

## **Admin/TechPro Meeting**

3/25/2010

Mt. Evans Room

**Present:** Jennifer Thurston, Joe Massman, Carolyn Mattern, Andrew Stevens, Maryann Touitou, Angelina Gabaldon, Elizabeth Parks, Randy Landis-Eigsti, Stan Eisti, Stephanie Berg, Larry Snyder, Jacquie Stanton, Suzanne Sullivan

Carolyn Mattern spoke about **Phi Theta Kappa (PTK)**, the international honor society for students of 2 year colleges. PTK is over 100 years old; there are 12,000 members worldwide.

### **Benefits of joining PTK:**

- Recognition of Academic Achievement
- Transfer scholarships with many schools including CU, DU, Regis, out-of-state and private schools. The transfer scholarship with CO School of Mines is \$2000/semester for three years.
- Leadership Activities including: Relay for Life, Halloween Trick or Treat on the Rocks, and testifying at committee hearings at the Capitol. Also the Ambassador program to assist visiting dignitaries on campus; career enhancing contacts have been made this way.
- There is a new four credit class on current political issues just for PTK members only—POS 215, 3 credits plus a 1 credit lab
- PTK officers can attend national conferences. This year the conference is in April and takes place in Florida.

### **Other information:**

- Each group of new officers decides on the programs for the year
- PTK enrollment takes place in the Spring and Fall each year
- There is a onetime \$85 membership fee. For financially struggling students, the fee can be spread out into several payments or students can apply for help with some of the fee through the Foundation.
- 121 new members were inducted into PTK last month. This was a record! In the fall there was another large group of new members.
- The RRCC students nominated Carolyn and she was honored as an outstanding PTK advisor.

### **Stephanie Berg spoke about the RRCC Music Program**

- We offer a large variety of classes including: Survey of World Music, American Music Survey, History of Jazz, History of American Music, and Electronic/Computer Music.
- Private Instruction is available on 10's of different instruments. Stephanie has handouts on the various instruments outside her office door, #1669. Employees can take private lessons as part of our 12 tuition free credits per year. In addition to the regular student fees, the employee would pay a private lesson fee. The private lesson fee is significantly less than the amount usually charged by music teachers. The RRCC instructors available for lessons are highly skilled and accomplished on their instruments.
- Musicians at a variety of levels can participate in the Mile High Community Band, an RRCC ensemble. The band web site is <http://www.milehighcommunityband.net/>

Larry Snyder reviewed the **Renewable Energy Programs** (<http://www.rrcc.edu/renewable/index.html>). The Renewable Energy Program at RRCC offers [degrees and certificates](#) in the following areas:

- Solar Photovoltaic (degree/certificate)
- Solar Thermal (degree/certificate)
- Wind Energy Technology (degree/certificate)
- Energy Efficiency (Energy Audit)-(certificate only)

The group had lots of questions. Some of the additional information included:

- Some non-credit training in green careers is available through the Rocky Mountain Institute.
- Federal rebates are available for old and new home energy upgrades.
- RRCC along with CO School of Mines and NREL will host green conference in June. Contact Larry for more information.
- The renewable energy programs are preparing students to sit for national certification exams. These exams can cost up to \$300.
- Wind turbine repair positions require technicians to travel considerable distances, and often be away a week or more. Technicians with an AAS and 3 years of experience can make \$70,000/yr.
- Solar arrays are being erected at the Environmental Training Center. These will generate 10,000 watts and provide the energy for the Center.
- Larry offered a word of caution for consumers considering some of the green energy programs. If the program is new, research it, and always start with a home energy audit.

**Our next meeting is April 22 from 2 pm to 3 pm in the Mt. Evans Room. Michele Haney** will lead a conversation about our **budget** and about any other topics the group would like to discuss. **Rebecca Wolfe** will update us on the **Portal** that is going live in May. The Portal will be used by students, faculty and staff to access from the Red Rocks web page. It will have links to everything from Banner to email.