A note from Joe

We are off and running!! This will be an exciting and eventful school year. I’d like to say thank you for returning after your summer breaks. As you know we have a number of new employees that were introduced at convocation and I am particularly excited about the energy, camaraderie, and voyage we are all about to embark upon. I’ve spent a considerable amount of time meeting with external constituents and trying to get to know more about our operations and who you are. Now that all of our faculty are back, I’m looking forward to meeting even more of you as we roll in to the school year and welcome students back to our campuses and centers.

I’ve had the distinct honor of addressing several community groups since July and have invitations to address several more in the near future. I’ll tell you what I’ve told others in the community...my wife, Yvette, and I are extremely proud to be joining you in what we feel is one of the most beautiful locations in the Northwest. North Idaho College is absolutely one of this country’s best kept secrets. It’s also a secret that we want to share!

I’m fast learning all the outstanding programs and initiatives NIC is undertaking and I’ll discuss those more later on in the newsletter. Let me just say that each and every one of us has total bragging rights about this institution and I hope you all take every opportunity to share the news with your friends and family about the many special things their community college has to offer.

I’d like to hear from you and my door is open when you want to stop in and say hi. Also, please let me know if you’d like to see these newsletters from me every month or just a couple times a semester. Email my administrative assistant, Shannon Goodrich, and give her your feedback. I look forward to reading your comments.

“Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself.”
John Dewey

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New Sandpoint Outreach Facility

NIC recently signed a lease for a new Sandpoint outreach site, allowing the Ponderay Center to relocate. The new location at 102 South Euclid Avenue is close to the center of downtown Sandpoint, in the former Sandpoint High School building.

Outreach staff moved in over the week of August 13 and all services are expected to be up and running before the start of classes.

In addition to increasing our square footage, the new facility also houses the Area Agency on Aging Sandpoint office, and is located just across the street from the Sandpoint Head Start.

We’ve scheduled a grand opening event for November 1 with tours and a special concert performance by Max Mendez and the Sandpoint High School Choir. I hope you’ll all make plans to attend and see for yourself all of the outstanding services we will provide the Sandpoint Community.

“Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.”
William Butler Yeats
**Powder Magazine**

Facilities Director Mike Halpern and his department have almost completed their renovation project of the historical Fort Sherman Powder Magazine. The first phase was to upgrade the facility and restore the building back to its original look as closely as possible, removing ceiling tile, sheetrock, linoleum flooring and asbestos. The brick was cleaned of paint, sandblasted and repaired. The original trusses, lumber and wood floor have been exposed. Electrical upgrades and lighting are almost complete, and a new handrail, windows, doors, and coach house lights are were installed. New landscaping and an irrigation system are almost complete. A flagpole has been installed with a 38 star flag (the number of states in the union at the time Fort Sherman was active), and the placement of a miniature replica of an 1841 six pounder cannon. Eventually displays will be put inside to recognize the history of the Fort, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe and North Idaho College. The Powder Magazine, along with the fort’s officers’ quarters and the fort chapel are all on the National Register of Historical Places.

**Plaza Behind Lee-Kildow Hall**

Our Facilities Department did an outstanding job on the new plaza and fountain located behind Lee-Kildow Hall, creating a beautiful green space for staff and students to enjoy. We’ll have special dedication ceremonies for this great new space and the Powder Magazine both. Be watching for coming announcements of those dates.

**Traffic Control and Parking**

Even though our enrollment is down somewhat from past years, we’re still anticipating a busy campus and busy parking lots. To help out, Diamond Parking will assist with traffic control during the first week of school and we have also contracted with them for parking enforcement in the campus lots and Fort Ground neighborhood during the upcoming school year.

“A liberal education is at the heart of a civil society, and at the heart of a liberal education is the act of teaching.”

A. Bartlett Giamatti

**Workforce Training Center News**

FY12 enrollment and revenue kept pace with FY11 despite the sluggish economy, and a decrease in apprentice students.

A new esthetician program was launched in the fall, with great results. This student run skin care clinic was well received and now has many regular customers. Two cohorts of students started the 15 week course in FY12 for a total of 14 students.

Health Professions continues to see strong enrollments, as does the Commercial Driver's License course. The second Firefighter 1 Academy was held in spring 2012, with all 14 students completing the academy and taking the IFSAC examinations.

Customized Training partnered with PTE’s Trades and Industry division to respond to the need to retrain miners who were laid off at the Lucky Friday mine. Eleven miners went through training: two went back to work before training ended and nine completed 16 weeks of training and received their AWS certification. Customized Training is also working with several aerospace employers who have received Workforce Development Training Funds from the state of Idaho.

**A Few Words from Student Services**

The Academic Support Services Office is in the process of integrating academic and career advising. The goal is to help students to be better prepared for graduation with associate's degrees and transferability to a four-year institution to complete their bachelor's degrees. The department feels confident that this approach will be very meaningful to students, so much so that they are researching how to incorporate this type of advising for all of our students.
The Department of Education evaluates institutional administrative capability for financial aid every three years. After spending the last three years on a provisional approval status for financial aid, NIC has moved out of provisional status and into an acceptable status. Congratulations and many thanks to the staff of the Financial Aid Office for this accomplishment!

The Children's Center has begun collaborating with our community early childhood partner, NIC Head Start! This partnership will allow a limited number of children and families attending the Children’s Center to be dual enrolled in Head Start, with the child and family receiving Head Start services right here on campus!

For the past 12 years the Children’s Center has been accredited by the National Academy for Early Childhood Program Accreditation (NAEYC) and will once again be engaged in the in-depth self-study process to renew their accreditation by the end of the spring 2013 semester.

In the Dean of Students Office, planning has begun for a Behavioral Intervention Team to be implemented this fall. This team is intended to coordinate the recognition and care, generally, or intervention as needed, for individuals that may be exhibiting behaviors that raise “red flags” for others. With a coordinated team representing various aspects of campus life, the intention is to keep the campus a safe place to learn and work. The intent of the team and work is not to be adversarial, but to intervene before an individual gets to a point of being a threat to themselves or others.

The Student Union has been busy working with Student Services Staff to redefine the function of the Union’s lower level in providing services to various student populations starting with a remodel of the American Indian Student Center and addition of Veteran’s Center. They will continue to look at options for space for a Gay Straight Alliance Center, Non-Traditional Center and Women’s Center. The union staff has also developed a program for SUB night managers to better track events and services via use of an iPad and is excited to embark on a planned year-long program for revitalization of the Student Union to include repainting, carpet and furniture replacement.

**Foundation and Development Office**

Over the summer, NIC was notified that we are a recipient of an Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation grant in the amount of $28,821 which will allow us to replace the existing gangway to the NIC beach dock. The NIC grants office was also involved in developing a statewide consortia grant through the Lumina Foundation in the amount of $600,000 which will support the planning and implementation of a statewide reverse/transfer program.

Through the NIC Foundation, two corporate grants were submitted through the Wells Fargo Foundation and Bank of America Foundation in support of student scholarship totaling $7,500. Most recently, a National Science Foundation grant in the amount of $590,281 was submitted in support of student scholarships for undergraduate students studying Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) disciplines. We’re also anticipating funding announcements for the $2,000,000 Title III grant submitted to the Department of Education in late April (in support of eLearning and Outreach) and the $3,000,000 Department of Labor grant (in support of the initiation of an Aerospace and Advanced Manufacturing program) submitted in late May. Funding announcements are expected later this month and in September.

For the 19th year in a row, the NIC Foundation was able to sell all 5,000 tickets in the Really BIG Raffle fundraiser, thanks to the support of our entire community! The Really BIG Raffle drawing was held on July 11th in the Fort Sherman Park on campus with nearly 2,000 people in attendance. The proceeds were nearly $220,000 in support of student and program needs, including the learning laboratory (lot and house) for the NIC Carpentry Program. The Foundation is preparing to launch its 2012-13 Annual Campaign, which includes fundraising and events to raise awareness and support of NIC.

“If you think you can or you say you can’t...you’re probably right!”