Several hundred students, faculty, staff and community members took tours, sampled food, and learned about Cochise College educational programs during events celebrating the opening of new and renovated buildings at the Douglas and Sierra Vista Campuses.

A short ceremony and ribbon cutting kicked off each event before guests toured the grounds, participated in demonstrations, and tested goodies prepared by students in the culinary arts program. In Douglas, visitors saw renovated One Stop and Student Services facilities, examined old photos in the Housing & Student Life Building, and toured new residence, career, and science facilities. In Sierra Vista, the tour began in the Student Union and continued to the Science Building, Career & Technical Education Building, Learning Commons and Nursing Department. Demonstrations covered the arts, mechatronics and pre-engineering, welding, computer gaming, and nursing simulation capabilities.

Emily Fairbank, who retired in 2002 after 18 years with the college, attended the Sierra Vista open house and remembered the days when there was no office for students to gather and food was dispensed only by a vending machine.

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We reported in our last newsletter that the number of students receiving Pell grants through the Cochise College Financial Aid Office had risen dramatically. This doesn’t seem to be a trend that’s going away anytime soon.

To help, one focus of the Cochise College Foundation is to provide scholarships. Last year, endowment and annual funds established by college donors awarded more than $350,000 in scholarships; this year’s application cycle recently closed with nearly 500 students filing requests for financial assistance for 2010-2011.

Despite the funds that are available, there is always more demand than we can meet. Some of our students are assisted by community organizations that also provide scholarships; last year nearly 60 such organizations provided funds to students enrolling at Cochise College.

However, we sometimes hear that these groups have difficulty reaching the target population and obtaining qualified applicants. Often, communication comes from someplace other than Cochise College, and there is a separate application process.

From a student perspective, this can be confusing and time-consuming. Once a student becomes aware that scholarships are available, tracking down and filling out applications goes on a long list of things to do that includes attending class, studying and homework, day-to-day family responsibilities, and jobs.

I think we can unify our efforts and create more of a one-stop scholarship shop for students in our service area. If you are a community organization seeking to connect with qualified students who are deserving of your scholarship, the college and foundation can:

• promote and accept applications for your scholarship by following our existing process;
• evaluate applications and find students who match your criteria;
• connect you with your recipients; and
• ensure you receive thanks from students.

The mission of the Cochise College Foundation is to promote student success. If this is what your organization wants to do, I hope you will contact us so we can work together to place funds in the hands of students pursuing their goals and dreams in our communities.

Charles Chambers, Board President
Cochise College Foundation
Celebration continued from page 1  “I was amazed at the changes,” Fairbank said. “It looked like a coordinated campus…that was the first impression that came to my mind. We’ve really come a long way. I wish I worked there now!”

In addition to remarks by college officials, Cochise College alumnus Michael Ortega (’81) addressed guests in Douglas, and Sierra Vista Mayor Bob Strain helped kick things off in Sierra Vista. In his comments commemorating the milestone, college President J.D. Rottweiler identified the many things that the “C” in Cochise College can stand for, including creativity, courage, commitment, collaboration, curriculum, communication, careers, communities, camaraderie, and cool, all of which played a role in bringing the college to this point.

A new Willcox Center was scheduled for completion at the end of May, and an opening for that facility will be planned at a later date.

GIFTS TO NEW EMPLOYEE FUND TO BE DOUBLED

Substantial construction of Phase I Master Facilities Plan projects is complete, but additional work remains. Landscaping is needed on both the Douglas and Sierra Vista campuses, and new signage is planned. To raise awareness on campus, the Cochise College Foundation has committed up to $50,000 to match employee gifts to the new Cochise College Employee Capital Improvement Fund. College President J.D. Rottweiler announced the new effort during his remarks at Faculty-Staff Development Day. A number of employees have committed to help, and once funds are available, a committee will be formed to determine how they will be spent. Employees who wish to learn more can contact the foundation office at (520) 417-4100 or foundation@cochise.edu.

FROM THE COCHISE COLLEGE PRESIDENT

I have just about a year at Cochise College under my belt, and my family and I have enjoyed getting to know the local landscape. The climate of Cochise County provides a nice break from the chill of our former home in Wyoming.

Cochise College experienced record-high enrollment this year and also awarded more degrees - approximately 1,100 - than ever before. It’s been extremely gratifying for all of us to watch our students as they grow and succeed, and this is the time of year when it’s easy for us to remember why we work in education. We are encouraged to see that early numbers indicate summer enrollment also is higher than in the past, and we wonder if it’s a sign of another record year.

The 2009-2010 school year brought many firsts for me, and I’ve spent a lot of time asking questions, getting to know the ins and outs of Cochise College, understanding where we are as an institution, and working with various groups and individuals to envision our future. I believe the college is well-positioned, but we will face challenges in coming years related to enrollment growth and funding.

There are still many in the community I’d like to meet or get to know better. In the coming months, I will work to bring small groups of community representatives, college retirees, donors and other stakeholders to our campuses and centers to talk further about strategic directions for Cochise College. If you have a comment about the college, I hope you will reach out to us.

I speak for all of Cochise College and the Governing Board when I say that we appreciate your continued support and commitment and look forward to hearing from you!

J.D. Rottweiler, Ph.D.
President
Cochise College
jdr@cochise.edu
A new simulation lab that recently opened at the Sierra Vista Campus is helping Cochise College enhance the skills of future nurses.

The lab, located in a building renovated just for student nurses, is the home of Sim Man, a portable and advanced patient simulator used to train and test students’ clinical and decision-making skills. Sim Man is an interactive and technologically advanced manikin featuring realistic anatomy and clinical functionality; he emulates real bodily functions and sounds, such as a heartbeat, tears, perspiration and blood. Special software allows Simulation Instructor Lisa Benson to produce mock scenarios, some of which students might not experience in limited clinical situations but which are a reality of the profession, nonetheless.

“It gives students a chance to practice high-risk scenarios without harming anything,” Benson said. “They can practice the skills of a registered nurse and things they can’t do in the real clinical setting because of licensing issues.”

In addition to nursing skills and specialized training in med-surge, intensive care, mental health, and obstetrics clinical experiences, Sim Man helps both first- and second-year students practice communication, teamwork, critical thinking and professional behavior.

Purchased with $25,000 contributions from the Copper Queen Community Hospital and the Sierra Vista Regional Health Center and additional college funds, Sim Man also is available to community healthcare professionals. For example, a team of educators from SVRHC plans to practice scenarios soon before offering training to staff later this year.

“It’s such a good learning tool because we often don’t run into unusual situations in a real clinical setting, but we can simulate it here in a safe environment,” said Mindy Harrison, a first-year nursing student from Benson. “It’s real enough that you feel the anxiety and urgency you would feel in a real situation.”

The lab also features Sim Baby, which resembles a three-month-old who cries and is a good test for students learning about the heart and lungs, blood pressure and well-infant assessments. This fall, the college expects to have a simulation mother who can deliver a newborn-sized baby.

Kelby Norwood, left, of Willcox, listens to Sim Man’s heart and lung sounds, while Mindy Harrison of Benson takes his blood pressure. Sim Man emulates real bodily functions and allows students to practice their skills in a risk-free environment.
March Madness 2010 marked the 26th time that Gary Johnson has updated the RPI, or Ratings Percentage Index, used to help determine which teams get into the national championship men’s college basketball tournament.

A native of Douglas and a 1976 graduate of Cochise College, Johnson is not only a sports statistician for the NCAA, but he also is the nation’s top college basketball statistician and the NCAA historian for men’s basketball. He’s published more than 50 basketball records books and was featured in a 2003 Sports Illustrated article about the “madness to the method” of tournament selection. He also compiles national statistical rankings for Division I football and is an official scorer for AAA baseball’s Indianapolis Indians, who play near his home in Greenwood, Ind.

Johnson got his start with Cochise College athletics as a member of the baseball team and a student manager for men’s basketball under Dave Strack Jr. Coach Strack asked Johnson to keep the basketball stats and, little did they know at the time, a career was born. His days at the Douglas Campus included intramural flag football, working with the audio-visual team in the library, and his Douglas High School sweetheart, Annie Aguirre, who also attended Cochise. The couple is married and has three grown children, two of whom attend college in Tucson.

After graduating from Cochise, Johnson studied journalism at the... continued on page 6
“I always loved playing sports and really liked math,” Johnson says. “I was lucky enough to combine the two and make a career out of it.”

“Career continued from page 5

University of Arizona, where Coach Strack’s father offered him a job doing stats for football and men’s basketball.

“I got paid to watch games,” Johnson says. “How can you beat that?”

While he was still in school, he started feeding baseball recaps to the Tucson Citizen, which couldn’t afford to send reporters to out-of-town games. That experience turned into another job in the university’s sports information office. In the meantime, he graduated, and he and Annie had their first child.

After his job was eliminated during a budget crisis, Johnson stayed home for six months and ended up landing a job as assistant sports information director with Northwestern University in Chicago. During his three-year tenure there, he got to know Jim Wright, who worked with the statistical department at the NCAA.

“He told me what he did there, and I knew it was my dream job,” Johnson says.

The first time a position opened, the NCAA hired someone else. But when the job opened again less than a year later, he tried again, this time with the backing of his Tucson Citizen contact Corky Simpson. Johnson started working with the NCAA in 1984.

At first, he handled all three divisions of men’s basketball, two football divisions, and three divisions of baseball or softball. He also produced the Final Four media guides. The work has changed over time, and today, there are nearly 6,000 NCAA Division I men’s basketball games annually, the statistics for which need to be accurately maintained for purposes of the RPI and sports publications. Johnson has annually updated the Basketball Records Book since 1984 and the Final Four Records Book – the basketball writer’s “Bible” – since 1988.

Tell us your story at www.cochise.edu/alumni.
AVIATION REUNION
More than 100 former Cochise College aviation students gathered for an October 2009 reunion at the Falcon Field Airport in Mesa. The two-day event included dinner at the Monastery Restaurant and a family picnic, potluck, games and visiting. Attendees came from all over, but most live in the Phoenix area now, said Belinda Burnett, Cochise College assistant chief flight instructor. The group included airline pilots, captains and first officers, as well as corporate, law enforcement and cargo pilots.

“It was a lot of fun, and it was great to see everyone and find out about their careers,” Burnett said. “We’re definitely looking to make it an annual event.”

To find out more, contact the Aviation Department at (520) 417-4114.

OLD PUEBLO APACHES
Want to meet other alumni and catch up on all things Cochise College? A group of alums informally calling itself the Old Pueblo Chapter is looking for others who are interested in being part of a no-host, informal network based in Southeast Arizona. Since the alumni program is new, many ideas to come together and help support Cochise College are on the table. Contact Butch Lynn (’66) at prman1st@aol.com for more information.

WHO DO YOU KNOW?
Cochise College is looking to increase the number of alumni in its database and needs your help! Currently, there are two ways to keep in touch.

- Search for Cochise College Alumni on Facebook to network with other alumni, faculty and staff and to be kept in the loop about recent developments and events at the college.
- Tell us your story, or provide your up-to-date contact information to receive newsletters and invitations by filling out the form at www.cochise.edu/alumni.

To speak with someone directly, call (520) 417-4148/4100 or email alumni@cochise.edu.

LEAVING A LEGACY
Cochise College and the Cochise College Foundation extend a sincere thanks to the following donors who have planned a bequest or estate gift to help promote student success.

Alex Black
Lowell and Marjorie Stewart
Marian McClure
Mary Lee Tiernan

WAYS TO GIVE
Donor contributions help provide thousands of dollars in scholarships and program support each year. You can help support these and other college activities in a variety of ways.

- Establish an Annual or Endowed Fund
  - Planned Gifts
  - Personal Property
  - Real Estate
  - Cash and Pledges
  - Matching Gifts

Check our website to give online, or contact us at (520) 417-4100 to determine an appropriate use for your gift.
Unrestricted gifts to the Cochise College Foundation have helped provide scholarships to four students selected as members of the All-Arizona Academic Teams.

Kimberly Swift, Denise Corella, Elizabeth Stokes and Lydia Ebner were named to the first, second and third All-Arizona Academic Teams in February. All-Arizona is a program of Phi Theta Kappa, the American Association of Community Colleges and USA TODAY that honors the nation’s top community college students. Team members automatically compete for All-USA honors. At the state level, each of the approximately 60 All-Arizona team members receives a tuition waiver to attend a state university from the Arizona Board of Regents, in addition to cash scholarships from their community college’s respective foundations.

Nominees are evaluated by an independent panel of judges for academic performance and service to the college and the community. This year’s Cochise College recipients:

**Kimberly Swift** is the reigning Miss Sierra Vista and an elementary education major and honors student. She is the co-founder of Reading Rocks, a reading circle for youngsters, and recently was named a Coca-Cola Gold Scholar.

**Denise Corella** is vice president of the Student Government Association and a volunteer for Douglas Little League and the community food bank. She plans a career in physical therapy.

**Elizabeth Stokes** is a tutor in the college Writing Lab and a member of Phi Theta Kappa honor society and the Social Concerns Club. She plans to become a teacher for the Deaf.

**Lydia Ebner** is secretary of the Social Concerns Club and president of the Douglas Campus chapter of Phi Theta Kappa honor society. She plans to become an elementary school teacher.
Family and friends of Dave and Irma Pettes are working to endow a new scholarship fund in honor of the longtime Cochise College employees. The fund will provide scholarships to students with financial need who do not qualify for federal or state aid. Together, Dave and Irma have served the college for 61 years. Dave joined the college in 1968 and continues to teach full time at the Douglas Campus, serving as the department chair for social/behavioral sciences and honors/service learning. Irma began working as a secretary in the Maintenance Department just after graduating from Cochise College with an associate of arts degree in 1970. She served the college for 19 years, last working as a technical assistant in the library before retiring in January.

A scholarship in memory of Dick Wilkinson will be awarded for the first time this year. Wilkinson’s family established the fund after he passed away in 2007. Wilkinson played basketball at Casper Junior College in Wyoming and later pursued a bachelor’s degree from the University of Wyoming and a master’s degree at Indiana University. He began teaching junior high in Indiana, and he joined Cochise College in 1979 as men’s basketball coach. In 1991, he began to focus solely on teaching health and physical education, last teaching full time in 2006-2007. While he was still teaching, he told his family that he wanted to help single mothers pursuing higher education. “It felt appropriate to keep that theme alive,” says his son, Tim, and daughter, Shelledy Ayn Chance.

The first recipient of a scholarship named for the founder of the Cochise College Center for Economic Research (CER) will be selected soon. The Ken Jones Fund will award one scholarship to a full- or part-time business student with a grade point average of 2.5 or higher. Jones began conducting economic impact studies in 1991 and founded the CER in 1995 to analyze and interpret economic information and educate residents of Cochise County about the local, state, and national economy. In 2002, he received the Alumni Achievement Award from the University of Arizona Eller graduate School of Management. Jones, who was described as a “pioneer in rural economic research,” passed away in 2008.

Family and friends of Martha Perry, wife of Cochise College Chief Flight Instructor Chuck Perry. The funds will support a scholarship for a sophomore attending the Douglas Campus.

To give to an existing fund, look for the College Foundation link at www.cochise.edu to give online. Establish a new fund by contacting us at foundation@cochise.edu or (520) 417-4100.
TUITION COVERED FOR LOGISTICS TRAINING

Cochise College has partnered with Cochise County Workforce Development, Santa Cruz County One Stop and others in the region to provide logistics training to prepare students for jobs associated with the transportation and supply chain management industry.

A grant from the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training is covering the cost of tuition, books and supplies for the first students who began the course of study in Sierra Vista and Nogales during the spring semester, and, based on demand, the program will be extended to Douglas in fall 2010.

Fall semester courses cover the basic principles of logistics, inventory control, computerized logistics, warehouse management, and transportation and traffic management. The program is laddered so that students can earn a certificate and build on what they learned to pursue an advanced certificate or associate degree. Ultimately, they will have enough knowledge to obtain entry-level work in the field, for which there is healthy demand and opportunity for professional growth in southern Arizona, according to Instructor John DeLalla.

“It’s interesting work, the pay is respectable, and a basic level of classroom experience and common sense is what you need to get started,” said DeLalla, who has an event logistics background with Disney and the Grammy-award winning band Goo Goo Dolls and also worked in railroad transportation in California prior to moving to Arizona 15 years ago.

Representatives of Northrop Grumman in Sierra Vista recently provided a tour of the company’s Enterprise Way facility to students in the Cochise College Aviation Department, while also delivering a $6,000 contribution in support of aviation scholarships and programming.

Pictured are Cochise College President J.D. Rottweiler, left, and Northrop Grumman Corporate Lead Executive Steve Pedigo.

OUR MISSION

Cochise College provides accessible educational opportunities that are responsive to a diverse population and lead to constructive citizenship, meaningful careers and lifelong learning.

The Cochise College Foundation promotes student success through scholarships, facilities development, and program support.
A new training program that teaches the knowledge and skills to construct, program and trouble-shoot robotic and automatic systems used in manufacturing has become reality thanks to a grant from Science Foundation Arizona and a scholarship program made possible by a bequest.

The first group of students received the Margaret Kent STEM Pathway Scholarship and began pursuing Mechatronic Systems Operating Technician certificates from Cochise College this spring. The Siemens-certified training program includes four-credit classes in mechatronic systems electrical and mechanical components, programmable logic controllers, and electro pneumatic and hydraulic control circuits. When they have completed the courses, students are prepared to take the exam for the internationally recognized Level 1 Siemens Certified Mechatronic Systems Assistant. In addition, the college is developing an associate of applied science degree program to prepare graduates to work as engineering technicians.

Cochise College Instructors Feng Yang and JoAnn Deakin spent two weeks in training to become Siemens Mechatronics Certified Instructors. The first of its kind at an Arizona community college, and in the western U.S., mechatronics was introduced to local professionals at a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Summit on Fort Huachuca in 2009. Nearly 40 people also attended an open house for the program in May.
The 500 Building on the Sierra Vista Campus was originally constructed by F.C. Scruggs Co. It first served as the campus library and more recently was the home of student services and the campus dean. By this fall, it will reopen as a fitness center, allowing the college to offer health and physical education classes on campus.

Contact us at foundation@cochise.edu or (520) 417-4100 to make a contribution or tell us more about this photo or other college history.