was elected to the board of directors of the National Council for Continuing Education and Training.
- The 2001 Career Connections was held at the campus. Forty-two counselors from 39 high schools attended the sessions. The annual event is rotated among the three campuses and is designed to give participants a chance to learn more about CCC's programs and services.
- CCC announced a new partnership with I/Tech Services Inc. to bring information services certification programs to Grand Island. I/Tech is a Microsoft Certified Technical Education Center that offers a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer professional certification program. The first class, which met on evenings and weekends, was limited to 16 students.
- A one-day seminar on "How to Write a Children's Picture Book" was offered on the campus. The featured presenter was Peter Davidson who has written nine books published by major publishers and has co-authored eight children's picture books.

Hastings Campus

- Dr. LaVern Franzen, campus president, received the President's Award from the Nebraska Community College Association. The honor was given to Franzen in recognition of his energetic leadership style, his positive attitude, his positive rapport with students and staff members, and his active support of many professional organizations and community groups.
- Brad Lang, agriculture instructor, was named the Education and Research Person of the Year by the Nebraska Fertilizer and Ag-Chemical Institute. The award was one of five given annually by the institute in recognition of individuals who have made outstanding contributions to agriculture in Nebraska.
- Wayne Huntley, parts sales and management instructor, completed requirements set by the Automotive Management Institute to become an

accredited automotive manager. At the time, he was one of three people in Nebraska to earn the accreditation. Huntley also contributed four articles to a quarterly trade magazine, "Parts Professional." The articles dealt with new trends in the field, how to interest students in a career in the parts industry, how to retain key employees, and how employees can help their company increase income.

- Students from the Hastings Campus participated in the SkillsUSA-VICA national competition held in Kansas City. The CCC students earned the right to compete nationally by placing first in state competition. They competed against 7,000 other first-place winners from across the United States. Shannon Brown of McCook finished 25th in collision and repair, Joel Jensen of North Platte placed seventh in air-cooled engines, Chris Laakso of Omaha finished 16th in diesel technology and the quiz bowl team of Chad and Clint Bucknell, both of Chambers, and Elpidia Novoa and Dora Sotelo, both of Lexington, finished in eighth place.
- The Nebraska Dental Hygienists' Association selected Hastings dentist Dr. Wayne Ganow as Dental Hygiene Advocate of the Year. Ganow was recognized for his outstanding contributions to the dental hygiene profession, including his work in the dental hygiene program at CCC. Two dental hygiene students at the Hastings Campus also received awards. Brandi Lang of Bennet was named Outstanding Dental Hygiene Student and Corrine Tenski of Spalding received a student scholarship award.
- Dental hygiene students from the Hastings Campus participated in two events at Creighton University. As part of the Special Olympics program, an event called Special Smiles for Special Athletes was held. Athletes received a general screening from dentists and information about proper dental care. The second event was the Hope Medical Outreach Coalition: Colgate-Palmolive Bright Smiles, Bright Futures Volunteer Partnership Dental Day. This program provides services to about 80 at-risk children from Omaha area clinics and shelters. Eleven students and staff members from the Hastings Campus participated.
- The Clay County Cruise, an annual bike riding event sponsored by the wellness program at the campus, had a record 77 bikers participate. Bikers from several Nebraska communities toured various locations in Clay County. Prizes were provided by the Bike Shop for the most unique bike, the most unique outfit, and the most unique artifact found along the route.
- Automotive instructor Vince Mendez of Grand Island received the Spirit Award during a presentation ceremony on the campus. The award is presented annually to an individual who has shown outstanding support and commitment to the campus and campus activities. Mendez serves as a faculty sponsor for the drag racing club, ROOT 1 multicultural club, and the SkillsUSA-VICA club.
- Neal McInturf of Oxford was named the Outstanding Alumni during graduation ceremonies. McInturf graduated from the Hastings Campus in 1991 with an associate of applied science degree in agriculture occupations. In 1994, he joined the Ag Valley Co-op as an elevator manager in Oxford and then became feed mill and elevator manager at Hendley in 1995. In 1996, he became elevator superintendent and then was promoted to operations manager for the Ag Valley Co-op in 2000.
- Dr. LaVern Franzen, campus president, was awarded the Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction at the 2001 Phi Theta Kappa International Convention in Denver. The award is given annually in recognition of college presidents who have made outstanding efforts to support and promote PTK and its goals.
- Esther Winter, communications instructor, presented a paper at the American Society of Business and Behavioral Sciences annual meeting in Las Vegas. Along with Dr. J. Winter from Central Missouri State University, she presented the paper, "Are We Training Managers to Operate in a Vacuum?" They discussed the quality and impact of distance learning courses and the student attitudes toward distance learning courses.
- Following the tragic attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, the Hastings Campus chapter of Phi Theta Kappa began looking for some way to demonstrate a sense of unity in the Hastings area. PTK believed a constructive interaction among people in the Hastings area would send a positive message to relieve anxiety and tensions. Therefore, in partnership with businesses and organizations in the Hastings area, PTK initiated the first-ever Hastings Area Community Unity Day held in the

Hastings City Auditorium. Four hundred people were treated to six hours of diverse and continuous entertainment. It was a day where music, dance and food were used to demonstrate the unity among the many ethnic groups represented in the Hastings area. A candlelight vigil and a serious message addressing the need for a violence-free society concluded the Unity Day events.

- Two students from the campus were elected to regional Phi Theta Kappa offices at the Nebraska-Wyoming Conference. Trent Allison of Newport was elected regional president and Matthew Russell of Trumbull was elected regional vice president. Ten other students and sponsors attended the regional conference.
- A new medical laboratory technology program was approved for the campus replacing the science technology program. A survey of central Nebraska medical labs indicated a strong demand for trained technicians. Graduates from the new program are eligible to take the national certification exams offered by the American Society of Clinical Pathologists and the National Certification Agency for Clinical Laboratory Scientists.

Retired

- Walt Miller of Hastings retired from his position as architectural drafting instructor. Miller joined the Hastings Campus faculty in 1970. He earned a bachelor's degree in architecture from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and a master's degree in education from Kearney State College. Prior to joining the CCC staff, Miller was a working architect for Associate Architects in Columbus and George Clayton and Associates in Grand Island.
- Dick Stelzer of Juniata retired from his position as an auto body technology instructor. Stelzer joined the Hastings Campus faculty in 1967. He attended Milford Trade School and Kearney State College. Prior to joining the CCC staff, Stelzer did finish body work at Kerr Chevrolet and Hastings Motor Truck in Hastings.

Students share ideas gained in a leadership workshop conducted by Caree Cielocha on the Columbus Campus.

ACEAN Recognitions

- The Adult and Continuing Education Association recognized several individuals associated with Central Community College at its annual conference. Duane Matson received the Distinguished Service Award for his outstanding work providing GED and ABE programs to employees of Behlen Manufacturing in Columbus. Three students from CCC, Sherri Rhone of Smithfield, and Tracy Westfall of Cozad, both of whom take classes through the Lexington Learning Center, and Rosa Steinmark of Columbus, who attends the Columbus Campus, received $500 scholarships from ACEAN. Ron Kluck, Ann Chambers, Margaret Williams, Diana Watson and Ron Smith were CCC employees elected to the ACEAN Board of Directors. Cassie Smith and Julie Smithson were selected to serve on the nominating committee, and Caree Cielocha, Ann Chambers, Sarah Cunningham, Dee Johnson and Liz Kohout all made presentations.

All-State Academic Team

- Five Central Community College students were named to the All-State Academic Team at a ceremony at the Nebraska State Capitol Building in Lincoln. The event was sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa and the Nebraska Community College Association. Lt. Gov. David Maurstad presented medallions and certificates to the 19 community college students named to the team. The five CCC students named to the academic team were: Shellie Cruz of Grand Island, Grand Island Campus; Holly Johnson of Daykin, Columbus Campus; Corey Sibert of Superior, Hastings Campus; Travis Smith of Columbus, Columbus Campus; and Crystal Thomas of Kenesaw, Hastings Campus.

Board of Governors

- The Central Community College Board of Governors gave approval for a new program to provide training to Nebraska law enforcement officers. CCC and the other community colleges in Nebraska offer an associate of applied science degree in Nebraska law enforcement. Students in the degree program will also complete a nine-week internship with the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center.
- While local taxes, state aid, and income from tuition are the major sources of revenue for the college, a report given to the CCC Board of Governors showed that grants and financial aid funds had added about $10.4 million in a year. Nancy Bjorklund, grants and special projects director, told the board that the college had received about $5 million annually in grants that made it possible to provide a variety of training programs. Jim Fisher, associate dean of students at the Columbus Campus and leader of the college financial aid team, said that the college received $6.8 million in student financial aid funding during the 2000-01 college year. A total of 5,590 awards was given to 2,822 students. Included was nearly $2.7 million in federal Pell Grants, $240,000 in other state and federally funded grant programs, $2.3 million in student loans, and more than $154,000 for college work-study programs.
- The CCC Board of Governors approved the college budget for 2001-02. For the previous two years, the Unicameral had used revenue surpluses to allocate an additional $30 million in state funding for the community colleges, which reduced their property tax collections by the same amount. The Board of Governors was obligated to increase the tax levy to compensate for the reduction in state aid when the allocation was discontinued. The tax levy increased property tax collections from $3.93 million in 2000-01 to $9.93 million for 2001-02. The $68,461,311 budget included $27.4 million for operating expenses, $1.625 million for the capital improvement fund, $405,905 for hazardous materials removal and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, $10.6 million in cash reserves, and about $25 million in federal funds from grants and student aid programs.
- Tuition rates were increased by $1 a credit hour for each of the next two academic years in action approved by the Board of Governors. The board approved rates of $46 per credit hour for 2002-03 and $47 per credit hour for 2003-04. Student fees remained at $4 per credit hour.

College Administration

- Jim Strayer, public relations officer, received four awards at the District 5 conference of the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations. He received a silver award for a nine-part advertising campaign and bronze awards for a series of three brochures about the CCC campuses and for a handout he designed used for recruiting. Strayer also served as a project director for a series of television commercials that received another bronze award.
- Dr. Dennis Tyson, college vice president of educational services, reported to the CCC Board of Governors in September that the old saying, “You’re never too old to learn,” was true for some of the students enrolled in CCC courses during the 2000-01 college year. Tyson told the board that 37 students who were 80 years of age or older had completed 44 courses at the college. “I think this emphasizes that in Nebraska, people believe in lifelong learning,” Tyson said.
- Dorothy Condreay, physical sciences instructor at the Columbus Campus, was chosen as the faculty representative to the College Cabinet for the 2001-02 college year.

College Foundation

- The CCC Foundation Board of Directors approved funding for the 2001-02 Professional Development Program. The $6,000 allotted for the program was divided into $1,000 for each campus and the administration office with the remaining $2,000 to be used for collegewide awards. The Foundation Board also approved discretionary funds in the amount of $1,000 for each campus and $500 for the administration office, and flower funds of $500 for each campus and $250 for the administration office.
- The 11th annual Central Community College Foundation Pro-Am Golf Tournament was held at the Riverside Country Club in Grand Island. The

2001 event attracted 96 amateur golfers and 24 playing professionals. Since its inception, the Foundation's Pro-Am Golf Tournament has generated more than $130,000 for scholarships for Central Community College students.

- The Central Community College Foundation's Annual Appreciation Dinner was held Oct. 22 in Columbus. With the events of Sept. 11 on everyone's minds, the 2001 event was given a theme of "America: Land of Freedom and Opportunity" with a large American flag used as a backdrop. The featured speaker for the evening was Tom Sullivan, nationally known blind actor, singer, author and athlete. Sullivan both entertained and inspired the audience with his performance. Another special moment during the evening was the induction of Bud and Rita Fleischer of Columbus into the CCC Foundation Hall of Fame in recognition of their many years of support for the college and the activities of the foundation.

Cyber Tutor Program

- CCC has created a new Cyber Tutor Program to provide better services to the 12,000 students taking off-campus courses. Students enrolled in on-campus courses at Columbus, Grand Island and Hastings could also use the new service. Rather than face-to-face communications with an instructor or trained tutor, students submitted questions by filling out an online form on the Cyber Tutor Web page, by fax, or by voice-mail and receive an answer within 24 hours. The Web site also included links to other sources of academic assistance such as online writing labs and math tutorials.

Enrollment

- The 2001 enrollment report indicated that total enrollment for Central Community College during the 2000-01 college year was 27,570. There were 2,167 full-time on-campus students, 18,099 part-time students, 13,458 off-campus students, 2,879 avocational students, 2,546 students in Adult Basic Education courses, and more than 12,000 people enrolled in business and industry training courses. (The sum total for the categories shown above exceed the total enrollment because some students enrolled in more than one of the categories listed in the breakdown.)

Extended Learning Services

- More than 20,000 people took Central Community College classes in their own communities during the 2000-01college year. A report to the CCC Board of Governors indicated a total of 2,145 classes were offered in 87 communities by the Extended Learning Services Department of CCC. Those 2,145 generated 32,978 registrations, with some students taking more than one class. Nearly 300 people served as volunteers in the Adult Basic Education program during the 2000-01 school year and donated almost 6,700 hours of their time tutoring 2,546 people in the ABE program.
- Central Community College implemented several projects to reach out to a growing Hispanic population within the CCC service area. The 2000 census indicated 23,497 Hispanic people living in the CCC 25-county service area. Special summer programs were implemented to acquaint potential Hispanic students with the services available at CCC and selected news releases were translated into Spanish for distribution to Spanish-language media. Hispanic recruiting and retention specialists are also being hired as part of the outreach effort by CCC.

Hastings College Bound

- Central Community College and Hastings College were making good use of the partnership termed the Hastings College Bound Program. The program simplified admission to Hastings College for CCC graduates who earned an associate of arts degree with a GPA of at least 2.4. Hastings College reduced tuition by 45 percent for CCC graduates taking advantage of the partnership program. Members of Phi Theta Kappa are eligible for an additional $1,000 scholarship. There were 10 CCC graduates attending Hastings College during the 2001 spring semester.

Holdrege Center

- Five employees of Becton-Dickinson in Holdrege completed the requirements for a certificate in quality control from Central Community College

without ever leaving Holdrege. They completed most of the 15 credits required for the certificate by taking classes via satellite and video conferencing taught by Sam Cowan, quality control instructor at the Columbus Campus. Carol Sole, math instructor at the Hastings Campus, guided the five students through the required technical math class.

- The Holdrege Center of Central Community College received a $23,500 Community Technology Fund Award from the Nebraska Information Technology Commission. The grant funds were used for laptops and a projector that will allow the center to offer computer training courses in more rural areas and enhance the economic development opportunities in these areas.

Multimedia Library Project

- CCC and the other community colleges in Nebraska, along with the Nebraska Department of Labor and the Nebraska Department of Economic Development, placed into operation an on-site, multimedia-learning project beginning in 1999. The successful collaboration resulted in a statewide, interactive multimedia library with more than 1,200 CDs that businesses and industries could use to provide on-site training for their employees. About 1,200 employees and 64 businesses and industries received training during the first two years.

Quality Control Courses

- As the demand for quality control courses continued to grow, CCC quality control faculty members Richard Flynn and Brian McDermott teamed up to provide more personal and practical quality control courses to adult students throughout the CCC service area. They taught courses at companies located in Columbus, York, Cozad and Lexington. More than 280 students took courses during the fall semester in 2001.

Tech Prep

- Barb Larson, Tech Prep coordinator, was elected president-elect of the National Association for Tech Prep Leadership. The association is devoted to representing the interests of Tech Prep professionals.

2002

Dr. LaVern Franzen Named CCC President

The Central Community College Board of Governors named Dr. LaVern Franzen as the new college president at the May 20, 2002, meeting of the board. Franzen became the third person to serve in that position since the college was founded. At the time of his appointment, he was serving as president of the Hastings Campus. Dr. Franzen started his career with CCC in 1967 as an accounting instructor at the Hastings Campus. In 1969, he became the chairman of business-related programs on that campus.

Established Lexington Center in 1977

In 1977, he established the CCC-Lexington Center and served as associate dean there until 1987 when he was appointed dean of instruction at the Grand Island Campus. He served as Hastings Campus president beginning in 1996 and also served as college vice president for allied health and technical programs. Franzen replaced Dr. Joe Preusser who had been the college president since 1984.

With Franzen in the college administration offices at the time he became college president were Sandy Burris, executive assistant; Dr. Dennis Tyson, executive vice president for educational services; Larry Glazier, college business officer; Tom Peters, management information systems; and Jim Strayer, public relations officer. Doug Adler was the human resources manager.

The three people who have served as president of Central Community College were photographed together at the dedication of Greeley Hall on the Hastings Campus: (left to right) Dr. LaVern Franzen was appointed president in 2002 and continued to serve when this publication was printed in 2006, Dr. Chester Gausman was founding president for the college, serving from 1966-84, and Dr. Joe Preusser, serving from 1984-2002.

Composition of College Cabinet

On the College Cabinet in addition to Franzen, Glazier, Strayer, and Tyson were Dr. Bill Giddings, campus president, Grand Island; Jack Crowley, executive director, CCC Foundation; Jim Fisher, interim campus president, Columbus; and Alan Hartley, interim campus president, Hastings. Jeanne Webb, family and consumer science instructor, Grand Island, joined the group as faculty representative in September. There were approximately 400 full-time and 1,000 part-time faculty and staff employed by the college.

Graduate of Gothenburg High School, KSC, UNL

Franzen graduated from Gothenburg High School and earned a bachelor's degree in education and a master's degree in vocational education from Kearney State College. He earned a doctor of education degree in community and human resources from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

Active in Many Organizations

Among the many organizations to which Franzen has belonged are: the Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce, the Hastings Economic Development Board, the Mary Lanning HealthCare Foundation, the Hastings Rotary Club, the Good Samaritan Village Advisory Board, the Nebraska Association for Retarded Citizens, and the Nebraska Vocational Association.

Columbus Campus

- Members of the Columbus Campus volleyball team participated in the Raider Reading Program. In addition to their usual college course work and the time spent with their sport, the players rotated going to the Lost Creek Elementary kindergarten class, special education and third grade classes every week for one hour to assist teachers in helping students with reading.
- A new Raiderette dance team was organized to perform at volleyball and basketball games on campus. The student dancers developed their own choreography and routines under the supervision of staff members Andrea Hays, housing and activities coordinator, and Andrea Leap, vocal music instructor. Members of the team were Sara Behnke, Norfolk; Jessy Hansen, Schuyler; Staci Jeffrey, Omaha; and Nicole Adkisson, Jackie Jones, Laura Taylor, and Shayla Zimmerman, Columbus.

Students gather for a picture at a dance sponsored by the Columbus Campus student services department.

- The Columbus Campus held the 32nd annual Fine Arts Festival. More than 300 pieces of art were on display, the 2001 edition of the "Hilltop Review" was made available, and student plays and performances by student musicians and musical groups were all part of the two-day festival.
- "Little Shop of Horrors" was presented by the Theater and Music Departments in the Fine Arts Theater. With a unique set constructed for the production and special costuming and lighting, a cast of more than 35 students and staff members treated audiences to four fine performances. The production was directed by theater instructor Gwen Jensen, and music instructor Andrea Leap served as musical director and choreographer.
- Allen Stenzel of rural Monroe won first-place honors in the mechatronics national contest held in Kansas City. The competition in Kansas City was part of the SkillsUSA-VICA National Leadership and Skills Conference. Stenzel qualified for the national contest by winning the state contest. Stenzel's

first-place finish in the national contest qualified him to participate in the World Skills competition in Switzerland. He received his associate of applied science degree in industrial technology from the Columbus Campus in 2001 and continued to take specialized courses at the campus.

- The Columbus Campus received a $15,000 Entryway Enhancement Grant from the Nebraska Community Enhancement Program. The grant was used for a landscape enhancement project that included the planting of about 500 shrubs and native ornamental grasses and the addition of lighting on the drive that is the entrance to the campus. The Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, the University of Nebraska, the Nebraska Forest Service and the Nebraska Department of Roads sponsored the enhancement grant program.
- At the convention of Phi Theta Kappa International in Nashville, the local campus chapter of PTK was awarded the 2002 Scholarship Hallmark Award for the Nebraska-Wyoming Region and also received the Four Star Chapter Development Award by meeting PTK organizational requirements to qualify for each star level.
- Vince Lempke, math instructor, presented a paper and lectured at the 12th annual Math Expo held in Kansas City in October 2002. His presentation was "Calculators Cannot Solve All Problems or Solve All Problems Correctly." The paper focused on the math problems the TI-89 algebra system calculator cannot solve or solves incorrectly. Lempke was also one of 16 college instructors selected by NASA to take part in a four-day training session, "A Better Understanding of the U.S. Space Program," at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida.
- The campus training and development group helped write several grants that were awarded to area businesses through the Nebraska Worker Training Program. Campus staff members provided the training specified by the grant. Receiving the grants were Camaco of Columbus, $14,900 for blueprint reading and geometric design; Midwest Machine and Tool, $3,700 for mill and lathe training; Minnesota Corn Processors, $5,920 for leadership development training; and Sapp Brothers, $3,000 for leadership skills training. Seventeen Columbus Downtown Business Association members received a $5,793 grant for a collaborative effort to upgrade the computer and customer-service skills of 39 owners, office staff, and retail clerks. Other grants were awarded to consortium groups totaling nearly $50,000.
- Mary Speicher, secretary in the Extended Learning Services department and manager for the Columbus off-campus learning center, was named Employee of the Year. She was cited for her positive attitude, her resourcefulness, and her willingness to go the extra mile. Speicher joined the Columbus Campus staff in 1979 and has been a secretary in the Extended Learning Services department for 23 years. She is a 1992 graduate of CCC and is active on several campus committees.
- Nancy Travnicek, academic success center coordinator, was honored as the Faculty Member of the Year during commencement ceremonies. She was cited for the great rapport she has with students and for the dedication she has for their success. Travnicek began teaching part-time at the campus in 1992 and then became a full-time faculty member in 1995. She earned a bachelor of science degree from Wayne State College and is working to complete a master's degree with an emphasis in adult education. Prior to joining the college staff she worked as an instructor at Northeast Community College and was a counselor at United Catholic Social Services in Columbus.
- Dan Rumsey, an electronics instructor, earned several new certifications in his field: Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer, Microsoft Certified Systems Administrator, and Microsoft Certified Trainer. The certifications required the successful completion of seven national tests after eight months of twice-a-week classes at the Grand Island Campus through I/Tech, a Microsoft Certified Technical Education Center.
- Karen Mroczek, Extended Learning Services coordinator, received the 17th Annual Athena Award from the Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce. The Athena Award is given to an outstanding professional/businesswoman in the community who inspires, teaches, challenges and provides leadership to others. Morczek serves on the Columbus Civil Service Commission and is a member of the governor's Judicial Nominating Commission. She is active in the Women's Retreat, the Working Women's Conference, the Math and Science Con-

ference for Young Women and the Women in History Luncheon.

- The Central Community College Board of Governors appointed Jim Fisher as campus president for CCC-Columbus. Fisher also served as a college vice president in charge of academic education and business and industry training. He had been employed by CCC since 1971, serving as student services coordinator and then as dean of students. He was interim campus president from April 1984 to June 1985. In 1997, he became an associate dean of students as part of an administrative restructuring plan. He holds a bachelor's degree from Peru State College and a master's degree from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

Jim Fisher

- Due to federal regulations that required individuals working in nursing homes to be certified nursing assistants, the Valley County Hospital and Nursing Home in Ord was faced with a dilemma. Employees were having a hard time making the trip to Grand Island to receive training in their certified nursing assistants program because of the distance and problems with extra day care expenses. The Columbus Campus was able to offer the 75-hour class in Ord so employees could set their own schedule, watch videos, complete pretests and work independently on other requirements. Students had to drive to Columbus only for the state exam.
- Ardith Starostka of Columbus was honored with the 2002 Outstanding Alumni Award during the Columbus Campus commencement ceremonies on May 10. Starostka graduated from the Columbus Campus in 1993 with an associate of arts degree in commercial art and earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Nebraska at Kearney. She is the owner of Star Studio Arts in Columbus and primarily paints portraits by commission but also works in other media. She received the Honors Award in 2000 at the Portrait Society of America's International competition in Washington, D.C. She has painted pieces for the Wright Brothers Museum in North Carolina and Creighton University in Omaha. Her paintings have been featured in many books and magazines. She also finished a 15-foot-tall mural of the Ascension of Christ for St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Columbus.

Retired

- Ella Wenman of Central City retired from her position as a cooperative education job developer and family and consumer science instructor. She was also a faculty adviser for the Phi Theta Kappa chapter. Wenman joined the faculty staff in 1991. Prior to joining CCC, Wenman taught at Wade's Fashion Merchandising College in Dallas and worked as an interior designer in Texas and Oklahoma. She is a graduate of Blackwell High School in Oklahoma and earned both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from Oklahoma State University.

Grand Island Campus

- Terry Schifferns, communications instructor, had two poems accepted for publication by The Backwaters Press and the Center for Great Plains Studies at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. "Silent Protest" appeared in the book, "Times of Sorrow, Times of Grace: Writing by Women of the Great Plains/High Plains," and the other poem, "Rocks and Slots at Fort Randall, South Dakota," appeared in the book, "Bison Poems: Of Bison and the Great Plains."
- Twenty-five students completed their participation in the pre-student teaching and observation program. Under the direction of supervising teachers, the students got a firsthand look at the teaching profession working in elementary and secondary classrooms in about 20 different schools in the Grand Island area. Students had experiences which allowed them to better assess their interest and potential for a career in education.
- Dixie Zoucha of Kenesaw received the Outstanding Alumni Award during commencement ceremonies. Zoucha earned a diploma in 2001 after completing the practical nursing program at the Kearney Center. She also earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska at Kearney in physical education. Prior to attending CCC as a

student, she worked as a certified athletic trainer for men and women's basketball teams at the Hastings Campus and at Hastings High School as well as with a UNK outreach program. She was a volunteer Emergency Medical Technician and firefighter with the Kenesaw Fire Department and worked as a licensed practical nurse at Good Samaritan Health Systems in Kearney.

- The Multicultural Club sponsored a presentation by Barnabas Kiir, who had been a Sudanese refugee for 13 years. He was being helped by the Omaha-based nonprofit Southern Sudan Community Association to resettle in this country. Other activities of the Multicultural Club included a Hispanic heritage day and a trip to an intertribal powwow. Teresa Contreras was the club president.

Grand Island Campus Multicultural Club members attended an intertribal powwow at Metro Community College's Fort Omaha Campus.

- Fred Roeser, electronics technology instructor, was named the Volunteer of the Year by the Center for Independent Living of Central Nebraska. He was recognized for the many hours he volunteered to help raise funds for the center, found and modified toys for the Toy Bank that provides toys for children with disabilities, and served as a mentor for the center's computer operations. The Center for Independent Living operates toy lending libraries at the Goodwill offices in Grand Island, Hastings, and Kearney.
- Dr. Bill Giddings, campus president, was appointed to the Economic and Workforce Development Commission of the American Association of Community Colleges. Giddings was one of more than 200 community college leaders who attended the fall commission meeting in Washington, D.C.
- Margaret Williams, Extended Learning Services secretary, received the Tourism Volunteer Award from the Grand Island/Hall County Convention and Visitors Bureau. She was recognized for attendance at monthly meetings, volunteering her time for bureau events, and helping to develop the Bigger Bang for Your Buck series and tourism luncheon.
- In spite of the cultural and language challenges involved, James Gach, originally from southern Sudan, became the first former refugee to complete the coordinated nursing assistant course through Extended Learning Services and to pass the qualifying exam. Even though he was employed in Grand Island in a well-paying job unrelated to health care, he wanted to become a nursing assistant at least in part because a caretaker value is embedded in his culture. Mary Jane Drake, his nursing assistant instructor, had praise for his accomplishments.
- Officers for the Grand Island Campus chapter of Phi Theta Kappa who were elected for the 2002-03 college year were Kathryn Hillje of Ravenna, president, a business administration major; Sheena Minne of Broken Bow, secretary-treasurer, an accounting major; and Elizabeth Renter of Grand Island, vice president, a criminal justice major. Twenty-five students were also inducted into the honor society. Bob Sanner, accounting instructor, was the faculty sponsor.
- Students, faculty, and staff gathered to commemorate the one-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Several spoke freely of their appreciation for American values.
- The Gale Encyclopedia of Nursing and Allied Health and the Encyclopedia of Crime and Justice were purchased by the library using about $1,400 gathered in overdue fines over the previous two years.
- Eleven potential employers visited with 37 students during the second annual part-time job fair held on the campus. The fair was organized by Virginia Ahlschwede, placement services director.

- During an interview conducted with Dr. Bill Giddings at the time of his 10th anniversary as campus president, he pointed to evidence that CCC was much more likely to be chosen as a college by area high school graduates than when he came in 1992.

Hastings Campus

- Karen Baird of Clay Center received the 18th Annual Outstanding Service Award at a staff recognition ceremony. Baird began working at the Hastings Campus in 1973 as a human services instructor, and in 1996 she became a psychology instructor. She was cited for her work ethic and her dedication to her students, along with her efforts to improve educational delivery methods.
- The Central Community College Board of Governors appointed Bill Hitesman of Boone, Iowa, as the president of the Hastings Campus and as a college vice president, responsible for allied health, human services, and technical programs. Hitesman holds a bachelor's degree in health and physical education from Winona State University, a diploma in welding from Northeast Iowa Community College, and a master's degree in community college administration and higher education from Iowa State University. He has extensive experience as an administrator in several Iowa community colleges.

Bill Hitesman

- CCC-Hastings and the North American Weed Management Association developed a partnership for a new Certified Manager of Invasive Plants Program. It is a program designed for vegetation managers, weed superintendents, agriculture inspectors, and others involved in weed control. Certification is granted after participants complete 20 hours of course work and pass an examination.
- Twenty-nine dental hygiene and dental assisting students participated in a free dental sealant clinic. The clinic was open to children who were screened at their schools by the CCC students to identify those who needed sealants. A determination was also made about which children had economic needs.
- Students in the consumer behavior class of instructor Laura Bulas developed an image-improvement promotional campaign. The marketing plan was for the Nebraska Health and Human Services System's Emergency Medical Services Program. Students were challenged to research and analyze data, to develop a full-color brochure and create promotional activities. The students then made a presentation to EMS personnel that represented western Nebraska, the Omaha/Lincoln area, and the Tri-Cities area.
- Ryan Fahey of Las Vegas received the Outstanding Alumni Award during graduation ceremonies. Fahey graduated in 1995 with an associate of applied science degree in hospitality management and culinary arts. While enrolled at CCC, he also earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Hastings College. After moving to Vail, Colo., he earned a second associate degree in culinary arts from Johnson and Wales University. In 1996, he worked as an assistant chef at Caesar's Palace and then became sous chef for the French Café and assistant banquet chef at the Desert Inn in Las Vegas. In 1998, he went to work for the Rio and became chef de cuisine for the Carnival World Banquet that served an average of 8,000 meals during the week and 12,000 meals on the weekend. In 2001, he went to work for the Hilton Hotels to be the specialty room chef at the Paris Las Vegas Casino and then became manager of three food outlets for the Hilton Hotel in Las Vegas.
- The dental assisting and dental hygiene programs had their accreditation extended through the year 2008 by the Commission on Dental Accreditation that represents the American Dental Association. Renewed accreditation required that the campus complete a self-study and host a visitation by commission representatives who reviewed the curriculum, facilities, faculty credentials and student-faculty ratios.
- Wanda Cloet, supervisor of the dental hygiene program was appointed by the American Dental Association to serve as a consultant for the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Cloet was also appointed to the scholarship committee of the American Dental Hygienists' Association Institute for Oral Health.

- Ron Smith, associate dean of Extended Learning Services, was elected president of the Nebraska Development Network Board of Directors at its annual March meeting. The network's purpose is to bring together people active in rural development to share ideas for helping communities succeed in a global economy.
- Financial Aid Director Vicki Kucera was sworn in as the president of the Nebraska Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators during its spring conference. The association works to provide its members with professional development opportunities, serve the needs of students, and help educational institutions and agencies to promote effective financial aid programs. Kucera also received a Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of her more than 20 years in the association.
- The diesel technology program received several donations for the program. Nebraska Machinery donated $25,000 to fund sponsorships for six diesel technology students. Travel Centers of America at Alda funded a sponsorship that will cover 75 percent of tuition and books and provide $500 toward the purchase of tools. The Caterpillar Foundation donated $20,000 toward the purchase of a new Dynamometer to test engine operation.

Participants receive awards at the SkillsUSA-VICA State Leadership and Skills Conference competition first held on the Hastings Campus in 2002, beginning a three-year stint as the host campus. The several-day event was designed to promote excellence in trade, technical and skilled service occupations in high school and college students.

- Three people with Hastings Campus ties went to the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. Lacey Makinen of Rawlins, Wyo., a student in the hospitality management and culinary arts program, and Julie McClary of Kearney, a 2001 graduate of the same program, were among 164 food service interns making the trip to Utah. The two women were eligible to apply for an internship because Chartwells, the CCC food service provider, was part of the group which provided food service for the Olympics. Both women worked in the Olympic Village main dining area for athletes and dignitaries. Although they prepared, cooked, and served food for long hours six days a week without pay, they said the experience was worth it. The third person with Hastings Campus connections was Scott Eveland, a 1993 graduate in broadcasting technology. A member of the Hastings Police Department, he was selected as one of the Olympics Volunteer Law Enforcement Program's 650 staff members, who worked 12-hour shifts at a variety of search and security services.
- Chemistry instructor Dr. Kishore Bagga offered two unique cooking classes that brought a taste of India to central Nebraska. One class was a vegetarian feast that incorporated music, pictures, and information about how chemistry is used in cooking. The other cooking class involved six sessions during which participants were taught how to prepare authentic Indian dishes. Bagga also received a $362.50 grant from the Royal Society of Chemistry in London, England, to give a theatrical presentation, "The Life and Times of Dr. Gilbert N. Lewis." The presentation was open to the public and was designed to promote awareness of the importance of chemistry.
- The automotive technology program at the Hastings Campus began offering Ford-specific courses to students completing an associate of applied science degree or diploma in automotive technology. In a new partnership with the Ford Motor Company, students that complete required courses can earn a nationally recognized Ford Maintenance and Light Repair certificate. The new course offerings were designed to make it easier for graduates to find employment with Ford dealerships and other automotive service centers.
- The Hastings chapter of Phi Theta Kappa received several awards at the International Convention in

Nashville, Tenn. The chapter was named one of the top 100 chapters and was one of 10 to receive a 2002 Scholarship Hallmark Award. Amber Walker of Hayes Center was one of 25 students to receive a Distinguished Chapter Officer Award in international competition. In PTK's Nebraska-Wyoming Region, the Hastings Chapter received the Most Distinguished Chapter Award and Walker was named Outstanding Officer and Leif Tobler of Harvard was named Most Outstanding Member.

- Lee Preston received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Nebraska Community College Association. Preston received an associate of applied science degree in business administration from the Hastings Campus in 1973. He was then a member of the Hastings Campus faculty, teaching accounting and business administration, from 1973-78. He had enrolled in classes following his tour in Vietnam as a military police sentry dog handler. Following his graduation from CCC, he completed both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in business administration from Kearney State College. He worked for the Internal Revenue Service in Grand Island from 1978-82 and then became controller for the Oxford Cheese Corporation until 1986 when he opened his own accounting and tax practice. Preston continues to be active in the accounting profession.

Retired

- Evart Barton of Blue Hill retired from his position as a machine tool technology instructor. Barton became a member of the Hastings Campus faculty in 1972. Prior to his employment with the college, he worked as a toolmaker for several companies, including Reynolds Machine Tool Company, Reese Manufacturing and Hastings Irrigation. Barton is a graduate of Southeast Community College in Milford. He also attended Kearney State College.
- Nella Kincaid of Hastings retired from her position as a communications instructor. Kincaid joined the Hastings faculty in 1980. Prior to joining the faculty, she taught at elementary schools in Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri and Hastings. She earned a bachelor's degree in English, speech, and education and a master's degree from Northeastern Oklahoma State University.

In Memory

- Rita Vacek of Hastings died Aug. 13, 2002. Funeral services were held at St. Cecilia's Church with burial in the Parkview Cemetery in Hastings. She was born in Hastings in 1933. She worked as a secretary in the transportation department at the Hastings Campus for 26 years before retiring in 1999.

Adult Basic Education

- CCC offered Adult Basic Education classes in 25 Nebraska communities during the 2002 spring semester. ABE includes classes to help with reading, writing, math, spelling, English as a Second Language, citizenship classes and preparation for the high school equivalency exam, the GED. Classes are free but a fee is charged for each of the five GED tests.
- CCC received two Adult Basic Education grants. One grant was for $20,129 and came from Heartland United Way in Grand Island. The second grant came from the United Way of the Kearney Area and that grant was for $7,570. Both grants were to be used to help fund the college's ABE programs in the Grand Island and Kearney area.
- The ABE program was also the recipient of grant money from other sources. The English as a Second Language program at the Grand Island Campus received $1,000 from a local group known as Community Union that focuses on promoting education, culture diversity, volunteerism, parenting and families, and youth. The money was used to buy books and software for student use in the ESL classes. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development funded a partnership with individuals in the ESL program to eliminate housing discrimination practices in Grand Island. Individuals from the ESL program attempted to make housing arrangements in Grand Island to see if they would experience discrimination.

ACEAN Recognitions

- Several CCC staff members attending the Adult and Continuing Education Association of Nebraska Conference received awards or were elected to board positions. College President Dr. Joe Preusser received the Distinguished Service Award in rec-

ognition of his support for adult and continuing education. Beth Przymus, Columbus Campus Extended Learning Services coordinator, and Amber Schroeder, Grand Island Campus Extended Learning Services coordinator, received the Rookie of the Year Award. Ron Kluck, dean of Extended Learning Services, received the Missouri Valley Adult Education Association Achievement Award. Dr. Bill Giddings, campus president, and Margaret Williams, Extended Learning Services secretary, both from the Grand Island Campus received the ACEAN President's Award. Elected to the ACEAN Board were Joni Ransom, college news bureau director; Ron Smith, associate dean for Extended Learning Services, Hastings Campus; and Diana Watson, Extended Learning Services regional coordinator, Holdrege Center.

Board of Governors

- Paul Krieger of Hastings was elected chairman of the Central Community College Board of Governors. A plaque was presented to outgoing board chairman, Paul Liess of Cambridge. Other officers elected for the year were Keith Pollard of Columbus, vice chairman; Diane Keller of Harvard, secretary; and Tom Pirnie of Grand Island, treasurer. Liess and Homer Pierce of Lexington were selected to represent the college on the Nebraska Community College Association governing board.
- Don Anderson, a CCC Board of Governors member from Grand Island, was honored at the 35th annual Nebraska Diplomats banquet in Lincoln. Anderson, president and CEO of MFS/York/Stormor in Grand Island, was honored with the highest Diplomat honor, the Ambassador Plenipotentiary Award. The Nebraska Diplomats Inc. is a nonprofit corporation that is the largest economic development organization in the state with 475 members.

CCC Foundation

- The CCC Foundation Board of Directors again approved $6,000 to fund the Professional Development Grant Program for the college year. They also approved $3,500 in discretionary funds and $1,750 for flower funds, for a total of $11,250. The funds were distributed among the campuses and administrative office according to a formula.
- The 12th annual Central Community College Foundation Pro-Am Golf Tournament was held at the Lochland Country Club in Hastings. The event attracted the largest field of players in its history. There were 116 amateur golfers and 29 professional golfers who participated to raise money for scholarships for CCC students.

College Administration

- Dr. Mike Chipps, assistant to the vice president of educational services, resigned to become the president of the North Platte campuses of Mid-Plains Community College. In a very short time, he was promoted to college president.
- Dr. Joe Preusser, retiring college president, received two awards at the Nebraska Community College Association annual convention in February. The Nebraska Hospital Association presented him with a plaque recognizing his key role in gaining legal recognition for the state's community colleges to offer associate degrees in nursing. More than 400 students have graduated from the CCC associate degree in nursing program. Preusser also received the NCAA Chief Executive Officer Award for his 30-year career with CCC.
- Construction on a new central administration building began just after Thanksgiving. The contract called for completion in 420 days. The original space for the administrative offices would then be renovated as a distance learning center for the Grand Island Campus.
- Reflecting on the weak agricultural economy in 1984 and the funding bind CCC was in when he became the college president, Dr. Joe Preusser said, "We lost 40 good people at that time as the result of a necessary staff reduction." He emphasized his belief in the need for the college to have reserve funds to avoid sudden budget reductions.
- Jeanne Webb, family and consumer science instructor at the Grand Island Campus, was designated as the faculty representative to the College Cabinet for the 2002-03 college year.

Five-Year Grant

- Central Community College received a $1,933,509 Every Child Prepared for Tomorrow Grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The five-year grant is part of President Bush's federal education reform program called the No Child Left Behind

Act that requires para-professionals to be certified. The grant covers tuition, books, and technology support as well as child care and transportation expenses. The ultimate goal is to ensure the greater academic success for students with a limited English proficiency. Para-professional workers can continue to work at their full pay while they are completing the requirements for their certification.

Holdrege Center

- Eleven associates at Becton-Dickinson in Holdrege earned the 23-26 credits necessary to receive their industrial maintenance certificate from Central Community College. They are the first associates to meet the certificate requirements since BD and CCC joined together to offer an educational program in 1999. Since that time, at least two classes have been offered each semester either at the Holdrege Center or at the BD facility.

Leadership Academy

- Several employees graduated from rom the Academy for Leadership Training and Development, a program created by the Chair Academy in Mesa, Ariz. They were Kelly Christensen, associate dean for trade and industry programs, Hastings Campus; Ron Kluck, Extended Learning Services dean; Leon Sanders, associate dean for business and office technology, Columbus Campus; and Guy Suganuma, business occupations associate dean, Grand Island Campus.

Mexican-American Commission

- The Mexican-American Commission recognized three CCC staff members for the dedication, time, and expertise they gave in supporting the Hispanic people in the area. Those recognized were Dr. Bill Giddings, campus president, and Vera Montes, Extended Learning Services secretary, both from the Grand Island Campus, and Vince Mendez, automotive technology instructor from the Hastings Campus.

Phi Theta Kappa

- Five Phi Theta Kappa members from CCC were recognized at the Nebraska-Wyoming Regional Conference held at McCook Community College. Mike Coe from the Hastings Campus received a $250 scholarship for making the National Dean's List of PTK. Ken Gallagher from the Hastings Campus was elected regional president, Andrew Mueller from the Hastings Campus was elected secretary, and from the Columbus Campus, Scott Prothman was elected the Nebraska vice president and Jane Hill was elected as the newsletter editor. Eighteen PTK students and advisers attended the three-day conference.
- Five Central Community College students were honored as members of the 2002 Phi Theta Kappa Nebraska All-State Academic Team during ceremonies at the State Capitol. Each member of the 20-person team received a medallion and a certificate in recognition of their honor. The five CCC members of the team were: Lori Gonzales of Hastings, Jennifer Keown of Doniphan, Amelia Nelson of Marquette, Amber Wallace of Hayes Center and Brook Wilke of Columbus.

Assessment of Student Learning

By Brian McDermott, Research Director

Since the founding of Central Community College, the faculty, administration and other college leaders have strived to make assessment of student learning and teaching a focal aspect of college operations. In fact, the two distinct educational institutions that formed CCC (Central Technical Community College in Hasting and Platte Junior College in Columbus) both had integrated processes of assessing student learning and teaching prior to merging in 1973. Some of the more common methods of assessing student learning and teaching included:

Brian McDermott

- Collecting employer feedback on the skill attainment of past students
- Student surveys to determine perceived learning
- Feedback from community leaders
- Capstone experiences in many of the courses of study
- Tracking of successful improvement of skills as compared to initial entry testing
- Formal program reviews
- Program advisory committees
- Assessment and advising

ASSET was Earliest Process

Central Community College used Assessment of Skills for Successful Entry and Transfer as its earliest formal process to standardize basic skills assessment. The college pilot-tested the ASSET instrument early in 1986 and adopted it collegewide in 1987. At that time the college required all new full-time students to take the ACT/SAT college entry exams or the ASSET prior to beginning their studies. The 1987 self-study report to the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools outlines the formal integration of this assessment, and the positive comments from NCA representatives during the site visit.

In 1992, the college expanded its assessment efforts by forming two instructional services subcommittees (majors subcommittee and general education subcommittee) to develop a formalized plan for assessing student learning. The majors subcommittee consisted of four faculty, a dean of students, an associate dean of instruction, the director of college computer services, a college counselor, and the vice president of educational services.

The general education subcommittee consisted of four faculty, a certified student assessor, the director of college computer services, and the vice president of educational services.

Resource Team Formed

To support these two subcommittees, the college formed an assessment resource team with representatives from each campus. This team focused on developing a body of knowledge on assessment and developing a planning model that supported the continuous quality improvement of student learning and teaching.

In October 1993, the college program coordination and planning committee, consisting of all full-time and some part-time faculty, developed the initial outlines for the learning objectives in each area of study or discipline.

The college implemented another improvement effort in 1994 when the College Board of Governors approved the following mission statement:

"As a public higher education institution, Central Community College is dedicated to providing quality technical, occupational, transfer, economic development, and public service education to diverse individuals and organizations in central Nebraska."

The expansion of the mission statement intensified the focus on educational quality for all academic offerings in the college. Additionally, in the five-year plan CCC integrated several continuous quality improvement practices into the college goals to further improve teaching and learning, including:

- Formalizing the collection of consumer input
- Integrating standardized performance measures
- Developing standardized performance standards (by award level)
- Developing consistent measurement techniques
- Providing appropriate feedback, analysis, and service adjustments

Documenting Achievement

By integrating these practices, the college moved closer to its goal of an effective and formal assessment program that could improve teaching and learning. These practices provided several key advantages by including the documentation of student attainment of learning objectives, identifying program strengths and opportunities for improvement, aiding in prioritizing for planning and resource allocation, and validating the accomplishment of the college mission.

Additionally, as part of the 1994 self-study, the college reported a schedule that identified the objectives, actions and time line for the start and completion of actions in the assessment implementation plan.

Key Objectives Identified

The self-study identified six key objectives for successfully implementing the assessment program:

- Designate a person to provide leadership for the development of the assessment of student learning program.
- Conduct an exhaustive review of literature on the assessment of student learning and quality improvement.
- Involve faculty and staff in professional development and in-service activities that focus on assessment of student learning.
- Develop a plan for assessing student learning around the college mission and goal statements.
- Develop an assessment of student learning procedure for federal ability to benefit requirements.
- Develop an assessment of student learning procedure for credit courses.

In late fall 1994, the college piloted a committee to evaluate teaching. The membership consisted of an associate dean of instruction and two faculty representatives from each campus. This committee developed and defined indicators of good instruction (teaching). These indicators included:

- Instructional delivery
- Instructional design
- Content expertise
- Course management

In 1995, Central Community College formed the assessment committee to help guide the college in successfully completing the six identified assessment objectives and follow recommendations provided by NCA feedback. Some of the major projects worked on by team members included:

- Evaluating existing assessment procedures and student placement.
- Post-testing of developmental students.
- Developing a plan for assessing student learning around the college mission and goals.
- Incorporating assessment of student achievement into formal program reviews.

In 1998, the college assigned Dr. Wayne Vian as the college assessment coordinator to facilitate the assessment process for all college programs and disciplines.

The following chronology lists significant assessment activities from 2000 to 2005:

2000

- ✔ Started annual consultant visits with all programs with Dr. Jane Hunter and Dr. Carroll Bennett as consultants.
- ✔ Implemented the matrix format for annual assessment updates.
- ✔ Integrated the Wisconsin Instructional Design System (WIDS) – measuring outcomes assessment
- ✔ Explored initial aspects of continued accreditation through the AQIP process.
- ✔ Added four working days to full-time faculty's contracts for the purpose of assessment and articulation.

2001

- ✔ Integrated standardized reporting with the matrix format – all programs defined primary direct outcomes.

2002

- ✔ Applied to participate in the AQIP quality improvement process (June 25, 2002).
- ✔ Accepted into AQIP by the Higher Learning Commission (NCA) (August 2002).
- ✔ Expanded assessment coordinator position to the college effectiveness and research director position (director: Brian McDermott).

2003

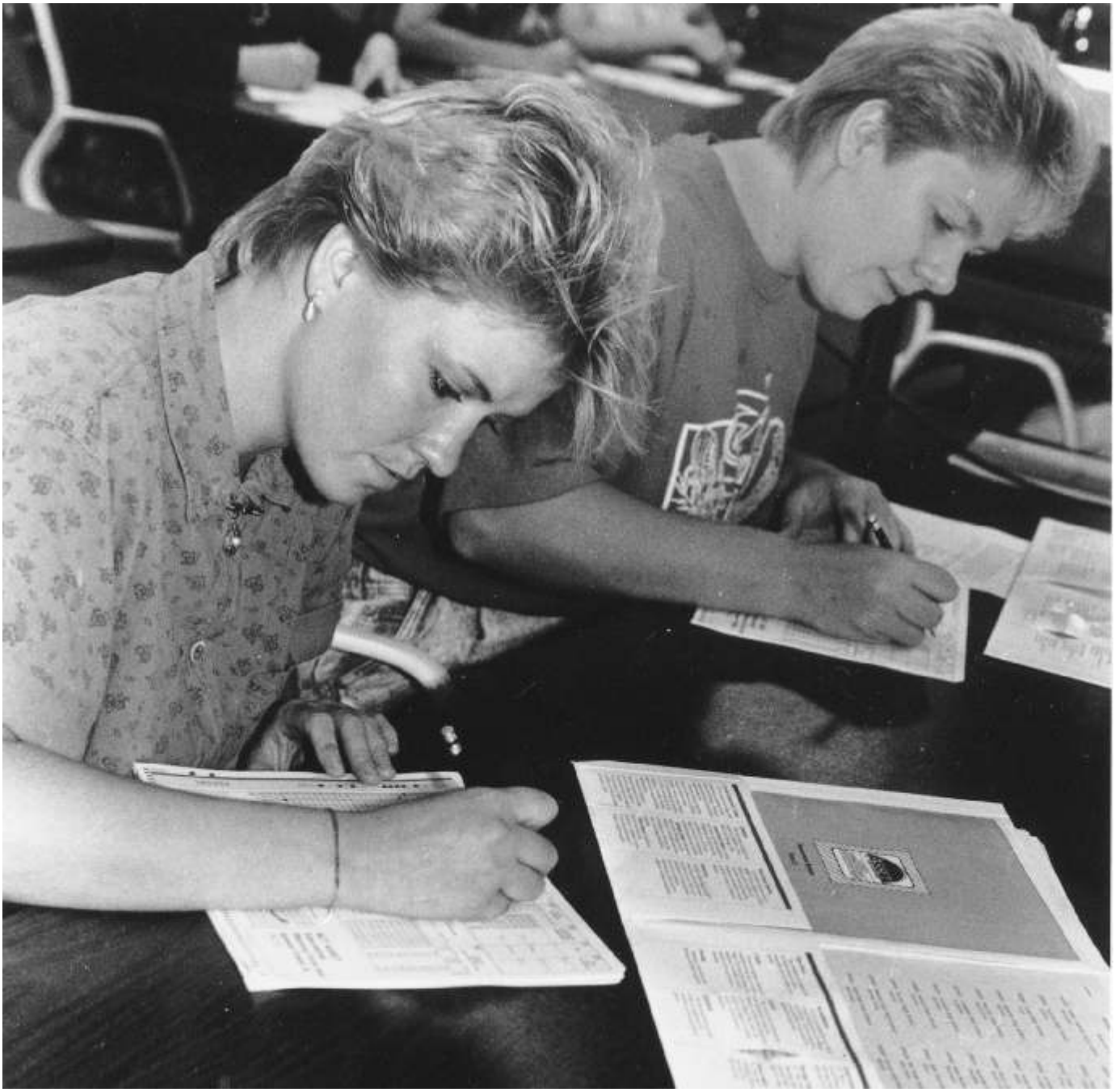
- ✔ Revised Program Core Performance Indicators.
- ✔ Conducted baseline review of program performance and disciplines.
- ✔ Conducted review of learning objectives and development of standard rubric (English and communications courses).
- ✔ Developed initial goals and initiated first steps in implementation (math action team).

2004

- ✔ Implemented collegewide ASL Progress Rubric.
- ✔ Produced initial drafts of the Systems Portfolio (helping students learn – category 1).
- ✔ Standardized annual assessment meetings.
- ✔ Conducted monthly review of ASL progress at Educational Services Committee meetings.

2005

- ✔ Completed first AQIP Systems Portfolio.
- ✔ Moved 14 programs or disciplines up one or more levels on ASL rubric.



Grand Island Campus students take assessment tests as part of the college assessment of student learning effort.

2003

CCC Adopts AQIP Model for Reaccreditation

By Brian McDermott, Director of Research

The Academic Quality Improvement Program assists higher education institutions in developing tools and processes that promote continuous improvement. The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association designed AQIP to provide an alternative regional accreditation process for colleges and universities. The commission launched AQIP in 1999 with a grant from the Pew Charitable Trusts. As part of this program, CCC shares both its improvements and performance results with organizations participating in AQIP. Some of the key actions required by colleges involved in AQIP include implementation and follow-through on action projects, attending strategy forums, generating and maintaining a systems portfolio for regularly scheduled appraisals, and supporting checkup visits. AQIP reaffirms institutional accreditation in the seventh year of the institution's participation based on the reviews of the systems portfolio, annual updates on the action projects of the college, and feedback from the checkup visit conducted in the fourth or fifth year. The AQIP process provided CCC the opportunity to formalize its long history of using the concepts of continuous quality improvement, to improve its performance as an institution, and to better serve its stakeholders.

Several examples of key milestones in Central Community College's quality journey are outlined:

Collegewide Quality Training

To prepare for AQIP, the college, over a four-month period, conducted one-and-a-half-day continuous quality improvement introductory workshops for 398 full-time employees.

College Forms the CQI Council

To expand the participation of employees in leading the quality improvement process, the college formed the Continuous Quality Improvement Council in October 2002. The council advises the College Cabinet, the Educational Services Committee, and the Business Services Department on AQIP and the improvement of college processes.

College Selects the Action Projects and Starts Improvements

Another key step in the AQIP/CQI process included the selection of three action projects to provide focus to the quality efforts of the college. CCC utilized data analysis and stakeholder input to identify three action projects that met the AQIP criteria:

- Improving college communications.
- Improving mathematics course retention.
- Improving and expanding the use of data-based decision-making.

The College Cabinet approved the formation of teams to oversee the action projects.

Systems Portfolio Development

An AQIP systems portfolio is a 75- to 100-page public document describing a college's fundamental institutional systems. It covers the nine AQIP categories, describing context, processes, results, and improvement in each system, and shows evidence that the institution continues to meet the Higher Learning Commission's five Criteria for Accreditation. Originally created throughout the first four years of AQIP involvement, it is continually updated to reflect changes in the institution's systems and processes. It is a valuable resource, both internally and for the institution's external audiences, including accrediting organizations, state higher education agencies, prospective employees, and other stakeholders.

The Central Community College Systems Portfolio provides the college the opportunity to define how its current systems and processes perform and what opportunities exist for improvement. An organization such as CCC has

many systems made up of internal processes. As an example, accounting is a system made up of multiple processes such as the collection of data, the organization of data, and the creation of reports. The learning system includes students eager to learn, faculty excited about imparting knowledge and skills to students, and the processes involved in exchanging information through various interactions among faculty and students, resulting in graduates qualified for employment or transfer.

To accomplish the development of the Systems Portfolio, the college leadership formed a team of faculty and staff for each of the nine AQIP categories and asked them to respond to the questions in their assigned areas. The teams completed the first outlines in the fall of 2003 and continued to refine the drafts into the spring of 2005. Working drafts were shared with college employees throughout the process. Through a series of SPARKS (Systems Planning for Actions, Resources, Knowledge, and Skills) meetings, the college employees conducted the final institutional review of the draft document prior to its being published. The SPARKS process served the college in two primary ways:

1. Provided input into portions of the Systems Portfolio that could be improved.
2. Provided input for setting college objectives and priorities.

After integrating the input collected, CCC completed and turned in its Systems Portfolio to the Higher Learning Commission in November 2005.

Columbus Campus

- Twenty-six high schools successfully advanced to the third round of competition in the 2002-03 KJSK NewsTalk 900 Brainstorm contest. Thirty-three high schools began the contest in the fall of 2002, as high school teams competed to answer questions prepared by members of the Columbus Campus faculty. The elimination rounds of questioning continued until the final eight schools competed via a live radio broadcast from the Columbus Campus later in the spring of 2003.
- Lisa Gdowski was named Employee of the Year at the Columbus Campus during a staff reception in May. The Employee of the Year Award is presented annually to a Columbus Campus employee who demonstrates dedication, enthusiasm and innovation as well as maintaining good rapport with students and the college staff. Gdowski is the financial aid director on the Columbus Campus and also teaches craft and computer classes for the Extended Learning Services. She joined the CCC staff in 1999. Nominators made numerous comments about how hard Gdowski worked to serve the interests of students.

Students were welcomed to fall registration at the Columbus Campus with a barbecue.

- The annual Faculty Member of the Year Award for 2003 was given to David Fulton during the commencement ceremonies. Fulton joined the faculty in 1970 as a history instructor. The annual award is given to a Columbus Campus faculty member who displays excellence and innovation in teaching, has good rapport with students and is involved in professional and institutional improvement.
- Jack Gutierrez, athletic director, basketball coach, and physical education instructor, received the 2003 Eagle Award from the Nebraska Mexican-American Veterans Association during the group winter banquet in Omaha. The award is given to a Mexican-American from Nebraska who has put in years of service working and volunteering with youth in the state.
- R&B Industries of Colmar, Pa., donated more than $140,000 worth of automotive and welding supplies and other items to the Columbus Campus. The donation was given because CCC is a member of the National Alternative Fuels Consortium and has an alternative fuels program. R&B Industries

supplies after-market parts to automotive parts stores and retail outlets.

- Mary Young, volleyball coach, was named Region IX East Coach of the Year. She was also selected by the region as an American Volleyball Coaches Association/Tachikara Two-Year West Region Coach of the Year. Up to that time, Young had compiled a 241-145 record that included six NCCAC league championships and six NCCAC tournament championships. Her 2002-03 squad finished with a record of 36-14 and was ranked 16th in the national polls.
- The CCC Raider basketball team ended its 2002-03 season with a record of 18-16 and captured the Region IX title, winning a place in the 12-team National Junior College Division II Tournament in Danville, Ill. for the second time in four years. The Raiders defeated Bismarck State College from North Dakota 88-79 to win the District 4 playoff and qualify for the national tournament in March.
- Ed Eaton of Euless, Texas, and formerly of Columbus, received the 10th annual Outstanding Alumnus Award from the Columbus Campus during graduation ceremonies. He earned an associate of applied science degree in mechanical drafting in 1992 and an associate of science degree in 1994. He then worked as an undergraduate assistant and an intern for the Department of Energy at the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico. He earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of New Mexico and worked as research engineer at Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control in Dallas.
- The Nebraska State Council of the American College Testing Corporation honored Jim Fisher, campus president, for his 20 years of service to ACT. He served as Nebraska ACT representative and on the Western Region ACT Board.
- The Columbus Campus hosted the 2003 Central Honors Institute in July. The institute was a one-week residential academic camp for selected students who completed the sixth or seventh grade during the spring semester. Thirty-five participants were selected to attend the camp based on their academic achievements and recommendations from teachers or counselors.
- The first president of Platte College, Don Newport, established an endowed fund with the CCC Foundation to provide scholarships for students at the Columbus Campus. At that time, Newport was president of Alpena Community College in his home state of Michigan, and was planning to retire within the year. Newport gave $10,000 to each of the five community colleges that played a role in his long administrative career with community colleges. When he was hired as college president in Columbus in 1967, Newport was the youngest college president in the United States at the age of 27. He served as president of the campus in Columbus until 1971.
- Dr. Bill Tuttle, English instructor, received an annual Men Who Make a Difference Award at the Center for Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Survivors in Columbus. The award was made during a volunteer appreciation banquet to recognize his active support of the center's focus on raising community awareness of violence against women.

Angie Raemakers, Brenda Buettner and Michelle Bentz are shown in the CCC office located in the Columbus Family Resource Center.

- Chuck Hassebrook of Lyons, the executive director of the Center for Rural Affairs in Walthill and a member of the University of Nebraska Board of Regents since 1994, received a Distinguished Alumni Award from the Nebraska Community College Association. Hassebrook graduated from the Columbus Campus in 1975 with an associate of arts degree and from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln with a bachelor degree that was a self-designed course of study which focused on economic, social and institutional change in rural communities. The Center for Rural Affairs in Walthill is a nationally recognized research, advocacy, and rural development organization.
- Nick Wagoner, an automotive technology and alternative fuels instructor, went to India in January to provide much-needed alternative fuels training. The government in India requested the training from the United States after passing a law that vehicles in India run on something other than gasoline. Wagoner and two other trainers spent several days in India and taught a five-day class about converting vehicles to use alternative fuels. They were selected by the Society of India Auto Manufacturers Association to present a two-week cylinder inspection program in India. Wagoner reported that India imported 70 percent of its oil but had large supplies of natural gas. The classes were much larger than expected, which made it difficult to do much hands-on training with the students. Wagoner and the other trainers did have some time to see and experience some of the unique culture of India.

Theater students present "Picasso" in the Columbus Campus Fine Arts Theater.

History Instructor Dave Fulton receives an award from College President Dr. LaVern Franzen.

- Ella Wenman was named the Outstanding Career and Technical Education Teacher of the Year in Region V by the Association of Career and Technical Education at the national conference in Alaska. Wenman had been a family and consumer science instructor and cooperative education job developer at the Columbus Campus prior to her retirement.

Retired

- David Fulton retired from his position as a history instructor at the Columbus Campus. Fulton joined the faculty in 1970. He graduated from Wood River High School in Illinois and earned a bachelor's degree in history and social science from Peru State College and a master's degree from the University of Missouri. Prior to joining the CCC staff, he taught at Clarinda Public Schools, Iowa Western Community College-Clarinda Campus and Robert Morris Junior College in Carthage, Ill.

Grand Island Campus

- The Multicultural Club sponsored a touring theatrical group which presented a performance of "Races of America" at College Park. The hour-long show dealt with the many issues of multiculturalism in modern America. The performance, which was free and open to the public, was made possible by a $3,431 grant from the Nebraska Arts Council.

- Cindy Johnson of Grand Island received the 10th annual Outstanding Alumni Award from the Grand Island Campus during graduation ceremonies. Johnson graduated from the Grand Island Campus in 1996 with an associate of arts degree and earned a bachelor's degree in human and social service administration from Bellevue University. She also earned a master's degree from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln in mass communication and journalism. She served as director of the Community Redevelopment Authority for the City of Grand Island before becoming the president of the Grand Island Chamber of Commerce.
- Enrollment in the nursing program hit an all-time high at CCC. The admissions office at the Grand Island Campus reported more than 800 individuals indicated interest in the programs, and student admissions for both the associate degree in nursing and the practical nursing programs were at full capacity through the fall of 2004. The satellite nursing programs at Kearney and Columbus were running at near capacity and the Extended Learning Services department continued to offer LPN/RN refresher courses for nurses seeking relicensure in Nebraska.
- Craig Ratzlaff of Aurora received the Faculty Member Award from the Nebraska Community College Association and the American Association of Community College Trustees also named him the 2003 Western Region Faculty Member of the Year. His regional honor qualified him to be considered for the ACCT national award. Ratzlaff, a personal development and education instructor since joining the faculty in 1993, has worked to smooth the process for students transferring to four-year institutions, and he was one of the first faculty members to offer courses on the Web.
- Jeanne Webb, early childhood education instructor, received a 2003 Distinguished Alumni Award from Missouri Western State College in St. Joseph, Mo., where she earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education in 1971. She taught school in Rushville, Mo., before earning a master's degree in human development from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. She joined the CCC staff in 1981 and helped to develop the early childhood education program and the child care center.
- Jeff Cox, electrical technology instructor, was welcomed home in late September 2003 after being deployed in the military for almost a year as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Cox was stationed in Bosnia-Herzegovina, along with his twin brother, James, and older brother, Christopher, to support peacekeeping operations. While he was stationed overseas, his father, Gaylen Cox, was a substitute instructor in the electrical technology program at the Grand Island Campus.

A student ambassador (left) and Admissions Director Mary Young (center) help new students during registration for the 2003 fall semester.

In Memory

- Marion "Bill" Kincade of Cedar Rapids died Nov. 27, 2002, at the age of 70. Kincade was born in Mayberry in 1932. He was a graduate of Pawnee City High School and spent 20 years in the U.S. Army and Air Force. He held an associate degree from Texas State Technical Institute. He retired from the Grand Island Campus in 1990 after serving as a heating, air conditioning and refrigeration instructor for 13 years.

Hastings Campus

- Bob Glenn of Hastings received the 19th annual Outstanding Service Award at a staff recognition ceremony at the Hastings Campus. Glenn was honored for his active participation in many campus and community organizations, for putting students first, and for the help he gave to the campus chapter of PTK as one of their advisers. Glenn was a sociology instructor and a counselor in the health occupations department before

accepting his position as director of admissions and recruiting at the Hastings Campus.

- Two dental hygiene graduates from the Hastings Campus received awards in recognition for the work they have done in their profession. Belinda Bridges of Elkhorn and Maxine Wehling of Broken Bow were both nontraditional students and classmates who earned associate of applied science degrees in dental hygiene in 1996. Bridges received the Hygienists of the Year Award in February from the Omaha Dental Hygienists Association and then won the Nebraska Hygienists of the Year Award in April. Wehling was one of only two recipients of the Crest/American Dental Hygienists Association Award for clinical dental hygienists which included a $2,000 cash prize.
- A house built by Hastings Campus students sold at public auction for a record-setting price of $90,000. The 1,680-square-foot house was built according to uniform building code standards by students in the construction technology, electrical technology, and heating, air conditioning and refrigeration technology programs. Mr. and Mrs. James Schoch of Benedict were the proud owners of the new home.
- The Root 1 Multicultural Club and the campus chapter of Phi Theta Kappa sponsored a forum led by Ed Leahy, coordinator of the Immigrant Rights Network of Iowa-Nebraska. The community forum focused on the theme, "United States Immigration in a Security-Conscious World." Leahy explained how the Immigration and Naturalization Service has been folded into the new Homeland Security Department and what that bureaucratic change has meant in the lives of some immigrants seeking a new life in America.

SkillsUSA-VICA adviser Leon Finecy with the winners of the problem-solving skills contest in the 2003 state competition.

- The Council on Accreditation of the American Health Information Management Association reaccredited the health information management services program for another three years. Reaccreditation required the completion of a detailed self-study report that focused on all aspects of the HIMS program.
- Hastings Campus diesel technology students were awarded first place in a state diesel troubleshooting contest sponsored and judged by the Nebraska Trucking Association. The contest was for postsecondary schools in Nebraska. Members of the winning team were Herbie Christensen of Fort Calhoun, Brandon Crawford of Axtell, and Robert Klein of Omaha.
- Agriculture instructor Brad Lang received the 2003 Dr. Ray Staristka Award for Excellence from the Nebraska Certified Crop Advisor Board. The award is presented each year to recognize a certified crop adviser for outstanding service. Lang is a member of several Nebraska agriculture associations and volunteers as a 4-H leader.
- Jackie Zeckser of Hastings received the 22nd annual Outstanding Alumni Award during commencement ceremonies. Zeckser graduated from the Hastings Campus in 1998 with an associate of applied science degree in family and consumer science. She worked in the Head Start Child and Development Program in Hastings for nearly 20 years but was forced to give up her teaching duties due to health problems. After a year of hospitalization and recovery, she was unable to return to the classroom because of high-risk exposure to germs, but she continued to be a child care coordinator for six counties in Nebraska and assisted at the Region 9 Preschool Interagency Council.

Retired

- Kent Murray of Hastings retired from his position as regional Extended Learning Services coordinator. Murray joined the Hastings Campus staff in 1988. Prior to joining the CCC staff, he worked as teacher and administrator at several colleges and universities in the United States, and also was employed by the state and federal government. While serving as an officer in the Air Force, Murray worked for NASA during the 1960 space race and moon shot. He is a graduate of Arcadia High School and earned a bachelor's degree in English and languages, a master's degree in political science, and a doctorate in adult education and programming – all from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. After his retirement, he taught political science for CCC on a part-time basis.

In Memory

- Darwin Kempf of Glenvil died March 22, 2003, at Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital after a courageous battle with cancer. Services were at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Glenvil with burial in the Glenvil cemetery. Kempf was born in 1942 at Clay Center. He joined the faculty in 1982 and was an auto body instructor at the campus for 20 years. Kempf made an immeasurable impact on students and their careers during his tenure at the Hastings Campus.
- Dianne Gilbert of Lexington died Oct. 3, 2003. She was born in Hastings in 1951 and was a graduate of Blue Hill High School. She graduated from the Hastings Campus in 1970 with a dental assisting degree and later worked as a secretary for the dental hygiene program from 1989 to 1999. She also worked at the Henderson Health Care Services and served as executive director of the Grand Generation Center in Cozad.
- Bernard "Bernie" Kinley of Hastings died July 27, 2003. Kinley was born in 1925 in Bladen. He was a graduate of Bladen High School and earned a bachelor's degree from Doane College and a master's degree from Colorado State University. He taught and coached for the Kenesaw and Fairmont public school systems and was a building and trades instructor for Southeast Community College-Milford prior to joining the CCC staff in 1967. Before retiring from Central Community College-Hastings in 1987, Kinley had served as an instructor, chairman of the trade and industry division, resource technician, and associate dean of educational centers.

Arcadia Learning Center

In Memory

- Linda "Lyn" Simon VanSlyke of Arcadia died Jan. 16, 2003. Funeral services were held at the Arcadia High School gymnasium. She was born in 1957 in Joplin, Mo., and had resided in Arcadia since 1980 where she taught art. Van Slyke worked about five years for Central Community College as the manager of the Arcadia Learning Center.

Board of Governors

- The Central Community College Board of Governors added two new members. Wayne Sasges of Grand Island was sworn to fill the seat held by Don Anderson, who retired from the board after serving three terms. Sasges is president of MFS/York/Stormor, a manufacturer of grain bins and grain handling equipment. The Board of Governors also appointed Linda Aerni of Columbus to replace Keith Pollard who had resigned from the board. Aerni is the co-founder and CEO of Community Internet Systems Inc. in Columbus.

Business Technology

- Changing technology in the business world led to a change in the name of the office technology program. It became the business technology program in order to more accurately reflect the new and varied skills needed by people entering the workforce in the business world.

Central Connection Online

- The "Central Connection" newsletter was placed on the CCC Web site. The Central Connection Online also includes photos and stories from the Columbus Campus "Raider Review," the Grand Island Campus "Communicator," the Hastings Campus "Communicator," "C-Notes," and "Counselor Connection" newsletters. The addition of the newsletter to the college Web site was part of an overhaul of the public relations pages and publications.

College Administration

- Twenty-three students and alumni were interviewed by Jim Strayer, CCC public relations officer, and Mike Wallace, NTV producer, about their experiences at CCC. Parts of those interviews were edited into 60-second commercials that were aired during the 2003 fall semester.

College Foundation

- The CCC Foundation Board of Directors approved funding for the 2003-04 Professional Development Grant Program. The foundation provided $6,000 for grants to be divided into $1,000 allotments for each campus and the administration office, with the remaining $2,000 to be used for collegewide awards.
- Three new members of the CCC Foundation Board of Directors were elected in June. The new members were Don Dunn of Grand Island, Kermit Bosshamer of Kearney and Don Anderson of Grand Island. Retiring board members Doyle Hulme of Grand Island and Don Egenberger of Minden were honored for their many years of service to the CCC Foundation and the college.

"Martha With an Attitude" was one of the myriad of classes offered by the CCC Extended Learning Services division during 2003. It featured decorating ideas for the holidays. Pictured from left: front row, Ginny Lehm-Kuhl and Mary Nyffeler; back row, ELS Coordinator Karen Mroczek and Pat Mueller.

Co-op Education Interns

- The cooperative education program for CCC compiled some impressive numbers as it provided students with the opportunity to earn college credit while continuing to work at their jobs. During the 2003 spring semester and the summer session, the Columbus Campus had 28 interns who earned 71 credits. During the 2002-03 academic year, the Grand Island Campus had 103 interns who earned 237 credits. During that same academic year, the Hastings Campus had 86 interns who earned 299 credits. Altogether, the three campuses placed 217 interns with 120 businesses throughout the CCC service area.

Criminal Justice Program

- Eighteen students enrolled in a forensic science course which was offered for the first time during the fall semester in the criminal justice program. It then became possible for students to concentrate in any of five areas in the program: forensic science, corrections, law enforcement, courts, and private security. The program started at CCC in 1996.

Datazinc

- The CCC training and development department started working with experts from Datazinc to provide Six Sigma Black Belt training to Nebraska companies. Six Sigma uses data to measure and improve a company's operational performance. For the first time, Datazinc allowed CCC to offer training as a public session, rather than having to send people out of state for the Six Sigma Black Belt training at a much greater cost to participants.

EducationQuest Foundation

- CCC received a $20,000 grant from the EducationQuest Foundation for the college Bridge Program. The Bridge Program helps students in the English as a Second Language, Adult Basic Education and General Education Development classes to build

better academic skills. More than 550 students received benefits from the Bridge Program that serves many first-generation Americans and first-generation college students. The EducationQuest Foundation is a private, nonprofit organization with a mission to improve access to higher education in Nebraska.

Head Start Grant Received

- CCC received a five-year grant valued at $750,000 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The grant was used for a professional development project, "Very Young Hispanic/Latino Child for Tomorrow Partnership," which trained Head Start Professionals to work more effectively with Hispanic children and their families. The grant was used to recruit, train, and support professionals as they worked toward certificates, diplomas, and degrees in early childhood education as required by the 1998 Head Start Act.

Holdrege Center

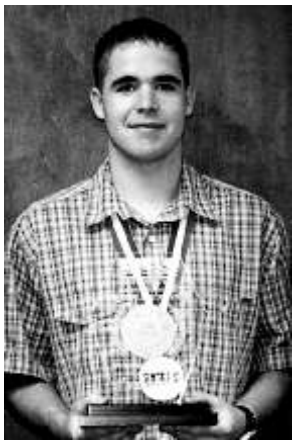
- Diana Watson, regional coordinator for the Holdrege Learning Center, received the 2003 Achievement Award for Nebraska from the Missouri Valley Adult Education Association. The Missouri Valley group is a regional professional association for individuals in adult and continuing education across a seven-state area.

Kearney Center

- Julie Roach, a CCC adjunct faculty member, received the Outstanding Retired Teacher Award from the Kearney Public Schools Foundation. Roach taught in the Kearney school system for 30 years, was an adjunct faculty member in the speech department for the University of Nebraska at Kearney and continued to substitute for the Kearney Public Schools.

Nebraska SkillsUSA-VICA

- Several CCC students from the Hastings and Columbus campuses placed in the Nebraska SkillsUSA-VICA State Leadership and Skills Conference, which was held on the Hastings Campus. First-place winners who participated in the national competition in Kansas City were Margie Andoy and Renee DeWyke from the Columbus Campus, and Steven Jensen, Robert Klein, Lacy Makinen, Jason Manning, Jeff Ryther, Jeff Hollister, Dusty Kleier, Luis Novoa and David Willis from the Hastings Campus.
- Allen Stenzel, an associate of applied science Columbus Campus industrial technology graduate, was one of eight contestants on TeamUSA at the 3l7th World Skills Competition held in St. Gallen, Switzerland. Stenzel placed 16th in mechatronics during the worldwide competition. The Festo Corporation was the U.S. sponsor of the mechatronics competition. Overall, TeamUSA placed eighth among a field of 37 nations. Rich Williams, industrial technology instructor at the Hastings Campus, accompanied the U.S. contestants during the 10-day trip and was a guest observer at the competitions.


Allen Stenzel

Phi Theta Kappa

- Five Central Community College students were honored as members of the 2003 Phi Theta Kappa Nebraska All-State Academic Team during ceremonies at the State Capitol Building. A medallion and a certificate were presented to each of the 20 members of the team who represented each of the six community colleges in Nebraska. The five CCC members of the team were: Scott Prothman of Columbus and Kimberly Powell of Leigh from the Columbus Campus, Rebecca Pfeiffer of Doniphan from the Grand Island Campus and Kenneth Gallagher of Hastings and Jill Harders of Grand Island from the Hastings Campus.
- Twelve individuals from Central Community College attended the Phi Theta Kappa International Convention in Anaheim, Calif. Ken Gallagher from the Hastings Campus received a Distinguished Chapter President Award at the convention and was also recognized as one of 16 community college students to be listed in a PTK literary honors

anthology for his award-winning short story, "Cuppa Black." Both the Hastings Campus and Columbus Campus chapters received a regional Five Star Chapter Development Award, along with other regional awards during the Nebraska-Wyoming Regional meeting at the international convention.

Tech Prep

- Tech Prep Coordinator Stephanie Jacobson reported that 935 students who started the 2003-04 fall semester at CCC had earned college credits through the Tech Prep program that applied toward degrees, diplomas or certificates from CCC. Tech Prep is a national program that allows high school students to earn college credits through a partnership between high schools, colleges, businesses and government. Of the 70 high schools in CCC's 25-county service area, 52 were Tech Prep partners with CCC at that time. During the 2002-03 college year, 4,617 high school students signed up for Tech Prep credit, which was about 84 percent of the high school student population in the CCC service area.

TRiO: Support for At-Risk Students

by Stephanie Jacobson,
TRiO Director

The TRiO Support Services Project began at Central Community College in August 2001 when a four-year grant called Acquiring Career Milestones for Everyone (ACME) was awarded by the U.S. Department of Education.

A national program, TRiO assists first-generation college students, low-income students, and disabled students to initially create a plan for academic success and to achieve that goal. TRiO was initiated by the Higher Education Act of 1965 when three existing Department of Education programs were gathered under the acronym. Two other programs were added and the five programs serve approximately 700,000 students in more than 800 colleges and universities nationwide.

Project Directors

Monica McClure was the first project director for CCC. She served in that capacity from 2001-03. She also was the project coordinator for the Grand Island Campus. Lora Urkoski-Hastreiter was the Columbus Campus coordinator, and Kevin Miller joined the college as the TRiO coordinator on the Hastings Campus. This Kevin Miller held the position until 2004 and is not the person by the same name who earlier served the college as Tech Prep coordinator and then as an associate dean.

Grand Island Campus TRiO Coordinator Sonya Keopanya meets with a student.

Campus Coordinators Added

By July 2003, it was determined that each campus needed a full-time coordinator. Stephanie Jacobson became the part-time director, and Dawn Deuel-Rutt became the full-time coordinator for the Grand Island Campus. In 2004, Deuel-Rutt transferred to the Hastings Campus as coordinator, and Sonya Keopanya took the position on the Grand Island Campus. In September 2005, Jacobson became the full-time TRiO director.

Wide Range of Help Provided

CCC is required by the grant to serve 160 students collegewide each year in the student support services program. There are typically 150 students on the waiting list, and many more CCC students could meet the basic guidelines. Assistance provided includes academic advice and help in course selection, tutorial services and counseling, exposure to cultural events and to academic programs not usually chosen by disadvantaged students, career awareness, and help with admission and financial aid when transferring to baccalaureate degree programs. Both anecdotal and statistical evidence shows that the student participants have achieved a high rate of success.

Second Grant Awarded

In March 2005, Central Community College was awarded the second TRiO grant. At the discretion of U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings, the grant was awarded for five years rather than the usual four because of the quality of the grant application.

2004

New Administration Building is Dedicated

In June of 2004, the public was invited to the dedication of the new Central Community College administration building. The ceremonies began with a posting of the colors by members of the Knights of Columbus. Speaking were Diane Keller, chairwoman of the CCC Board of Governors, who welcomed those in attendance, and Dr. LaVern Franzen, college president, who introduced special guests. Dr. Wayne Vian, a past worshipful master, presided over the laying of a cornerstone by Nebraska Grand Lodge, A.F. and A.M. Vian is a biological sciences instructor at Grand Island Campus.

A ribbon-cutting by the Grand Island Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors was also conducted, with Keller, Franzen, and Dr. Joe Preusser, retired college president, cutting the ribbon. A reception, open house, and tours of the building led by staff members then followed. About 200 people were in attendance.

The $2.1 million, 21,000-square-foot building had been occupied in March by 45 staff members, including the college president and vice president for educational services and the administrative departments of accounting services, accounts payable, business office, enrollment management, grant writing, human resources, institutional research, management information services, payroll, public relations, purchasing, Tech Prep and TRiO.

Plans for the expansion had begun eight years earlier, but ground was not broken until December 2002. Wilkins Hinrichs Stober L.L.C, were the architects. The general contractor was Lacy Construction.

With the completion of the project, the vacated 8,400-square-foot administrative area was converted into distance education classrooms for the Grand Island Campus in an $531,000 project, giving the citizens of Nebraska greater access to education.

The above article includes information from the Grand Island Independent.

Columbus Campus

- The first four days of April in the Columbus Campus Fine Arts Theater took audiences on a trip down memory lane. For the first time in several years, the art, music and theater departments combined their talents, presenting four performances of the musical production, “A Day in Hollywood, a Night in the Ukraine,” a two-act musical that takes place in Grauman Chinese Theater. In Act 1, a group of ushers takes the audience on a musical tour of the 1930s that features well-known songs like “Over the Rainbow” and “Ain’t We Got Fun?” Act 2 is a movie being shown at the Grauman that is an adaptation of Anton Chekhov’s “The Bear” as if the Marx Brothers had starred in it.
- The National Alternative Fuels Day Odyssey was held on the campus giving participants a chance to learn about high performance technology and its benefit to the environment and the economy.
- Spectrum, the vocal jazz ensemble participated in the 27th annual University of Kansas Jazz Festival. Spectrum members Aimee Hauf of Orchard, Cari Henry of Richland and Stephen Ingemansen and Amanda Terrell of Columbus received outstanding soloist certificates for their efforts in the group’s

Music Instructor Nancy Curry (left) directs Spectrum, the Columbus Campus vocal jazz ensemble, which performed at the 27th annual University of Kansas Jazz Festival.

Columbus Campus student Christa Dendinger (left) and CCC employee Robin Coan talk with student Hunter Flodman during a Phi Theta Kappa blood drive on the campus in 2004.

performance. The ensemble also included vocalists Scott Becker and Gina Starzec and percussionist Adam Schaer, all of Columbus.

- Linda Aerni of Columbus received the 11th annual Outstanding Alumni Award. After receiving an associate's degree, she enrolled at the University of Nebraska at Kearney where she earned a bachelor's degree in business. She is founder and CEO of Digital Gaming Solutions Inc. and co-founder and CEO of Community Internet Systems. In addition to considerable community involvement, she became a member of the CCC Board of Governors in 2003, representing the fifth election district.
- Michelle Bentz was named recipient of the Employee of the Year Award. She joined the campus in 1998 as a multimedia coordinator in the business and industry training department. She was later promoted to career and transitions coordinator. She was cited for her warm and friendly personality, her service and dedication to students, her contributions as interim associate dean of students, and for assisting with volleyball.
- Thirty-nine seventh- and eighth-grade students from 19 communities participated in the Central Honors Institute which was held on the campus. Students were selected on the basis of their academic accomplishments, a recommendation from a teacher or counselor, and demonstrated leadership and maturity.
- The Raiders Dance Team received a second-place trophy at All-Star Tryouts in Grand Island. Chelsey Batenhorst of Stuart was selected by the camp staff for the Firecracker Award. The team performed at home basketball and volleyball games and at selected community events.
- Kathryn Ballobin, associate dean of students, and Vince Lemke, mathematics and physics instructor, and their spouses served as hosts to three international Fulbright Scholars from the Philippines, Turkey, and Estonia. Their Columbus visit was part of a weeklong Fulbright Gateway Orientation at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.
- The 2003-04 Raiders volleyball team was named a fall academic team of the year by the National Junior College Athletic Association. To earn the honor, teams must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 and be nominated by their athletic director. Team members were Jessica Allberry of McCook, Nikki Christensen of Elba, Katie Hoblyn of Ansley, Andrea James of Springfield, Bristol Kelsay of Auburn, Erika Moog of Maxwell, Ashley Pinneo of York, Jennifer Remmereid of Albion, Kandi Ryan of Broken Bow, Rebecca Samek of David City, Katie Van Westen of Daykin, and Tonya Wysocki of Elba. Kelsay and Moog were also named Distinguished Academic All-Americans, which required a minimum 3.8 GPA. The Raiders were coached by Mary Young.
- The volleyball team won the league title in the Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference

Columbus Campus zoology students enjoy a field trip to Lake Babcock near the campus to identify water fowl.

six out of the previous nine years. Team members also had won the league tournament crown six of the previous nine years.

- Steve Heinisch, biological science instructor, received the Faculty Member of the Year Award. He was cited for his enthusiasm in the classroom, his passion for his subject matter, for his determination to get to know his students, and his desire to help his students learn. He was also commended for his involvement in the college and within the community.
- A grant exceeding $1.6 million was awarded to Central Community College by the U.S. Department of Labor to help Nebraska industries remain competitive in the global market. The grant was used to establish a mechatronics education center at the campus under the direction of Doug Pauley, director of business and industry training. The project grew out of the contacts between the college and Festo Corporation, a German corporation with subsidiaries in the U.S. The company had earlier donated $100,000 to the college to purchase equipment to support the project. In addition to providing mechatronics education for those in industry and for more traditional students, the center was designed to provide professional development for industrial technology instructors from community colleges throughout the state.

Retired

- Mary Hull retired as a communications instructor, a position she held from 1987 when she joined the college. A person of many interests, she is a member of the New York Author's Guild, has published a textbook and a children's book, and designs and sells jewelry. She served as a member of the Board of Trustees for Sioux Falls College in South Dakota.

Grand Island Campus

- Grand Island Area Chamber of Commerce President Cindy Johnson was chosen by the Nebraska Community College Association to receive a Distinguished Alumni Award. She had been nominated by the Grand Island Campus where she received an associate of arts degree in 1996. She then earned a bachelor's degree from Bellevue University and a master's degree from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. The award cited Johnson for leadership in a variety of community development projects.
- Bob Sanner was acknowledged as a contributor to two different accounting textbooks – the ninth edition of "Accounting Concepts and Applications" by Albricht and others, and the eighth edition of "College Accounting" by McQuaig and Bille.
- Charlie Gregory, associate dean of Extended Learning Services, received the Rookie of the Year Award from the Adult and Continuing Education Association of Nebraska.

Grand Island Campus students are inducted into the local chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honorary society for students attending two-year colleges.

- The Grand Island Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa recognized Bob Sanner, accounting instructor, who served as a faculty adviser for the group for 12 years. Chapter President Kathy Hillje reported that more than 730 Grand Island Campus students were inducted into PTK during that time.
- Dr. Bill Giddings resigned as campus president in order to accept a position as vice president with Northeast Community College in Norfolk. Dr. Lynn Black, associate dean of students, assumed the duties of interim campus president.
- Kimberly Adair of Grand Island received the 11th annual Outstanding Alumni Award. She earned an associate of applied science degree in accounting. After graduation, she was employed as an accounting clerk by Equitable Federal Savings Bank. By 2002, she had become an officer of the bank, an assistant vice president, and assistant controller.

- Ann Chambers, Adult Basic Education coordinator; Angie Pacheco, admissions director; and Craig Ratzlaff, personal development instructor, each received an Excellence Award from the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development.
- Martha Berquist of Oxford, a nursing major, and Kathy Hillje of Ravenna, a business major, each received a $1,000 scholarship from the Coca-Cola Foundation.
- Charlie Gregory, associate dean of Extended Learning Services, graduated from the Academy for Leadership and Development, a program designed to advance organizational leadership in community and technical colleges.
- Craig Ratzlaff, personal development instructor, was named to a two-year term on the Career Development Facilitator Advisory Council of the National Career Development Association. The association provides a program leading to professional certification.

Hastings Campus

- Lloyd Brown of Hastings, business administration instructor, received the 20th annual Outstanding Service Award given by the campus. He was cited as an excellent instructor, a caring adviser, and a knowledgeable mentor to fellow employees. He was also lauded for his involvement and leadership in numerous college and community groups including the CCC Education Association, Faculty Senate, Rams Athletic Booster Club, Scholarship Club, and the Hastings Campus Business Club. He joined the faculty in 1975.
- Dr. Sandra Block, associate dean of general education, was named a Phi Theta Kappa faculty scholar. PTK is an international honor society for two-year colleges. Block, a sponsor for the Hastings Beta Alpha Delta chapter, also served on the faculty of the PTK International Honors Institute which was held at the University of California at Los Angeles. The faculty scholar designation is designed to reward community college faculty for their scholarly accomplishments.
- The Hastings Phi Theta Kappa chapter participated in the Yoplait Yogurt/Breast Cancer Research Project. Sun Mart Foods of Hastings donated 15 cases of Yoplait Yogurt to the project.

ACTIONS Day, an academic competition for students from area high schools, is held on the Hastings Campus for the 15th consecutive year. On average, more than 900 students from nearly 30 schools take part in the one-day event.

- Bob Baker, who retired as associate dean of Extended Learning Services in 1999, was awarded a life membership in the Adult and Continuing Education Association of Nebraska.
- Laura Bulas, business administration instructor, received the Spirit Award at the 35th annual student recognition and awards convocation. She was cited for her enthusiasm; her dedication to her students through teaching, advising; and mentoring; and her commitment to student organizations, including the Business Club, Phi Theta Kappa, and Campus Crusade for Christ.
- CCC graduate Brock Bulas was one of four people accepted for the Rural Pharmacy Practice Educational Initiative Program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.
- Wanda Cloet, supervisor of the dental hygiene program, received a Public Service Award from the State Oral Health Forum. She was recognized for teaching her students the importance of both dental health and community service and for providing a positive example of a dental health professional. Later in the year, she was a presenter at the annual conference of the Public Health Association, which was held in Grand Island. She spoke regarding the dental health of children.
- Students from the construction technology program built a 16-by-l6-foot octagonal gazebo in the mall near the campus center as a project for their construction applications course, which is a requirement for the associate of applied science degree in construction management. The eight

students, who completed all phases of the construction, were Jeremy Anderson, Holdrege; Andrew Haney, Grand Island; Kevin Hayford, Ogallala; Shane Johnson, Holdrege; Marshall Maseberg, Thedford; Nolan Shinn, Gibbon; Kenny Theis, Randolph; and Adam Warner, Gothenburg.

- Maxine Wehling of Broken Bow received the 23rd annual Outstanding Alumni Award. She graduated in 1996 with an associate of applied science degree in dental hygiene. She distinguished herself by organizing the first oral health booth at the Custer County health fair in 2000, which focused on individuals who had no regular access to dental care. For her innovative efforts, she received the ADHA/Crest Award which included a monetary award and a trip. She also served as president of the CCC Dental Hygiene Alumni Association and held positions with the state and national ADHA.
- Roxanne Denny, dental hygiene instructor, received an Award of Distinction from the Dental Hygienist Magazine for her work at the college and for her clinical work and patient education at a Hastings pediatric office.
- The campus received a $15,000 Entryway Enhancement Project Grant through the Nebraska Department of Roads, Nebraska Forest Service and Statewide Arboretum. The money was used for landscape beautification at the front entrance to the campus.
- Clark Haberman, biology instructor, reported that during the previous five years his botany students had the opportunity to visit many prairies and woodlands to learn basic botanical concepts. The different classes have visited the prairies and riparian woodlands of south central Nebraska, ventured into the Sandhills west of Burwell, studied the hardwoods at Indian Cave State Park, and examined vineyards at two locations.
- The dental hygiene students on the campus joined the American Dental Hygiene Association in its campaign against oral cancer and tobacco use. Oral cancer screenings were provided at the dental hygiene clinic.
- A father-son alumni team combined their talents to publish a how-to book about a vintage skill titled, “How to Make a Coopered Wooden Bucket,” which was released by Winepress Publishing. James Gaster of Indianola and his son, Bryan, of Denver are both Hastings Campus alumni. James was a 1974 graduate in construction technology and Bryan was a 1998 graduate in broadcasting technology.
- The 2004 edition of the annual Ram Run and Walk was held Sept. 11. The event was open to the general public, with a special invitation to CCC staff members to tour either the five-mile or two-mile courses, either as runners or walkers. The sponsors of the event this year were Hogan Sporting Goods, Pepsi-Cola, Physical Therapy and Sports Rehab of Hastings, Valentino Pizza and the CCC Wellness Program. Gift certificates and medals were awarded to top finishers in all the age divisions. Chuck Breunig of the Hastings Campus was the race director for the 2004 event.
- Chuck Breunig of Hastings received the 21st annual Outstanding Service Award. While he first began working for the college in 1974, he returned to accept the position of counselor and wellness coordinator in 1989. He was cited for his sense of humor, his genuine concern and caring attitude, and the success of the wellness program under his leadership. The campus is one of only four businesses in Hastings to receive the Bronze Well Workplace Award given by the Wellness Council of America.

Retired

- Gary Maul of Hastings retired as a machine tool technology instructor, a position he held from 1977 when he joined the faculty. As a student on the Hastings Campus, he had been one of the first to receive an associate of applied science in machine shop technology, after which he gained experience as a toolmaker working for three area shops. He was a member of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers.
- Pam Russell retired from her position as secretary for the trades and industry division. A CCC graduate, she was a clerk in the student accounts office from 1979 to 1985. She then accepted the position from which she retired. As a student, and for a time after that, she had worked part-time for the physical plant department.
- Donna Kershner of David City, formerly of Hastings, retired as a custodial supervisor, a position she held with the college beginning in 1986. She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and was a Sunday school teacher.

In Memory

- Herbert Kahookele, 73, of Hastings died at his home as the result of a lengthy illness. A native of Hawaii, he joined CCC in 1970 as coordinator of student life. He was also a volleyball and golf coach, athletic director, and associate dean of student services before retiring in 1992. He is remembered for his friendly, cheerful attitude and his sincere concern for students.
- Mike Swanson, 30, of rural Harvard died as the result of a train-vehicle accident. He joined the faculty as a welding instructor in 1997. He is remembered for his concern for his students, his energy and enthusiasm, and his ever-present broad smile.
- Ron Swanson, 56, died at his home in Waverly, Pa. He had been a broadcasting instructor at the campus from 1970-73, having been the founding instructor for the program. He is also remembered in Hastings as a founder of the Pied Piper summer program for children's theater and for helping to establish the Scottish Rite Clinic for Childhood Language Disorders.
- Robert Heminger, 39, of Wood River died at St. Francis Medical Center due to injuries incurred in the line of duty as a member of the Wood River Fire Department. Heminger served CCC on a part-time basis as a CPR instructor.

All-State Academic Team

- Six CCC students were among the 21 community college students who were honored as members of the Phi Theta Kappa Nebraska All-State Academic Team during ceremonies at the State Capitol at an event sponsored by PTK and the Nebraska Community College Association. The CCC students from the Columbus Campus were Hunter Flodman of Platte Center, a pre-chemical engineering major, and Bristol Kelsay of Auburn, an elementary education major. From the Grand Island Campus were Melissa Korensky of Grand Island, a biology major, and Mary Pat Kuehler of Columbus, an associate degree in nursing major. Honorees from the Hastings Campus were Brock Bulas of Juniata, a pre-pharmacy student, and Jessica Heeren of Hastings, an elementary education major.

Board of Governors

- Diane Keller of Harvard was elected as chairwoman for the CCC Board of Governors for 2004. Other officers for the year were Tom Pirnie of Grand Island, vice chairman; David Stubbs of Kearney, secretary; and Bill Schneider of Dwight, treasurer. Schneider and Paul Liess of Cambridge were appointed as voting members on the Nebraska Community College Association board. Linda Heiden of Bertrand was appointed to complete the term of Homer Pierce of Lexington.
- Tuition was increased to $54 a credit hour for Nebraska residents and to $81 a credit hour for nonresidents. Fees remained at $4 per credit-hour for all students. Room and board charges increased to $60 a week for the 14-meal plan and $70 per week for the 19-meal plan.
- Merikay Gengenbach of Lexington was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board of Governors in District 2. A 1978 graduate of the practical nursing program at CCC-Kearney and a 1988 graduate in business administration at Kearney State College, she earned a bachelor of science in nursing degree from Kearney in 1995. She filled the board vacancy created when Paul Liess of Cambridge moved outside the district.
- A budget of $32,574,892 was approved by the Board of Governors for the 2004-05 year, an increase of 4.17 percent over the previous year. State aid accounted for $9,534,363, or 31.13 percent of the budget, a $447,811 decrease over the previous year. Tuition provided just over 20 percent of the budget.
- Homer Pierce of Lexington was appointed to the CCC Board of Governors to fill the at-large vacancy created by the death of Ken Wortman. Pierce represented District 2 on the governing board from 1990 until his resignation in 2003.

In Memory

- Ken Wortman of Aurora died on Aug. 27, 2004. He had served continuously on the Board of Governors since the college was founded in 1966. Please see page 200 for complete information about his dedication and service to the college.

College Administration

- CCC and Doane College announced an agreement which provided for a course-by-course guide for students who wanted to complete an associate degree at CCC and then transfer to the Doane Campus at Grand Island.
- Representatives of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center and Nebraska's six community colleges signed a cooperative agreement that created a statewide partnership for law enforcement education and training. The agreement allows people to earn certification in law enforcement from the training center and an associate of applied science degree from a community college. The partnership, which was made possible by the passage of LB 994, was also approved by the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Higher Education.
- Dan Rumsey, an electronics technology instructor at the Columbus Campus, was designated as the faculty representative to the College Cabinet for the 2004-05 college year.

College Foundation

- About 600 CCC students received nearly $481,000 in scholarships through the CCC Foundation during the 2003-04 college year – the most ever up to that time for a single year.
- Darrell Scott, director of Columbine Redemption, a nonprofit organization, and the author of three books about the Columbine tragedy and about his daughter, Rachel, who was killed there, was a keynote speaker at the annual CCC Foundation dinner which was attended by employees and friends of the college.
- Dr. Jack Yost of Hastings and his wife, the late June Yost, were named to the Central Community College Hall of Fame. The Yosts were longtime supporters of the CCC nursing programs, and after June's death, her husband established a scholarship fund for nursing students in her name.
- There were 104 amateurs and 27 professionals who comprised the field in the 14th annual CCC Foundation Pro-Am Golf Tournament, which was held at the Riverside Golf Club in Grand Island. CCC students were the real winners, since proceeds from the event help provide scholarships.

Digital Networking Courses

- CCC faculty in the electronics departments on all three campuses used their expertise to offer courses to students in digital networking. Hastings Campus instructors Dan Gompert and Doug McCartney are certified by Cisco Systems to teach Cisco Certified Network Administrator and Cisco Certified Network Professional programs. Dan Rumsey, a Columbus Campus instructor, is certified to teach the Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer and Microsoft Certified Systems Administrator training programs. Fred Roeser, instructor at the Grand Island Campus, is the faculty specialist on telecommunications and telephone switching systems. The instructors taught their specialty electronic courses using a Picture Tel conferencing network that provided two-way digital video and audio communications between the three campuses.

EducationQuest Grant

- EducationQuest Foundation, a private, nonprofit organization that works to improve access to higher education in Nebraska, awarded a $20,000 grant to CCC for its Bridge Program – a program that bridges the college's English as a Second Language, Adult Basic Education, and General Education Development programs to help students build academic skills.

Extended Learning Services

- During the 2003-04 academic year, 20,596 people took CCC off-campus classes in 83 communities. There were a total of 29,996 registrations for 1,239 classes offered by the Extended Learning Services department. Clearly, some individuals signed up for more than one class. The registrations included 13,924 in credit classes, 9,268 in noncredit classes, 4,286 in avocational-recreational classes, and 2,488 in Adult Basic Education classes. GED high school equivalency diplomas were earned by 180 people.

Holdrege Center

- Diana Watson, coordinator of the Holdrege Center, was elected president of the Adult and Continuing Education Association of Nebraska. She was also given the president's award by the outgoing president.

Online Nebraska Library

- The libraries on the Columbus, Grand Island and Hastings campuses joined a consortium called Online Nebraska (ONE) Library. The consortium also includes Columbus Public Library, Norfolk Public Library, and Northeast Community College. For more than 10 years, CCC was in a consortium with Metro Community College. Metro decided to join another consortium, creating an opportunity for CCC to explore other options. Among its three campuses, CCC has a collection of about 30,000 volumes.

SkillsUSA

- Four CCC students competed in the 40th annual SkillsUSA-VICA national competition held in Kansas City in conjunction with a VICA conference. Jerrad Swanson of Genoa, a Columbus Campus student, placed sixth out of 12 in the mechatronic category. Hastings Campus students who competed were: Ryan Engel of Hemingford, placing eighth out of 22 in diesel equipment technology; Justin Weichel of Jansen, placing 16 out of 31 in collision repair; and Sarah Tolle of Litchfield, placing ninth out of 17 in advertising design.

Tarantella

- A pilot project adopted by CCC made it easier for students in rural areas to learn computer skills. Janis DeHaven, a business technology instructor at the Columbus Campus, explained that technology constraints had made it difficult for off-campus students to complete some classes, especially those that teach computer skills. The problem was solved with a product called Tarantella, which allows students to remotely access the Microsoft software of the college, using the existing licensing agreements of the college. Tarantella also allows the instructor to monitor and assist students and to grade and return assignments online.

TRiO

- TRiO, a student support services program authorized by the Higher Education Act of 1965, was designed to provide services to disadvantaged students. In its third year at CCC, the grant covered 160 students, while 150 were on the waiting list. TRiO coordinators on each campus were Lora Urkoski at Columbus, Dawn Deuel at Grand Island, and Kevin Miller at Hastings. Stephanie Jacobson served as the TRiO director for the college.

Ken Wortman's Dedication to the College

(Editor's note: The following article appeared in the "Central Connection" of September 2004. It is included here as a tribute to a leader and a friend.)

By Dr. LaVern Franzen, College President

On Aug. 27, 2004, Ken Wortman passed away after suffering a massive heart attack a few days earlier. Ken had served on the Central Community College Board of Governors since the beginning of this institution in 1966, and for all 38 years of our existence, he had an almost perfect attendance record at the monthly board meetings, plus regular attendance at almost all graduation ceremonies, numerous campus activities, and participation in hundreds of other events that had a connection to Central Community College.

Ken Wortman

Ken loved Central Community College and postsecondary education, especially vocational education. He has left a wonderful legacy within CCC and the entire Nebraska Community College System. Without a doubt, since 1966, hundreds of thousands of individuals across Nebraska have had any number of educational experiences with one of the six community colleges. And, these people are now employed in communities throughout the state, one of many reasons for Ken wanting to be a part of establishing our institution.

Almost 10 years ago, a person familiar with Wortman's past stated, "If you are around Ken Wortman, you can't help but just feel the enthusiasm and the dedication, and the genuine belief that he has in the value of education."

We at Central Community College now have the responsibility to continue the legacy of Ken Wortman. We must continue to provide educational opportunities to our students, encouraging them to remain in their home communities, and help the smaller communities in whatever way we can.

Report Shows Benefits of Community Colleges

(Editor's note: The following article appeared in the Central Connection of September 2004. It is included here with little abbreviation because of the significance of the yearlong statewide community college impact study which it summarizes. It is followed by additional observations regarding the study made at the time in the Central Connection by Dr. LaVern Franzen, college president.)

Nebraska taxpayers receive a "paycheck with significant interest" on every tax dollar spent for community colleges, Governor Mike Johanns said at a recent news conference in Lincoln.

The conference announced the results of an economic impact study of Nebraska's community colleges. CCbenefits Inc., the Moscow, Idaho, company that conducted the study, along with Nebraska Community College Association board members and staff, representatives of Nebraska's businesses, economic development organizations and members of the community college governing boards presented the results.

CCbenefits Inc. was established in cooperation with the Association of Community College Trustees to make available a generic, low-cost and comprehensive tool for estimating the economic benefits accrued by students and taxpayers as a result of the higher education achieved at community and technical colleges. The tool provides data for stakeholders such as students, legislators and taxpayers, chambers of commerce, and local businesses and community leaders. The company's economic impact model has been tested at some 350 community colleges throughout the United States and Canada.

Kjell Christophersen, company co-principal, said the study indicates that every $1 of state or local tax money invested in Nebraska's community colleges today will return $17.73 of increased earnings and social savings over the next 35 years.

In addition, he said, higher education provided through the community college system produces social benefits including improved health and reduced welfare rates, unemployment and crime, saving the state $19.1 million a year.

He also noted the impact on community college students and graduates. “Students enjoy an attractive 21 percent annual return on their investment of time and money in Nebraska community college education. Students recover all costs in six to seven years.” This includes wages foregone while attending a community college.

Other study highlights include:

- The six Nebraska community colleges account for $2.2 billion of all annual earnings in the state’s economy. Those earnings are equal to roughly 76,600 jobs.
- Nebraska community college graduates with a one-year certificate will average 82 percent more in earnings than someone without a high school diploma or GED and 16 percent more than someone with a high school diploma or GED.
- Wages, salaries and benefits and operating and capital expenditures contribute $229.6 million annually to Nebraska’s economy, or around 9,100 jobs.
- More than 159,000 students attend Nebraska community colleges each year, equal to about 10 percent of the state’s population.
- On average, for every full-time year completed at a community college, students will earn an additional $4,008 a year, and with each credit-hour completed, they will earn $136 more per year. The statewide impact of these higher earnings amounts to about $128.8 million per year.
- Annually, students leave the six Nebraska community colleges with an estimated 16.6 million credits, accounting for some $1.9 billion in annual earnings in the state’s economy or about 67,500 jobs.
- Ninety-two percent of graduates remain in the state and 78 percent of those begin employment in the geographic area surrounding their community college, contributing significantly to Nebraska’s “Brain Gain.”
- “This study means nothing but good news for the State of Nebraska and the taxpayers,” Christophersen said. “Nebraska citizens and community college students reap tremendous benefits from the state and local partnership that supports your state’s very successful community college system.”

Highlights of the study directly relating to Central Community College detailed by Franzen were:

- The college paid $23.5 million in wages, salaries, and benefits in 2002, generating an additional $147.3 million in earnings off campus.
- Employment skills acquired by current and former students increase earnings in the CCC service area by $73 million directly, and by another $61 million indirectly.
- For every tax dollar appropriated to CCC by state and local government in 2002, $1.53 of earnings was generated in the college service area.
- After leaving college, the average Central Community College student will spend 34 years in the workforce. During this period, the student who leaves with a two-year college degree will earn $313,481 more than someone with a high school diploma or GED.

2005

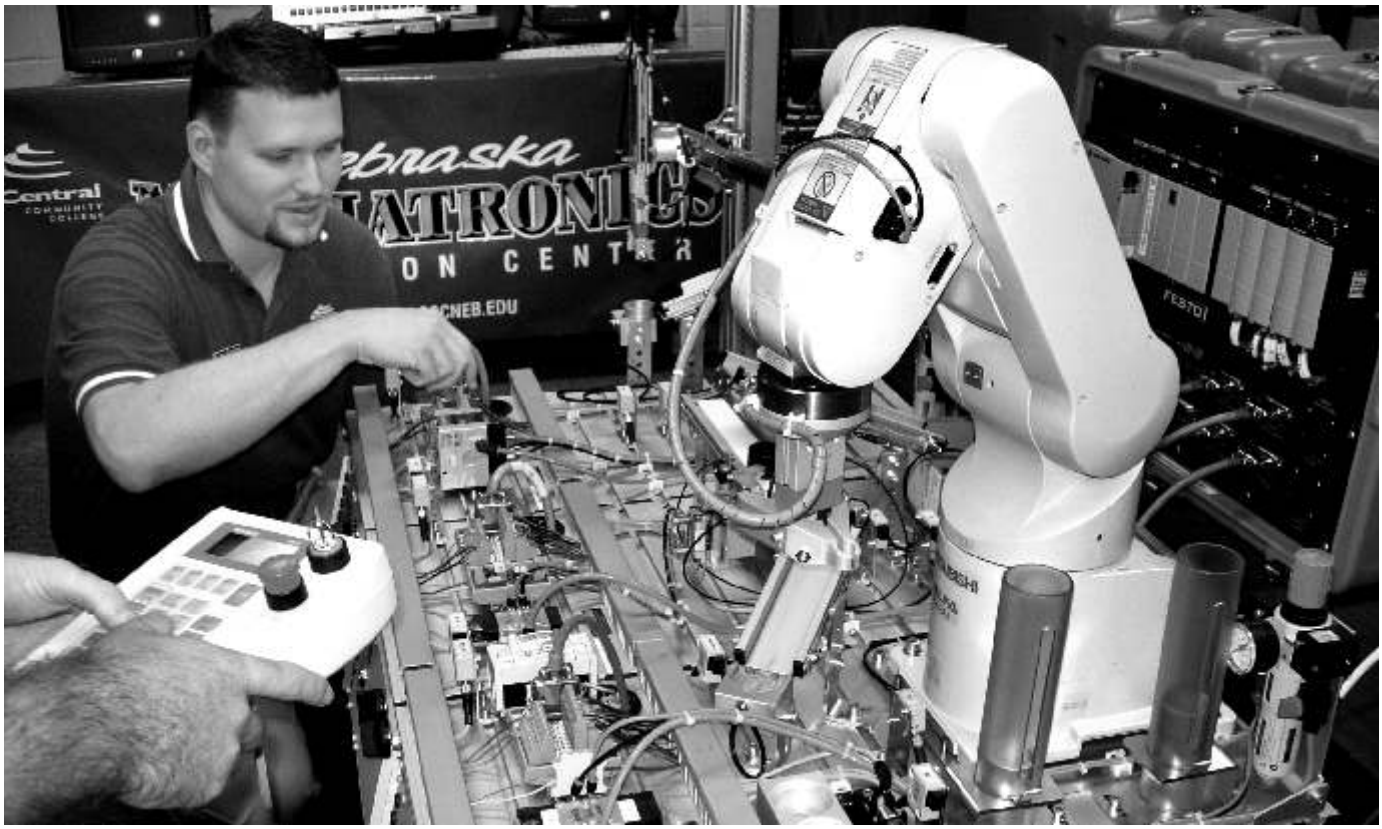
CCC Receives Two Major Job Training Grants

President George W. Bush laid out the main objectives of a job-training initiative during a Labor Day speech to a group of operating engineers in Ohio in September 2003. The job-training initiative was a strategic effort to give training to workers so they will have the skills needed in new high-growth sectors of industry. The president followed up on the job training idea when he introduced the concept of Community-Based Training Grants during his 2004 State of the Union address. There were probably few people in central Nebraska who imagined Central Community College would become the recipient of two of these major job-training grants by the end of 2005.

Industrial Training Grants

The first of the two grants was awarded to Central Community College in December 2004 when U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao announced that the college would receive a $1,639,404 grant to train workers in Nebraska. The CCC award was part of a $24.2 million advanced manufacturing workers training effort to help workers prepare for and find jobs in America's fastest growing industries. Chao said new technologies are transforming industries and increasing demand for workers skilled in advanced manufacturing.

In September 2005, during an open house and dedication on the Columbus Campus, Nebraska Commissioner of Labor Fernando Lecuona and College President Dr. LaVern Franzen stated that the Mechatronics Education Center



Grants from the U.S. Department of Labor and the Festo Corporation provided funding for the Central Community College Mechatronics Education Center, which prepares workers across Nebraska for employment in high technology industries.

at CCC will help fill the shortage of an estimated 40,000 highly skilled manufacturing jobs in Nebraska by 2020. Central Community College uses the grant to fund the activities at the Nebraska Mechatronics Center (MEC) located on the Columbus Campus where students/trainees are provided with industry-driven mechatronics training leading to high-skill, high-wage manufacturing jobs.

Mechatronics Integrates Manufacturing Processes

Mechatronics is a word that has not yet appeared in most computer spell-check functions, but mechatronics is the synergistic integration of multiple engineering disciplines, such as mechanical design, electronics and computer control, to produce new and improved devices and systems. Mechatronics combines electronics, pneumatics, hydraulics and automation into a single manufacturing process. The combination of electronics, mechanical engineering and computers are used to create systems for automated manufacturing and the repair of those automated systems.

The MEC makes extensive use of computer simulation software, online learning and professional workshops to provide training to high school and college students and faculty, business and industry employees and displaced workers. The MEC will be accessible throughout Nebraska. People in other communities can access software to develop simulated robotic or assembly line control processes.

Festo Corporation Provides $800,000

In addition to the $1.6 million grant from the Department of Labor, the mechatronics center received another major boost at the September open house in 2005 when Festo Corporation President Hans Zobel presented the college a check for $800,000 from his company. The mechatronics training center project first grew out of CCC contacts with Festo Corporation, a German company with U.S. headquarters in Hauppauge, N.Y. Festo is a world leader in developing and manufacturing automated industrial equipment. Festo officials worked with CCC to develop the MEC concept and had earlier donated $100,000 to the college to purchase equipment needed to support the mechatronics training center project. The MEC training activities at CCC are part of the industrial technology program that offers associate of applied science degrees, diplomas, and certificates at all three of the CCC campuses.

Key partners in the mechatronics training include the six Nebraska community colleges, a number of Nebraska high schools, Behlen Manufacturing Company, BD Medical Surgical Systems, Cargill Meat Solution (Excel), several four-year colleges and universities, Nebraska Workforce Investment Boards, and other state agencies.

Transportation Department Awards Grant to CCC, Mid-Plains

The U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration awarded a second major grant to Central Community College. In October 2005, U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao announced that Central Community College was the recipient of a $1,910,185 grant to train needed workers in the transportation industry in Nebraska.

At the time, U.S. Rep. Tom Osborne said, "Today's grant announcement demonstrates that Central Community College has embraced its role head-on as an active member in growing and strengthening Nebraska's workforce. I commend Central Community College for developing innovative training programs for the betterment of Nebraska's economy and livelihood."

Provisions for this and other grants from the Department of Labor were the result of forum meetings that the Department of Labor hosted with transportation industry leaders, educators, and the public workforce system to identify the industry hiring, training, and retention challenges. Projections for Nebraska indicated the need for an additional 12,000 transportation workers in the state in the trucking, railroad, and distribution sectors by 2012. The Nebraska Department of Labor projects a need for additional workers in Nebraska in several specific transportation related fields through 2012 including: 308 transportation, storage and distribution managers, 913 supervisors, 7,888 material moving workers, 10,940 truck drivers, 1,272 light or delivery truck drivers, 864 bus and truck mechanics and diesel engine specialists, and 3,050 rail transportation workers.

Central Community College and Mid-Plains Community College are working together to prepare people for employment opportunities in the transportation industry in Nebraska. The federal grant is to expand and enhance existing transportation programs, develop a new transportation program, and build awareness of career opportunities in the field. Goals of the program include enhancing diesel technology programs, adding a light truck maintenance and repair option as a one-year program, modifying the six-week truck driving training program, developing a mobile training lab in a semi-tractor trailer that can deliver programs to high schools and adults that will simulate a variety of weather and road conditions and provide practice shifting gears in an 18-wheeler.

Businesses are Partners in Project

In addition to Central Community College and Mid-Plains Community College, the grant project includes 15 other partners who comprise the project steering committee. Included are some giants in the transportation, distribution, warehousing and logistics industry: Wal-Mart operates a 600-employee distribution center in North Platte; Werner Enterprises is one of the top five trucking companies in the nation; the Union Pacific Railroad is the nation's largest railroad; and Nebraska Machinery is the state distributor for Caterpillar. Other partners that make up the steering committee are: Workforce Investment System One-Stop Centers, Nebraska Department of Labor, Nebraska Department of Education/Nebraska Career Education, FutureForce Nebraska, Nebraska Machinery, Nebraska Trucking Association, Bellevue University, and six K-12 schools in central Nebraska. The grant abstract indicates 5,325 community college students, incumbent workers and unemployed and underemployed or dislocated workers will participate in training, as well as 1,380 secondary and postsecondary students and faculty.

These two sizable grants from the U.S. Department of Labor and the generous gift from the Festo Corporation are designed to produce a pool of highly trained and qualified workers to meet the demands of rapidly changing technology, and an increasing global economy, while meeting the demands of evolving industries in Nebraska. Dan Davidchick was appointed project coordinator of the mechatronics grant at the Columbus Campus. Kelly Christensen, associate dean of instruction at the Hastings Campus, assumed responsibility for the transportation grant.

This article contains some information from the Omaha World-Herald and from the U.S. Department of Labor Web Site.

Columbus Campus

- The Central Community College Board of Governors appointed Dr. Matt Gotschall of Humphrey as campus president. Gotschall also was named the college vice president for academic education, Extended Learning Services, and business and industry training throughout the 25-county service area of the college, which includes the campuses at Grand Island and Hastings and the learning centers at Holdrege, Kearney and Lexington. Gotschall replaced Jim Fisher who retired as campus president. Before joining the CCC staff in 2000, Gotschall was employed at Barton County Community College in Kansas, where he served as an agriculture instructor and held several administrative positions. After joining the Columbus Campus staff in 2000, he served as an agricultural instructor and an associate dean of instruction. He was dean of educational services before assuming the campus presidency. He is a graduate of West Holt High School in Atkinson and received his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

Dr. Matt Gotschall

- Four Columbus Campus art students received awards at the annual Heartland Print Gallery Awards banquet held at the Omaha Hilton Hotel. Receiving Gold Awards in a student division of the exhibit were Katy Laudenklos of Columbus and Rene Perez of Schuyler. Silver Award winners in

the competition were Mel Primus of Cedar Rapids and Kimberly Thomas of Columbus.

- Dr. Dianna Parmley was named dean of educational services at the Columbus Campus, replacing Dr. Matt Gotschall. Parmley graduated from Winfield High School in Winfield, Kan., and attended Cowley County Community College in Arkansas City, Kan. She earned a bachelor's degree from Southwestern College in Winfield and completed her master's and doctoral degrees at Kansas State University. Prior to joining the CCC staff, she worked in administrative positions at Emporia State University, Kansas State University, Cloud County Community College, and Iowa Western Community College.
- The 2005 Career Connections event was held on the Columbus Campus in June. About 30 high school counselors, Tech Prep coordinators, and Educational Service Unit personnel attended the event that is rotated annually among the three campuses. The annual event is designed to give participants an opportunity to learn more about CCC's programs and services and to tour the hosting campus. Representatives from various college departments made presentations about the services their programs provide for students at CCC.

Columbus Campus Phi Theta Kappa members who attended the 2005 Regional Conference at Nebraska's Fort Robinson State Park were Dennise Pfeifer, Nick Horne and Norma Cooper and adviser Lisa Gdowski.

- Forty-nine students from 17 communities participated in the Central Honors Institute at the campus. The institute was open to sixth and seventh graders on the basis of their academic accomplishments and recommendations from a teacher or counselor. The institute offered students a unique combination of higher-level academic experiences and the opportunity to interact with other students. Participants were placed on either a math or media/communications track, depending on their interest and aptitude.
- The theater department presented a production of Neil Simon's heartwarming and funny play, "Brighton Beach Memoirs." Matt Webster, theater instructor, directed the play.
- Music students from the campus gave a good accounting of their talents at the 28th annual University of Kansas Jazz Festival. A student instrumental group, UltraBlue, and a student vocal ensemble, Spectrum, both received high ratings from the judges. Student guitarist Derrick Masters of Kearney was given an outstanding soloist certificate. Students were able to visit with visiting artists and enjoyed a concert by the KU Big Band.
- Caree Cielocha of Columbus was named the 2005 Employee of the Year. Cielocha joined the Columbus Campus staff in 1999 as a grants and communication director and in 2001 became leadership development coordinator and trainer. She is a graduate of Albion High School and earned an associate's degree in agriculture from the Columbus Campus and a bachelor's degree in human relations from Doane College. The Employee of the Year award is presented to a Columbus Campus employee who demonstrates dedication, enthusiasm and innovation in their work, and is willing to go the extra mile.
- Bill Erwin of Monroe was named the 2005 Faculty Member of the Year during commencement exercises on the Columbus Campus in May. Erwin joined the campus faculty as a biology instructor in 1977. Prior to that, he taught science at the secondary level and spent 10 years teaching in the biology department at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Erwin is a graduate of Columbus High School and earned a bachelor's degree from Wayne State College and a master's degree from the UNO.

The faculty honor is presented each year to an instructor who displays excellence in teaching and dedication to student learning.

- Dr. Michael Rogers of South Sioux City received the 12th annual Outstanding Alumni Award during graduation exercises. Rogers received an associate of arts degree from the Columbus Campus in 1987 and earned his bachelor's degree from Dakota Wesleyan University and a master's degree from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. His doctorate came from the University of South Dakota in Vermillion. After several years of teaching and administrative work for the Sioux City, Iowa, school system, Rogers accepted a position as principal of McKinley Elementary School in Sioux City.
- The Columbus Campus served as a host for six international Fulbright Scholars during an orientation coordinated through the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. The scholars from Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Germany, Spain and Jamaica were able to tour the Columbus Campus and the local area. A total of 44 international scholars were placed in seven Nebraska communities to prepare them for life in America and their studies at various host universities in the United States.
- The Raider volleyball team won the fifth Region IX title in school history in October, the first such title since 1992, and the first Region IX title for Coach Mary Young in her 11 years as the Raider coach. After their victory, the Lady Raiders who were Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference champions and ranked eighth nationally, advanced to a district playoff in Williston, N.D. Following an 800-mile drive from Columbus to Williston, the Raiders won a best-of-three district playoff match against Williston State College, beating them on their home court in front of a large crowd. That victory in snowy North Dakota gave them a berth in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division II National Tournament in Scottsdale, Ariz. The CCC team made it to the quarterfinals at Scottsdale, and lost to the eventual national champion in four sets. Coach Mary Young received three Coach of the Year awards in 2005, one for the Nebraska Community College Athletic Conference, and two other coaching awards for her team's regional and district performances. In addition to the coaching awards, two of the Lady Raiders players were named NJCAA Division II All-Americans. Sophomore hitter Amanda Cielocha of Columbus was named a first team Division II All-American, and sophomore setter Jessica Glatter of Kearney was named a second team All-American in Division II. The Lady Raiders finished their season with an outstanding 31-10 record.
- The Columbus Campus music department announced a series of concerts scheduled for 2005-06 called "Sundays at Three." The first concert, "The Wild, Wild West," was a tribute to cowboys, pioneers, homesteaders and Native Americans who were part of America western heritage. Other concerts in the series were "Colonial Christmas," "Midwinter Madness: The Sublimely Ridiculous" and "An Afternoon in Vienna." All the concerts featured vocal and instrumental performances by music students.

Retired

- Bill Erwin of Monroe retired from his position as a biology instructor at the Columbus Campus. Before joining the CCC staff in 1972, he taught science at Page High School and biology and chemistry at Omaha South High School. He then worked in the biology department at the University of Nebraska at Omaha for 10 years. Erwin graduated from Columbus High School and went on to earn his bachelor's degree from Wayne State College and a master's degree from UNO.
- Jim Fisher of Columbus retired from his position as president of the Columbus Campus and college vice president for academic education and business and industry training. Fisher joined the Columbus Campus staff in 1971 as student services coordinator, and in 1977, became associate dean of students. In 1981, he was named dean of students. In 1984-85, he served as interim campus president, after which he returned to his duties as dean of students. Following the resignation of Dr. Glenda Gallisath in 2002, Fisher again became interim campus president. He was then named campus president and he served in that position until his retirement. He graduated from Falls City High School and earned a bachelor's degree from Peru State College and a master's degree from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.
- Lynne Kotrous of Columbus retired from her position as a math instructor. Kotrous was hired as

a part-time math instructor in 1977 and became a full-time faculty member in 1980. Prior to joining the faculty, she taught math at several high schools, including Leigh and Columbus. She earned her bachelor's degree in math from the University of Iowa.

- Ellen Lake of Columbus retired from her position as associate dean of arts and sciences. Lake joined the staff on a part-time basis in 1980 to work with the Women's Center. In 1981, she became a full-time coordinator of professional development. She later served as associate dean of business and professional services. She graduated from Broken Bow High School and earned a bachelor's degree in English and French from the University of Nebraska at Kearney and a master's degree in education from the University of Northern Colorado. Prior to joining the Columbus Campus staff she taught English at Randolph and Columbus high schools.

Ellen Lake chairs a meeting of the Columbus Campus arts and sciences department. Lake retired as associate dean for the department in 2005 after 25 years as a CCC employee.

- Gary Schafer of Columbus retired from his position as a drafting instructor. Prior to joining the faculty in 1978, he taught drafting at McCook High School, McCook Junior College and Columbus High School. Schafer graduated from Albion High School and earned a bachelor's degree in industrial education from the University of Nebraska at Kearney, and completed graduate courses at UNK and Colorado State University.

In Memory

- Vincent Lempke of Columbus died unexpectedly at the family farm near Wallace on May 15, 2005, at the age of 54. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Kearney State College. After teaching math and science at Paxton and Monroe High Schools, he joined the Columbus Campus faculty as a math and physics instructor in 1980. Funeral and burial services were held in Wallace and a large gathering attended a memorial service in Columbus.

Grand Island Campus

- The CCC Board of Governors approved the appointment of Dr. Lynn Black as president of the Grand Island Campus. Black became the interim campus president following the departure of Dr. Bill Giddings who accepted a position with Northeast Community College. Black was also appointed college vice president for the business education programs and learning support services for the entire college.

Dr. Lynn Black

Black graduated from Grand Island Central Catholic High School and received an associate of applied science degree from the Hastings Campus. He earned a bachelor's degree, a master's degree and an educational specialist degree from Kearney State College. He earned a doctorate in adult and continuing education from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. Black joined the CCC staff in 1981 as chairman of the business division at the Hastings Campus and had served as associate dean and dean of student services at the Grand Island Campus since 1983.

- Charlie Gregory, associate dean of Extended Learning Services, graduated from the Academy for Leadership and Development, a program created by the Chair Academy to advance organizational leadership in community colleges. The Chair Academy is a division of the Maricopa Community College District in Mesa, Ariz.

Gregory's graduation marked the end of a yearlong program that included some on-site training in Mesa.

- Scott Ruehling, welding technology coordinator and trainer, earned his welding inspector and welding educator certificate from the American Welding Society. With the new certification, Ruehling can conduct inspections or verify that the work meets acceptable standards and conduct training classes and evaluate student performances in the field of welding.
- Kay McClure, an administrative assistant in the Extended Learning Services office at the Grand Island Campus, received the President's Award from the Nebraska Emergency Medical Services Association. McClure was honored for the support she provided in planning and organizing NEMSA's annual conference.
- Emily Webb Gildersleeve of Grand Island received the 12th annual Outstanding Alumni Award during commencement ceremonies. She earned an associate of applied science in office technology in 1999. Prior to attending the Grand Island Campus, Gildersleeve worked as a teller at Five Points Bank in Grand Island and was a loan administrator at the bank. She then was an administrative secretary in the executive office at St. Francis Medical Center for five years. She became the Web development coordinator for the medical center in 2004.
- Shelly Mendez, a registration technician, made a hurried trip to Washington, D.C., where she and her son, Marine Cpl. Chadd Riordan, had a rare opportunity to meet President George Bush and have their picture taken with him.

Retired

- Dick Arnold of Grand Island retired from his position as custodial supervisor. Arnold started work at CCC in 1982 as custodial supervisor on the Hastings Campus and transferred to the Grand Island Campus in 1993. Prior to joining the CCC staff, he worked as production manager for Campbell Soup Company and Delicious Food Company, and had operated his own janitorial service since 1976. Arnold graduated from Wymore High School and attended the Lincoln School of Commerce.
- Faene Evans of Grand Island retired from her position as receptionist and library assistant. She graduated from Bloomfield High School and received a diploma in office technology and a certificate in bookkeeping from CCC.

In Memory

- A former nursing instructor, Janice Herbers, died at her home in Titusville, Fla., at the age of 69. Herbers was born in Rockville and was a graduate of Ravenna High School. She received an RN degree from the Mary Lanning School of Nursing and later completed a bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Nebraska. She taught for CCC from 1988 to 1990. Herbers retired from nursing in 1996.

Hastings Campus

- Chuck Breunig of Hastings received the 21st Annual Outstanding Service Award at a staff recognition ceremony. Breunig first joined the CCC counseling staff in 1974. After leaving to accept another job, he returned in 1989 as a campus counselor. He was recognized for his many efforts to develop the wellness program into an ongoing and complete preventive health program with year-round programs and activities.

Students from the Hastings Campus construction program work on the framing stage of an annual house-building project that provides students with construction and team-building skills. The finished house is auctioned, with net proceeds from the sale going to support the program. 2005 marked the 10th year for the popular house project.

- Wanda Cloet, supervisor of the dental hygiene program at the Hastings Campus, received the Employee of the Year Award from the Nebraska Dental Hygienist' Association. The award is usually given to a dentist who employs dental hygienists. Cloet qualified for the award, however, since she is a supervisor of registered dental hygienists.
- Kathy Marble, human services instructor, completed the requirements for certification as a global career development facilitator from the Center for Credentialing and Education Inc. Completion of the certification requirements prepares individuals to help students with career choices, job strategies, placement techniques, and other services related to career development.
- Shaun Schleif of Grand Island received a Distinguished Alumni Award March 1, 2005, from the Nebraska Community College Association. Schleif graduated in 1978 from the Hastings Campus with an associate degree from the broadcasting technology program. Schleif's career in broadcasting covered 23 years as an announcer, news and sports director and in managerial positions with radio stations in Hastings, Grand Island and in Florida. In 1999, he accepted a position with David and Associates Advertising as director of media relations and account executive in Grand Island.
- Karissa Marble of Prosser was named Nebraska's New Century Scholar. Marble and other New Century Scholars were recognized during the American Association of Community College's annual convention in Boston. Each scholar received a $2,000 scholarship provided by the Coca-Cola Foundation. Marble received the honor because she was Nebraska's highest-scoring nominee for the All-USA Academic Team.
- Lori Richter of Lincoln received the 24th annual Outstanding Alumni Award during commencement ceremonies. She graduated with an associate of applied science degree in health information management services in 1999. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Bellevue University in leadership and health care management. She is the health insurance portability and accountability coordinator for Saint Elizabeth Health Systems in Lincoln. She has received certification as a registered health information technician and as a registered health information administrator.
- Laura Bulas, a business administration instructor, received a Coleman Foundation Entrepreneurship Grant from the Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education. The grant will be used to help fund a KidzBiz Entrepreneurship Camp for high school students during the summer of 2006.
- Michel McKinney, medical assisting instructor, was named Medical Assistant of the Year by the Nebraska Society of Medical Assistants. She was recognized for the outstanding contributions she made to the organization.
- Betty Kooy, an administrative assistant in the Extended Learning Services office, earned a master's degree in education through the online program of the University of Phoenix.

Retired

- Darlene Synek of Edgar retired from her position as an English instructor at the Hastings Campus. Synek first joined the Hastings Campus staff as a part-time English instructor in 1988 and became a full-time instructor in 1991. Prior to joining the faculty, she taught English and social science with the Ong, Harvard and Hastings public schools. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and a master's degree from Hastings College.
- May Wierenga of Hastings retired from her position as a math instructor. Wierenga joined the faculty as a business law and consumer economics instructor and taught at the Hastings Campus from 1970 to 1978. She then left her position to devote time to her family, although she served at times in an adjunct capacity. She returned to the campus as a math instructor in 1989. Prior to joining the Hastings Campus faculty, she taught for Cozad and Grand Island high schools and Kansas State College in Pittsburg. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

In Memory

- Richard Crane died in Hastings at the age of 67. He was born in Clifton, Kan., and grew up in Ord. Crane joined the Hastings Campus staff in 1994 as a printer. He attended Creighton University and then worked as a printer for Quiz Graphic Arts in Ord for 25 years. He also managed the Sears Cata-

log Store in Ord for more than 10 years before moving to Hastings and joining the CCC staff.

- James Svoboda died in Hastings. He was born in Weston in 1926 and was a graduate of Weston High School. Svoboda served in the United States Navy during World War II, and after the war, earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. Prior to joining the staff as director of the small business institute and serving for a time as a business instructor, Svoboda worked as an assistant manager for the J.C. Penney Company, and was a manager for J.M. McDonald and Herbergers. He is remembered as friendly, polite, and especially helpful.
- Maurice Lungren died at his home in Norman, Okla., at the age of 88. Lungren joined the Navy during World War II and became a naval aviator. After the war, he earned bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Kansas and entered the field of journalism and won national awards and recognition for his writing. He taught journalism classes for Hastings College and eventually joined the CCC staff. He was the associate dean of educational centers when he retired from CCC in 1981. Lundgren had an interesting and varied background and was dedicated to the educational process.
- Vincent Krueger of Hastings died in a Lincoln hospital at the age of 76. He graduated from Hastings High School and from Boyles College in Omaha. He was a veteran of World War II where he helped clear debris from the atomic bombs dropped on Japan. Prior to joining the CCC staff in 1966, he worked construction in the Hastings area. Krueger was supervisor of buildings and grounds, and served as physical plant director at the Hastings Campus from 1966 until he retired in 1992. He is remembered as quiet, well-liked, and efficient.
- Bill Leighty died in Kenesaw at the age of 70. He graduated from Logan High School in Kansas and attended Hastings College and Kearney State College. Leighty was an electrical technology instructor at the Hastings Campus for five years and then taught at the Grand Island Campus for 14 years before his retirement. He is remembered as a friendly, helpful, and knowledgeable person.
- Joyce A. Elliott, 61, died at Mary Lanning Hospital in Hastings. She joined the college in 1967 as a clerical worker in the business office. For a time she was secretary to the dean of students, beginning in 1969. Later she was the receptionist for Hastings Family Practice and an aide at Morton Elementary School. (Some information from this item was taken from the Hastings Tribune.)
- Steve Gizinski, 37, of Kenesaw died at the University of Colorado Hospital, having battled cystic fibrosis. He had been a truck driving instructor from 1998 to 2000. In spite of his limitations, he was dedicated to trucking, and he had an excellent rapport with the students. (Some information from this item was taken from the Hastings Tribune.)

Leadership Development

- Kathryn Ballobin, Vicki Harvey and Bill Hitesman graduated from the Academy for Leadership and Development program created by the Chair Academy to advance organizational leadership in two-year colleges. All three CCC administrators successfully completed the yearlong program that included on-site training in Mesa, Ariz., and an individualized professional development plan.

ACEAN Awards

- Five people associated with CCC were recognized by the Adult and Continuing Education Association of Nebraska. Ann Chambers, coordinator of Adult Basic Education for CCC, was given the Outstanding Adult Educator Award. She was cited for her leadership in ensuring the high quality of the ABE program. Lori Neid, Extended Learning Services coordinator at the Columbus Campus, was the recipient of the Rookie of the Year Award. Ron Kluck, dean of Extended Learning Services, who has his office at the Columbus Campus; Betty Kooy, Extended Learning Services administrative assistant at the Hastings Campus; and Bob Baker, a retiree from the Hastings Campus, received President's awards in recognition of the support they gave to ACEAN President Diana Watson. Watson serves as regional coordinator of the Holdrege Center for CCC.

Agriculture Curriculum

- The college catalog for 2006-07 included two new listings due to changes that were made by the CCC agriculture department. One change is an associate

of applied science degree in agribusiness that is a more accurate description of the course work students complete. This AAS degree prepares graduates to begin a variety of sales, service, and management careers in agriculture after two years of college. The second new listing resulted from a transfer agreement with the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska that allows CCC graduates to work toward a bachelor of science degree in agriculture science or natural resources. Agribusiness graduates can take advantage of transfer agreements with Hastings College, Wayne State College and Chadron State College.

Board of Governors

- Bill Schneider of Columbus received the Trustees Award from the Nebraska Community College Association at its annual convention in Lincoln in March 2005. Schneider became a member of the Central Community College Board of Governors in 1993 and had held various offices on the board. He was recognized for his many years of service in promoting the growth and development of community colleges in the state, and especially Central Community College.
- The board unanimously approved a measure that waived out-of-state tuition for college students and other people who were displaced because of Hurricane Katrina. The storm victims thus could enroll at all CCC sites and pay in-state tuition. In other action, the CCC Board of Governors approved a $77,794,675 budget for 2005-06.
- Sworn in as officers were Diane Keller of Harvard, chairwoman; Tom Pirnie of Grand Island, vice chairman; David Stubbs of Kearney, secretary; and Bill Schneider of Columbus, treasurer. Schneider and Harold McClure of Kearney were appointed to represent CCC on the Nebraska Community College Association governing board. Members who began new terms of office were McClure, Pirnie, Schneider, Merikay Gengenbach of Lexington, Homer Pierce of Lexington, and Paul Krieger of Hastings.

In Memory

- Former member of the CCC Board of Governors, Verne Moseman of Grand Island, died at the St. Francis Medical Center at the age of 81. He served in the United States Coast Guard during World War II and after the war completed his studies at the University of Nebraska and taught accounting classes for the university. Moseman was a founder of Central Nebraska Technical College. Moseman served on the Board of Governors from 1966 to 1982 and was involved in a host of community and charitable organizations in the Grand Island area.

College Administration

- Dr. Deb Brennan was promoted from an associate dean of instruction on the Hastings Campus to collegewide dean of health occupations. In that position, she supervises all health-related instructional programs. Jennifer Hoagland, who had been grants technician, was promoted to the associate dean position.
- Ken Rezac was promoted from associate dean of students on the Hastings Campus to dean of students, supervising all student services operations for CCC. Filling this position completes the administrative model that provides for six deans, who are each assigned collegewide responsibilities and for three campus presidents, who also serve as college vice presidents and directly supervise two deans.
- Joyce Meinecke, a human services instructor on the Grand Island Campus, was designated as the faculty representative to the College Cabinet for the 2005-06 college year.

College Foundation

- The Central Community College Foundation reported about $540,000 in scholarships was provided to CCC students during the 2004-05 fiscal year. This was the largest number of scholarships ever awarded and marked the first time scholarships passed the $500,000 mark. It was additionally reported that the CCC Foundation received the largest single gift in its history. An anonymous donor contributed $500,000 to support the allied health programs at CCC with half of the gift to be used for equipment and facilities and the other half as an endowed scholarship fund.
- Ten Central Community College students from eight communities each received $300 scholarships from the CCC Foundation. The CCC Foundation provided the Students-at-a-Distance Scholarships

to the students who were working toward a degree or diploma while taking at least six credit hours via individualized, satellite, video/IT or Web-based courses during the 2004-05 academic year, with at least three of the credits in courses delivered at a distance.

CyberCamp4Girls

- Approximately 60 junior and senior high school girls attended the first-ever CyberCamp4Girls, which was held simultaneously at all three CCC campuses. The girls learned how to install and network home computers, how to use software to do a personal makeover or a room makeover, how to create their own computer game, how to print a T-shirt transfer, and how to make their own animation. Campers represented 21 different towns. The camps were funded by an equity grant from the Nebraska Department of Education.

Enrollment

- A report presented to the CCC Board of Governors confirmed that during the 2003-04 academic year, 20,596 people took classes from CCC in 83 communities in central Nebraska. The CCC Extended Learning Services department, in association with local schools, libraries, fire departments, hospitals, businesses and other groups, offered a total of 1,239 classes. Registrations totaled 29,966, indicating some students took more than one class. The registrations included 13,924 credit classes, 9,268 noncredit classes, 4,286 avocational/recreational classes and 2,488 Adult Basic Education classes where 180 people earned their GED high school diplomas.

Information Technology

- The information technology department, in order to better meet industry needs for employees trained in cyber security, has created new courses. The new cyber security courses cover subjects such as securing information, ensuring data, and preventing, detecting and reconciling data system intrusions. Cyber security certification tests are available to CCC graduates.

Kearney Center

- Brenda Shinn of Gibbon, a practical nursing student at CCC-Kearney, received the Student Excellence Award from Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. Shinn was honored for providing compassionate and excellent patient care and for serving as a good role model for other nursing students. Two other CCC nursing students, Carrie Dornoff of Heartwell and Karen Mast of Kearney, were nominated for the award for their excellent attention to patient care.

Phi Theta Kappa

- Five CCC students were named to the Phi Theta Kappa Nebraska All-State Academic Team during ceremonies held at the State Capitol Building. A medallion and certificate were presented to each of the 20 members of the academic team. CCC students honored were: Columbus Campus, Jennifer Remmereid of Petersburg; Grand Island Campus, Tod Glasglow of Gibbon and Michelle Herrick of North Platte; and Hastings Campus, Thu Sandrine Ha of Hastings and Karissa Marble of Prosser.
- Each of the CCC Phi Theta Kappa chapters were honored at the Nebraska-Wyoming Regional Conference in Gillette, Wyo. The Columbus chapter received the first-place Enhancement Award for time spent on service projects. The Grand Island chapter was awarded first place for the best Regional Yearbook. The Hastings chapter received the first-place Travel and Participation Award. Tod Glasgow of Gibbon, president of the Grand Island chapter, was elected Nebraska regional vice president.

Professional Growth

- Seventy-eight CCC employees started participation in a Professional Growth Program pilot study for AQIP. The pilot study is part of a program developed by the Continuous Quality Improvement Council and Tier 1 Subcommittee. The goal is to address a common set of skills for all full-time employees. Participants represent the three campuses, the administration office and the CCC centers at Holdrege, Kearney and Lexington. The pilot study is to be completed by May 31, 2006.

Radiography Degree

- Individuals interested in a career in radiography can complete all their bachelor degree requirements in central Nebraska due to a partnership program among Central Community College, the University of Nebraska Medical Center School of Allied Health Professions, and St. Francis Medical Center. Students can complete prerequisite courses at CCC and can complete their UNMC courses online and through video teleconferencing at St. Francis. Students then do their clinical course work in the St. Francis Radiology Department. Graduates of the 21-month program are eligible to apply for their certification exam in radiology.

SkillsUSA

- Several CCC students from the Columbus and Hastings Campuses were awarded first-place finishes in the State Leadership and Skills Conference competition held on the Columbus Campus. SkillsUSA is a national organization for students enrolled in trade, industrial, technical, technology and health programs or courses. More than 700 secondary and postsecondary students competed in 50 events at the conference. Columbus Campus first-place finishers were Robert Case, Ben Jenkinson, Jarrad Swanson, Royce Case and James Smith. First-place winners from the Hastings Campus were Sarah Bucknell, Josh Dye, Ryan Engle, Sarah Tolle, Connie Wright, Andy Bucknell, Amanda Sparr and James Swezey.

Transfer Agreements

- Transfer agreements were announced for four programs offered by CCC. These agreements were part of a growing trend that allows CCC students to apply their credits toward bachelor's degrees offered by four-year colleges and universities. The following CCC programs were included in the most recent transfer agreements: construction management, industrial technology, early childhood education and information technology.

Web Site

- A new Central Community College Web site was launched in July 2005 which is orientated toward the various constituencies served by the college. The new site includes pages for high school students, parents, high school counselors, and returning students. Printer-friendly pages allow users to print documents they need, such as the application for admission. The college also adopted a single toll free number that can be used to contact any of the campuses or the three centers in Holdrege, Kearney and Lexington. The new single toll free number replaces the six different toll free numbers used in the past.

CCC's second college president, Dr. Joe Preusser (center), is shown in this 2006 photo with people who have served as assistant to CCC's three presidents: (left to right) Sandy Burris, Rebecca Skalka, Oriel Kinley and Kathy Campbell.

Appendix

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Central Technical Community College Area

A History: The First Eight Years

By Stephen O. Gaines

Although the Central Technical Community College Area is the oldest of the established community college areas in Nebraska, its history is a very brief one. The area was formally established in 1966; however, many things happened before that time which had a bearing on the creation and development of the Nebraska system of technical community colleges. This brief history is not an attempt to include everything that has been accomplished, but tries instead to highlight some of the significant events that have taken place preceding and following passage of the original legislation.

Stephen O. Gaines

John Bailey Identifies Need

In the early 1960's Mr. John Bailey, a counselor at Grand Island High School, became aware of the lack of opportunity for post-high school vocational and technical education in central Nebraska. As his awareness of this void grew, he began a one-man crusade to build interest in and support for a new vocational school for central Nebraska.

Several presentations were made to civic groups by Mr. Bailey and it was soon evident that many persons felt as he did regarding this need. Groups such as the Kiwanis Club and the education committee of the Grand Island Chamber of Commerce encouraged Mr. Bailey to continue his efforts, and as a result of this cooperation, he conducted a survey of business and industrial establishments in central Nebraska. In this survey he asked such questions as:

- Is an additional vocational school needed in Nebraska?
- Where should such an institution be located?
- Would the establishments responding be interested in employing personnel?

Response to the survey indicated a great need for such an institution, that it should be located in central Nebraska, and that many employers would employ graduates.

Tri-City Committee Formed

As a result of the efforts of Mr. Bailey and others who had become interested, the Central Nebraska Vocational Education Committee was formed. Personnel making up this committee were appointed from the membership of the Tri-City Chambers of Commerce. It soon became obvious that interest in an institution of vocational education was not confined to the tri-city area and members representing other communities represented were Aurora, St. Paul, Hildreth, Minden, and Superior. Mr. Dick McFeeley of the Grand Island Chamber of Commerce was a leader during these efforts, and did a great deal to further the effort, as did the managers of the tri-cities chambers Dick Good of Grand Island, Pat Morris of Hastings, and Dick Hartley of Kearney.

Interest grew rapidly and a proposal was made to the legislature that a second state vocational school be established in central Nebraska. Following this request, an interim study committee was appointed to review the need. The report of this group substantiated the need as determined by Mr. Bailey's survey, but recommended that the second school be established west of Grand Island, probably at North Platte.

The Central Vocational Education committee was dissatisfied with this result and decided to approach the problem from a new direction. After considerable research, study and discussion, the concept of locally supported area vocational schools was evolved.

Legislation Drafted

A preliminary draft of a bill was prepared by a subcommittee. During the 1965 Unicameral Session LB 581, which was a refined edition of the committee's proposal, was passed and signed into law. This legislation permitted political subdivisions to join into areas to establish vocational schools and to levy property taxes to support such institutions. It also provided some state money on a one-time basis to assist in the establishment of a limited number of schools.

Presentation Shown 300 Times

Upon the signing of the bill, the Committee for Vocational Education for Central Nebraska once more became active in the promotion of the formation of a central vocational school area. Materials were prepared for a promotional campaign including a slide and tape show titled "The Winds of Change." This presentation was shown some 300 times, usually by members of the committee, which had now grown to include members from Lexington, Loup City, Guide Rock, Central City, and several other communities.

Many other persons gave assistance in this promotional effort including administrative personnel from both public and parochial schools and some elected municipal and county officials.

As a result of the efforts of all of these volunteers, 17 counties supported the formation of the new area by official action of their county boards.

Petition Presented to State Board

A petition requesting official recognition of the area was prepared and submitted to the State Board of Education, as required by LB 581. The petition was approved and the necessary work completed prior to placing the issue on the ballot for consideration by the voters of all seventeen counties gave approval to the official formation of the area. Favorable votes ranging from 53 percent to 92 percent by county averaged out to an area-wide favorable vote of 82.6 percent. The voting record by county was as follows:

County	For	Against	Favorable Percentage
Adams	6724	593	90.0
Buffalo	4187	1238	77.0
Clay	1634	230	87.6
Dawson	2515	443	85.0
Franklin	1137	316	78.2
Furnas	1264	515	71.0
Gosper	605	111	84.5
Hall	6035	913	86.8
Hamilton	1818	229	88.8
Howard	1153	261	81.5
Kearney	1413	174	89.0
Merrick	1296	263	83.1
Nance	838	744	52.9
Nuckolls	2133	413	83.8
Phelps	1615	234	87.3
Platte	4343	1,555	90.0
Webster	1433	216	90.0

During the time that the area concept was being developed, much consideration was given to the possible location of the proposed school. By coincidence, a portion of the land and a number of buildings occupied by the Naval Ammunition Depot near Hastings became available for public use at this most appropriate time. The General Services Administration was promptly contacted and negotiations for usage of this property as a campus site were instigated. During this phase of the development, Mr. Don Bradford, an assistant in the defense department, was very active on the behalf of the area, and his efforts had a great deal to do with the eventual acquisition of the property. Mr. Bradford is now retired and a citizen of the Central Technical Community College Area, living in Aurora.

The original board of trustees was named in the petition forming the area and approved by the State Board of Education. Upon official recognition of the area, the board met and created the "Area Vocational Technical School Number One." Members of the first board were:

Minor Baird - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Superior
Dick Brown - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Holdrege
Dick Ely - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Red Cloud
Paul Hohnstein - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Hastings
Jim Holmberg - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Columbus
George Keller - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Lexington
Verne Moseman- - - - - - - - - - - - - Grand Island
Lou Ninegar - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Kearney
Ed Paulson- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - St. Paul
Irv Schwartz - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Hildreth
Ken Wortman - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Aurora

Actions taken by the board at this first meeting included:

- Oath of office by board
- Election of officers:
  - President – Ken Wortman
  - Vice President – Verne Moseman
  - Secretary – Paul Hohnstein
- Appointment of Dewayne Wolfe as legal consultant
- Election of administrative personnel:
  - Dr. Chester Gausman – superintendent
  - Stephen O. Gaines – director of community services

- Edwin Minnick – director of student services
- Robert Harrington – director of non-industrial occupations
- Claude Wengrove – director of industrial occupations
- Henry Wendt – director of buildings and grounds
- Alexis Johnson – comptroller

◆ One instructor employed – Larry Keller, in machine shop practice
◆ Tuition established at $84.00 per quarter
◆ Vacation leave designated
◆ A budget of $975,000 presented for consideration

September Starting Date Set

The board directed Dr. Gausman and his staff to proceed with preparations to start classes in September of 1966. Temporary occupancy was granted by the Navy for use of some of the buildings before official transfer of the property, and on July 1, the administrative staff moved into the building which is still being used as the administration building. Prior to this time, the building had been the medical dispensary. Offices were set up in a variety of locations in the building including the operating room, x-ray lab, enlisted and officer's wards, etc. Some renovations were made immediately, but for some time the building resembled a hospital more than a college administration building.

Grant Fund Survey and Study

Before classes started, a grant was made available by the defense department to survey and study similar institutions. Mr. Fred Bauermeister and Stephen Gaines spent three weeks visiting institutions in Missouri, Mississippi, Tennessee, Virginia, Georgia, West Virginia, Maryland, and Michigan. Much material was accumulated, but little of it was of particular value due to the conventional approach to education utilized by all of these institutions. Perhaps the most valuable knowledge gained was that none of these institutions was operating on an individualized system of instruction with credit based on student accomplishment. Dr. Gausman had previously indicated that Central Nebraska Tech was to be a completely new kind of institution, with a truly open door and with students progressing at their own rate through the use of materials adapted to a completely individualized instructional system. This philosophy has been maintained, and today the institution is recognized nationally as unique and a leader in this field.

First Budget is $1 Million

The first budget as finally approved for 1966-67 was for $1,052,240. Funds were obtained from a $100,000 state grant, tuition, and from a property tax levy of 1.25 mills on property valued at $638,000,000.

From July 1, 1966, to Sept. 12, 1966, instructional materials were prepared, personnel employed, some necessary building renovation accomplished, equipment and supplies purchased, and all of the other thousands of necessary details pertinent to such as undertaking at least partially completed. On Saturday, Sept. 10 and Sunday Sept. 11, the final frantic preparations were finished. These included the assembly of dormitory furniture by Dr. Gausman and the members of the administrative and instructional staff.

College Opens With 196 Students

On Sept.12, the institution officially opened with 196 students registered. Eleven programs were offered under the supervision of five departmental heads. These included Robert Anderson, machine trades; Dean Blaha, transportation trades; Larry Carlson, business and office occupations; Bernard Kinley, construction trades; and Elmer Miller, agricultural occupations. The original student body was made up of 189 men and seven women. Enrollment grew steadily through the term, with second semester registrations totaling 343. Total full-time enrollment reached 572 by the end of the first year of operation. The original faculty numbered 22.

Data Processing is First Adult Class

Soon after the start of the first term, the first adult evening class was organized. It was a course in data processing fundamentals taught by Mrs. Elizabeth Howell and was made up of 17 students. Courses were added steadily, and by the end of the first year, 18 courses had been completed with a total enrollment of 451. Added to the full-time enrollment, this brought the total student number to 1,023 for the first year.

Many other activities took place during the first year. On Oct. 24, the first annual open house was held, with some 2,000 persons visiting the campus. Automobiles from all 17 supporting counties were observed, along with many from other locations.

CNT Foundation Established

In November of 1966, Mr. Paul Hohnstein, a long-time supporter of vocational education and a board member of Central Nebraska Tech, presented a gift of $2,000 to establish the Central Nebraska Tech Foundation. The foundation was officially created as a non-profit organization, chartered by the state. A board of trustees and a board of directors were selected with Mr. Leonard Melkus of Grand Island serving as the first chairman of the board. Administrative officers elected were Stephen Gaines, president; Edwin Minnick, secretary; and Alexis Johnson, treasurer.

The foundation has served as a clearing house for all scholarship funds and was the recipient of a large grant made through the efforts of the Grand Island Industrial Foundation, to assist in land purchase necessary for the Adult Education Center in Grand Island.

Sherman County Joins College Area

In January 1967, Mr. Robert Martin of Loup City was appointed to the board as a result of Sherman County voting into membership to the Central Nebraska Tech area. The citizens of Sherman County approved the issue 1,379 to 415 for a 77percent favorable percentage. At this time, Vernon Krueger was appointed to replace Richard Ely, who had resigned to run for public office.

Although it had been in operation only one year, Central Nebraska Tech recognized its first graduate in the spring of 1967. Dean Ringlein of Grand Island, who had transferred from Milford, completed graduation requirements in drafting and was immediately employed as a draftsman at the Cornhusker Ordinance plant. During 1966-67, the Student Senate was formed with Lee Anderson of Minden elected its first president.

In June of 1967, Paul Hohnstein resigned from the board for business reasons. He was replaced by Mr. Harold Hatten, also of Hastings.

Enrollment Continues Growth

Enrollment continued to increase during the 1967-68 school year with the addition of several new programs, the improvement of instructional facilities and the expansion of the adult education program. The budget for 1967-68 was $1,870,599. The large increase was made necessary by building renovation and the acquisition of a considerable amount of equipment along with improved staff salaries.

Greeley County Added

On March 25, 1968, Greeley County applied for area membership. The application was approved and in May the voters of the county approved the issue by a vote of 1,002 to 338, a 75 percent favorable vote. By the end of the school year, enrollment had increased to 1,293, made up of 742 full-time and 551 part-time students. This represented a 26 percent increase over the first year.

First Commencement in 1969

The first commencement ceremony was held in May of 1968. Sen. Carl Curtis was the speaker and 111 graduates were awarded certificates, diplomas and associate degrees. An overflow audience attended the event in the school gymnasium.

Bernard Friedricksen of Columbus became a member of the board on June 24, 1968, replacing Jim Holmberg. In September, Bruce Hendrickson was appointed to complete the term of Dick Brown following Mr. Brown's death. On December 16, 1968, Mr. Robert Reiker was appointed to the board to replace Vernon Krueger.

Campus Radio Station Goes On Air

During 1968-69, several important things took place. During this time the preliminary steps were taken toward accreditation by the North Central Association, KCNT-FM radio station went on the air, 252 graduates heard an address by Gov. Norbert Tiemann, Paul Hohnstein was granted Central Nebraska Tech's first honorary degree, and the name of the institution was modified to Central Nebraska Technical College, via LB 943. Enrollment figures for the year included 906 full-time, and 723 part-time evening students for a total of 1,629, which reflected a 26 percent increase over the enrollment in 1967-68. The budget for the year was $1,959,771, five percent above the previous year.

The fall quarter of 1969-70 showed a healthy growth with 804 full-time registrants. Robert Martin resigned from the board, and was replaced by Robert Heindryckx of Spalding. In May of 1970, new officers were elected by the board with Verne Moseman be-

coming president, George Keller, vice president; and Irv Schwartz, secretary.

Enrollment Reaches 1,800

Total enrollment for 1969-70 included 1,075 full-time day students and 725 community service participants for a total of 1,800. The budget for the year was $1,842,954, a decrease of 6 percent over the 1968-69 budget.

Fall enrollment of full-time students jumped to 1,032 in 1970, with the yearly total reaching 1,234. Adult course enrollment reached 1,045 during this year, making the total enrollment 2,279. This represented a 26.6 percent increase, which was consistent with other yearly increases in enrollment.

On Nov. 22, 1970, the largest-ever open house was held with more than 4,000 persons in attendance.

The budget increased some 28 percent in 1970 to a total of $2,361,016. Construction costs, additional equipment purchases, increased instructional costs and institutional growth all contributed to this necessary increase.

Valley County is Latest Addition

On Nov. 3, 1970, Valley County became a part of the area when its voters approved the issue 1,297 to 782, a 62 percent favorable vote.

In February 1971, Ralph Kissinger was elected to the board to replace Minor Baird of Superior. During that same month, Dr. Louis Ninegar resigned from the board. He was replaced by Don Roberts of Kearney.

The budget for 1971-72 was established at $2,955,496. This budget required a mill levy of 1.92. Under LB 759, the Technical Community College bill passed by the 1971 Unicameral, the board became the governing board for all two-year institutions within the area, which included Platte College of Columbus, for the first time.

On Aug. 30, 1971, Mr. Bernard Friedrickson resigned from the board. He was replaced on Sept. 27 by Kenneth Torczon who had been serving as the chairman for the Platte board.

Oxford Has First Off-Campus Center

On Sept. 18, 1971, the first off-campus center was established in cooperation with the Oxford Community School. Previous off-campus activities had been administered from the Hastings Campus, but now for the first time, a local coordinator was employed. During the year's operation, 14 courses were conducted in Oxford with 152 persons registered. Later during the same year, a smaller center was established at Elwood, serving 71 students.

The total enrollment for the 1971-72 school year included 1,727 full-time students and 1,300 community service students, for a grand total of 3,027.

At the fall election held on Nov. 7, 1972, the following counties supported the applications for area membership as follows:

Harlan County – 1,403 for, 500 against (74 percent favorable vote)

Butler County – 1,776 for, 1,178 against (60 percent favorable vote)

Colfax County – 2390 for, 1,022 against (70 percent favorable vote)

Boone County – 1,618 for, 512 against (76 percent favorable vote)

A portion of Dodge County also approved incorporation into the area but was later removed by legislative action. However, the same legislative action assigned Polk County to the central area.

Board Membership Changes

On Jan. 8, 1972, Mr. Jerry Norris of Columbus was appointed to the board and on Jan. 24, Don Roberts resigned due to a transfer to a different locality. Dr. Louis Ninegar, a former board member, agreed to fill out the remainder of Mr. Robert's term. On Feb. 28, Mr. Alexis Johnson, the controller for the Central Nebraska Tech, announced his intention to retire in June. His decision was accepted by the board with regret.

On May 22, Dr. Michael Paradise was elected vice president of Central Technical Community College. On Aug. 20, 1972, two dormitories were dedicated on the CTCC campus. These buildings were financed by revenue bonds. A third identical dorm was constructed the following year, but was paid for from tax funds accumulated in a building fund.

The budget approved for 1972-73 was $3,312,930. During that year several changes were to occur in the make-up of the board. On Jan. 8, 1973, Mr. Robert Ray of Hastings became a member, along with Chester Marshall and Margaret McMullen of Kearney, and on June 25, Jerry Jacupke was appointed to fill out the term of Mr. Robert Roy following his death.

During 1972-73, 1,810 students were enrolled in full-time programs, and 1,418 in Community Service courses for a grand total of 3,228. Platte enrolled 771 full- and part-time students during the year. Total area enrollment was 3,999.

The 1973-74 budget was $4,989,401, which included operating costs of both campuses, plus the newly established area office in Grand Island. Administrative functions were moved to Grand Island, including the area president's office, administrative services offices, the community service office, and personnel and public information.

Community Services Grows Rapidly

During the 1973-74 academic year a great deal of administrative reorganization was accomplished. Community services grew at a rapid rate due to an increased emphasis on the off-campus activities, and by the end of the year 3,983 persons had attended 292 courses conducted at 14 locations, with many other non-instructional activities representing several thousand more participants. Full-time enrollment on the Central Campus was 1,998 and 788 at Platte.

College Governance

Platte College Board of Governors

Name	Term of Office	Offices Held
William N. Floyd	1967-73	Vice Chair 1967-68
Dale Luedtke	1967-73	Vice Chair 1968-73
Floyd (Sid) Mason	1970-73	
Laura Miller	1967-73	
Warren Rood	1967-73	Chair 1967-68
William R. Simpson	1967-70	
Kenneth Torczon	1967-73	Chair 1968-73

Central Community College Board of Governors

Name	Term of Offices	Offices Held
Linda Aerni	2003-	
Donald Anderson	1991-2003	Treasurer 1993 Secretary 1994 Vice Chair 1995 Chair 1996
Merle Anderson	1979-95	Treasurer 1981 Secretary 1982 Chair 1983-84
Dr. Glen Auble	1977-79	
Minor Baird	1966-70	
Dick Brown	1966-68	
Robert Buckley	1977-81	
William Callihan	1975-77	
Jack Crowley	1981-84	Treasurer 1982 Vice Chair 1983 Chair 1984

Name	Term of Offices	Offices Held
Jan Dannelly	1987-92	Treasurer 1988 Vice Chair 1990 Chair 1991
William Doran	1982-94	Treasurer 1983 Chair 1985-86 Vice Chair 1984
James Doyle	1985-88	Vice Chair 1988 Treasurer 1986 Secretary 1987
Dick Ely	1966-67	
Bernard Friedrichsen	1968-71	
Merikay Gengenbach	2004-	
George Hasley	1995-99	Treasurer 1998
Harold Hatten	1967-72	Secretary 1967-70
Don Heimes	1995-99	
Robert Heindryckx	1969-72	
Samuel Heltman	1978-83	Treasurer 1979-80 Secretary 1981 Vice Chair 1982
Linda Heiden	2004-05	
Bruce Hendrickson	1968-72	
Paul Hohnstein	1966-67	Secretary 1966
Jim Holmberg	1966-68	
Carolyn Holmquist	1977	
Jerry Jacupke	1973-79	
Diane Keller	2000-	Treasurer 2000-02 Secretary 2002 Vice Chair 2003 Chair 2004-05

Name	Term of Offices	Offices Held
George Keller	1966-77	Vice Chair 1970-73 Chair 1974-75
Jeremie Kerkman	2006-	
Ralph Kissinger	1971-77	Treasurer 1974 Secretary 1975 Vice Chair 1976
Ron Krejci	1977-85	Secretary 1979-80 Vice Chair 1981 Chair 1982
Paul Krieger	1997-	Secretary/Treasurer 1999-2000 Vice Chair 2001 Chair 2002-03
Vernon Krueger	1967-68	
Paul Leiss	1989-2003	Secretary 1991-92 Secretary 1993 Vice Chair 1994 Secretary 1995-98 Vice Chair 1999 Chair 2000-2002
Edwin Loutzenheiser	1985-93	Chair 1988-89 Treasurer 1987
Harold McClure	1989-	Vice Chair 1992 Chair 1993 Treasurer 1987
Margaret McMullen	1973-74	
Chester Marshall	1973-87	Treasurer 1975 Secretary 1976 Chair 1977-78 Treasurer 1984 Secretary 1985-86 Vice Chair 1987

Name	Term of Offices	Offices Held
Bob Martin	1967-69	
Virgil Meyer	1983-84	
Verne Moseman	1966-82	Vice Chair 1966-69 Chair 1970-73
Donald R. Mroczek	1985-92	Treasurer 1987 Secretary 1988-90 Vice Chair 1991 Chair 1992
Dr. Lou Ninegar	1966-71	
Jerry Norris	1972-79	Secretary 1977-79
Edward G. Paulsen	1966-74	
Homer E. Pierce	1990-2003, 2005-	Secretary 1992 Vice Chair 1993 Chair 1994-95 Treasurer 2003
Tom Pirnie	1994-	Treasurer 1996-97 Vice Chair 1998 Chair 1999 Treasurer 2002 Secretary 2003 Chair 2006
Dale Pohlman	1977-78 1980-81 1987-90	Treasurer 1990
Keith Pollard	1999-2003	Secretary 2000-01 Vice Chair 2002
Robert Ray	1973	
Robert Reiher	1968-72	
Henry Rice	1983-86	
Don Roberts	1971-72	

Name	Term of Offices	Offices Held
Wayne Sasges	2003-	Secretary 2006
Bill Schneider	1993-	Treasurer 1995 Vice Chair 1996-97 Chair 1998 Treasurer 2006
Robert Schnuelle	1975-90	Treasurer 1975-76 Vice Chair 1977-80 Chair 1981
Kent Schroeder	1975-77	
Irv Schwartz	1966-89	Secretary 1970-73 Vice Chair 1974 Chair 1975-76
David Stubbs	1981-88, 1991 -	Vice Chair 1985-86 Chair 1987 Secretary 2005 Vice Chair 2006
Ken Torczon	1971-74	Treasurer 1973 Secretary 1974
Robert Walgren	1979-82	
Ken Wortman	1966-2004	Chair 1966-70 Treasurer 1977-78 Chair 1979-80 Treasurer 1985 Vice Chair 1989 Chair 1990 Treasurer 1994

Foundation Board Members

Central Community College Foundation

Following is a list of Central Community College Foundation board members and the years they served. If a second year is not shown, it indicates that the board member was still serving at the time of publication.

Name	Start	End
Roger Allmand	1998	2001
Don Anderson	2004	
Merle Anderson	1990	
Gaylord Apfel	1990	2000
Gale Beirow	1999	
Kristi Bish	2003	
Dr. Lynn Black	2004	
Mark Boettcher	1990	2000
Chuck Bosselman	1990	
Kermit Bosshamer	2003	
Kevin Brostrom	1991	
John Brownell	1990	1993
Larry Butler	1990	
John Codling	1999	
Jan Dannelly	1990	1995
Marvin Dawes	1995	2000
Dr. Judy Dresser	1990	1996
Don Dunn	2003	
Don Egenberger	1990	2004
Bob Emerson	1993	
John Farrell	1990	
Jim Fisher	2002	2005
Mathew (Bud) Fleischer	1990	
Dr. LaVern Franzen	1995	
Richard (Dick) Friend	1990	
Dr. Glenda Gallisath	2000	2002
Dr. Chester H. Gausman	1990	
Dr. Bill Giddings	1992	2004
Dr. Matt Gotschall	2005	
Fran Grimes	1990	2001
Jim Hellbusch	2000	
Richard Hinrichs	1999	
Bill Hitesman	2002	

Name	Start	End
Keith Huffman	1990	2000
Mary Hull	2004	
Doyle Hulme	1990	2004
H. Don Hulme	1990	
Kim Johansen	2001	
Rod Karsten	2000	2004
Dr. Larry Keller	1990	1992
Linda Kruse	1992	2003
Sharon Liske	1998	2004
Ed Loutzenheiser Jr.	1990	2000
Wes Lubberstedt	1998	
Harold McClure	1990	
Kathleen McPherson	1990	2000
David McSherry	1999	2000
Virgil Meyer	1990	2005
Donald Nelson	1990	1993
Phil Nelson	1991	1993
Tom Pattno	1990	
Homer Pierce	2003	
Dale Pohlman	2003	
Bonnie Preston	2001	
Dr. Joseph W. Preusser	1990	
Densel Rasmussen	2004	
Rod Rudebusch	1992	
Dr. Peter Rush	1990	1994
Jack Schultz	1990	
Don Schupbach	1990	
Jim Scow	1990	
Dr. Richard Shaink	1994	2000
David Stubbs	1990	
S.N. (Bud) Wolbach	1990	
Ken Wortman	1990	2004
Larry Zach	1990	

Platte College Foundation Board Members

The people listed below served on the Platte College Foundation, which later merged with the Central Community College Foundation. Information regarding years of service for these board members is not available.

Lois Behlen
Mark A. Boettcher
Alfreda Hoffman
Keith Huffman
Garnett Johansen
Jerome Mark
Irene Martischang
Michael L. Moser
Jolaine Nielsen
Robert E. Olson
Ellen Qualsett
Carl L. Rafferty
Dr. Peter D. Rush
Donald Schneberger
Paul Schumacher
Donald M. Schupbach
James Scow
Bob Stachura
Larry Zach
Mary Ziegenbein

Major Sources

The following is a list of the major college publications which were used in the development of this history.

Newsletters

Central Connection (college employee newsletter)
C-Notes Alumni Newsletter
Counselor Connection

Annual Reports

College President
Columbus Campus
Grand Island Campus
Hastings Campus
College Foundation
Extended Learning Services (Community Education)

25-Year Publications

Columbus Campus
Grand Island Campus
Hastings Campus

College Catalogs

North Central Self-Studies

Grant Reports

Personnel Files

Registrar Files

Staff Directories