



Alumni Newsletter - March 2007

The Pima Community College Alumni Association is now official! The by-laws, written by a dedicated group of alumni volunteers, were approved by the PCC Foundation Board of Directors in January. An organizing council of alumni and friends is now working on a planning document for the Association, and is considering future events and awards.

Anyone who has taken courses at PCC is eligible to become a member of the Alumni Association. There is no membership fee. The benefits of membership include invitations to alumni events, volunteer opportunities, use of College services such as career and job search counseling, and access to the libraries and recreation centers. To become a member, simply fill out the [Online Registration Form](#). Membership forms will also be available at the Annual Meeting, scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, April 19, 2007, at the PCC District Office, 4905 E. Broadway Blvd.

All alumni and friends of the College are welcome to attend the Annual Meeting. Alumni Association officers will be elected, and you can tell us the kinds of events and services you would like the Association to provide.

Two distinguished guests will speak at the Annual Meeting. Dr. Roy Flores, Pima Community College Chancellor, will welcome meeting attendees, and Downtown Campus Dean of Instruction Dr. Harry Muir will discuss the value of networking and professional involvement. For more information about the Annual Meeting or to learn more about the Alumni Association, call Pima Community College at 206-4500.

Nominations for Alumni Association Officers

Nominations for PCC Alumni Association officers are as follows:

- Chairperson - Sarah Evans
- Vice Chairperson - Jaimie Leopold
- Secretary - Terrell Bivins
- Treasurer - Mark Hanna
- Member at Large - Juan Ciscomani
- Interim Past Chair - Francisco Padilla

Additional nominations, including self-nominations, are welcome at the Annual Meeting prior to elections of officers. Officers are elected for a term of one year.



Alumni Salute!

From foreign lands to national forests, award-winning photographer and Pima alumnus J.L. “Woody” Wooden always gets the picture.

After graduating from high school, Wooden went to Vietnam as a combat medical photographer and returned with three Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star - and a back wound. It took a year and a half in a hospital to recuperate, and then Wooden followed his dream into photography. He attended Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara and worked as a local news cameraman chronicling forest fires.

In 1973 Wooden moved to Tucson for a job as a forensic photographer with the Tucson Police Department but re-injured his back. He entered Pima Community College, planning to work for the Forest Service as a photographer. Wooden completed an AAS in natural resource management in 1979 only to face a national parks hiring freeze.

But that closed door gave way to a career in commercial photography and an eventual return to Brooks Institute, where he earned both a bachelor’s and a master’s degree. Wooden went on to teach everything from basic digital photography to forensic photography to photographic business practices in colleges and universities, starting the photography program in one college. For more than 30 years he has done what he loves - making art with his camera.

Wooden has documented life in China, Vietnam, South America and Africa. He has won prestigious awards and his images have been published in more than 20 books and magazines. He has photographed lightning storms, and lions so close he could see the gleam in their eyes. His celebrity portraits include those of President Ronald Reagan, Madeline Albright and Tommy Tune. He now lives near Yellowstone National Park and commutes to his college teaching job at Northwest College in Powell, Wyoming.

From his perspective - teaching college fall through spring, running photographic workshops in the Big Horn Mountain Wilderness on horseback in the summer, with foreign travel tucked somewhere in between - his life is right in focus.

College News

Automobile Donation Program Benefits PCC Students

Two full-time students at PCC are getting to classes a little easier now, thanks to an automobile donation program by the Pima Community College Foundation. Sena Kimbrell and Mimi Daniel, both single parents, received the keys to their recently tuned-up rides during a PCC Governing Board meeting in February.



Sena Kimbrell received a 1997 Ford Contour. Sena is raising a nine-year-old son and is the primary caregiver for her grandparents. She has a current GPA of 4.0 and is working towards an associate degree in science with plans to become a doctor.

Mimi Daniel received a 1986 Honda Prelude. Mimi is earning an associate degree in digital arts and plans to attain a bachelor's degree in the future. She is the sole supporter of a daughter and son, ages 13 and 4.



The used cars were donated by friends of Pima Community College to provide students in need with reliable transportation to and from college. Each auto donated to the Foundation is given a thorough, top-to-bottom inspection by students in the College's Automotive Technology program. Minor repairs may be done to the car to ensure it is in working condition before it is donated to a student. Most of the recipients are full-time students with family responsibilities and most have very limited personal transportation. The auto donation program is 3 years old.

To learn more about this program or to donate a used car, visit the [Pima Community College Foundation](#) online or call 206-4646.

Arizona's Unmet Needs for Bachelor's Degrees

According to a recent study by the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS), commissioned by Pima Community College, Arizona needs about 79,000 more baccalaureate-educated citizens ages 25 to 44 to meet the U.S. average. That's a 20 percent increase of bachelor's degrees needed - just to be average.

To find out more about where Arizona ranks nationally in higher educational attainment, be sure to take a look at the most recent [Chancellor's Report](#). In the report, Chancellor Roy Flores discusses the need for increasing the number of Arizona citizens with 4-year college degrees in order for the state to be economically competitive.

Chancellor Flores also presents information regarding new partnerships between PCC and other institutions, including the University of Arizona, University of Maryland University College, as well as PCC's 2007 legislative efforts, and other College initiatives.

PCC Governing Board Chair Discusses State of the College

Pima Community College continues to deliver a wide range of new and exciting educational opportunities and services that benefit the public. View some of the College's accomplishments over the last few years, as reported by Governing Board Chair Richard Fimbres, during his [State of the College](#) public address given on February 7, 2007.

Bachelor's Degree Opportunities for PCC Alumni and Current Students

Pima Community College has formed a new partnership with the University of Maryland University College (UMUC) providing PCC graduates with the opportunity to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology or accounting without leaving Pima County. The agreement makes it possible for students to transfer up to 70 credits earned at PCC to UMUC, and then complete the remaining 50 credits needed for the degree online at their own pace through UMUC's highly regarded distance education program.

PCC alumni and current students can also earn a bachelor's degree by taking advantage of a new partnership with Indiana University (IU). The Indiana University 90/30 Program allows students to take 60 credits at Pima Community College and earn an associate degree, apply for admittance to Indiana University, and then take an additional 30 credits at Pima for a total of 90 credits that may be transferable to IU toward a bachelor's degree.

Students then complete their final 30 credits online through IU's distance education program and can earn a bachelor's degree in General Studies from IU. Indiana University will not charge out-of-state fees for students enrolled in this program. The program is available to current students or anyone with college credits earned at PCC.

If you are a PCC graduate or have earned some PCC credits and are thinking about transferring to a bachelor's degree program, talk with an advisor to see which credits are eligible for transfer in these exciting new partnership programs. Call the College at 206-4500 or visit www.pima.edu for more information.

Therapeutic Massage Program Training for In-Demand Careers

As a growing number of people turn to natural ways to reduce stress and manage health, the demand for massage therapists is growing. In fact, statistics from the Bureau of Labor show that massage therapy is one of the fastest growing industries in the country. There are an estimated 20,000 massage therapists licensed to practice in Arizona.



“Massage therapists find that there are many job opportunities available to them after becoming licensed,” said Janet Vizard, program manager of the Therapeutic Massage Program at Pima Community College. “A lot of people supplement careers in health care with massage because of the high demand for this form of therapy in medical and rehabilitation fields.”

PCC’s Therapeutic Massage Program can help you join the growing number of professionals who are helping people reduce stress, relieve chronic pain, and promote healing through the manipulation of the soft tissues of the body. Students earn a certificate in Therapeutic Massage, which makes them eligible to apply for the Arizona Massage Therapy License required to practice in Arizona. The program prepares students to take the National Certification Examination for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCTMB) and gain the highest professional credential in the field. Students can also earn an Associate of

Applied Science (AAS) as a part of this degree program at PCC.

“Our program gives students 1000 hours of clinical experience and classroom lectures, exceeding the requirements for state licensing and national certification. That fact, combined with our highly experienced instructors, makes graduates of the program stand out among potential employers,” Vizard explained.

The program is approved by the Arizona State Board of Massage Therapy. Arizona residents pay PCC tuition at only \$46 per credit, making the program one of the most affordable available. Students may complete coursework either full or part time, and many have enrolled as a start on a second career, according to Vizard. A student clinic is held on Fridays at the Northwest Campus. The cost is \$10 for a 50-minute massage. Call the Massage Clinic at 206-2062 to schedule an appointment.

For more information about this program, visit the [Therapeutic Massage Program](#) online or call Pima Community College at 206-4500.

Opportunities for Alumni

Alumni Businesses Can Help Students earn College Credit

Do you own your own business, run a non-profit organization, or manage an agency in Tucson and need student interns? Pima Community College’s Workforce Education Program is searching for internship opportunities for students. Interns can earn college credit while gaining valuable work experience. Most internships involve 5 to 20 hours a week for a period of 16 weeks to be eligible for college credit. For more information, or to add your business to the list of prospective internship providers, contact [Lyn Olsen](#), at PCC’s Workforce Education office or call 206-4768.

Events for Aspiring Writers

PCC's vibrant writing program offers several events to spark your interest in creative writing or hone your skills as an aspiring author. Explore techniques that have helped successful writers advance their professional and teaching careers.

On Friday, March 30, Saturday and Sunday, March 31 to April 1, Pima Community College presents the first of two Creative Writing Weekend Workshops at the West Campus, Sentinel Peak Building, Room 101. Stephen Cox, director emeritus of the University of Arizona Press, will walk participants through the steps of polishing off a finished piece in the workshop titled *Look Again: Revising and Editing*.

On Friday, April 13, Saturday and Sunday, April 14 to 15, author Suzanne Kingsbury will demonstrate how to start your own novel during the workshop *Character and Conflict: Setting the Stage for Plot*. Kingsbury is an author of two novels that were adopted for film and translated into five languages.

Cost is \$107 for Arizona residents and includes processing and service fees. All workshops on Fridays are from 6 to 9 p.m.; Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Current PCC students may register online at www.pima.edu or by calling (520) 206-4880. Registration for all others is required in person at any campus.

PCC Faculty to Offer Writing Skills Lectures

Faculty members from Pima Community College's writing department will be offering writing skills lectures at Nanini Library, 7300 N. Shannon Road in March and April. These events are free and open to the public. For more information, call 206-2180.

March 24, 12:30 p.m., *The Art of Writing Fiction*, Ken Vorndran

March 31, 2:00 p.m., *The Art of Writing Memoirs*, Patricia Leverentz

April 7, 2:00 p.m., *The Art of Writing Poetry*, Dr. Steven Salmoni.

CareerBuilder Career Fair at Tucson Convention Center

Southern Arizona's largest and oldest career fair returns to the Tucson Convention Center on Wednesday, March 28. The CareerBuilder Career Fair, presented by Pima Community College and Tucson Classified, runs from 12 noon to 5 p.m. More than 100 Arizona employers will be on hand with information on jobs and to meet with potential job candidates.

There is no charge for admission, and free parking and a limited number of Sun Tran bus passes are available. Free childcare will be offered for those with kids ages 1 to 7. Don't miss the opportunity to prepare for your job search prior to the career fair during job preparation workshops offered by Pima Community College on each campus. Beginning on Thursday, March 15, and continuing on Tuesday, March 20 through Thursday, March 22, you can get great tips on writing resumés, and gain insights on interviewing and negotiating salaries. To find out more,

visit the College's [CareerBuilder Career Fair](#) campus workshop schedule or call 206-4500 for more information.

PCC to Host UA 'Instant Decision Days'

Alumni and current students can get immediate answers on admission to the University of Arizona during Instant Decision Days scheduled on PCC campuses in April and May. Admissions staff from the UA will provide on the spot decisions to PCC students who want to transfer to the university. PCC alumni and current students need to bring an official copy of their College transcripts in order to get an instant decision. For more information, call the College at 206-4500.

UA Instant Decision Days at Pima Community College:

Desert Vista Campus: April 4, May 3

West Campus: April 17, May 1

Downtown Campus: April 18, May 16, May 30

Northwest Campus: April 17

East Campus: Dates will be announced

Family Fun Day at Desert Vista Campus

On Saturday, April 14, from 1 to 7 p.m., Pima Community College will host a Family Day featuring food, games, and prizes for the entire family. The event will take place at the Desert Vista Campus, 5901 S. Calle Santa Cruz. It's a fun way for area residents to learn about classes and programs at PCC and for new students to get help with registration and questions about financial aid. There will be music by a mariachi group, dancing, and poetry recitals. Face painting for the children will also be provided. Call the College at 206-4500 for more information.

Career and Majors Fair at Northwest Campus

If you want to explore new careers, need a summer job or internship, or want information on continuing your education, be sure to attend the Northwest Campus Career and Majors Fair on Thursday, April 26. The event starts at 12 noon and runs until 6 p.m. at PCC's Northwest Campus, 7600 N. Shannon Road. Unique and informative activities are planned throughout the day, and you can stop in at any time.

Activities include on-site interviewing with several local employers, a "dress for success" fashion show, free workshops and panel discussions. There will also be representatives on hand to help you get information on academic degree programs at colleges and universities in Arizona. The fair is free and open to the public. For more information, call 206-2206.

Career Expo and Family Fun Event at East Campus

On Saturday, April 28, Pima Community College alumni and their families are encouraged to attend the Career Expo and Family Fun Event on the East Campus. The event, which is in collaboration with Tucson Unified School District, starts at 9 a.m. and runs until 1 p.m. Local employers, vendors, and educational institutions will provide information on exploring career paths, and promoting life-long learning. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 206-7802.

Upcoming Events

- March 12 - Online Registration begins for Summer 2007
- March 19 - Spring 2nd 8-week Session Begins
- March 28 - CareerBuilder Career Fair, 12 noon to 5 p.m., Tucson Convention Center
- April 4 (and selected dates through May 30) - UA Instant Decision Days
- April 14 - PCC Family Day, 1 to 7 p.m., PCC Desert Vista Campus
- April 16 to 20 - Arizona Community College Week
- April 26 - Northwest Campus Career and Majors Fair, PCC Northwest Campus
- April 28 - Career Expo and Family Fun Event, PCC East Campus

A complete listing of key dates, campus events, athletics, and the College Center for the Arts can be found on the [Pima Community College Online Calendar](#).

Comments or suggestions are welcome at: alumni@pima.edu

Pima Community College Alumni Association
4905 East Broadway Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85709