Another Year of Continued Success

Our Annual Report for the Auraria Campus has just been completed, and it represents another thriving year. Hard copies will be released in the coming week, but you may view it online at www.ahec.edu/annual-report. I encourage you to read the report, as it outlines our success story and your involvement in that story. This is always a time of great pride when we have the opportunity to take a step back and recognize our significant achievements from the year. I am pleased to say that our team has once again met all of the goals established for the campus by the Auraria Board of Directors.

One of my favorite sections remains “AHEC by the Numbers” because the content comes straight from you. Adding numbers to the various “routine” things we do always paints a more colorful picture of the diversity of our tasks and triumphs, which are above and beyond the ordinary. Auraria is a special place…and it is built on the firm commitment of its people.

Congratulations to all of you for your continued success!

Barb Weiske
Chief Executive Officer
**Vice President Biden Visits CCD’s Advanced Manufacturing Center**

During a visit to Denver on July 21st, Vice President Joe Biden stopped by CCD’s new Advanced Manufacturing Center. He participated in a roundtable discussion with students, faculty, and industry partners regarding the manufacturing industry’s expected near-term shortage in welders, pipelayers, machinists, and other tradespeople. Governor John Hickenlooper and Mayor Michael Hancock also joined in the discussion. Biden said community colleges are key to filling the industry’s skills gap.

The Advanced Manufacturing Center opened at the start of the fall semester, with initial class enrollment up by 28 percent for new students. CCD held the grand opening celebration for the center on October 6th. Lieutenant Governor Joe Garcia and CEO of Metro Denver Economic Development Tom Clark made remarks at the event about the need for more middle-skilled workers in the state.

**MSU Denver Celebrates Its 50th**

Hundreds of MSU Denver faculty, staff, alumni, and friends celebrated MSU Denver’s birthday on October 1st, the 50th anniversary of when the institution first opened its doors to students.

Attendees played lawn games, ate special 50th anniversary cupcakes, and snapped selfies with Rowdy.

The formal program included a welcome by MSU Denver trustee Robert Cohen, a video about the University’s founding, as well as remarks from Denver City Council Member Albus Brooks and President Stephen Jordan. The celebration culminated in a champagne toast to the University.

Special Founding Fathers awards were presented to former Colorado Governor Roy Romer and former legislator Joe Shoemaker, both of whom were instrumental in the founding of MSU Denver.

Dr. Dorothy Horrell Named Chancellor of CU Denver

At the end of September, University of Colorado President Bruce Benson announced the appointment of Dr. Dorothy Horrell as the new Chancellor for CU Denver. Dr. Horrell will assume her duties on January 4th, 2016.

Dr. Horrell has extensive higher education experience in Colorado. She joined the Colorado State University Board of Governors in 2010, serving as Board Chair from 2013–15. She was President of the Colorado Community Colleges System from 1998–2000, and she served as President of Red Rocks Community College from 1989–1998. Most recently, Horrell served as President and CEO of the Bonfils-Stanton Foundation.

“Dorothy Horrell is a proven leader with deep knowledge of our community and state,” Benson said. “She has the skills, experience, and connections to help CU Denver build on the considerable momentum it has gained in recent years.”

Dr. Horrell earned her bachelor’s, master’s, and doctorate degrees from Colorado State University.

‘ONE AURARIA’ NEWS

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Aimee Baker
Tivoli Starbucks Manager

Tivoli Starbucks Manager Aimee Baker always planned on being a psychiatrist when she grew up, and even started college on a pre-med track. She was also passionate about art, so it wasn’t surprising when Baker changed gears slightly once she went to school at CU Denver, earning dual degrees in psychology and graphic design.

Like many early college graduates, she supplemented her new job working for a design studio by taking on a Starbucks shift supervisor position to help make ends meet. Around the same time that she and the design studio parted ways, a managerial position opened at Starbucks, which she decided to pursue for its job security and benefits. Little did she know that it would lead to her next managerial role on the Auraria Campus.

TIVOLI STATION GRAND REOPENING

October 27
9 a.m.–6 p.m.
Tivoli Station

The former Auraria Campus Bookstore is holding a grand reopening celebration and sale in honor of its transformation to Tivoli Station. Look for savings opportunities, including:

- General merchandise buy-one-get-one-free sale
- Free headphones (up to $100 in value) with a computer purchase

There will be giveaways, refreshments, and a raffle for prizes, including an iPad Mini 2.
Although Baker’s career plans didn’t include working in business operations, one would never know it with the Tivoli Starbucks continuously beating the previous day’s sales on a regular basis. Baker and her staff take the “Delight Our Customers” Guiding Principle to heart, which is evident by the store’s sales numbers. The staff’s customer-centric attitude is what makes the Tivoli Starbucks a welcoming, warm environment for the Auraria Campus Community.

A native of Colorado, Baker was born and raised in Evergreen. When she’s not working, you can find her dancing, cooking, and enjoying time with her family. She’s very close to her parents and sister, who still live in the area. Together with her husband, Adam, and their children Max (7) and Mia (4), Baker’s whole family enjoys going to events at the Modern Contemporary Art museum as often as they can. Last year their favorite was “Black Sheep Friday,” where, as a family, they dressed up as the Royal Tenenbaums.

5 Questions for Aimee

1. Before working for AHEC, what is the most interesting or unusual job you’ve had?
I was an artistic performer for eight years and had the opportunity to dance at local theaters in New York and in L.A.

2. If you could choose any period of history to live, when would it be and why?
I think I would have loved to be a part of the 1940s–1960s. I love the fashion, design, and the many social changes that occurred during that time. And, I adore watching Mad Men. My prom dress in high school was a 1950s vintage gown. I have a huge collection of vintage clothing, and even ride a vintage Vespa.

3. What is a tool you use for work that you couldn’t live without?
My great team—I attribute my many years of success as a manager to having really wonderful people around me.

4. If you could travel anywhere in the world for a week, where would you go?
This is a hard question! Japan would be my choice, I think. There is so much to experience, and I think the culture would be interesting, too. I’d love to soak in the hot springs, see Mt. Fuji, and run around Tokyo. If not Japan, I would go to a Pacific island, like Fiji or even New Zealand—somewhere I could just sit on the beach and relax.

5. What do you enjoy most about your job and working for AHEC?
I have really experienced the “One Auraria” mission in my first few months here. I am really appreciative for all of the support I have received from the different departments in getting Starbucks up and running. After being in such a team and people-oriented atmosphere at Starbucks, I was wary I would find that anywhere else, but I have been pleasantly surprised! As far as my job, I am amazed at our store’s success. Every week we break a previous record. I have never managed a Starbucks that deals with this level of volume every day! It’s quite exciting.
Plumbing & Steam Shop
Facilities Services

With over 100 years of combined experience between two master plumbers and three journeymen, the Plumbing & Steam Shop takes into consideration life-cycle costs, safety, and energy/water-use reduction when fixing, upgrading, and replacing plumbing fixtures and equipment on campus.

With a “Yes Before No” Guiding Principle mindset, the team’s responsibilities require a commitment to finding creative solutions. “The plumbing shop always goes above and beyond to resolve issues and find ways to be more sustainable on campus,” said nominator Tara Weachter of Facilities Services.

Nearly a decade ago, the plumbing on campus was starting to show signs of age; considerable repairs and updates were due. Led by Supervisor Tom Johnson, the Plumbing & Steam Shop was up to the challenge of finding a way to make the necessary repairs. With funding support from Denver Water, the Sustainable Campus Program, and the deferred maintenance budget, they upgraded all the plumbing fixtures and equipment themselves to be energy-efficient and modern. At a third of the cost of hiring a sub-contractor, the plumbing technicians performed the work in-house.

Following the “Make an Impact” Guiding Principle, the Plumbing & Steam Shop understands every action, big or small, makes a difference on campus. One of the team’s more recent projects was installing 350 new backflow prevention devices throughout the campus. (Backflow prevention is incredibly important for ensuring water quality.) The project took nearly two years to complete, but the result is the assurance that the campus is in compliance with Denver Water, and the redundancy of having the same device throughout campus makes it more efficient for the team to make repairs.
From identifying problems to ensuring that equipment and fixtures are put back into service in a clean and aesthetically pleasing manner, the AHEC plumbing technicians are essential to keeping campus facilities running efficiently and at a first-rate level. “The quality of the work they do is amazing,” said Johnson. “We have a great team—without that dynamic, we couldn’t accomplish what we do.”

The **Plumbing & Steam Shop** is responsible for:

- 1600 toilets
- 500 urinals
- 700 hand-washing sinks
- 80 mop sinks
- 45 break room sinks
- 100 water heaters
- 1/2 mile of steam pipe
- 20 miles of sanitary pipe
- 10 miles of storm drain
- 350 backflow preventers

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### CALENDAR & REMINDERS

**October 30, 2015**
Mid-year performance evaluations due to performance@ahec.edu

**November 1–30, 2015**
Benefits Open Enrollment for non-classified staff

**November 5, 2015**
7–11 a.m.
Employee Wellness Fair

**November 5, 2015**
5 p.m.
Take Back the Night (Campus Safe Night)

**December 18, 2015**
2–3:30 p.m.
Winterfest