# Charting the Course to a Winning Investment



## **Community Colleges of Spokane**

- Spokane Community College
- Spokane Falls Community College
- The Institute for Extended Learning

#### Student Data 2011-12

27,476 state-support students served (unduplicated headcount), including:

11,473 First-generation college students

9,296 Economically disadvantaged

1,297 Veterans

Average age: 31.1 Median age: 25.5

## Spokane Community College

Provides skilled workers for the aerospace industry statewide through implementation and management of \$20 million federal Air Washington consortium grant.

Graduates an average of 460 <u>nursing and</u> <u>allied health</u> students each year who generally exceed national average pass rates in certification and licensing exams.

## Spokane Falls Community College

Served nearly 6,000 students (more than 66% of its total enrollment) in 2011-12 who intended to transfer to four-year universities.

Leads collaborative efforts to improve Math Transitions from K-12 to college.

## Institute for Extended Learning

Transitioned more than 1,000 <u>basic skills</u> <u>students</u> to college programs at SCC and SFCC over the past five years.

#### Fall 2012

Community Colleges of Spokane has made great strides in the four strategic priority areas – <u>Student Success</u>, <u>Collaboration and Communication</u>, <u>Sustainability</u> and <u>Innovation</u> – established in its 10-year strategic plan, approved by the Board of Trustees in June 2011. Following are highlights of recent accomplishments.

## Strategic Reorganization for Efficiency, Effectiveness, Cost Savings

Comprehensive reorganization efforts -- announced in January 2012 and implemented July 1, 2012 -- to improve efficiency and effectiveness saved more than \$750,000 in operating expenses by consolidating offices and eliminating duplication.

- Now functioning as a cohesive division instead of four separate units, CCS
   <u>Information Technology</u> is standardizing processes, better utilizing resources and optimizing the use of technology districtwide.
- To increase access to educational opportunities throughout our 12,302-square-mile district, this winter the CCS <u>eLearning</u> division is launching promotion of 10 certificates and degrees students may earn online.
- <u>Library</u> faculty and staff have drafted a strategic plan befitting true libraries of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, under the leadership of a single executive director.
- The reinvented <u>Global Education</u> division has reached out to Asia, is exploring new markets including South America and has returned all English instruction for international students to CCS faculty instead of a contracted vendor.

### Innovative Opportunities to Generate New Revenue and Enhance Student Success

The initiative to consolidate CCS workforce, corporate training and continuing education blossomed into an even bigger opportunity – an <u>innovative partnership between CCS and the Spokane Area Workforce Development Council</u>. Now co-located on the Spokane Community College campus, the newly joined staff of both organizations are collaborating to provide a single front door for business, industry and the community to access flexible, efficient and affordable training and education that meet regional needs.

Through another innovative public-private partnership – <u>American Honors at Community Colleges of Spokane</u> – CCS faculty are teaching highly motivated students rigorous honors curriculum in a seminar setting using interactive technology. Benefits the pilot program provides are one-on-one coaching and assistance with university transfer options for students, peer-to-peer curriculum and professional development for faculty, and access to custom-designed feature-rich instructional technology. In fall 2013, the program will be self-support.

Four faculty teams – two from SCC and two SFCC -- have been chosen to participate in the 2013 MENTOR-CONNECT Technical Assistance and Mentoring Support project regarding their <u>National Science Foundation</u> grant applications. They were selected from a pool of 36 applicants from 19 states. Each team's request is designed to increase pathways for students to careers requiring high-level knowledge and skills in science, technology, engineering and/or math.

## **Continuous Improvement and Efficiencies Resulting from Lean Efforts**

Applying lean principles to its mission-critical work, CCS <u>Facilities</u> combined three separate custodial crews into one major daytime crew resulting in shift differential savings, more daytime support on campuses and the ability to shut down buildings overnight, which provides energy savings. Facilities also consolidated two campus manager positions into one, providing a single point of contact for service and salary savings.

Proud to be a <u>FirstLink College</u>, CCS cross-functional teams continue to identify business processes to "lean" in preparation to serve as leaders for the design, configuration, testing and implementation of ctcLink, the new statewide online student and administrative system that will replace decades-old legacy systems.

## For more information, contact Anne.Tucker@ccs.spokane.edu.

See the Fall 2012 Strategic Plan Progress Report Addendum for supporting data.