



REPORT TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SUPERINTENDENT/PRESIDENT – KEVIN TRUTNA, ED.D.
MARCH 21, 2013

1. STUDENT AND EMPLOYEE ACHIEVEMENTS

For the last year **Becca Dennis**, an ORL graduate, has been pouring her life into a project called Nobody's River. She and three other women will be traveling and documenting the global treasure and widely unknown enormous free-flowing river in Russia and Mongolia, from source to sea. The all-woman team will attempt to travel the length of the third longest free-flowing river in the world, the Amur, in the summer of 2013. They will be documenting it through moving and still images, as well as gathering scientific data on this rare example of a massive free-flowing river. The ORL team is very proud of Becca for her incredible use of leadership skills, expedition trip planning, river running skills, and river conservation demonstrated by this project. Becca is a very talented woman, who is now pursuing a nursing degree at Northern Arizona University. If you are interested, please check out the project at <http://nobodysriver.org/>

Soccer student-athletes **Melissa Kalbfleish** signed an NCAA D1 scholarship to Prairie View A&M, **Naomi Feltham** (FRC via England) inked a full ride scholarship to NAIA Montreat College in North Carolina, Quincy local **Korey Cline** will be a Roadrunner with her NCAA D1 scholarship to Cal State Bakersfield next year. One of our goals is to provide transfer education opportunities, and our athletics program is very successful in helping students transfer to a four-year university.

The **FRC Baseball** team is currently 13-7 overall and in first place in the Golden Valley Conference with a 6-0 conference record. FRC is ranked #6 in the latest NorCal poll.

The **Enactus** team was awarded a Lowe's Foundation Community Improvement Grant for \$2,000 to make facilities improvements to the Capital Arts Center, including a new door, a sign for the side of the building, and retail shelving. This is an extension of the artisan incubator project.

The Feather River College Horse Show Club had its first show of the season on Sunday, March 10. Under the expert coaching of former FRC equine student and Fresno State Equestrian Team alumna, **Carolyn Carter**, the members of the show team have been diligently improving their skills in a type of Western riding competition called Reining. The show team invited any students currently training a horse for the 15th Annual Feather River College May 18 Horse Production Sale to compete as well. In all, there were 33 riders expertly judged by yet another FRC alumna, **Jessica Buckley**, who herself is a successful Reining competitor. Everyone rose to the challenge and there were some awesome rides! Extra special thanks go to club advisor **Crystal Anderson** who volunteered her time to film every ride so each rider can review it later, to club president and student **Ashley Valor**, who organized the show and the prizes, and to FRC alumna **Deborah Williams**, who took almost 300 photographs.

http://phantomphotography.smugmug.com/Other/2013-FRC-Sale-Horse/28281169_rvphM9#!i=2403812415&k=SFxx7gZ

Judy Mahan applied and was awarded a \$65,000 grant for use next year. This will allow Certified Nursing Assistant home health aide education throughout our service area.

Two current Volleyball student athletes, **Stacey Witt** and **Amber Hall**, as well as volleyball student athlete alumna **Brittany Hall** are again coaching two teams of young Plumas County girls through a season of club volleyball. The Plumas Volleyball Club offers the girls an exciting opportunity that in this county would otherwise not be available to them until high school! Head Coach Brittany Hall has taken on a team of girls 13-14 years of age and Assistant Coaches Stacey Witt and Amber Hall coach a team of girls 12 years old and younger.

On Friday, February 22, 2013, TRiO Educational Talent Search offered a Professional Skills Day at Portola High School. Eighty 9th and 10th grade students participated in mock interviews with 12 local professionals. They also attended workshop presentations with **Audrey Peters** (Upward Bound), **Tanya Meyer** (CTE), and **Pam Becwar** (ETS), who also organized the event. The goal of the day was for students to develop confidence, soft skills and job interview experience.

Connie Litz has been awarded a scholarship to attend the Classified Leadership Institute in Sacramento this June! FRC has not been represented at this Institute for several years – so congratulations to Connie for being willing to attend the Institute and bring back valuable information for all of our employees.

Margaret Garcia signed a publishing contract for her fiction book *Sad Girls and Other Stories*. Publishing is due out in December 2013 on Solstice Press.

The FRC Child Development Center preschool children and staff are currently knee deep in soil, planting and growing wonderful flowers and vegetables. Eventually the flowers will become Mother's Day Presents and the others plants will be transplanted to the CDC garden. From the garden, the children harvest, clean, and help prepare meals with the teachers and our cook. The current project works cooperatively with the wonderful FRC greenhouse staff, Terri and Rose. The children visit the greenhouse on a regular basis to water and watch their seedling grow. The children are using a lot of creative thinking skills to predict and discover what is happening. In addition, the CDC received a grant from *Bread for the Journey* to purchase soil, seeds, and a few gardening tools. The Child Development Center continues to enjoy working cooperatively with the community, offering connections between the CDC, the larger FRC campus and the community. We will be enrolling children ages 2-5 years for next semester very soon, so let families know and we can put them on the waiting list.

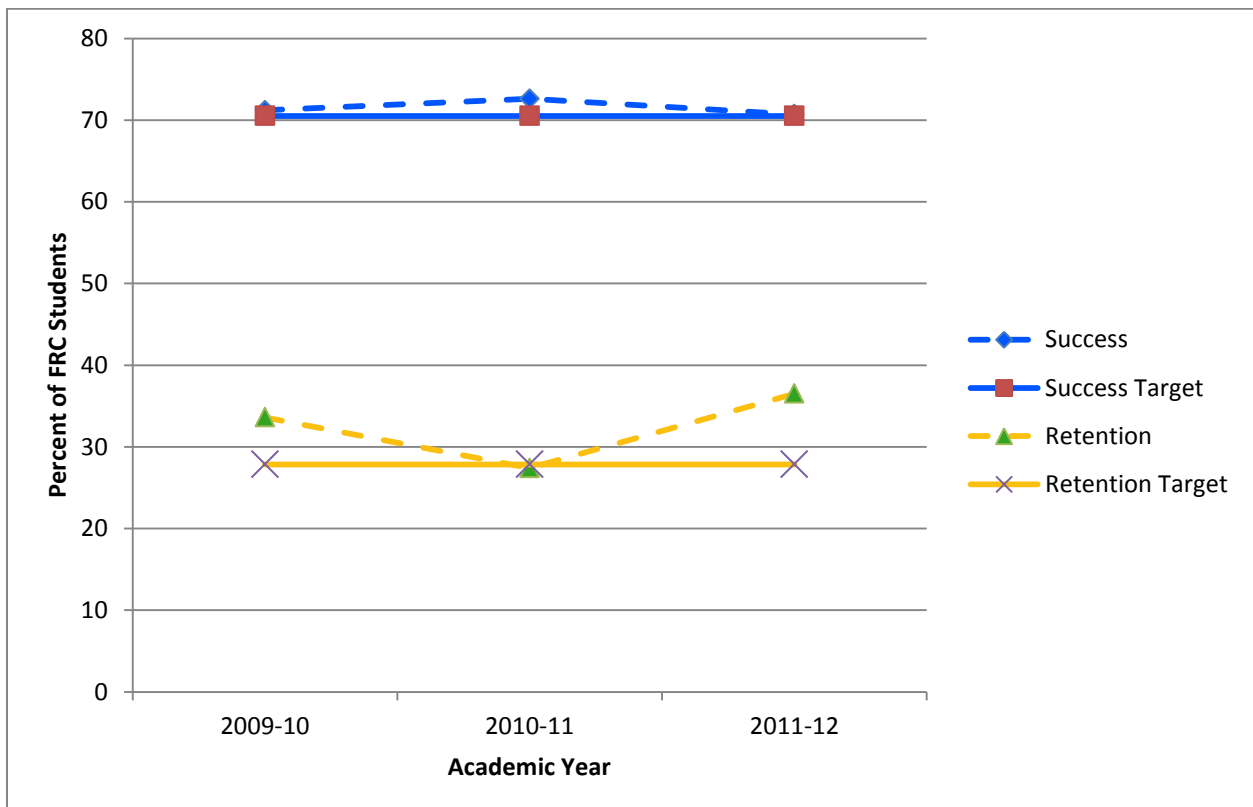
2. PREVIOUS MONTH'S ACTIVITIES REPRESENTING FRCCD

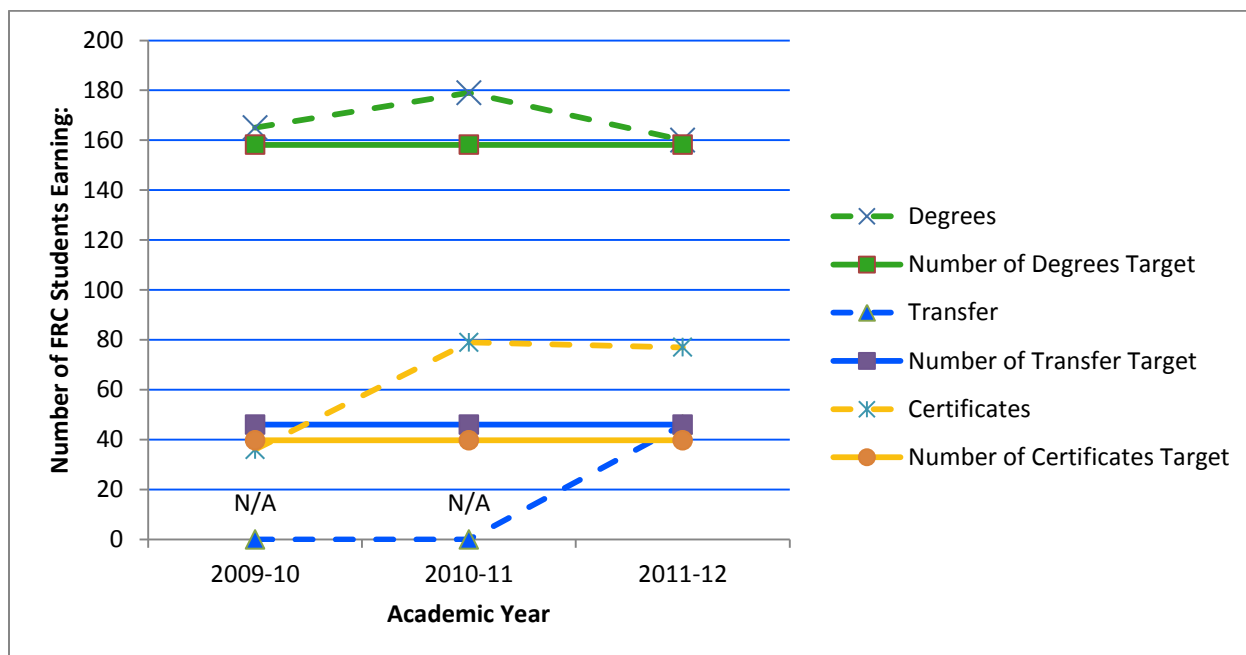
- a) February 25 – lobbied for Skilled Nursing Facility funding issue with Department of California Health Services due to impact on FRC programs and services
- b) March 4 – met with Mick Presnell, Adjunct Faculty Representative regarding contract issues
- c) March 4 – visited Quincy Rotary Club
- d) March 7 – participated in Plumas County Economic Recovery Meeting
- e) March 7 – attended FRC Foundation Executive Council Meeting
- f) March 10-12 – attended NorCal CEO meeting on topics ranging from Accreditation, RP Group, Role of Foundation for California Community Colleges, and Federal and State update
- g) March 14 – attended Softball game vs. Redwoods
- h) March 20 - met with Nancy Conner from Keenan Insurance Company

3. ACCJC Annual Report – FRC Targets

This year’s ACCJC Annual Report - which is a standard, yearly report of certain numbers related to degrees and financial indicators - now asks institutions to identify “targets” for program success, retention, degrees awarded, transfer students, and certificates awarded in response to Federal legislation. These numbers are not to be goals for an institution to achieve; rather they are internal indicators of an institution’s quality achievement and self-monitoring capacity. Or put another way, these targets are thresholds that, when crossed, signal to an institution to thoroughly research the situation in order to ensure quality educational programs.

Since FRC has not previously discussed such targets, I asked the Council on Instruction (COI) to review data from the past few years and develop a preliminary strategy to set these ACCJC-required target numbers. As a result, COI set these standards at one standard deviation below the three-year average. Recognizing that this is a first attempt at establishing such college-wide benchmark targets, FRC will be monitoring and adjusting these targets over the next several years. Remember the goal is to know when something looks out of the ordinary and deserves further inquiry. My goal as President, and in communicating our institutional quality with the public, is to use factors such as these as indicators of continuous monitoring of educational excellence and assurance of institutional quality. These preliminary findings are presented as a starting point for the discussions of (a) when should we do an in-depth analysis and further program review of a particular program for its own educational health, and (b) what thresholds does FRC insist upon for our retention rate, success rate, and number of degrees and certificates offered.





4. Student Support (Re)defined – What Students Say They Need to Succeed

Here is a novel idea: do an in-depth study on the factors that influence student success by actually *asking students what they feel contributed to their success in college*. The California Community College Research and Planning (RP) Group used focus groups, questionnaires, and studied factors from 14 different colleges and over 900 students to critically look into the factors that influence student success. The resultant report is titled **Using Student Voices to Redefine Support: What Community College Students Say Institutions, Instructors and Others Can Do to Help Them Succeed**.

The findings provide a detailed discussion of students’ perspectives on how “six success factors”—directed, focused, nurtured, engaged, connected and valued—contribute to their achievement; incorporates discussion questions to stimulate dialog about these findings and provides several suggestions for action—offered by students in the study—that can be used by different constituent groups to support their success. Five key themes are presented that (1) synthesize what students say about the six success factors and (2) share specific strategies that students suggest may improve their achievement. I recently attended a presentation on this fascinating report; it has a direct impact on classroom teaching and student support services alike. My question, for those of you who read this far – is this a topic that you would like to see at Institution Day in the fall? Please respond if you would like to hear and discuss the factors that students self-identified as crucial to their success.

Student perspectives form the basis of **Student Support (Re)defined**—a multiyear study funded by The Kresge Foundation designed to understand how community colleges can feasibly deliver support, both inside and outside the classroom, to improve the success of all learners. Links to these resources may be found at: <http://www.rpgroup.org/projects/student-support>.

5. 2013 CCCT Board Election

The Feather River Community College District Board of Trustees has been asked to provide seven votes for the open vacancies on the CCCT Board. I will be asking the Board for their direction on the votes from our district at the April Board of Trustees meeting. The candidates in random order are:

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|---|---|
| 1. Dianne B. McKay, Ventura County CCD | 9. Susan M. Keith, Citrus CCD |
| 2. Howard Rudd, Sierra Joint CCD | 10. Garrett Yee, Ohlone CCD |
| 3. Adrienne Grey, West Valley-Mission CCD | 11. Loren Steck, Monterey Peninsula CCD |
| 4. *Cy Gulassa, Peralta CCD | 12. *Jerry D. Hart, Imperial CCD |
| 5. *Louise Jaffe, Santa Monica CCD | 13. Brent Hastey, Yuba CCD |
| 6. *Isabel Barreras, State Center CCD | 14. Jeffrey Lease, San Jose-Evergreen CCD |
| 7. Sally W. Biggin, Redwoods CCD | 15. Linda S. Wah, Pasadena Area CCD |
| 8. Greg Bonaccorsi, Ohlone CCD | * Incumbent |

6. Plumas Energy Efficiency and Renewable Management Action Plan (PEER MAP) Grant Awarded!

Through our support of the Sierra Institute, a grant was awarded that will plan for alternative fuel usage from some of the largest energy users in Plumas County. The proposal was ranked second in its category, due in part to the large number of institutions involved in this project who showed support for the use of alternative energy in our region.

The Sierra Institute for Community and Environment proposes to work with county, state, and federal agencies—the largest institutional partners in rural Plumas County—and the public to develop the Plumas Energy Efficiency and Renewables Management Action Plan (PEER MAP) under the “Community Scale Renewable Energy Integration Exploration” topic. The primary focus is on small-scale woody biomass powered boilers, followed by solar photovoltaics, the two most locally abundant renewable resources. Other technologies, such as combined heat and power biomass-powered facility, will be explored as a part of the project. The goal of the Plumas Energy Efficiency and Renewables Management Action Plan is to create a renewable energy action plan across Plumas County. Through development of the plan, this PEER MAP project will reduce the use of high cost fossil fuels at public institutions by integrating woody biomass and other renewable energy into existing infrastructure in Plumas County.

Numerous local, state, and federal agencies have agreed to participate in the development of the PEER MAP planning effort and collectively offer economies of scale and unique linkage opportunities, especially for the utilization of woody biomass. The non-profit Sierra Institute for Community and Environment (Sierra Institute) is leading this effort that includes Feather River College. Biomass feasibility assessment will be conducted by Wisewood, Inc., and will consist of, first, review of sites for biomass boiler location. This involves investigation of current heating systems and determination of the steps necessary to install a biomass boiler on a site by site basis.

The second and third steps in determining the economic viability of biomass boiler installation involves development of at least two financial pro forma and a detailed design engineering plan for one site, These will be critical to partner consideration of biomass boilers and, ultimately, development and implementation of the PEER MAP. A financial pro forma will be developed by modeling projected cash flows and net revenues against capital costs and other costs needed to finance project construction. The engineering plan will encompass detailed design engineering of the proposed renewable energy generation technology including, but not limited to: site plans with topographical data; design of boiler equipment and fuel handling systems; mechanical system design; drawings for utilities, piping, and electrical systems building and equipment foundation; completed environmental and land use permits as required; and evaluation of the pros and cons of pellets versus wood chips. Engineering work will also take into consideration sensitive receptors, best available control technologies and other air quality issues.

Environmental benefits of the project include reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire and threats to watershed integrity, improved security of transmission lines and hydro-electric facilities in forests, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and improving the health of forests and wildlife habitat. This project will create jobs and cut costs for critical public institutions and provide a powerful example of how this work can be done in other rural areas.

This project has the support of the major public institutions that represent the largest energy users in rural Plumas County. Letters of support and commitment have been received from Plumas Unified School District and the Plumas County Office of Education, Eastern Plumas Health Care District, Feather River College, Plumas County and the Plumas County Planning Department, Indian Valley Community Services District, and USDA Forest Service, Plumas National Forest.

**7. CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER
GREENHOUSE EXPERIENCE**

We offer many opportunities for children to develop scientific thinking skills. We often play a game *OBSERVE, PREDICT, & CHECK*. Before our first trip to the FRC Greenhouse, children made predictions about what a "greenhouse" might be.



Greenhouse Predictions

It's an apple house.
Cameron

There are animals in it.
Troy

It's green and it has stuffed animals in it. JP



It has a number on it with a couch and TV inside. Maverick

It's big. Levi

It is blue. Ty



After our visit, we got back together to check in our about our prediction. As you can imagine, the responses were quite different.

A greenhouse looks like glass. Tommy



It's white and stuff and has plants. Troy

I think one plant is starting to grow! Cameron

I saw little growing plants. Anthony

Thanks to Terri and Rose for helping us get started on our spring plantings!



8. UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS AT FEATHER RIVER COLLEGE

March 21	Board of Trustees Meeting (LR 105)	3:00 pm
March 22	<p>Plumas Business Summit in partnership with Eastern Plumas Chamber of Commerce.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit readiness panel of lenders • Deputy Director of Small Business Barbara Vohryzek from the Governor's Office • Enactus competition presentations • Breakout presentations • County-wide high school business plan competition (YEP grant) 	
March 22	California Community College Chancellors Office Agricultural Capital Readiness Project (FRC Campus)	
March 22	Baseball v. Butte (BB field)	2:00 pm
March 25	FRC Chili Cook-off Contest (Eagles Perch)	12:00 pm
March 29	Baseball v. Siskiyou (BB field)	2:00 pm
March 30	Baseball v. Siskiyou DH (BB field)	12:00 pm
April 5	Baseball v. Shasta DH (BB field)	1:00 pm
April 13	Softball v. Lassen DH (SB field)	12:00 pm
April 17	Baseball v. Butte DH (BB field)	1:00 pm
April 18	Board of Trustees Meeting (LR 105)	3:00 pm
April 20	Softball v. Shasta DH (SB field)	12:00 pm
April 22	<p>Earth Day Events - Educational Showcase for Campus & Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome & grab a tasty treat (Darla DeRuiter) – meet at Hatchery • Hatchery Tour (Zach Parks) • Campus Forestry & Fire Plan (Darrel Jury) • Greenhouse Projects & Tour (Terri Rust) • Kill trees with Darrel (forest thinning project) or Plant trees with Terri (fire restoration project), or campus Trash Pick-up with Darla 	<p>12:00 pm</p> <p>12:20 pm</p> <p>12:40 pm</p> <p>1:00 pm</p> <p>1:00 pm</p>
April 25	ENVR 102 class (taught by Bridget Tracy) will be doing a Waste Audit: sorting a week's worth of FRC trash to see what is recyclable, compostable, paper, other, and what is actually trash. This is the 4 th waste audit conducted by the ENVR program, providing valuable information for how we can improve our practices (last year, 55% of our waste could have been diverted from the landfill and composted or recycled instead!).	
April 26	Student Art Reception (Pangea Café)	5:00 pm
April 28	ORL students are hosting a recruiting day for new students, free boat demos and paddle instruction for the community, and a gear sale to raise money for student scholarships and student programming	