KERN RIVER VALLEY & SOUTH KERN
REPORT TO THE
Community
One College
One Mission
Many Possibilities
EDUCATE, INNOVATE, INSPIRE, SERVE

2011

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Message from the President

Dear friends of Cerro Coso Community College:

Welcome to Cerro Coso Community College’s first community report for the Kern River Valley and South Kern Outreaches. 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 completion 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.

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’RÔ KÔ’SÔ.

JILL BOARD
Cerro Coso Community College President

Message from the Director

Dear friends:

Cerro Coso Community College has been serving the higher education needs of the residents of the Kern River Valley since 1986 and South Kern residents at its Edwards Air Base Center since the college began in 1973. We are proud of our service and commitment to educational excellence.

At the Kern River Valley and South Kern campuses, our supportive faculty and staff are dedicated to helping students fulfill their dreams of obtaining a higher education.

The recent shift from open access to student success and completion has resulted in changes to both instruction and student services at the KRV/SK campuses. A college-wide audit has been completed of all degrees and certificates and program pathways have been developed to outline for students the entire path of courses required to complete a degree or certificate.

We are working closely with the local high schools in developing and implementing dual enrollment programs. These programs are advantageous to students because it allows them to get a head start on their college educations. Participation in dual enrollment programs is cost efficient and eases the transition from high school to college.

Our President has given a directive to begin offering classes on a consistent basis in California City that will require careful planning of a schedule to accommodate local general education and workforce needs. Once a commitment has been made in California City the college must address the staffing needs to provide improved services at a time when the state budget is dismal.

In this era of less resources and declining budgets, the college remains committed to educating a new generation of leaders that will shape our futures.

DR. ERIE JOHNSON
Director of the Kern River Valley and South Kern

About Kern River Valley/South Kern Campuses

When Cerro Coso Community College’s campus opened in January of 1974 the service area included: Rosamond, Boron, California City, Cantil, Onyx, Weldon, Mojave, Edwards, Randsburg, Red Mountain, Johannesburg, Inyokern, and Ridgecrest. The College also served the communities of Olancha, Independence, Lone Pine, Big Pine, Bishop, Death Valley, Trona, and Mammoth. Bakersfield College was responsible for the educational needs of Kernville and Lake Isabella. Cerro Coso offered its first comprehensive schedule of classes in the Kern River Valley in the fall of 1986. Classes were held at the Kern Valley High School, Camp Owens facilities, and at the Kernville Elementary School. The first office Cerro Coso occupied in Lake Isabella was at the old Senior Citizens Center next to the Sheriff’s Sub-Station. The facility was shared with the Social Security Office. At the time every inch of available space was utilized and shared. Former Cerro Coso students remember taking placement exams in the cells of the old Sheriff’s Sub-Station.

CCCC KRV Class of 2011: 40
CCCC SK Class of 2011: 5

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.
### Student Profile

#### 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 Grp 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 Cerro Coso 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 ESCC Mammoth</td>
<td>66.7%</td>
<td>33.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cerro Coso ESCC Bishop</td>
<td>46.2%</td>
<td>52.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CC On-line</td>
<td>69.2%</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 5-Year Student Enrollment of Kern River Valley and South Kern

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></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>Kern River Valley</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>769</td>
<td>738</td>
<td>710</td>
<td>660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Kern</td>
<td>313</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>136</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.)

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#### GOAL 1
RESPONDING TO COMMUNITY NEEDS THROUGH CUSTOMIZED EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFER PROGRAM

#### KRV Students Exploring Careers in Health Occupations E.C.H.O.
A partnership between Kern River Valley High School, CCCC, and the Kern Valley Healthcare District seeks to prepare high school students for jobs in health careers to meet local workforce demands. In the fall of 2011 twenty-two high school students took classes concurrently at the college’s Kern River Valley campus in Certified Nursing Assistant, Medical Terminology, and Emergency Medical Technician. Partnerships like this give high school student beneficial job skills that can be used before or after college and even as a direct entry opportunity into the workforce. “We are very excited about the impact this program will have on our students and communities,” - Jill Board, Cerro Coso Community College, President.

#### GOAL 2
IMPROVE SERVICE TO UNDER-PREPARED STUDENTS AND INCREASE THEIR SUCCESS RATE.

#### Phi Theta Kappa Induction Ceremony
Ninety-five students were inducted into the Beta Kappa Chi chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honors Society at Cerro Coso for the 2011-2012 academic year, including a number of students from the Kern River Valley campus. These students earned the privilege to join Phi Theta Kappa based on their academic excellence, earning at least a 3.5 grade point average in degree- and transfer-level courses, making them the top 10% of Cerro Coso Community College students. By joining Phi Theta Kappa, they become life-long members of the world's largest honors society, have access to over $36 million in scholarships, and join an outstanding fellowship of scholars.

KRV students inducted into the 2011 Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society
Kern River Valley campus held their first Student Awards Ceremony Friday, May 6th, at the Kern Valley High School Auditorium. Approximately 40-50 students and family members were in attendance. Director, Dr. Erie Johnson, was keynote speaker; Debra Rundell award presenter and emcee and ASCC Faculty Chair. Awards were given to: Kimberly Word, Award of Excellence-Admin of Justice and Certificate: Human Services A.S. requirements (PTK member); Robert Ennis, AA Graduation Certificate; Karen Patino, KRV Staff Member of the Year; Karen Priest, Award of Excellence-Abnormal Psychology. Patrick McGaughey, Award of Excellence – English, Multiple Award Recipient (PTK member); Marilyn Booth Horn, (PTK member) Multiple Award Recipient; Amber Pyle, Multiple Award Recipient (PTK member).

Kimberly Word,
2011 Clayton A. Witherow Academic Achievement Award
Cerro Coso Kern River Valley student, Kimberly Word, received the 2010 Clayton A. Witherow Academic Achievement Award. The $1,000 award is presented to a qualified KRV student with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.75 who exemplifies Dean Witherow’s commitment to the pursuit of education. Kimberly began her re-entry into college at Cerro Coso’s KRV Campus in the spring of 2008. Her goal is to complete two AS degrees, one in Human Services and another in Criminal Justice. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society and was ASCC Secretary during the 2009-2010 academic year. The award was presented to Kimberly at the Kern River Valley Educational and Cultural Foundation’s 20th Anniversary celebration.

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.

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.
Community Involvement

Cerro Coso staff and faculty participate in a variety of community events and activities to broaden their impact beyond the services provided at the college. The following list is only representational and does not list all events and activities for 2011:

KRV Campus Participates In Whiskey Flat Days

The Cerro Coso KRV campus participated in the 54th annual Whiskey Flat Days celebration by hosting a float in the parade. One of the most popular festivals in all of Southern California, over 50,000 people attend the celebration. Cerro Coso was proud to be a part of the historical 4 day family friendly affair.

KRV Students Take Part In Green Festival

During their spring break, Cerro Coso KRV students participated in “The Living Green Festival” with their “Denim Project” to promote the reuse, recycle, and regeneration of denim clothing. Created by Phi Theta Kappa member, Terri Jo Kumar, the “Denim Project” collected denim clothing including jeans, jackets, shorts, overalls, dresses etc. Collected items were washed and taken to the event for redistribution for FREE to anybody who needed them. The project was well received and the group was praised for “thinking outside the box.”

KRV Hospital Foundation Heart Walk

Cerro Coso Kern River Valley students, Robert Ennis, Kimberly Word, Angie DelGado, Jacqui Conrad, and Joy Smith participated in the Kern Valley Hospital Foundation’s 12th annual Heart Walk on Saturday, February 27. The five member team walked around the Kern Valley High School track and raised money to help purchase new equipment for the hospital. All donations are split between the Hospital Foundation and the charity of each team’s choice in a 40/60 split.

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.

Staff members recognized for 20+ years of service to the KRV campus

The following staff members were recognized for their 20+ years of service to the Kern River Valley campus at the Kern River Valley Education and Cultural Foundation’s 20th Anniversary celebration:

Ron Montague, Adjunct Instructor
Inge Olsen, Department Assistant III
Jean Pack, Adjunct Instructor
Gayle Whitlock, Counselor and Instructor

“Idealism Is Still Alive” Lunchtime Lecture

Students “get involved” urged Ted Little, Special Guest Lecturer and Philosophy Instructor from the Kern River Valley Campus. “What’s happening today in Egypt is a reflection of the power and influence young people have in the world” he stated at his lunchtime lecture in honor of Black History Month on Thursday, February 10, 2011. Little lead a discussion in the Ridgecrest Campus Student Center on Civil Rights, touching on the non-violent approach of Martin Luther King Jr. and his personal experiences marching with Dr. King in Washington, D.C. “War is our enemy and you can make a difference,” concluded Little.
Leadership Through a Different Lens

While success has always been at the center of Cerro Coso’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.

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

KRV Outreach

Grant could lead to New LVN Program in KRV

Cerro Coso Community College will receive an estimated $1.5 million to train students for high-demand health careers 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 and could lead to an LVN program at the Cerro Coso Kern River Valley campus in the near future,” stated Valerie Karnes, Dean of Career Technical Education at CCCC.

“Partnerships and consortiums allow us to share experiences, vision, knowledge, talent, and resources that add exceptional value in developing programs that produce top performers.”

JILL BOARD, CERRO COSO COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESIDENT

Steve Rogers
and
Debra Rundell
have met the
criteria for teaching
excellence
and were granted
tenure by KCCD.

Steve Rogers
Associate Professor
of Mathematics

Debra Rundell
Associate Professor
of Psychology and
Human Services

KRV Instructor Mark Hosman
named the 2011 Faculty of the Year by Special Services staff and students.

Dolores Bowers, Special Services Assistant named “Staff of the Year” for the KRV campus.

KRV Instructor Mark Hosman
named the 2011 Faculty of the Year by Special Services staff and students.

Dr. Erie Johnson presents KRV student Mary Gleason with the 2011 Student of the Year Award.
Cerro Coso Bids Farewell to Professor Tittle

Staff and students of Cerro Coso Community College bid a fond farewell to popular Social Science Instructor and Counselor, Jon Tittle. Upon Jon’s final act as Grand Marshal for the College’s 38th Commencement Ceremony he entered retirement after 37 years of service to the Kern Community College District. Jon began his career at Cerro Coso’s South Kern campus while serving as Active Duty Military in the Air Force. In 1974 he was hired full-time as a Counselor and Social Science Instructor. Over the span of almost four decades Jon has served many roles at the College including counselor, instructor, and Dean of the South Kern Extension. Jon is well respected and trusted among his colleagues, students, and staff. He has been utilizing his sense of humor to catch the attention of his students for years, making learning fun. Students loved going to his classes because of the way he put them at ease so he could impart the knowledge they needed to succeed. “The sounds of roaring laughter from the classrooms and offices will be missed upon Jon’s retirement,” stated Jill Board, President. “He has taught us that laughter is essential to an effective classroom environment.” Jon’s enthusiasm for teaching and dedication to Cerro Coso Community College is commendable and he will forever be a valued part of Cerro Coso’s history.

The Kern River Valley Education and Cultural Foundation supports the Kern Coso Kern River Valley/South Kern campuses. Founded in 1977, the CCCC Foundation is a non-profit corporation organized under California law to receive scholarships, loans, and gifts on behalf of Cerro Coso Community College. The Foundation as an auxiliary arm of the College assists and supports in the attainment of Cerro Coso’s cultural and technical goals, and in the fulfillment of its role in serving the communities of which it is a part.

KRV Foundation Celebrates 20 Years

Hard hats and mortar boards adorned the tables to signify higher educational dreams come true and building on the future of education at the Kern River Valley Education and Cultural Foundation 20th Anniversary celebration. The event afforded an opportunity to recognize staff with twenty plus years of service to the KRV campus and present the 2010 Clayton A. Witherow Academic Achievement Award. To date, over 340 area residents have received degrees from the Cerro Coso’s KRV Center. Many of these students go on to receive higher degrees and return to live and work in the Valley. Cerro Coso graduates are working in the local schools, medical facilities, media, and various businesses. “It’s all about relationships,” stated Board. “The relationship that we have with the students, residents, and local organizations is what makes Cerro Coso Community College strong and allows us to fulfill our mission to educate, innovate, inspire, and serve.”

KRV Piano Concert Benefits Textbook Fund

The accomplished, well-known musician Jody Steel, a member of the Kern River Valley Community Orchestra, presented a piano concert in the sanctuary of the Kernville United Methodist Church to benefit the Kern River Valley Education and Cultural Foundation’s textbook fund. The fund was established by the Foundation to assist Cerro Coso Kern River students with demonstrated financial need assistance with purchasing college textbooks. “This fundraiser is a great example of people coming together to help our local students with financial needs that do not qualify for financial aid,” stated Dr. Erie Johnson, Director of the Cerro Coso Kern River Valley/South Kern campuses. The average full-time college student will spend more than $1,000 per year on textbooks. Understanding the heavy burden college students carry in trying to purchase textbooks, the Foundation launched a textbook fundraising campaign to assist local college students. “The Foundation’s investment in student success is an investment in the future of the community,” concluded Dr. Johnson.
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.