



COMMUNITY
COLLEGE OF
DENVER

Community College of Denver

President's Report Dr. Marielena P. DeSanctis

April 2023

Transform the Student Experience

- CCD Artee Robotics Team won the **Most Autonomous Rover Award** at Great San Dunes National Park on April 15, 2023. They completed four, technically four and a half, of the five-course challenges! The first few courses were easy for Artee (the robot), conquering all four with flying colors. The last one was a bit more challenging due to the course setup, the sun, and other factors.



- Each year, John Wenner assigns his sculpture class students specific materials to use when building a secure cage to protect their eggs. From there, they then create front-top and side-view sketches of their cage models. After their sketches are approved, they start assembling their idea from the specific materials allowed. They have a quick critique before the dropping begins from around 30 feet! Students are engaged by conceptualizing, building, and testing their ideas. Not a single egg was harmed in this year's cage design which bounced upon impact.
- On April 26, 2023, CCD gathered graduating students and their families for its annual Student Awards Ceremony. Each year CCD recognizes students for their leadership, outstanding academic achievements, success through significant challenges, contributions to the College, and overall contribution to the College and the communities through service.



The well-attended event was standing room only when CCD's 2023 Commencement Speaker, Wanda James, provided the keynote address. Wanda inspired students and their families on leadership and to remain steadfast in following their values and what they believe in their soul to be right. The full keynote address will be publicly available in the days leading up to CCD's Commencement Celebration on May 11, 2023.



About Wanda James

Wanda is a leading advocate for cannabis reform and the co-founder and CEO of Simply Pure Dispensary. She is also the managing partner of the Cannabis Global Initiative (CGI), a marketing and consulting firm specializing in public relations, regulation, and political outreach. Wanda was the first in her family to earn a college degree. In 1986, she graduated from the University of Colorado with a degree in Speech Communications. Upon graduation, she was commissioned as an officer in the United States Navy. Following her service in the Navy, Wanda held several corporate positions for two Fortune 100 companies. She is also a graduate of the Inaugural Class of the Los Angeles African American Women's Public Policy Institute at the University of Southern California. In 2023, she became the first black woman elected to the University of Colorado Board of Regents in more than 44 years. Her dedication to education and advocacy has led her to become a founding board member of the Cannabis Impact Fund, a philanthropic organization that supports social equity in the cannabis industry. Wanda's achievements serve as an inspiration to all who strive to break down barriers and effect positive change in their communities.

Transform Our Own Workforce Experience

- CCD held its interviews and open forums for its search in its next Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs during the week of April 25, 2023. Four strong candidates met with faculty and staff in-person and virtually throughout the week. All are invited to provide their valuable feedback by May 1 for the President's consideration and the challenging decision ahead.

Create Education Without Barriers Through Transformational Partnerships

- Dr. DeSanctis attended the annual ASU+GSV Summit where she met many innovative and thought-provoking leaders. Among the many sessions attended, Dr. DeSanctis sat in Governor Polis's session as he and Emma Bloomberg discussed state leadership & civic engagement.



Key Performance Metrics 2022-23

Increase overall fall to spring retention by 10%.
(Baseline 64%)



67% Student Retained
Fall 2022 to Spring 2023
(4,571 out of 7,244)

Increase the concurrent enrollment participation of Title 1 DPS high school students by 10%. (976 to 1,073)



Exceeded Goal
Concurrent enrollment student participation from Title 1 DPS high schools in 2022-23 (1,483 unduplicated headcount)

45% Diverse Hires for Monthly Staff



45%
Diverse hires for Monthly Staff

25% Diverse Hires for Adjuncts



23%
Diverse hires for Adjuncts

Retention: 85% of CCD Staff participates in Professional Development training



63%

CCD staff have participated in Professional Development
