Alumni eNewsletter - June 2008

Alumni Association News

PCC Alumni Association Has Successful First Year

It has been quite a successful first year for the PCC Alumni Association. Registered membership is at 687 and is still growing strong. Alumni events have been well attended and the association continues to be involved in a number of fundraisers for PCC students.

Alumni Association Officers Elected

During the annual General Meeting held in April, association members elected the following officers for the year:

Chair: Jaimie Leopold
Immediate Past Chair: Sarah Evans
Secretary: Valerie Vidal
Treasurer: Terrell Bivins
Member-at-Large: Francisco Padilla

If you are interested in finding out more about the benefits and activities of the PCC Alumni Association, please drop us an email at alumni@pima.edu. If you would like to sign up, visit the alumni web site.

GO AZTECS! Student Athletes Excel On the Field and In the Classroom

Alumni can be proud of PCC’s athletes for their successes in the classroom as well as on the court or field. During the 2007-2008 season, 82 Aztecs were recognized for their academic performances by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA).
Ryan Morgan maintained a perfect 4.0 GPA while battling it out on the gridiron, qualifying for NJCAA’s highest honor: Distinguished Academic All-American. Qualifications require that a student athlete must maintain a 3.8 GPA or better for three full academic semesters.

Aztecs Peter Madrigal, (cross country and track), Kimberly Makar, (women’s soccer), Ashley Ralston-Alvarez, (softball) and Viviana Zumpano, (women’s soccer) were each named to the NJCAA Academic All-American Team. These inspiring Aztecs maintained GPAs of 3.6 to 3.8. In addition, PCC’s Executive Director of Athletics Edgar Soto’s Honor Roll lists 77 student athletes who maintained GPAs of 3.0 or higher.

PCC Student, Three Alumni Drafted by Major League Baseball

Three PCC alumni and one current student athlete were drafted in the Major League Baseball 2008 entry draft this spring. Aztec alumni CJ Zeigler, (Giants, 16th round), now a University of Arizona student, and Josh Hake (Giants, 50th round), currently a Park University student, and current PCC student Jared McDonald (Cubs, 40th round), were each drafted. Alumnus Keith Hernandez, who was NCAA Division 2 Player of the Year out of Emporia State University, has just signed with the Detroit Tigers as a free agent. Way to go Aztec athletes!

Help Us Replace Missing Graduation Programs

The PCC Alumni Association is looking for graduation programs in preparation of the College’s 40th anniversary celebration. You may be able to help. If you have access to the graduation programs from the years 1970, 1973, 1990, 1996, 1997 or 1998 please call 206-4646.

Opportunities for Alumni

Join Alumni for Reptiles Adventure Walk in the Park

PCC alumni and friends are invited to a family-friendly nature walk at Tohono Chul Park on Saturday, September 27. This will be a fun, easy hike led by herpetologist Ed Moll. Participants will get to meet slithery reptiles up close and personal and go on an adventure walk in the park. Stay tuned for more information and a formal invitation from the Alumni Association.

The PCC Alumni Family Scholarship

PCC has awarded five Alumni Family Scholarships in the amount of $500 each for the 2008-2009 school year. The award is a new scholarship for students who have earned at least 12 or more credits at the College and will continue coursework at Pima. Applicants must have a cumulative 2.0 GPA or higher and demonstrate financial need. Dependent children and spouses of a qualifying alumnus are also eligible to apply for this scholarship.
For information on how to apply for the scholarship next year, as well as approximately 60 other scholarships offered by PCC, visit the Pima Community College Foundation website.

Alumni Salute!

Where Are They Now?

One goal of the Alumni Association is to highlight our fantastic former students. But we can share only what you send us! So please keep us informed about what you’ve been up to since taking classes here. It’s easy to keep us in the loop. Just send us an email. Be sure to include your full name, email and mailing address, what you are doing now, and the last year you attended PCC. Your submission may be edited for space and content.

Gaby Gonzalez, ‘03 is an Associated Press award-winning journalist working at KSWT in Yuma. Gaby anchors both main newscasts in the Yuma market and also produces them. After earning an associate in liberal arts at PCC, she attended the Walter Cronkite School at ASU, majoring in journalism with a minor in political science.

According to Gaby, “Pima really helped me launch my career. I wasn’t quite ready for a university after high school and Pima was the right choice for me. Pima’s small classroom sizes helped me get the specialized attention I needed to succeed.”

Dave Jacobs, ‘88 first attended classes at Pima in 1972 and graduated in 1988 with an AAS in Wastewater Technology through the College’s Arizona State Environmental Training Technology Center (ASET) program. He has held positions with the University of Arizona, the Tucson/Pima County Household Hazardous program, the private sector, and the State of Hawaii. He is currently a contractor for an Air Force Space Command installation on the island of Oahu, in Hawaii. Dave says “the degree I earned at Pima has led me to many wonderful adventures and opportunities I never could have imagined.”

Brian Parker, ‘95 graduated from Pima with criminal justice and general studies degrees and is currently a supervisor for the Tucson Police Department.

Marcella Carpenter, ‘90 says “the nursing degree I received from Pima has changed my life. I have been able to support myself and family, marry the man of my dreams, and make many new friends through my travels. I have worked in Arizona, Montana, Washington, Johnston Atoll, and have a license to practice in the UK.”
Anthony C. Buonauro, ‘85 is currently the Clinical Educator for Surgical Services at the Desert Regional Medical Center, in Palm Springs, CA. “The foundation of nursing education that I received at PCC opened many doors for me,” notes Anthony. “Thanks, PCC!”

Georgia Cole Brousseau, ‘72 was twice elected to the PCC Board of Governors from 1975 to 1984. She retired from TUSD in 2000 as principal of Wheeler Elementary School. She has served as chair on the Pima County Merit System Commission since 1991. She authored Bridging Three Centuries: The History of the Tucson Unified School District, and is listed in Who’s Who in American Education. Georgia states, “I learned most of what inspired me to get involved in Tucson from my association with students and faculty at Pima Community College in those early days.”

Upcoming Events

• July 7 - Summer Session B Classes Begin (5-Week Classes)
• Aug. 22 - All College Day
• Aug. 27 - Fall Semester Classes Begin (Traditional 16-Week Semester)
• Aug. 30 - Rapid Registration (Noncredit, Personal Interest Classes), 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Park Place and Foothills Mall, Community Campus, Northeast Education Center, Community Performing Arts and Learning Center, Green Valley

A complete list of key dates, 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

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