The Academic Update



Issue 15

ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING: Dr. Debby King

PCC is part of the Higher Learning Commission Assessment Academy. Work initiated by that lead Team has resulted in an Assessment Handbook which guides faculty through the assessment process used at the course, program and institutional level. There is still much work to do with improving assessment, in fact assessment is an ongoing assessment cycle. You may want to peruse the Assessment page at the following link. https://www.pccua.edu/assessment/

This year the Assessment Committee and Assessment Academy members were successful in creating an assessment page which includes the Assessment Handbook, Assessment Frameworks, the Program Review Guidelines, Budget protocols, and were able connect these efforts to the strategic planning.

CAREER PATHWAYS: Kim Rawls

The Career Pathway Program met state mandated performance goals for FY24 which allowed continued funding for FY25. CPI will continue to fund income eligible parents as well as non-custodial parents and justice involved parents who were made eligible for CPI services in FY23. Career Pathways will continue to build partnerships with community agencies and organizations, and continue to assist students in reducing barriers that may hinder or prevent them from gaining the training or education needed to join the workforce. Employment after completion has been added as a performance measure for the program and CPI staff will be implementing several "work-ready" workshops and activities for students this year.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES: Von Daniels

The 2023-24 academic year is the fourth year of the Student Support Services (SSS) five-year grant cycle. The SSS program aims to support the academic progress and performance of low-income, disabled, and first-generation college students. Our goal is to help these students succeed in their program of study at the postsecondary level, either by transferring to four-year institutions or entering the workforce. Our program has experienced significant growth in the number of participants, and we have established positive Fall 2024

Academic Leaders: Dr. Keith Pinchback, Chancellor Monica Quattlebaum, VC for Instruction Dr. Kimberley Johnson, VC for Student Services Stan Sullivant, VC for Finance Rhonda St. Columbia, VC for Advancement Kim Kirby, VC for Arkansas County Shanna Pryor, Dean of Allied Health Kavla Holland, Dean of Business and Information **Systems** Linda Killion, Applied Technology Special Projects **Carol Birth, Dean of Arts and Sciences Douglas Bielemeier, Director of Institutional** Research Art Gentry, Dir. of the Career and Tech Ctr. Von Daniels, Director of Student Support Services **Kim Rawls, Director of Career Pathways Christina Sanderlin, Director of Adult Education** Lee Williams, Director of Institutional Technology, **Director of Financial Aid** Michelle Waites, Dean of Distance Learning and **Title III** Drew Smith, Associate Vice Chancellor for **Enrollment Management** Joe St. Columbia, Dean of Applied Technology Workforce Development and Training High School Relations: Savanna Bisswanger (D), Kevin Martin-Arnold (H), Michelle Blasengame (S)

SSS cont.

relationships with faculty and staff, which has had a positive impact on student outcomes.

Looking forward, we are excited to share our plans for the future of the SSS program. We aim to expand our presence in Arkansas County by providing a dedicated full-time staff member. Additionally, we will be enhancing our focus on literacy and language, particularly by helping students improve writing proficiency. Student Support Services is one of eight federal programs designed to help students in need. These are funded through Title IV and the term TRIO comes from the first three TRIO programs funded.



ADULT EDUCATION: Christina Sanderlin

The Adult Education program offers a variety of services for individuals age 16 and older including:

Basic skills attainment in Reading, Language and Math

The High School Diploma (GED) Several Integrated Education and Training (IET) programs, currently the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) and School Paraprofessional programs with curriculum are being developed for Truck Driving (CDL) and Manufacturing

The Workforce Preparation Certificate includes computer skills, soft skills, money skills, resume writing, mock interviews and career exploration. Adult Ed also offers literacy, English as a Second Language (ESL), and citizenship classes.

Adult Ed is looking for an instructor for the prison in Lee County and exploring the idea of teaching in the Phillips County jail, as well.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTERS: Art Gentry

The Career and Tech Center continues to offer classes on all three campuses. We offer classes in Advanced Manufacturing, Computer Engineering, Criminal Justice, Medical Professions, and Welding. Online class resources for Computer Engineering, Criminal Justice and Medical Professions for the 2024-25 school year will continue to be offered thus allowing a more flexible teaching environment.

Virtual Reality will be introduced in all programs of study through the use of TransFR VR headsets funded by an Office of Skills Development grant. This technology will allow the centers to access training using virtual equipment in a safe realistic environment. It also reduces the excessive cost of equipment and consumables.

Forklift training will be added to the Advanced Manufacturing program on the Helena and Stuttgart campus for 2024-2025.

After completing FANUC Robotics training in Rochester Hills Michigan in the Summer of 2023, Dewitt instructor Christine Warwick completed and submitted her CE requirement to become a certified Fanuc Robotics instructor in February 2024. Dewitt Medical Profession Instructor Kim Branham continues to exemplify the medical program. Her students placed 1st and 2nd place winning gold and silver medals at SkillsUSA competition in Hot Spring, Arkansas April 2024. In June of 2024, Kim Branham and her students will compete at the SkillsUSA National

CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT: Savanna Bisswanger (D), Michelle Blasengame (S), Kevin Martin-Arnold (H)

PCCUA has concurrently enrolled students on all three campuses. High school students enroll for concurrent courses which count for high school and college credit. These courses are offered at the high school or on the PCCUA campus. Many high school students are able to acquire an Associate of Arts degree while still in high school. This saves time and money for transfer students. The Concurrent program is accredited through the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP). NACEP is designed to help concurrent programs adhere to the highest standards so students experience a seamless transition from high school to college.

ACHIEVING THE DREAM

PCCUA is the only Achieving the Dream College in Arkansas and we are among a few colleges of distinction nationwide. We are proud of that status which means we have three years of improved data in any category. ATD provides the data based on National Student Clearinghouse information.



PCCUA LIBRARIES: Keri Simpson

Keri Simpson is doing a fabulous job with the Rowdy Rents book supply. The libraries are also very student centered and friendly. Be sure to arrange for students to use the libraries for your classes. Library hours are listed below.

DeWitt

Mon. - Thurs. 7:30 a.m. To 4:30 p.m. Fri. 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Helena

Monday - Wednesday 7:00 a.m. To 5:00 p.m. Thursday 7:00 a.m. To 6:00 p.m. Friday 7:00 a.m. To 12:00 p.m.

Stuttgart

Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. To 5:00 p.m. Friday 8:00 a.m. To 2:00 p.m.

ALLIED HEALTH: Shanna Pryor ADN

The ADN faculty continue to prepare an Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) Self-Study Report to prepare for a site visit in the fall of 2025 for continuing accreditation with ACEN. The 2023 first time, annual licensure exam pass rate for the ADN graduates is 90.91%. The ADN program integrated NurseAchieve into the curriculum to increase student success with program completion and NCLEX-RN first time pass rates. The faculty are also preparing to incorporate the use of ExamSoft to assist students with NGN style NCLEX-RN questions.

PN: Jeanne McCullars

The PN Program graduates have achieved 100% on the first time, annual licensure exam pass rate on NCLEX-PN for the last 10 years. The PN curriculum consists of numerous strategies to assist students in achieving end-of-program learning outcomes. Some of the strategies include faculty led tutoring sessions, group test review with answer rationales, and a 3-day ATI live review. ATI Engage Series has been added as an additional resource for students.

The PN Program continues to meet the expected levels of achievement in graduation rates, job placement rates, and employer and student satisfaction rates. The PN faculty continue to complete continuing education hours to stay abreast of new strategies that support student-centered learning and to ensure students are prepared for the Next Generation NCLEX.

MLT/PLB: Julie Pittman

With the continued shortage of lab professionals at local and national levels, our graduates are in high demand! PCCUA graduated seven MLT's in May. Every student had job offers prior to graduation! We also had students hired as laboratory assistants outside of clinical hours prior to graduation. Lab managers from our clinical sites have been very pleased with the readiness of our students. We have four MLT students on the track to graduate in May 2025. We had three phlebotomy students graduate in the 2023-2024 academic year.

The renovation of the MLT/PLB student laboratory was completed just in time to start classes in August. The renovation has created a new and exciting learning environment. The students and faculty have seen an increase in collaboration and engagement in this new environment.

The MLT and PLB faculty attended the Clinical Laboratory Educator's Conference in March.

Faculty have implemented new learning strategies and teaching techniques that were obtained from the conference. Assessments will be made to evaluate these new strategies and techniques.

The MLT and PLB programs continue to meet the expected levels of achievement in graduation rates, job placement rates, employer and student satisfaction rates. Both programs are accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences.

HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION

PCCUA is actively preparing the Assurance Argument for its ten-year HLC visit April 20, 2026. The Report of Assessment was submitted and approved December of 2023. All divisions have worked toward a more cohesive course, program, and institutional assessment.



PROGRAM REVIEWS AND SELF-STUDIES

Several programs were reviewed and approved by ADHE.

Cosmetology Criminal Justice General Education Graphics Medical Professions

The Early Childhood Education program review will be completed by December 2024.

Programs requiring a self-study and review for the 2024-25 academic year are listed.

Medical Lab Technology (NAACLES Cert.) Phlebotomy (NAACLES Cert) ADN (ACEN Accreditation) PN (ASBN documentation) Advanced Manufacturing

Programs with external accreditation are not required to submit a separate review but the documentation of the accreditation must be submitted to ADHE.

| PCCUA KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------|-------------------|
| INDICATOR/YEAR | 2015- | 2016- | 2017- | 2018- | 2019 | 2020 | 2021- | 2022- | 2023- |
| | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| ENROLLMENT (FALL) | | | | | | | | | |
| FT | 591 | 648 | 621 | 610 | 591 | 459 | 492 | 441 | 483 |
| РТ | 1070 | 1101 | 1015 | 912 | 949 | 633 | 797 | 793 | 873 |
| Total | 1661 | 1748 | 1636 | 1522 | 1540 | 1092 | 1289 | 1234 | 1356 |
| CREDIT HOURS | | | | | | | | | |
| SSCH | 13,708 | 14,753 | 13,673 | 13,392 | 13,287 | 9732 | 10,798 | 10512 | 11352 |
| FTE | 913.9 | 983.5 | 911.5 | 892.8 | 885.8 | 648.8 | 720 | 701 | 756.8 |
| TIME TO DEGREE | | | | | | | | | |
| 100% Completion (2Yr) | 33% | 35% | 28% | 31% | 32% | 34.7% | Available 2025 | | |
| 150% Completion (3 Yr) (IPEDS Measure) | <mark>45%</mark> | <mark>46%</mark> | <mark>41%</mark> | <mark>39%</mark> | <mark>46%</mark> | <mark>52%</mark> | Available 2025 | | |
| 200%Completion (4 Yr) | 53% | 57% | 47% | 48% | 60% | Available 2025 | Available 2026 | | |
| Retention (IPEDS Count) | 66% | 59% | 58% | 52% | 47% | 67% | 76% | 81% | Available 2025 |
| AWARDS | | | | | | | | | |
| CPs | 153 | 241 | 213 | 273 | 286 | 241 | 191 | 273 | 256 |
| TCs | 45 | 46 | 74 | 90 | 67 | 105 | 57 | 34 | 93 |
| Degrees | 130 | 125 | 128 | 133 | 122 | 106 | 108 | 128 | 112 |
| Total Awards | 328 | 412 | 415 | 496 | 475 | 452 | 356 | 435 | 461 |
| Note: Based on 2024 IPEDS Data and PCC counts submitted to ADHE | | | | | | | | | |

Notice 150% completion rates highlighted in yellow. Awards continue to do well because of certificates of proficiency but even the associate degrees are acceptable considering declining service populations. Funding Formula data is one year behind.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING CHANGES

PCCUA will add a Heavy Equipment Operations CP in the Fall of 2024.

Five programs have been approved for on-line instruction: Behavioral Health, Criminal Justice, Cyber Security, Graphic Communication, Information Systems Technology. HLC has us listed to offer associate degrees of any type on-line.

The above actions have been approved by the Curriculum Committee, Instruction and Curriculum Team, the Executive Council, the Board of Visitors, the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees, the Arkansas Department of Higher Education, and the Higher Learning Commission.

TITLE III/DISTANCE LEARNING: Michelle Waites

During year 3 of Title III funding, funds were used to purchase equipment and software for many occupational/vocational programs to assist in student access and success. We continued to expand hybrid/online delivery of occupational/vocational courses and have received ADHE and HLC approval to offer 5 programs fully online: Graphic Communications, Criminal Justice, Information Systems Technology, Behavioral Health and Cyber Security. We will be expanding this effort to bring in a work-based learning consultant for occupational/technical faculty focusing on designing standards-based internships in their programs.

The Technology Academy housed on the Helena campus hosted numerous faculty and student development technology workshops during the fall and spring semesters and will continue to offer at least three workshops each semester for both faculty and students in addition to assisting in Workday Student training for employees and students. Title III funds were used to purchase a whole building generator which will provide uninterrupted power during electrical outages which will allow online services on all three campuses to continue during outages. In addition, Title III worked with the IT department to transition physical servers to cloud based services by purchasing VMware, battery UPS for Stuttgart and DeWitt campuses for emergency power backup, Class Collaborate for students and faculty, LanSchool Air which allows instructors to see students' computer screens in computer labs and InfoSec learning labs (virtual desktops allow students in business and tech classes to do network testing and development with computers).

GEAR UP: Tomisha Gant

The purpose of GEAR UP is to increase postsecondary access and success for GEAR UP students in our partner districts. The Gear Up cohort is entering college in the fall. This summer the first Gear Up Bridge Program was provided on the PCCUA campus. Students took at least six hours of college credit and those completing the summer Bridge were awarded certificates, received laptop computers and L.L. Bean backpacks. Director Tomisha Gant and Assistant Director Carolyn Holloway worked hard to ensure the summer experience was exciting. The students visited the National Civil Rights Museum, and later will visit Atlanta. Robin Long served as the chaperone for fourteen students attending Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama. This fall several students will make college visits, participate in ACT Prep, and work on improving financial literacy.

APPLIED TECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING: Joe St. Columbia

The Applied Technology Workforce Development offers training in many areas. These include Graphic Communications, CDL, Construction Technologies, Manufacturing, HVAC, and new this year, Heavy Equipment Operations. All areas have had several students completing CPs, TCs, and AASs this year. Notably, there was an increase in the number of AAS degrees in Graphic Communications, Construction, and General Technologies (Manufacturing). We are working to expand the Heavy Equipment Operations opportunities and have developed a CP. All of these programs operate in the fall, spring, and summer terms.

In partnership with the Arkansas Economic Development Corporation, the Arkansas Office of Skills Development, and our continuing partnerships with local industry, we are offering Department of Labor Approved Apprenticeships in Advanced Manufacturing. We continue to offer the TTOP (Transitional Training Opportunities Program) and Ready for Life. We will be actively recruiting to increase participation in both programs. We have had several personnel changes over the past year and continue to work to offer a quality hands-on and practical training opportunity to all of our students.

ARTS AND SCIENCES: Carol Birth

The Division of Arts and Sciences has returned to one division dean rather than having two people serve in this role. Carol Birth is the new Dean for Arts and Sciences and she had oversight for the A & S Division on all three campuses.

The Division continued its efforts to improve assessments, paying particular attention to preparing for program assessments and ensuring new and continuing faculty understand our commitment to assessments at all levels. The department also initiated a task force to create a college-wide artificial intelligence (AI) policy. With oversight from the Vice Chancellor for Instruction, the group includes all academic deans as well as instructional representatives.

Shanna Place replaced David Hartsell as a science instructor after the latter's retirement. Thomas Tubb's position as math instructor in Arkansas County was managed with very qualified adjunct instructors Kathy Prislovsky and Dr. Mark Shanley. Finally, we welcomed the return of math instructor Brian Zimmerman to the Helena campus and online Many other changes have taken place in the Division.

- 1. We undertook yearlong training in Workday, with advisors and department leaders preparing or the first full year of using the platform exclusively for registration, record keeping and grading.
- 2. We changed our course numbers.
- 3. We participated in various recruitment efforts including the College Fair, High School Days, school visits and workplace recruitment.
- 4. We participated in various professional development opportunities, including an interdepartmental training on instructional reflection and planning.
- 5. Faculty participated in training to switch platforms to Blackboard Ultra. This was required for online instructors but heavily attended by others who teach face-to-face and use technology to support instruction.

*Numerous Arkansas Rural Health Partnership Connect 2 Tech Scholarships are available for Behavioral Health majors. They receive full tuition, fees, books, and are provided a computer. Applications can be completed at registration.

BUSINESS AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS: Monica Quattlebaum

The Division of Business and Information Systems continues to focus on assessment which includes student learning outcomes as well as program outcomes. Through this process, faculty reviewed program curriculum and assessment outcomes to revise course curriculum and implement teaching strategies that improve student retention and success. As part of the work through the college assessment committee, the division is aligning their assessment process which includes faculty collaboration to identify areas of strength and implement action plans to improve student engagement and learning. Two members of the division attended the HLC Conference in April 2024 and also serve on the HLC Assessment Academy team for the college.

Through professional development opportunities, faculty have participated in several workshops, online trainings, and conferences to learn new technology and teaching strategies to incorporate into their classroom both on campus and online. Carl Perkins funds were allocated to allow four faculty to attend the Teaching Professor Conference in New Orleans in June 2024.

The AS Business degree was revised to include additional math courses which provides a strong

Curriculum. Revisions were approved through the Instruction and Curriculum Team for certificates in the Information Systems degree program. The Information Systems faculty are working with pathways for students to transfer and continue their education in a business-related field of study. The Department is working on Mentor Connect for a second NSF Advanced Technology Education (ATE) grant that will implement Cyber Security and Information Technology curriculum into the Advanced Manufacturing program.

Faculty participated in two workshops and the final grant proposal will be submitted in October 2024. Two members of the division attended the NSF ATE Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. to learn current trends in the information technology industry as well as network with other colleges to learn new technology and teaching strategies for the Information Systems program.

Cosmetology has also spent time during the year revising student learning outcomes and program outcomes to improve student learning, retention, and success. Several new teaching strategies were implemented and faculty continue to learn new ways to incorporate technology using Blackboard and the online software PIVOT POINT Lab. To keep up-todate with current cosmetology trends and salon equipment, Carl Perkins funds were used to purchase new equipment and tools for the salon lab such as pedicure chairs, manicure tables and chairs, and other hair/nail supplies. To improve success rates on the Arkansas state licensure exam, online practice tests were purchased with Carl Perkins funds. Faculty continue to search for updated equipment and teaching strategies to improve student learning and success.

ATHLETICS: Kevin Arnold

This year marks an exciting resurgence for Phillips Community College's basketball program after more than three decades of inactivity since the 1989-1990 season. The school has taken a significant step by hiring an athletic director and new head coach, who are committed to building a strong and competitive program. Both the men's and women's teams have successfully recruited several talented players from multiple states, enhancing their rosters and boosting team spirit. Ongoing gym renovations are set to provide an inviting environment for practices and games. As the program looks forward to taking the floor in November for their first competition in the probationary year of 2024-2025, anticipation and enthusiasm are building within the community.