EASTERN SIERRA COLLEGE CENTER - BISHOP & MAMMOTH

REPORT TO THE
Community
2011

One College
One Mission
Many Possibilities

EDUCATE, INNOVATE, INSPIRE, SERVE

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Kiana Wyatt
Cerro Coso Community College remains committed to providing programs to meet the workforce needs of the remote locations we serve. The state's change in focus from open access to student completion is a change in direction for California community college leadership. Strategically Cerro Coso has staffed its leadership to continuously create and develop necessary student support services to enhance enrollment, retention and success of its students. Despite the state of the economy and dwindling State budget, the college is committed to student success and developing programs that provide degrees, certifications, and skills that give our students a competitive edge in today's workforce.

Cerro Coso Community College serves the largest geographic area of any community college in the state of California and with that comes great opportunities and obstacles. Despite the future of our communities.

Cerro Coso Community College derives its name from the early Spanish and native Americans who originally resided in eastern Kern County. Cerro is Spanish for “fire” and Coso is Paiute Indian for “mountain”. Pronounced SER’RO KÔ’SO.

Dear friends:
Welcome to Cerro Coso Community College's first community report for the Eastern Sierra College Center in Bishop and Mammoth. We have highlighted the College's achievements and challenges in your areas over 2011. The information in this report is designed to give you a better understanding of the College's mission, vision, successes, and needs. It also provides us with an opportunity to thank our partnerships and donors that have supported our work and made a significant difference.

Cerro Coso Community College serves the largest geographic area of any community college in the state of California and with that comes great opportunities and obstacles. Despite the state of the economy and dwindling State budget, the college is committed to student success and developing programs that provide degrees, certifications, and skills that give our students a competitive edge in today's workforce.

The state's change in focus from open access to student competition is a change in direction for California community college leadership. Strategically Cerro Coso has staffed its leadership to address the challenges we face, to restructure course offerings to increase college completion, and develop career technical education programs to meet the workforce needs of the remote locations we serve.

Cerro Coso Community College remains committed to providing students with meaningful learning environments that maximize their potential. We believe an investment in education is an investment in the future of our communities.

Dear friends:
The entire team at the Eastern Sierra College Center (ESCC) is proud to share with you some of our highlights through the inaugural ESCC 2011 Report to the Community. Each year ESCC serves over 400 students via on-campus classes at our Bishop and Mammoth Lakes sites. In addition, we provide student support through counseling, admissions, registration, proctoring, tutoring and supplemental instruction for on-campus students, as well as for the few hundred Eastern Sierra students enrolled primarily in Cerro Coso’s online classes. ESCC is the higher education option of choice for approximately 30% of local high school graduates each year. Many attend ESCC to complete their general education requirements before transferring to the UC, CSU or private college systems. Others focus on career education to prepare them for today's competitive job market.

At ESCC, our students benefit tremendously from community support. Each year, nearly 100 students are recipients of community-funded scholarship programs from the Eastern Sierra Foundation and the Mammoth Lakes Foundation, which pay for tuition and books. In addition, the Owens Valley Career Development Center’s Native American Career and Technical Education Program pays for tuition and books for more than 100 students each year. Without the strong commitment to education from all of you, many students would not be able to achieve their educational goals. Thank you!

ESCC’s many educational partners have helped us build programs from nursing to business technology: Northern Inyo Hospital and Mammoth Hospital provide support for our licensed vocational nursing program, Bishop Care Center hosts the certified nursing assistant program, Mammoth Unified School District’s health science academy provides opportunities for high school students to earn college credit, Inyo County Superintendent of Schools sponsors an annual 8th Grade College Day, and the Owens Valley Career Development Center launched the Business Office Boot Camp this past summer. Without a doubt our successes have been a result of strong support from and collaboration with our community!

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The Eastern Sierra College Center (ESCC) was built to provide access to higher education to students living in the Bishop and Mammoth areas as well as to students in Inyo and Mono counties. The Bishop campus is approximately 160 miles north of the Ridgecrest campus and the Mammoth campus is 45 miles north of the Bishop campus. The ESCC strives to offer basic skills programs, general education degree and transfer programs, career and technical education certificates and degrees, and community education programs to meet the needs of its diverse population. ESCC also seeks to continuously create and develop necessary student support services to enhance enrollment, retention and success of its students. The ESCC service area is very unique and has a number of natural, geographic and industry features that creates a myriad of challenges, but also tremendous opportunities. The Bishop and Mammoth Lakes communities and surrounding areas possess extraordinary natural features which make the area a prime location for those interested in outdoor sports, visual and performing arts, physical science, biology, astronomy, physiology, and meteorology.

Cerro Coso students receive higher quality interaction with faculty than students nationally. The average class size at Cerro Coso Community College in Spring 2011 was 22 students per class. In face-to-face classes the same year the average was 16, online 31.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5-Year Student Enrollment of ESCC Bishop and Mammoth Lakes</th>
<th>2006-07</th>
<th>2007-08</th>
<th>2008-09</th>
<th>2009-10</th>
<th>2010-11</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bishop</td>
<td>1,425</td>
<td>969</td>
<td>981</td>
<td>641</td>
<td>541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mammoth Lakes</td>
<td>537</td>
<td>592</td>
<td>656</td>
<td>512</td>
<td>317</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cerro Coso Total Enrollment
Fall 2011: 5,611
Cerro Coso Community College has conferred 7,670 degrees and certificates since 1973.
(Does not include transfer students who did not apply for graduation.)
**Human Services Careers**

The ESCC Bishop campus held a Human Services informational reception. There were 13 presenters in total from the Human Services industry, Cerro Coso, and current and former students, each speaking about their education, experiences and careers in the Human Services field. Barbara Lieberman, a graduate of the HMSV program, produced and presented a video that described the program and highlighted possible career opportunities.

**Chemistry is back at ESCC**

CHEM C101 is now being offered on the Mammoth Lakes campus of ESCC. This is only the second time that this essential class has been offered at ESCC and students are thrilled. As ESCC Associate Professor of Biology, Dennis Jensen states, “This chemistry class is required for acceptance into most registered nursing programs in the country. Students can now finally complete all the classes they need to enter nursing school. This is a huge, and much appreciated service we can provide to local students.” Not only do local nursing students benefit from the availability of the chemistry class, students planning to transfer to four-year colleges benefit as well.

**Nursing Careers in the Eastern Sierra**

Cerro Coso’s Bishop campus held an informational reception for those interested in a career in nursing. The program focused on careers as Certified Nursing Assistants (CNA), Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVN), and Registered Nurses (RN). The event was attended by 70 individuals from Mammoth to Lone Pine.

**8th Graders attend College Inspiration Day**

The Eastern Sierra College Center, in partnership with both the Inyo and Mono County Superintendent of Schools, sponsored “College Inspiration Days” for all eighth-graders in Mammoth on May 27th and in Bishop on November 19th. More than 300 students participated in the events, which provided 8th grade students an opportunity to explore higher education opportunities including career, education and training programs in health, computer design, industrial, technical, and other industries. The events also provided students with an understanding of the value of higher education, how to prepare themselves in high school, the differences between community colleges and four-year universities, and how to fund higher education. The events were supported by KCCD SB70 grant funding.

**Academic Year Tuition and Fees**

For full-time students at Cerro Coso compared to 30 similar institutions in the country

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Cerro Coso</th>
<th>Comparison Group Median (N=30)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td>$728</td>
<td>$1,569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009-10</td>
<td>$728</td>
<td>$1,514</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008-09</td>
<td>$560</td>
<td>$1,478</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007-08</td>
<td>$560</td>
<td>$1,552</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Dept of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, IPEDS

Cerro Coso is less than half the cost of similar colleges nationally.

**Gender**

2011 CCCC Students by Gender on each Campus and Online

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>2011-12 Female</th>
<th>2011-12 Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cerro Coso South Kern</td>
<td>50.4%</td>
<td>49.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cerro Coso Main Campus</td>
<td>42.4%</td>
<td>57.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cerro Coso KRV</td>
<td>66.7%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cerro Coso ESCC Mammoth</td>
<td>46.2%</td>
<td>52.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cerro Coso ESCC Bishop</td>
<td>69.2%</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CC On-line</td>
<td>71.3%</td>
<td>28.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GOAL**

RESPONDING TO COMMUNITY NEEDS THROUGH CUSTOMIZED EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFER PROGRAM

**GOAL**

IMPROVE SERVICE TO UNDER-PREPARED STUDENTS AND INCREASE THEIR SUCCESS RATE.
College Receives Health Careers Grant

Cerro Coso Community College will receive an estimated $1.5 million dollars to train students for high demand health career jobs. The grant supports partnerships between community colleges and employers to develop programs that provide educational pathways to readily available, high paying jobs. The award will be allocated to increase health careers course offerings at all campuses; develop a new health careers program in Certified Medical Assistant; build specialized basic skills courses to help students succeed; increase student services geared for retention in career counseling, tutoring, and job placement services; and purchase state-of-the-art lab equipment. “This grant will provide Cerro Coso with the resources we need to expand our health career offerings,” stated Valerie Karnes, Dean of Career Technical Education at CCCC.

ESCC hosts Admissions Open House and FAFSA Workshop

The Eastern Sierra College Center of Cerro Coso College (ESCC) held Admissions Open House and FAFSA Workshops each semester to assist students with the admissions and registration process in one day. According to ESCC’s counselor Greg Kost, “The orientation provides new and returning students the opportunity to discuss their educational goals, with the help of several key student service components, including Admissions and Records, Learning Resource Center opportunities, Financial Aid and Counseling staff.”

ESCC staff member Matt Mahoney assists students with their online applications, updates and registration.

Awahu Subana’i: Thinking About Tomorrow

Friday, September 9th and, Saturday, September 10th, was Native American College and Career Day (Awahu Subana’i) in the Eastern Sierra. The program was a true collaboration between Cerro Coso Community College, Tribal organizations and school districts. All Native American high school students in Inyo and Mono counties and their parents were invited to attend. Nearly 70 attendees participated in this informative and down-to-earth discussion of what it means to go to college as a Native American student. The personal stories of local Native college students and graduates were moving and informative, and reinforced the importance of support systems for students who leave home for school. Close to 100 students, parents, educators and presenters participated in Saturday’s event.

New Grants and Collaborations in 2011

Trade Adjustment Assistance Act—Department of Labor Grant
$1.5 Million to Cerro Coso
Goal—Develop new basic skills classes and increase Allied Health programs.

California Education Policy Fund Grant
$600,000 to Cerro Coso
Goal—Improve college readiness of students leaving the K-12 system by: alignment of curriculum in English and math between the K-12 and community college; and developing a common placement assessment among K-12, community college, and CSU system.

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Co-Op Grant
$372,000 Estimate to Cerro Coso
Goal—support funding for educational equipment, increase coordination of STEM efforts, and increase student learning support for students in these programs.

Consortiums and Partnerships Pay Off

Owens Valley Career Development

Cerro Coso Community College is proud to partner with the Owens Valley Career Development Center to provide education that leads to increased career opportunities for Native Americans.

Donald M. Slager-Sunset Foundation $35,000

Cerro Coso Community College recognizes the ongoing support of the Donald M. Slager-Sunset Foundation to the college’s ESCC LVN program. The Sunset Foundation’s continued support has provided ESCC nursing students with laptop computers, nursing software, simulation packages and other equipment which greatly enhances their classroom experiences and rounds out their clinical work.

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Cerro Coso remains committed to providing and improving its academic programs to prepare students for lives of excellence, leadership, and service.
**Cerro Coso Bishop Honors Pioneer Donors**

The Eastern Sierra Foundation and the Cerro Coso Bishop campus dedicated its newly constructed Memorial Pathway. The Eastern Sierra Foundation was formed in 1994 upon completion of the Bishop campus and they continue to raise funds for scholarships for local students each semester. The Foundation honored nine donors who have individually contributed $5,000 or more to the campus and scholarship fund since 2003. Memorial tiles bearing the names of each of the nine donors were made by Cerro Coso Art Teacher, Patty Holton and her students and were set in the memorial walkway in the spring.

**Grant Bentley Songwriting Workshops**

Grant Bentley a local prize-winning songwriter performed some of his original work and offered a FREE songwriting workshop to the public on May 3rd, at Bishop’s Cerro Coso Community College. The theme of the forum was “Building Connections to Success”. According to ESIA Partnership Coordinator, Lisa Isaacs, “The Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association is a non-profit organization which concerns itself with Public Lands and the necessary collaboration between public land managers and other organizations involved with Stewardship and Interpretive efforts and programs”. Based on that, the forum brought together representatives from many local, State and Federal agencies. More than 75 people from various local educational, state and federal organizations attended the forum.

**ESIA holds Fall Forum at CCCC**

The Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association (ESIA) held their day-long Fall Forum at the ESCC-Bishop campus, co-hosted by Cerro Coso Community College. The theme of the forum was “Building Connections to Success”. According to ESIA Partnership Coordinator, Lisa Isaacs, “The Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association is a non-profit organization which concerns itself with Public Lands and the necessary collaboration between public land managers and other organizations involved with Stewardship and Interpretive efforts and programs”. Based on that, the forum brought together representatives from many local, State and Federal agencies. More than 75 people from various local educational, state and federal organizations attended the forum.

**Natural Beauty on Display**

On February 7 the Bishop Cerro Coso campus initiated a new Lecture Series, SCHOLARS, ARTISTS, and WRITERS. The first speaker was John Dittli, an Eastern Sierra resident known nationally as a photographer of the wilderness. Dittli and Mark Schlenz, a past instructor for Cerro Coso, created a book together called WALK THE SKY, about the John Muir Trail; John of course provided the photos and Mark created the text.

**Accreditation**

Cerro Coso is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and is fully approved by the Board of Governors, California Community Colleges and other state and federal agencies. The University of California, California State Universities and other universities and colleges grant credit to lower division transfer courses completed at Cerro Coso Community College.

The college is preparing for its accreditation visit conducted by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges. This visit, and the preparation that it involves, usually occurs on a six year cycle. A team of Community College professionals is scheduled to visit Cerro Coso in October 2012.

**Cerro Coso Emergency Notification System**

Cerro Coso has implemented an emergency alert system. Cerro Coso maintains an emergency management program to protect lives and property and to continue necessary critical functions. During an emergency, the emergency notification system will alert and provide pertinent information and instructions to students, faculty, and staff via voice, e-mail, and text messages to the phone numbers and e-mail addresses on file. The system uses CONNECT-Ed, which is a web-based mass notification system that sends emergency messages instantly and simultaneously to telephones, mobile phones, wireless devices, and email addresses uploaded into the CONNECT-Ed system by KCCD.
Our Staff and Faculty are Our Greatest Asset

Even during tough economic times, at Cerro Coso Community College we encourage staff and faculty training and professional development. We believe our employees are what drive our success. Cerro Coso employees are given opportunities to attend various local workshops, state and national conferences, and utilize the resources available to them through iStream.

ESCC Mammoth’s Dr. Lauren Brown

ESCC Mammoth welcomed new adjunct Chemistry faculty member, Dr. Lauren Brown. He is teaching CHEM C101 on the Mammoth campus. Lauren received his Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from DePauw University in Indiana. He then went on to join the Peace Corps and teach chemistry for three years in India. Upon returning to the states, he earned his Ph.D in Organic Chemistry from UC Riverside. From 1973 until 2006, Lauren was the Owner and President of a Bio Chemical Company called JBL Scientific. The company specialized in biotechnology in the health care industry. Soon after that, he became the President and CEO of Terso Solutions until his retirement in 2008. Lauren hopes to, “teach students the experience of science as it applies to life.” He teaches with the same enthusiasm he did when teaching in India – conveying the excitement and passion of learning about chemistry and hopes to, “help students to reach their goals and have a successful experience.”

ESCC Says Goodbye to Lori Olivera

Cerro Coso Community College and the ESCC campus bid farewell to staff member, Lori Olivera. After 15 years of service to Cerro Coso, Olivera retired to join her husband in Garnerville, Nevada. During her time at the College, Lori transitioned from a full-time student worker to a full-time classified position first in the ESCC’s Counseling Center, then the Dean’s Office, and finally, as a core member of CC-Online. Lori’s position as Program Manager for CC-Online was a brand new position with no predecessor in which to refer. In the development of the online program things moved very quickly and no day was alike. It was much like working at a start-up company – exciting, challenging, new, and often very stressful. There aren’t many that are capable of handling that type of ever-changing work environment, but Lori thrived in it. Her work in the position was critical to the development and operation of the CC Online Program. The League of Innovation gave the program an Innovation of the Year award largely due to Lori’s handling of the many behind-the-scenes tasks. Lori was the first non-IWV recipient of the Academic Senate’s “Classified Staff of the Year” award. She also taught online certificate courses to CC-online instructors. Lori holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Cal State University Northridge and a Masters in Business Administration from Chico State University.

An investment in our staff and faculty is an investment in the success of our students.

Leadership Through a Different Lens

While success has always been at the center of Cerro Coso Community College’s commitment to students, administrators recognized that many adjunct faculty are unable to attend department meetings and college flex day activities. Determined to change that dynamic, Cerro Coso Leadership held their first Professional Development activity for Adjunct Faculty at the Ridgecrest campus on Saturday, November 5, 2011. Adjunct and full-time faculty were invited to attend to heighten the dialogue about Student Success and Best Practices. “Because such a large number of our students are served by our adjuncts, it is important that they become part of the discussion and training surrounding Student Learning Outcomes and Student Learning Outcome Assessments” said President, Jill Board. Forty-nine adjunct faculty members participated in the event and came from as far away as San Francisco. The activity was purposely scheduled as a face-to-face meeting to give faculty members an opportunity to meet, greet, and get acquainted with colleagues from the various locations the College serves.

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ESCC New Adjunct Librarian

ESCC Bishop and Mammoth welcomed Nancy Williard as a new adjunct faculty member. Nancy teaches IC C075 – Intro to Library Research and Bibliography both online and via ITV from the Bishop and Mammoth campuses. She also works as Librarian and LRC Faculty in the Bishop and Mammoth LRC’s. Originally from Tennessee, Nancy earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Rhodes University in Memphis and in 1978 earned her Master of Library Science degree from the University of Tennessee. Nancy points out, “throughout my career, the common theme has been helping students with difficulties.” She goes on to say, “I cannot live without contact with students. I get so excited when I see students succeed.” Nancy is also a published author, writing both fiction and non-fiction stories and articles.

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The Eastern Sierra Foundation provides 60 scholarships each semester for local Inyo County residents. Scholarships cover full tuition and up to $300 towards textbooks. Two-thirds of the 2011 Bishop graduates were recipients of an Eastern Sierra Foundation scholarship.

The Eastern Sierra Foundation (ESF), through a partnership with the Inyo County Superintendent of Schools (ICSOS) and the Bishop Paiute Tribe, aim to celebrate and grow the rich culture of the Paiute community while maximizing tribal and community resources to insure that all Bishop Paiute youth grow up in a safe and academically rich environment.

The following nine donors were recognized for their donation of $5,000 or more:

- DR. and MRS. STEVEN E. TAYLOR
- JOHN and BEVERLY STAUFFER FOUNDATION
- DAVE and ROMA MCCOY
- MARTHA KRAMER
- JOHN B. and NELLY LLANOS KILROY FOUNDATION
- MR. and MRS. RONALD LARSON
- DEANE and JOAN FUNK
- PHIL and CHERYL MCDOWELL
- DONALD M. and URSULA SLAGER-SUNSET FOUNDATION

Through their generosity, the Foundation is able to continue supporting ESCC Bishop students with scholarships.

The Mammoth Lakes Foundation provides full scholarships for residents of Mono County. Forty percent of this year’s Mammoth graduates were recipients of a Mammoth Lakes Foundation scholarship. The Mammoth Lakes Foundation awarded 29 students scholarships in 2011.

The Mammoth Lakes Foundation and its supporters believe that availability of higher education and cultural enrichment in the Eastern Sierra enhances the quality of life enjoyed by residents, second homeowners and visitors. It balances the recreational attractions in the community with cultural and educational opportunities. Higher education promotes leadership, stimulates growth and builds a stronger year-round economy and community.

Students of Cerro Coso - Mammoth Campus have the option to live in Mammoth and get their associates degree, vocational certificates or credits for transfer. The South Gateway Student Apartments SGS opened in August of 2008 becoming the first community college student housing facility to open in California in over two decades. The student apartments in Mammoth became the 12th community college student housing facility out of 111 community colleges in California.
A Dream Fulfilled
Elsa Granados, a native of El Salvador, realized a life dream on July 18, 2011. After more than twenty years of persistence and hard work she became an American citizen. She is fortunate to live and work in Bishop, California, where in 2004 and 2005 she was able to take English as a Second Language classes from instructor Julie Metz at Cerro Coso Community College’s Bishop Campus. In her own words, “I would like to thank Cerro Coso Community College for giving me the opportunity to learn English and for also giving me a way out of the dark into a brighter future. If you do not educate yourself it’s like living in the dark, nobody will know that you are there. Schooling is a treasure that no one can take from you. Thanks to Cerro Coso I have completed my goal and now I am a citizen of the United States.” Julie Metz currently has 22 students in her fall ESL class at Cerro Coso Bishop – the largest class to date. She is also teaching ESL classes for Inyo County Adult Education.

“The Eastern Sierra Foundation Scholarship has helped me go to college. I wouldn’t have been able to attend college without it. It has also helped me, tremendously, with the cost of books.”

Marissa Diener, a student at the ESCC Bishop campus and a recipient of the Eastern Sierra Foundation scholarship.

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Vision Statement
Cerro Coso Community College will be recognized as a leader in higher education, a source of programs and services for tomorrow’s workforce, a model for student learning, and a partner with its diverse clientele and communities.