Classes are overflowing with students this semester as enrollment reached record numbers. According to Dr. Ron Ramming, Vice-President of Enrollment Management and Student Services, “We have a new record for enrollment at CSC.” At this time, there are 2,540 students enrolled. This represents an increase of 16% compared to last fall.

Long lines dominated all the offices on both campuses during the first two weeks of class. Students were adding or dropping classes, enrolling, purchasing books and supplies, and finalizing financial aid.

Cheryl Blackwell, who has worked at the Muskogee campus bookstore since 2001, said, “It has been the busiest semester ever.” Tammy Melton, Director of Auxiliary Services, agreed. She stated, “Both campus bookstores were really, really busy, and still are. With the use of the ID card, it has created more business for the bookstores.”

The lines in the offices have slowly dwindled away, but some lines have not, such as the elevator lines at the Muskogee Downtown campus and the cafeteria lines in Warner.

According to Muskogee student Jennifer Cole, she sometimes uses the stairs. “The crowd makes the elevators too slow.”

Other problems caused by the increased enrollment are parking issues and overflow dorm rooms. Keelie Blackwood, Warner student, agrees, “There is a lack of parking and the dorms are so full that people have been moved to McClarren.” However, she states, “On a positive note, teachers are just as willing to help as much as possible even though they have full classes.”
I believe we are off to a great semester although the weather has been atrocious. I’m sure the greetings you have received are only a precursor to the exposure of the many programs and activities available to you as we make Connors your home away from home.

We know that learning is continuous and should be available to all who desire its impingements. As an open door institution, we never make the assumptions that everyone knows all of the answers or that we become too knowledgeable to appreciate new ideas. As you gain knowledge, it is imperative that our faculty and staff remain abreast of the skills and competencies required in being productive in the workforce.

We will remain positive and true to our mission of utilizing the highest standards in our commitment to provide affordable, innovative, life-long learning opportunities that enable you to succeed in a global society.

Oftentimes, the most motivating action one can share with others is to express appreciation to them. A simple “thank you” is very inexpensive, but can reap rewards beyond measure. We know, when choosing an institution to further one’s education, many institutions are available, thus for choosing Connors State, we say thank you and hope this phase of your journey will prove beneficial in the end.

Have a great year!

Donnie L. Nero, Ed. D.
President

Fitness Center

The CSC aquatics and fitness center is now open. Membership is available to CSC students, employees, and the general public. The non-refundable memberships are purchased by semester and will not be prorated. A one day guest pass is also available.

The facility - which includes evening use of the swimming pool - will be available daily from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. Evening hours are 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

The fitness center recently underwent a complete refurbishing adding new nautilus weight machines as well as new aerobic stations.

Phi Beta Lambda

Are you majoring in business, but don’t know exactly how to handle the business world? Do you want to be able to travel, but can’t afford it or want to meet people who are going the same direction as you? Here’s your chance! Phi Beta Lambda, CSC’s business club, is now starting.

The first meeting is Thursday, September 9th, 5 p.m.– 6 p.m. at EDB in Warner, Room 108, Muskogee Downtown, and Room 7, Port Campus.

For more information contact Becky Rayborn at becky.rayborn@connorsstate.edu or John Maly at john.maly@connorsstate.edu.

Third Party Comment Concerning Connors’ Upcoming Reaccreditation

Connors State College is seeking comments from the public about the College in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. The College will undergo a comprehensive evaluation visit November 1-3, 2010 by a team representing The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Associate of Colleges and Schools.

The public is invited to submit comments in writing regarding the College to this address:

Public Comment on Connors State College
The Higher Learning Commission
30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400
Chicago, IL 60602

Comments can also be filed via the Commission’s web page at www.ncahlc.org. Click on the “File Third Party Comments” link on the left side of the Commission’s main page. Scroll down and submit your comments under the “Submit a Third Party Comment” heading.

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing and signed; comments cannot be treated as confidential. All comments must be received by October 1, 2010.
Phi Theta Kappa

Phi Theta Kappa would like to congratulate all new invitees for the fall 2010 semester.

New member orientation will be held at the Warner LLC and Muskogee Downtown library on Wednesday, September 15th at 12 p.m., 3 p.m., and 5 p.m. New member induction will be held on Friday, October 8th at 7 p.m. For more information, please contact Jolene Armstrong at the Warner LLC or Uta-Renate Kuehn at truesaphire77@yahoo.com.

Several of the Mu Chi chapter recently spent a day in the sun at the 3rd annual Muskogee River Rumba at Three Forks Harbor. Members volunteered for face painting and the Raingutter Regatta course.

Upcoming events include Phi Theta Kappa Regionals in Fort Smith on October 1st and 2nd, and Cowchip Day in Warner on October 2nd.

Phi Theta Kappa Mu Chi chapter t-shirts are now available at the libraries on both campuses.

The Roving Reporter . . . How was your first week at CSC?

“Very eventful.”
Michelle Jenkins
Major – Business Administration

“Awesome and having fun with a little bit of professor phobia.”
Kassandra Jones
Major – Nursing

“Bookstore was packed with insane long lines.”
Marlene McMahon
Major – Biology

“Great!”
Derrick Harmer
Major – Nursing

“Nerve racking and overwhelming!”
Lauren Moore
Major – Nursing

“Wonderful, gained a lot of confidence and encouragement!”
Victor Redo
Major – Sociology

“All of my professors are cool, and I enjoy my classmates. Wonderful.”
Anitra Pacheco
Major – Psychology

“Cool yet frustrating at the same time!”
Adrian Brown
Major – Respiratory Therapist
The CSC cheerleading squad recently won the National Collegiate Champion Bronze Award at the National Cheerleading Association Camp in Oklahoma City. This accomplishment is awarded to the team bid winner exemplifying the best technical skill and cheerleading technique, according to a media release. This bid is extended to teams to compete at the NCA College Nationals in Daytona Beach, Florida. The NCA Championships are the world’s largest cheerleading events, bringing in more than 20,000 of the nation’s cheerleaders.

The CSC cheerleaders also received the following awards at the NCA camp:
- The Spirit Stick Award (presented to the squad showing the most sincere spirit and enthusiasm)
- Game Day Cheer Superior Blue Ribbon (based on overall technical skills and ability to lead the crowd in a “Game Day” routine)
- The Rally Routine Superior Blue Ribbon (based on overall technical skills and ability to lead the crowd in a “Rally Routine”)

Former CSC student, Ryan Bothum, from Hermiston, Oregon, had a dream come true this summer. He became the 2010 College National Finals Rodeo Tie Down Roping Champion with his performance in the college season’s final event, the College National Finals Rodeo in Casper, Wyoming. “We’re proud of Ryan’s accomplishments and our team as a whole,” said CSC’s President Dr. Nero. “Their efforts and hard work over the course of the season really paid off.” Ryan is continuing his education and rodeo career at Southeastern State in Durant, Oklahoma.