

Greetings!

RAGBRAI's Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa began today, Sunday, July 20. The ten to twenty thousand bicyclists and other vehicles traveling past the Heavy Equipment job site east of Rock Valley all weekend saw a new sign located along Highway 18. **(See attached HE Sign near RV.pdf.)** The bicyclists passed through Hull, Boyden, and then met in Sheldon traveling right past NCC. Our "Welcome" banner was flying high between the basket trucks. **(See the attached picture 7 20 14 RAGBRAI Welcome.)** Three Powerline students, Ryan Monahan (East Dubuque, IL), Joshua Schick (Cedar Falls), and David Breuer (Waterloo), were waving from the pole. Lee Van Kley set the trucks, and Steve Waldstein heard many positive comments from the passers-by, like "Awesome! My son-in-law graduated last year and is now in Denver! Great...thank you!" Lisa Story and Kristin Kollbaum set up the college booth in the Sheldon City Park and also heard compliments about NCC!

ACCREDITATION CORNER:

Barbara Gellman-Danley assumed the presidency of the HLC on July 7, 2014. "It will be an honor to serve the Higher Learning Commission as president, the institutions in the region and the most important stakeholder – the students. I embrace the accreditor's role in quality assurance and the emerging focus on outcomes-based assessment," said Gellman-Danley upon her appointment. "This includes a respect for the peer review process and the important issues raised by the public and our congressional leaders on accreditation. We can all work collaboratively to assure the United States is a leader in higher education through all sectors of the academy." Prior to joining the Commission, Dr. Gellman-Danley was the president of University of Rio Grande/Rio Grande Community College from 2009-2014. She has also served as a vice chancellor at the Ohio Board of Regents, president at Antioch University McGregor, vice president at Monroe Community College, and vice chancellor at the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. .

Weekly Updates:

- Congratulations to Ruth Hobson who is on the **Board of the Village Northwest Unlimited** (VNU). She, too, was at the exciting groundbreaking for the new campus homes last week. Sorry, Ruth, for not mentioning that last week!
- Congratulations to Lorena Salas! Lorena won a **full-tuition scholarship from the Unlocking your True Potential** scholarship program. To be qualified for this scholarship, the student must be a young immigrant that has been granted as a Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and attend a community college in either Nebraska or Iowa. Five students who met this criteria were chosen to receive the scholarship, and were honored at a reception at the Mexican Consulate in Omaha on Thursday, July 10. Lorena was joined at the reception by Norma Azpeitia. Lorena will begin the Practical Nursing program at NCC this fall. A picture of Lorena receiving her award is attached (**image.jpg**).

- On Monday evening, July 14, the **Board of Trustees meeting** began with a work session to discuss topics such as the major gifts campaign progress, Building D new construction and remodeling projects and timing, and Workforce Training and Education programs. Their regular meeting began at 6:30 with a tour of the Carpentry House followed by the appointment of a new board member, Stephen Simons (Lyon County Economic Developer) from Larchwood, to replace Jim Kennedy who moved out of the district. Other agenda items included the employment of two nursing instructors (Sherri Kerr and Kemla Ewinger) and an electrical instructor (Troy Klein), approval of the Vision 2020 Strategic Plan, the NCC Self-Study, and board policies. A closed session was held to evaluate the president after the regular meeting.
- On Tuesday, July 15, **Maintainer Corporation** held a groundbreaking for a new addition to their plant. Several NCC representatives including Robert Hoting, Mark Brown, Jan Snyder and Alethea Stubbe attended to extend their support and best wishes. Robert had students there looking for employment, too, as the company is adding 15-20 new positions with their expansion.
- The Foundation Board met Tuesday, July 15. **Wade Gort**, President and CEO of Premier Bank in Rock Valley, was approved to serve a three-year term on the Foundation Board representing the Rock Valley School District. A lengthy discussion was held regarding the 30th anniversary of the **NCC Foundation Golf Classic** which is scheduled for **June 1, 2015**. The NCC Golf Classic was the first benefit golf outing in northwest Iowa. The Board is forming a committee to ensure the success of the 30th anniversary event. Dr. Stubbe provided an NCC update, Dr. Snyder provided a campaign update, and Kristi Landis shared information regarding future special events – **Reds, Whites, & Women – September 29** at Calico Skies Winery and **The Thunder Road Race – October 25** – starting at the LLRC. Special thanks to Van Wyk Inc., Link, and Maintainer for their \$250,000 pledge for the Building D project. With this gift will come naming rights to the Diesel Technology classroom and the Welding classroom. Special thanks to the Van Wyk family for this gift! **The Everyone Knows Someone Who Chose NCC Campaign** total to date is \$1,658,840.95.
- Frank DeMilia attended the **Lyon County Economic Development Board meeting** Tuesday evening, July 15, where they heard presentations from Laura Sievers, County Engineer, on flood damage and Sharon Haselhoff, General Manager, Grand Falls Casino and Golf Resort.
- David Trites, Retention Specialist with **Noel-Levitz**, was on campus Wednesday and Thursday, July 16-17.
- On Thursday, July 17, Alethea Stubbe and Jan Snyder had a brief phone conversation with Michael Koon, Team Chair for our **Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Accreditation** visit in October.

- Frank DeMilia and Alethea Stubbe visited with Denny Michels, **Maintainer Corporation**, on Thursday, July 17.
- The Continuing Education coordinators attended the **Iowa Association for Lifelong Learning conference** in Ames this week.
- The **Community College Leader Bulletin** from the Iowa Department of Education is attached (**CCLB Summer 2014.pdf**).
- This week's **i.school** is about the book *David and Goliath* by Malcolm Gladwell, challenging how we think about obstacles and disadvantages.

It has been a busy weekend, and it will be another busy week. Next Friday is Summer Commencement. Where has the summer gone?

Regards,

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Alethea F. Stubbe, Ph.D.
President



