



## Highlights from PIN Member Institutions

### Otago Polytechnic

Pages : 2-4

### Olds College

Page: 5-6

### Northeast Community College

Pages: 7-11

### Central Community College

Pages: 12-16

### Saskatchewan Polytechnic

Pages: 17-19

### 2017 PIN Conference

Pages: 20-21

### PIN Executive Committee

Pages: 22-23



## Message from the 2016-2018

**PIN President**

**Larry Rosia**

**President/CEO Saskatchewan Polytechnic**

For many of us, a new academic year has begun. Faculty are in the classroom. Programs are underway and, most importantly, the students are back on our campuses. You can feel the excitement in the air.

Many of you have likely read about the Fourth Industrial Revolution, which is building in size and momentum. Unlike the first and second Industrial Revolutions or the Digital Revolution, the Fourth Industrial Revolution is shaping up to be so different in scale, scope and complexity that it will impact our institutions and our students in ways we cannot imagine. We must all be prepared. This is why being a member of PIN is so important. The contacts and relationships built through PIN will help us to learn from each other, share best practices and build partnerships to adequately meet the challenges ahead—and seize the fantastic opportunities that await. I encourage you to spread the word about our great organization.

I would also encourage you and the Senior Leaders of your institutions to attend our annual conference in September 2018 the location will be in the US. Watch the PIN website (<http://pinnet.org/>) for details.

I am pleased to say that Denise Henning of Medicine Hat College, Penny Wills of Yavapai Community College, Leeza Boyce of Universal College of Learning, and Denise Amyot of Colleges and Institutes Canada have joined PIN's Executive Committee. I would like to thank Michael Chipps for his contribution to the Executive Committee. And finally, a big thanks to Greg Smith, Tom Thompson and Kay Giles for their commitment to PIN, and for their time, dedication and contributions serving on the Executive Committee. We wish them well in retirement as they embark on a life of new possibilities.

Dr. Larry S. Rosia, President

Post-secondary International Network and President & CEO Saskatchewan Poly-

## POINTS OF INTEREST

- ◇ **2018 PIN Conference— September USA**
- ◇ **New Executive Committee Members**
- ◇ **2017 Conference Photos**

# Otago Polytechnic

## OTAGO POLYTECHNIC MAKES A BETTER WORLD

Staff at Otago Polytechnic have set a bold new vision for the organisation.

“Our old vision was inward-looking,” says Phil Ker, Chief Executive. “And arguably, we had achieved our vision of becoming New Zealand’s leading polytechnic. There was a clear consensus that our new vision should be about what we can do for others, rather than what we can do for ourselves. And indeed, that’s the vision we came up with – *Our people make a better world - Kia tū ki te tahi.*”

Phil says the new direction was set from the ground up. “We use an engagement tool we call ‘staff retreats’, where we gather about 30 people together to discuss a topic. Before attending a retreat, everyone is expected to interview up to ten other employees on the topic and bring those viewpoints and ideas to the discussion. We held a retreat on our vision and mission, and another one on our values.”

The retreats were followed up with staff surveys and engagement activities. Students and stakeholders were also consulted – students through a series of workshops, and business partners through a short online survey.

All of this input contributed to the development of the vision and the new mission – *Build Capability, Realise Potential* – and the values: *Accountability / Takohaka, Caring / Manaakitaka, Courage / Whakamanawanui* and *Empowerment / Whakamana.*

At the Dunedin launch event attendees heard



from staff members who are making a positive difference, watched a quirky video about the values, and received a wallet card with the vision, mission, values and the words of two of the waiata sung at Otago Polytechnic events. The launch also featured a photo booth and four tables of food, each of which represented a value. (Accountability: cruelty-free bliss balls. Caring: mac and cheese ‘comfort food’ bites. Courage: meat jelly. Empowerment: ‘brain food’ such as salmon.)

The event was held in the Otago Polytechnic Hub Atrium, a light-filled space with a sculpture resembling the wings of a Toroa (albatross) flying overhead. The Toroa is significant to Otago Polytechnic because the fledglings nest in the region and then travel all over the world.

Each staff member received a laser-cut wooden “feather,” which they wrote on and added to a “korowai” – an installation resembling a Māori cloak. This activity symbolised teamwork and togetherness, and recalled the whakataukī, *‘Mā te huruhuru, ka rere te manu: With the feathers, the bird can fly*

Not all Otago Polytechnic staff work in Dunedin – some work from other campuses, other cities and even other countries. Following the Dunedin launch, similar events were held in Cromwell and in Hamilton, and other staff were sent a special ‘values pack’ in the mail.



# Otago Polytechnic

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Along with co-creating our new vision and values, staff co-created the launch,” Phil says. “Staff members designed the look and feel, created the videos, made the food and crafted the korowai installation. It was a fantastic way to showcase their considerable talents.”

The launch was just first step on a new journey for Otago Polytechnic. “We’re already sharing staff stories that relate to our vision and values on our digital screens and in our staff newsletter,” Phil says. “Over the next few months we’ll have more collateral coming out, and other activities for staff to participate in. But more importantly, we’re looking at all the touch-points in the staff and students journeys to ensure our vision and values are reflected every step of the way.”



# Otago Polytechnic

## SUSTAINABILITY AND BICULTURALISM THE FOCUS OF SUMMER SERIES EXCHANGE

A group of North American tertiary students spent a month at Otago Polytechnic in Dunedin in June to participate in the Summer Series Programme. The Programme is a global initiative, but it was the first time Dunedin had taken part.

The 13 students from Humber College and Saskatchewan Polytechnic in Canada, and Central Community College in the United States, completed two papers during the programme – Sustainability in Nature, and Understanding a Bicultural Perspective.

They experienced their first taste of New Zealand biculturalism on their arrival at Otago Polytechnic, with a *mihi whakatau* (indigenous Māori welcome ceremony). When reflecting on the experience, Carly Livingston, from Ontario's Humber College, said she hadn't been sure what to expect. "It was nerve wracking, but it was fine because it wasn't awkward at all," she said. "It's a really nice way to be welcomed – formal but casual in a sense as well."

The group spent time in the classroom, but most

of their learning happened out in the field, a reflection of Otago Polytechnic's commitment to experiential learning. The students kayaked Otago Harbour, cycled to the seaside settlement of Karitane, stayed on a marae (traditional Māori meeting house) and volunteered at the Sinclair Wetlands.

Michael Simmons, Otago Polytechnic's Professional Development Consultant, said these experiences provided the students with an opportunity to engage with the natural environment, and to learn skills to make a real difference to the future of our planet.

Carly Livingston said she immediately noticed how clean and green New Zealand was. "We have more garbage cans in Toronto, yet there's more litter – people in Dunedin just don't seem to litter," she noted. "I also think Kiwis are more aware of conserving energy."



# Olds College

## OLDS COLLEGE INTENSIFIES FOCUS ON SMART AGRICULTURE

Smart Agriculture is an emerging field and a growing opportunity for food producers around the globe to increase productivity through the optimization of technology and science for the efficient use of land and water. Relying on Smart Agriculture will be essential for the food production industry as we move into the future.

With a growing worldwide population, consistent increases in production costs paired with market prices that are not keeping pace, and the threat to existing food production areas due to climate change, it is crucial that governments, industry, and citizens realize that food producers are positioned to take full advantage of the growing demand for food products by increasing the amount of food we produce through utilizing Smart Agricultural practices.

Many parts of the world already face food insecurity and those challenges will grow in the years to come. Alberta and Canada will be one of the few international jurisdictions that will have the ability to export more food than it consumes, and produce the rich bounty that the rest of the world calls “groceries.”

To meet this challenge, Olds College is set to transform to an integrated system that is the recognized home, heart and hub of a united and effective industry. Through a transformational gift of \$16M from acclaimed Canadian entrepreneur, oilfield industry leader, David Werklund and his partner Susan Norman, Olds

College will establish the Werklund Agriculture Institute.

A Hub for leadership, education and applied research in Smart Agriculture, the Werklund Agriculture Institute will feature four key components:

**Werklund Growth Centre** – will provide access to land and facilities so that researchers, entrepreneurs and start-up companies can test, demonstrate and scale up their Smart Agriculture technologies, products and services. The Growth Centre will be home to a Smart Agriculture Community of Excellence which will link students to a community of industry leaders, researchers, investors, progressive producers, technology companies, entrepreneurs and start-ups.

**Thought Leader in Smart Agriculture and Sustainability** – will be an innovator, connector and advisor on economically, socially and environmentally sustainable agriculture with four key areas of activity: research and innovation, training, international engagement, and enterprise acceleration.

**Producer Mentor Program** - Students will partner with world class agriculture business leaders in a full cycle (yearlong) of agriculture production. Students will be exposed to the application of Smart Agriculture practices, data gathering, analysis and critical decision making.

# Olds College

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**Olds College Agriculture and Food Enterprise** – will transform the College’s existing agriculture production, processing and retail program into a vertically integrated “gate to plate” agriculture and food learning enterprise. At each stage, students will be engaged in the daily “hands-on” management of the business. Students will have the opportunity to engage in production competitions, be exposed to Smart Agriculture research and development projects, interact with technology companies and other industry players and experiment with emerging technologies that will improve productivity and mitigate environmental impacts in a changing climate.

The Werklund Agriculture Institute will allow Olds College to teach the next generation of food producers about Smart Agriculture and how these practices can help our farmers and ranchers increase food production without having to use more resources. The Werklund Agriculture Institute will work alongside other areas of the College, including the Technology Access Centre for Livestock Production (TAC), which was established last fall with support from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC).

TAC will help the College work with sheep and beef cattle producers by enhancing production efficiency and promoting herd health and welfare by providing access to new research and technologies. TAC also has great potential as a teaching environment for our students. Researchers are looking forward to working with Agricultural Management students and providing the students with an opportunity to work with these exciting new technologies.

Olds College is excited to work with other leaders in Smart Agriculture as we work to ensure the long term viability of the food production industry.

For more information on the Werklund Agriculture Institute, please visit [www.oldscollege.ca/beyond/WAI](http://www.oldscollege.ca/beyond/WAI)

# Northeast Community College

## NORTHEAST STUDENTS EARN TOP HONORS AT SKILLSUSA NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND COMPETITION

LOUISVILLE, KY (USA) - Northeast Community College students took honors at a national career and technical education skills competition held here. The students competed in the 53<sup>rd</sup> National Leadership and Skills Conference, sponsored by SkillsUSA, in Louisville, KY, along with hundreds of students and advisors from Nebraska.

The SkillsUSA Championships are competitive events showcasing the best career and technical education students in the nation. Contests begin locally and continue through the state and national levels. This is a multi-million-dollar event that occupies a space equivalent to 20 football fields. There were more than 6,000 contestants in 100 separate events. Over 1,700 judges and contest organizers from labor and management make the national event possible.

For Northeast, Bo Jensen, an auto body technology student from **Atkinson**, earned a bronze award in automotive refinishing technology, while

Information Technology students Calvin Craig and Dylan Kudera, **Norfolk**, earned bronze awards in the mobile robotics technology team competition.

Dr. Wade Herley, dean of business and technology at Northeast, said he was very proud of Northeast's accomplishments at the national competition.

"SkillsUSA truly does match the best of the best against one another at the national level. You have to realize each student that reaches the national competition had to earn their spot by competing against the best in their state," he said. "The state competitions may have two competitors or they may have fifty, so when you think of one of the competitions at nationals that has thirty competitors, most of those students had to compete against thirty in their respective states - it really clarifies how competitive SkillsUSA can be."

# Northeast Community College

## NORTHEAST NAMED ONE OF AMERICA'S TOP COMMUNITY COLLEGES

WASHINGTON (USA) – Northeast Community College was recognized in an awards ceremony as one of the top ten community colleges nationally in the bi-annual Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence. During the ceremony in Washington, Northeast was recognized for:

- ⇒ Achieving a 60-percent, three-year graduation/transfer rate, well above the national average of 39-percent
- ⇒ Students pursuing certificates or degrees achieving high completion rates, especially considering that 70-percent begin in developmental math and/or English
- ⇒ Strong labor market outcomes: one- year post-graduation, graduates are making eight-percent more than other new hires in the region, five-years post-graduation, that's up to an 11-percent premium over all workers in the region

As noted in the Aspen Institute's extensive review, Northeast Community College has evolved from a strictly agricultural-focused vocational school to an ambitious institution providing opportunities ranging from short-term job training to study abroad and academic preparation for transfer to a four-year college.

Northeast's greatest strength remains its exceptional workforce development programs in a variety of areas, from agriculture to utility line maintenance to construction. By using labor market statistics to inform new and existing programs, they're responding to the needs of the region and training students with the skills needed for well-paying, in-demand jobs. In response to student feedback, Northeast completely redesigned its academic advising program, including intensive

faculty training and mandatory advising for the college's 6,900 students.

The college's career and technical programs all require an internship, and frequent visits by faculty to students during their summer internships helps foster close relationships between faculty and employers.

Dr. Michael Chipps, college president, expressed his gratitude to the faculty and staff of Northeast Community College for their dedication in ensuring students meet their goals and objectives.

"Throughout the Aspen process, our Northeast family has clearly demonstrated their dedication and passion for the work of successfully educating a highly skilled workforce. Heralded as a Top 10 institution among America's 1,123 community colleges, Northeast will remain a 'shining star' for students to be successful.



George Miller, (left) Aspen Prize Jury co-chair and former California congressman, presents Dr. Michael Chipps, president of Northeast Community College, with an Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence Top 10 Finalist award.



# Northeast Community College

## MALAWI AMBASSADOR FINDS NEW FRIENDS DURING VISIT TO NORTHEAST, NEBRASKA

NORFOLK, NE (USA) – The charge of Northeast Community College to provide a globally competitive workforce has taken on added meaning when an important visitor was able to see the work for himself.

His Excellency Edward Yakobe Sawerengera, ambassador to the United States from the African Republic of Malawi, led a five-member delegation to Nebraska; making several stops in Lincoln, Lindsay and Norfolk. The group spent an entire day on Northeast's main campus to learn about the College and America's higher education system.

"This visit to this place has actually opened my eyes. We have come here and we have learned," Sawerengera said. "It has been great honor for me personally and I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to Dr. (Michael) Chipps and others in making sure we should come. We have been humbled by our experiences here in Nebraska and it is my sincere hope that this visit will lead to a meaningful partnership."

The trip was the result of Northeast's work with local organizers of the Norfolk Schools in Malawi. While on a visit to Washington D.C. earlier this year, Chipps, president of Northeast, extended an invitation to the ambassador to visit Nebraska to see the work of a community college.

Chipps said a number of nations would like to emulate the work of America's community colleges, especially rural community colleges like Northeast.

"We have been approached numerous times by countries around the globe to assist them in forming rural community colleges because they see the enormous value in developing the middle skills workforce, which are essential for stabilizing and bolstering their national economies."

Chipps said he will give serious consideration to establishing a partnership with Malawi and see how it would dovetail with current major initiatives already underway at Northeast.

At the close of the day, Sawerengera invited Chipps and others to visit his homeland.

"I want you to come to Malawi. I would like you to learn from us as we have learned from you."

The ambassador concluded by saying that he and his colleagues have learned much from their visit to Northeast Community College and Nebraska.

"We are going back happy people, hopeful people...and with new friends."



Dr. Karen Weidner, director of nursing at Northeast Community College, shows a mannequin in a lab of the J. Paul and Eleanor McIntosh College of Nursing to His Excellency Edward Yakobe Sawerengera, ambassador to the United States from the African Republic of Malawi, and Margaret Mwanza-Gadabu, counselor in the Malawian Embassy in Washington D.C., as part of a tour of the College. Northeast was one of several stops on the ambassador's visit to Nebraska.

# Northeast Community College

## NORTHEAST BIOLOGY STUDENTS TRAVEL TO COSTA RICA

OSA PENINSULA (COSTA RICA) - One hundred eighty-nine. That's the number of plant and animal species a group of Northeast Community College students was able to identify on a recent trip to Costa Rica.

Ten students and four instructors traveled to the Central American country for an eight-day learning experience as part of Northeast's Introduction to Environmental Issues course. The trip was one of several to be conducted under the supervision of Northeast Community College's Center for Global Engagement.

Introduction to Environmental Issues offers an interdisciplinary curriculum, with four instructors each focusing on a different area of study. Angie Jackson teaches the ecology aspect of the course, while Kate Trindle incorporates geography and history into the class. Erin Kucera and Irina Weitzmann introduce agriculture as well as air and water quality components.

Before the group left for Costa Rica, they took air and water quality measurements and also checked ground-level ozone to compare against measurements they would record in Costa Rica.

And while 189 identified species may sound like a lot, Costa Rica, despite covering only about 20,000 square miles, is home to more than 500,000 species, which makes it one of the most biodiverse countries in the world.

The Northeast contingent partnered with Campanario Biological Station, which provided them with a local biologist and guide. The station is located on the Osa Peninsula, a highly remote area of Costa Rica that can be reached only by boat. The group stayed in primitive housing near the beach with very little electricity, no hot running water and no cell phone access.

"It's one of the most pristine areas of the whole world," said Jackson. "You could see the bottom of the ocean, even on the speed boat out there."

Trindle said she had each student keep a journal while in Costa Rica.

"All of them described this emotional growth, and this gain of confidence."

Jackson and Trindle agreed that Costa Rica has been an invaluable learning experience.

"It gives our undergraduate students an opportunity to do basic research, especially for those who want to transfer to other institutions," said Jackson. "The opportunity to see this level of biodiversity, it's life-changing. It gives you a new perspective on appreciating our world and protecting it."



Ten students and four instructors from Northeast Community College traveled to Costa Rica for an eight-day learning experience as part of Northeast's Introduction to Environmental Issues course )

# Northeast Community College

## NORTHEAST ELEVATES SIGNING DAY TO FOCUS ON ACADEMICS

NORFOLK, NE (USA) – Over the years, a number of student-athletes have signed letters of intent to play sports at Northeast Community College. But now the institution has used the same concept to focus on why students attend college in the first place, to obtain a degree and eventually get a job.

Twelve high school seniors took part in Northeast Community College's inaugural Career and Technical Education (CTE) Letter of Intent Signing Day in front of family, friends, prospective employers and college employees here. It had all the earmarks of an athletic signing, but the students signed their intentions to complete a CTE program at Northeast.

All of the students who took part in the signing day event have participated in Northeast's Fridays @ Northeast program, which allows high school seniors to spend the final day of their school week on campus as college students. The classes offered introduce students to a variety of career and technical education program areas and lead directly into a program of study upon the student's high school graduation. Classes were held on Northeast's Norfolk Campus and at the College's South Sioux City Extended Campus.

John Blaylock, executive vice president at Northeast, commended the 48 students from 14 high schools who participated in the program during its first year.

"They really had to perform above average just to be a part of this program. The students have taken full advantage of this opportunity to learn new skills, to evaluate their next steps in their career and then begin to continue their education into a postsecondary experience or into the workforce."

Dr. Michael Chipps, president, said the inaugural signing day will be considered as a milestone event for the students and Northeast.

"You should feel extremely special. We are here to celebrate technical education and celebrate the students who are interested in choosing this career path. As a nation, we highly value technical skills sets gained by our students. We plan to do more of these types of celebrations to showcase our academic mission and elevate the exposure of middle skills, which are highly needed and are in short supply across the United States."



Corinne Morris, dean of agriculture, math and science at Northeast Community College (left) adjusts the ball cap of Nolan Smith, a senior at Bancroft-Rosalie High School, as he is about to sign a letter of intent to Northeast at the College's inaugural Career and Technical Education Letter of Intent Signing Day on the Norfolk campus recently.

# Central Community College



For a couple of years, Angie Balcom of Riverdale dreamed of moving to New Zealand and getting a horse. "It was a crazy, far-fetched idea," she said.

Maybe because her dream coincided with her time as an occupational therapy assistant (OTA) student at Central Community College-Grand Island, it was a way to escape the demands of class assignments and homework.

When Balcom graduated with her associate of applied science degree in OTA from CCC this past May, it seemed like the time had arrived to put dreams aside and face the real world. Then an email from Diana Watson, CCC's international studies coordinator, popped into her inbox.

"It caught my attention because it said, 'Study for a month and meet the natives,'" Balcom said, "and it was a study program in New Zealand."

But the two courses – Sustainability and Environmental Science and Te Ao Maori: The Maori

World View – made the OTA graduate wonder if she even qualified to participate in the program.

"I called Diana and she said it was open not only to students in those courses but also to individuals who wanted to go for the experience," said Balcom, who became the sole American among 12 Canadians who descended on Dunedin, New Zealand, to attend the first summer series program being offered June 5-30 by Otago Polytechnic.

The students' time was split between the classroom and outdoors where they learned about both sustainability and the first people of southern New Zealand, a tribe of Maori known as Kai Tahu.

They learned about the tribe's relationship with the British Crown through the Treaty of Waitangi, the founding document of New Zealand.

# Central Community College

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They explored sustainability issues in some of the country's most beautiful and untouched natural terrain and learned the skills needed to make a real difference in the future of the planet.

Their activities included kayaking in Otago Harbor, staying at a Marae (a traditional meeting house) and planting 140 plants and trees in the wetlands to offset the environmental impact of their air travel to New Zealand.

The Maori are working hard to revive many aspects of their community lives: their language and their cultural customs as well as their native animal and plant species.

"It's all interrelated, culturalism and sustainability," Balcom said. "They taught us about systems theory and how every decision we make impacts someone or something else, including

the environment. They believe every individual has to do their part."

Back home, Balcom is trying to do her part by making flyers listing recycling drop-off places in Kearney and posting them in surrounding small towns. "People go to Kearney for a lot of reasons," she said. "They could bring their recycling with them."

Her experience in New Zealand was also a game changer for her future plans. She thinks she may now want to return to Polytechnic to get her bachelor's degree in occupational therapy. Whatever she ends up doing after finishing her national boards, she's trusting the universe to steer her in the right direction.



# Central Community College

## GOTSCHALL TABBED TO LEAD CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Central Community College is pleased to announce that Dr. Matt Gotschall has been named the fifth president of the school, succeeding Dr. Greg Smith who will retire in January 2018. The CCC Board of Governors approved Gotschall's appointment during its monthly meeting in June.

"The CCC Board of Governors considered a number of exceptional candidates and we feel we have made the right choice in selecting Dr. Gotschall to be the next president of Central Community College," said Linda Aerni, CCC Board chair. "So much is expected of a college president, not only internally but externally, and given Dr. Gotschall's academic credentials, leadership skills and community involvement, he will hit the ground running, making for a smooth transition."

Gotschall currently serves as the campus president of CCC-Columbus, a position he has held since 2005. In this capacity, he oversees more than 100 full-time faculty and staff and serves as vice president of CCC's academic education, extended learning services and workforce training and development divisions. During Gotschall's tenure, CCC has taken significant strides in expanding offerings for credit and non-credit students, revised procedures for early college and increased the Hispanic/Latino enrollment. The campus has also seen growth with the construction of an additional residence hall, a nearly 10,000-square-foot addition for the welding and mechatronics programs, and an expansion of the Raider Fieldhouse and athletic programs.

"I am very excited to be asked to lead and serve Central Community College and continue the great mission set forth by the CCC Board of Governors of maximizing student and community success," said Gotschall. "Dr. Smith has been a positive mentor to me and others at CCC and I look

forward to working with him on a smooth transition during the fall semester as we implement some major initiatives across our 25-county service area, including the opening of our new Kearney Center."

Prior to serving as campus president, Gotschall served as the dean of educational services from 2003 to 2005. During that time, he oversaw the creation and updating of transfer articulation agreements with numerous institutions, including the University of Nebraska system. Gotschall also assisted with the expansion of online delivery of CCC coursework. From 2001 to 2003, he served as the associate dean of instruction/trades and industry, supervising advanced manufacturing and technical programs.

"The CCC Board of Governors has selected wisely," said Smith. "Dr. Gotschall's education, experience and personal integrity will serve the college well. For good reason, Matt is well-liked and respected by the CCC board, his peers, our employees, our students and the community at large. Dr. Gotschall is a tireless advocate for students. I am confident that Dr. Gotschall will be a positive role model and will lead CCC to even greater successes."

A Nebraska native raised on a ranch near Atkinson, Gotschall earned his bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He and his wife, Michele, are the parents of five daughters, four of whom are CCC alumni.

Gotschall will begin his tenure as CCC president on Jan. 3, 2018.



# Central Community College

## THE NEW KEARNEY CENTER: A GREAT STORY JUST GOT BETTER

It's amazing to see something come full circle. Such is the case with the new Kearney Center. On April 21, 2016, Central Community College President Dr. Greg Smith and other dignitaries broke ground on the 63,000-square-foot facility and less than 18 months later, construction is complete just in time for fall classes.

CCC facilities and construction manager Craig Boroff, who has spent a great deal of time driving back and forth from Grand Island and Kearney overseeing the project, said the original completion date was July 17. However, temporary occupancy was granted exactly two weeks later, which worked out well. However, Boroff is quite excited about the other side of the completion equation.

"We came in under budget, which I think is fantastic," said Boroff.

Budgets and deadlines aside, Boroff and countless others that have seen the finished product share the same sentiment.

"It's just a real beautiful facility," said Boroff. "It's something that the college and people that are working there can really be proud of. The town of Kearney can also be proud of it."

One of the aspects of the new Kearney Center that makes it truly amazing is that is one of the most efficient buildings in the region. For example, there are four inches of rigid insulation in the pre-cast walls for a total thickness of 12 inches. Select windows along the east side of the building are sensor controlled and will automatically darken when the sun comes up and lighten as the sun moves to the west. Natural light plays a prominent role throughout the building as most rooms have overhead windows that provide adequate lighting and even then, the output of the electrical lights is minimal.

The facility's efficiency also gets a big boost because of behind-the-scenes monitoring systems.

"We can monitor our HVAC energy usage," said Boroff. "We can monitor our plug loads. We can monitor our ERVs. We can see how much our pumps are on and off. We can get in and see which lights are being left on and shut them off via sensors."

Outside, there are 95 trees on the property and the garden areas in the front and back will eventually have an assortment of native grasses and wildflower plugs. It's part of a two to three-year process.



# Central Community College

cont.

## THE NEW KEARNEY CENTER: A GREAT STORY JUST GOT BETTER

“A big addition to the Kearney center will be our skilled and technical science programming – advanced manufacturing, mechatronics and information technology,” said Kelly Christensen, Kearney Center administrator, on NTV.

Automotive technology and welding technology are the two other new skilled and technical programs. Additional academic programs are forthcoming.

The new Kearney Center and what it offers is going to have a huge impact according to Darren

Robinson, president of the Economic Development Council of Buffalo County.

“CCC’s new Kearney Center represents a shot in the arm for skilled and technical training in Buffalo County,” said Robinson. “Buffalo County employers will officially have access to trades training that helps address their workforce needs. This facility is a welcome addition to the community and helps attract new opportunities in economic development by providing a skilled labor force.”



## NSF Awards Grant to Central Community College for STEM Project

Central Community College was recently named as a recipient of a National Science Foundation grant in the amount of \$648,844. The grant will fund Project GPS or Growing Pathways to STEM. Scholarships will target low-income, minority students from rural areas to pursue degrees in science and engineering. Students receiving the grant can come from any location, but they must attend CCC’s Columbus Campus. The award started in Sept. 2017 and ends on Aug. 31, 2022.



# Saskatchewan Polytechnic

## SASKATCHEWAN POLYTECHNIC ECO-CAR MAKES IMPRESSIVE DEBUT

An ultra-fuel-efficient vehicle designed and built by a team of Saskatchewan Polytechnic Mechanical and CAD/CAM Engineering Technology students made a big impression at an international competition this past May.

The car achieved a fuel efficiency of 277 kilometres per litre at the Shell Eco-Marathon in Detroit, Michigan, earning an 18th place finish out of 54 teams. A number of Canadian universities, including Queens, Toronto and Dalhousie, and American universities including Purdue and Berkeley, also competed.

It took five months to design and two months to build and test the vehicle. The body is constructed of carbon fiber to minimize weight and maximize strength, while the functioning parts, such as the intake manifold, parts of the steering system and parts of the fuel delivery system were 3D printed. An ice auger motor powers the car, which is fed by a customized fuel injection system with a single fuel injector.

“It truly is an incredible machine,” says Tim Muench, Program Head for the Mechanical and CAD/CAM Engineering programs. “Our Lab Tech, Andrew Baerg, helped to spearhead the project, but it is entirely student designed and built.”

With the car in race-ready conditions, the team completed three valid attempts on the bumpy outdoor road course in downtown Detroit.

“It was a tricky course,” says Muench. “The team had to manage some steep inclines and six street corner turns while weaving through the traffic of many competitors. And the weather wasn’t very cooperative either. We were fighting against strong winds, cold temperatures and, at times, some precipitation.

“Ranking 18th is something we all should be proud of—especially since this is the first time we’ve ever competed in the Shell Eco-Marathon,” Muench says. “With this experience under our belt, we’re ready to rank even higher next year.”

The Shell Eco-Marathon is an annual competition in which participants can win awards for on-track performance, as well as in off-track categories such as safety and vehicle design. The event hosted competitors and spectators from across North and South America.



# Saskatchewan Polytechnic

## MANUFACTURING INNOVATION TAKES STEP FORWARD AT SASKATCHEWAN POLYTECHNIC

Thanks to a \$453,000 donation from the Gene Haas Foundation, Saskatchewan Polytechnic is able to take a giant step in supporting Saskatchewan's growing manufacturing sector with a state-of-the-art lab.

The Gene Haas Manufacturing Technology Lab will have state-of-the-art equipment and technology, which will benefit students, faculty and industry in meeting the needs of Saskatchewan's manufacturing industry. Renovations and upgrades are now underway at the existing Machinist training facility at Sask Polytech's Regina Campus.

The new Gene Haas Manufacturing Technology Lab will be completed this fall for use by Innovative Manufacturing program students, Machinist, Welding and Welding Fabricator certificate students, and professionals working in the manufacturing industry. It will also be available to support applied research projects with industry.

"The state-of-the-art facility will provide industry with access to innovative manufacturing technologies," said Dr. Larry Rosia, Saskatchewan Polytechnic President and CEO. "It will be home to cutting-edge equipment and processes enabling our faculty, students and partners to discover new solutions to the manufacturing challenges faced by industry. This would not be possible without the support of the Gene Haas Foundation."

The lab renovations include a new non-slip floor, installation of windows, removal of old equipment, updates to power supplies and updated classrooms and computer labs to advance Sask Polytech's vision in being globally recognized as the first-choice polytechnic in Canada.

"The Gene Haas Foundation is proud to be partnering with Saskatchewan Polytechnic. This grant is the next step in a long and fruitful relationship with all who make the manufacturing program what it is today and will be going forward," says Kathy Looman, Gene Haas foundation administrator. "Gene Haas was introduced to the manufacturing industry when he was hired as a teenager. He experienced the joy and success that 'making things' can provide, and the focus of his own privately funded foundation is to help others realize their potential in manufacturing as well."

In addition to the \$453,000 gift, the Gene Haas Foundation has provided more than \$80,000 to fund scholarships for Sask Polytech students. Along with Haas Automation and Thomas Skinner and Sons, Inc., the Gene Haas Foundation is a significant partner in providing a highly skilled workforce for Saskatchewan's manufacturing sector.

# Saskatchewan Polytechnic

## JOINING FORCES TO CREATE SASK ALLIANCE

Saskatchewan Polytechnic has joined two Saskatchewan universities in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding to create the SASK Alliance, an initiative to collaborate on the internationalization of higher education within the province.

The Alliance will work to:

- Enhance recognition of Saskatchewan as a high-quality education destination for international students;
- Create a recognizable Saskatchewan education brand;
- Increase awareness of Saskatchewan post-secondary programs;
- Highlight the research, scholarly and artistic work of Saskatchewan institutions; and

Establish and foster relations and partnerships

with governments, institutions, and funding agencies abroad.

The other post-secondary institution members of the Alliance are the University of Regina and University of Saskatchewan. Engaging in activities such as joint marketing efforts for recruitment, student mobility, and research and development, will expand the reach of each organization and create efficiencies.

“Each institution brings a unique set of strengths to the Alliance that will ultimately lead to greater educational opportunities for international students. I am excited about the opportunities this collaboration will create,” said Dr. Larry Rosia, President and CEO of Saskatchewan Polytechnic in regards to the MOU.

## SASKATCHEWAN POLYTECHNIC VISIT OTAGO POLYTECHNIC IN NEW ZEALAND



Director Lisa Shepard, who led the Sask Polytech-Otago visit, and her colleague Jason Seright.

Dr. Janine Kapa-Blair and her colleague Ron Bull, both of Otago Polytechnic, had the opportunity to visit Saskatchewan Polytechnic in late July/early August. Here (from left), Ron, Jason Seright of Sask Polytech, guide Chris Standing, and Janine take time out from touring the Wanuskewin Heritage Park, a non-profit cultural and historical centre of the First Nations. The site is a National Historic Site of Canada due to the importance of its archaeological resources representing nearly 6,000 years of the history of the Northern Plains peoples. Otago and Sask Polytech have a memorandum of understanding in place which includes scholar exchange programmes.

# 2017 PIN Conference Auckland New Zealand



Conference delegates and companions 2017 PIN Conference

Thank you to Otago Polytechnic and Future Skills Academy for hosting the 2017 PIN Conference.



## Comments from delegates:

- ⇒ Best ever
- ⇒ Great diversity of speakers
- ⇒ Opportunities to share information with colleagues from other countries
- ⇒ Amazing networking opportunities
- ⇒ I have missed the last couple of conferences, never again
- ⇒ Wonderful mix of indigenous culture and business

# 2017 PIN Conference Auckland New Zealand

PIN conferences often provide an opportunity for delegates to experience different cultures, within cultures.

Many countries around the world are embracing the history of their indigenous people and none more so than New Zealand.



The 2017 PIN conference provided a range of experiences to enable delegates to develop a better understanding of the rich culture of the Maori people



A hongi is traditional Maori greeting in which people press their noses together.



# PIN Executive 2016-2018

## Mr. Larry Rosia

Chief Executive Officer  
(CEO) Saskatchewan Insti-  
tute of Applied Science  
and Technology

Canada

**PIN President**



## Mr. Phil Ker

Chief Executive Officer  
(CEO) Otago Polytechnic  
New Zealand



## Dr. Greg P. Smith

President  
Central Community Col-  
lege,  
Nebraska

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## Mr. Tony Gray

Chief Executive Officer  
(CEO) Ara Institute of Can-  
terbury,

New Zealand



## Dr. Joe Sertich

President Emeritus  
Northeast Higher Educa-  
tion District,  
Minnesota

USA



## Leeza Boyce

Chief Executive  
Universal College of  
Learning

New Zealand



## Dr. Penny Wills

President Yavapai  
Community College

Phoenix

Arizona

USA



## Dr Denise Henning

President & CEO  
Medicine Hat Community  
College

Alberta

CANADA



# PIN Executive 2016-2018

## Dr. Larry Litecky

Larry Litecky, PhD  
PIN Executive Director

President Emeritus,  
Century College (USA)

Achieving the Dream  
Leadership Coach



## Ms. Kerri Ferguson

Associate Executive Director  
of PIN

Victoria  
Australia

