

Chadron State College

CHADRON STATE COLLEGE

*2022 President's Report &
Chadron State Foundation
Annual Report*

Greetings from the

President

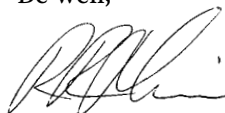
Dear Alumni and Friends of Chadron State College,

Welcome to the 2022 President's Annual Report. I am pleased to report that Chadron State College's enrollment for the fall of 2022 shows promising signs of growth. This is especially celebrated and important news, since the college, like many of our peers, has been through an enrollment decline. Additional positive updates include that our budget is balanced and we're in a good position relative to our cash reserve. We have remained steady without fluctuations over the past several years.

Earlier this fall, we dedicated the expanded and renovated Math Science Center of Innovative Learning (COIL). Support from the Foundation and friends of the college and the State of Nebraska all came together to make this dream a reality. The project took place during the COVID-19 pandemic and an unprecedented weather event in Texas that interrupted supply chains of vital construction materials. The college's construction manager at risk, Adolfson and Peterson, kept the project moving forward in spite of the obstacles and we are grateful for their dedicated stewardship. We truly have a state-of-the-art facility for our students and region. Whenever you are in Chadron, I highly encourage you to visit the COIL.

The completion of the Math Science COIL brings the total improvements and construction on campus during the past 10 years to more than \$80 million. This includes the Rangeland Complex, the Chicoine Center, and the Athletic Complex, featuring a renovated football field and new outdoor track and field. These improvements provide CSC students with a bright future, and you can rest assured that we appreciate your support and forward-looking vision.

Be well,



Randy Rhine, President
Chadron State College



Greetings from the

Foundation

Dear CSC Alumni and Friends,

This year has brought exciting events to Chadron State College, none bigger or more life changing than the completion of the Math Science Center of Innovative Learning. The building is truly a work of art and its functions and capabilities will benefit generations to come.

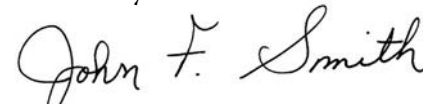
The landscape of our communities, state, nation, and world is changing. Advancements in technology guarantee change will come even faster in future years. The role CSC plays in these changes is not something we take lightly. We continue to help prepare students to meet these challenges. Doing so with integrity and the traditions of the past impacts the legacy we build for the future. The staff, administration, instructors, coaches, sponsors, alumni, and of course the students are what make Chadron State unique and showcase the values desperately needed in our world.

As we embark on another school year, I continue to be humbled, inspired, and grateful for the dedicated supporters and donors of the Chadron State Foundation, and especially the scholarships that result. Do you realize 96 percent of the students at CSC receive some type of financial aid? Much of that comes from your very own foundation. Thank you! More than \$800,000 in scholarships are awarded through the CS Foundation.

I want to express a special thank you to our board members who have fulfilled their terms on the Foundation Board of Directors: Jeff King, Kim Lobato, and Patrick Friesen. A special thank you goes to Patrick for serving as chairman of the board the past two years. His time, leadership, and insight have had a positive influence on all who have been able to serve with him.

Best of luck to all our students and again, I cannot say how grateful we are to all our alumni and supporters of the Chadron State Foundation.

Sincerely



John F. Smith, Chair
Chadron State Foundation





Chadron's Art Alley project has many CSC connections

By George Ledbetter

The involvement of Chadron State College graduates and students has been a key component in the development of Chadron's Art Alley, an ongoing project to enhance the community's visual appeal by creating colorful paintings on the backs and sides of commercial buildings.

While around 200 community members have taken part in completing nine murals since 2019, Chadron State graduates and students have played key roles, including creating the designs, painting, directing other volunteers, and providing artistic and technical support and advice, said Gabby Michna, director of the Chadron Chamber of Commerce and a 2018 graduate of CSC's Master of Business Administration program.

"There are loads of Chadron State connections," said Travis Hency, an art teacher at Chadron High School with CSC degrees in art and education, who has taken part in painting all nine murals.

The idea to paint murals on the unadorned walls of commercial buildings in Chadron began in 2018 when a Facebook post by a Chadron business owner inspired Michna to try and get the project started.

"I didn't have a timeline or anything, but I went to the community asking 'Why has this not been done?'" she said. "There was quite a bit of feedback from people who said 'We would like to help.'"

That initial support led Michna, Hency, and other residents, including CSC art instructor Mary Donohue, Chadron High student Kayah Bynes, and Whitney Tewahade, a CSC art education graduate and local business owner, to form a steering committee that met for several months to work out details of the project. Making the work a community effort that could include people with little or no art experience was an important part of the group's focus, Michna said.

To create interest in the project, committee members used social media, appearances on local radio talk shows, and direct approaches to business owners and community groups.

The first Art Alley mural features an assortment of wildflowers and a map of Nebraska with the words, "the good life is..." Designed by Michna and painted on the back of a Main Street flower shop, the mural generated enough interest and enthusiasm to allow the completion of two more murals that year.

Hency designed another of the murals in the alley, basing it on Chadron's annual Fur Trade Days celebration of the community's early history.

Tristan Stephenson, a CSC Art graduate, designed the postage stamp motif of another of the murals, and Bynes, now a student in CSC's Art program, created the butterfly design painted on a building in the alley.

Donations from community members, including paint left over from home improvement projects, have been used in all of the Art Alley murals, Michna said. And all of the work has been done by volunteers, with people of all ages and levels of art experience taking part.

The project has now expanded beyond one alley and includes a large mural on the wall of The Chadron Record building celebrating the First Amendment right of press freedom, and a painting inside the Chadron Volunteer Fire Department training building designed by CSC graduate Chris Wright.

Public art like Chadron's Art Alley has become popular in part because it benefits tourism and local economies, Michna said. Equally important for her is the way Chadron's project has brought together people who might otherwise never meet around a shared goal of making a lasting difference in their community.

"For me, it's about expanding the value of art to the community," Hency said. "At a higher level, it's community beautification. It's a way to get more attention for Chadron."

Michna is still overwhelmed by the response Art Alley has generated.

"Honestly, I can't believe it's happened. It's been such a blessing to see it come to fruition quickly and have such a big following," she said.



State Colleges Promoting Economic Growth in Nebraska

By Alex Helmbrecht

In July, the Nebraska State College System (NSCS) released an economic impact report, demonstrating the collective impact of Chadron, Peru, and Wayne State Colleges on Nebraska. This independent report illustrates that the NSCS adds \$564.8 million in income to the Nebraska economy each year.

“The report released is both extensive and insightful, and confirms how vital the Colleges are for students, the rural regions they serve, and Nebraska,” said Dr. Paul Turman, Chancellor of the NSCS.

Chadron, Peru, and Wayne State contribute to a thriving workforce and grow the local and state economies. With an annual state investment of just under \$56 million to support the state colleges, the NSCS generated \$10 of economic impact for every \$1 invested. More than 10,000 Nebraska jobs are supported by the economic impact of the NSCS, meaning that the state colleges and their students support one out of every 127 jobs in Nebraska.

According to the report, which was conducted by Emsi, Chadron State College has significant positive contributions within the rural communities that comprise its region. In fiscal year 2019-20, CSC employed 664 full- and part-time faculty and staff, and 94 percent of the employees lived in Nebraska. The total payroll was \$24.4 million. The college spent \$25.8 million on its operations and nearly \$1

million on construction. Thanks to the student spending impact of \$12.6 million and an alumni spending impact of \$113.3 million, the economic impact CSC created was more than \$152 million.

CSC benefits its students, as well. The average annual return for CSC students is 15.1 percent, meaning their investment in higher education has an average annual internal rate that is almost five percentage points higher than the 30-year average for the U.S. stock market.

“Chadron State College is proud to provide access and affordable education for its students,” President Randy Rhine said. “Chadron State has always had a strong tie to our service region and to see the impact that our employees, students, and alumni have on communities and Nebraska shows that the investment in higher education is a wise one.”

The average state college bachelor’s degree graduate will see annual earnings \$22,100 higher than a person with a high school diploma or equivalent working in Nebraska. Over a working lifetime, the benefits of a bachelor’s degree over a high school diploma will amount to an undiscounted value of \$928,200 in higher earnings per graduate.

To view the full reports, visit nscs.edu/workingforNE.

IMPACTS CREATED
BY CSC IN FY 2019-20



Operations spending impact

\$25.8 million



Construction spending impact

\$0.8 million



Student spending impact

\$12.6 million



Alumni impact

\$113.3 million



TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

\$152.5 million

OR

Jobs supported

2,748



Dawes County native predicts a positive outlook for women in Math and Science

By Tena L. Cook

Dawes County native Dr. Sharla Dowding gained a solid background in science content and teaching skills as an undergraduate and graduate student at Chadron State College. During the three decades since her graduation, she has shared her expertise with hundreds of other educators.

“I learned teaching practices to engage learners in discovering science through inquiry methods that provided me a foundation for success as a science teacher,” Dowding said. “Dr. Ron Weedon and Dr. Lois Veath made lasting impressions on me with their passion for training science teachers.”

A field trip led by Dr. Jack Swanson to the Crow Butte Uranium Mine south of Crawford made a lasting impact on her career. Dowding’s first job after graduating with a bachelor’s degree was at Crow Butte. She worked under Shirley Morava, who had been a CSC student teacher when Dowding was in high school.

After leaving Crow Butte, she was a science teacher in four different schools in eastern Wyoming and western Nebraska from 1992 to 2016. In addition to teaching, she coached volleyball, quiz bowl teams, and Science Olympiad teams. She also organized local and regional science fairs, served on a number of school improvement committees, and was a class sponsor.

From 2017 to 2019 she was a Science and Career and Technical Education Consultant

with the Wyoming Department of Education dealing with standards, assessment, and professional development. She was responsible for review and revision of state education standards for Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) content. She also designed state assessment blueprints and reviewed items and data for statewide science assessments in addition to a variety of outreach activities with educators.

Subsequently, she was the Director of Field Experience and University Certification Officer at Black Hills State University 2019-2022.

She received the 2018 Wyoming Science Teachers Association Lifetime Achievement Honor and the 2004 Wyoming Biology Teacher of the Year Award among others, and has served on state, regional, and national panels that grant science educator awards.

“I have been fortunate to have had many positive experiences in my 31 years in the field of education. I have made friendships with some dynamic women scientists and science teachers over the years as well as have had opportunities to study under some fantastic women scientists,” Dowding said.

Dowding thinks there are ample opportunities in STEM education.

“There are so many avenues in education and STEM careers for all students. It is hard to decide what to try next,” Dowding said. “It is rewarding to see my former students grow into

adulthood and be successful in their chosen careers. I have taught alongside my former students and find a particular fondness for those who go into STEM or education careers, both women and men.”



From 2004-2013, Dowding was selected to participate in a NASA Educator Ambassador program led by Dr. Lynn Cominsky, a professor in the Physics and Astronomy Department at Sonoma State University. Dowding was in a cohort of master teachers trained to use NASA materials and then tasked with training other teachers.

Cominsky said Dowding was outstanding.

“Sharla helped us connect to remote and rural northwest areas typically underserved by NASA, bringing insight to hundreds of teachers who learned to engage with hands-on activities,” Cominsky said.

Recently, Dowding was hired by the education test company Pearson as a national science content specialist. In this position, she will provide assessment expertise in test planning and development. She will serve on a team to develop, review, and revise materials, and she will also develop and provide training and feedback to test item writers based on established standards, cognitive complexity, and best practices for item development.



2022 Annual Report Highlights

Math Science COIL opens this fall

In early June, Chadron State College's Math Science Center of Innovative Learning (COIL) reached substantial completion status, the end of a two-year process. Design and development documents were approved for the Math Science renovation and construction and the facility's new name was approved by the Nebraska State College System Board of Trustees in June 2020.

The building includes four standard classrooms, one active-learning classroom with smart screens and cameras, 15 laboratories, including a gross anatomy lab, 25 offices, two conference rooms, a room for nursing mothers, two glass-enclosed testing rooms, and an 80-seat lecture hall.

Specialty features include the Dr. Lois Veath Planetarium, the High Plains Herbarium, and the Eleanor Barbour Cook Museum.

No tuition increase at State Colleges

For the second straight year, the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges froze tuition at Chadron State, Peru State, and Wayne State Colleges for the 2022-23 Academic Year. The Board also reduced the non-resident undergraduate tuition rate to match the resident rate to encourage out-of-state students to attend a State College in the hope of further addressing Nebraska's workforce shortage.

The tuition freeze applies to undergraduate and graduate, resident and non-resident, and online students.

Women's wrestling arrives at CSC

CSC became the first NCAA Division II school in Nebraska to sponsor women's wrestling, and the team began competing last fall.

Head Coach Alijah Jeffery recruited eight student-athletes to form the inaugural team. The team saw its share of success, winning its first-ever dual match against Avila University in January.

The season culminated in four wrestlers earning a trip to the national tournament, where they faced their stiffest competition of the season. Freshman Taylor Lindstrom came within one win of earning All-America honors.

Food Pantry serves more students

More than 1,300 students were served by the Chadron State College Food Pantry during the 2021-22 academic year, according to Project Coordinator Kate Pope. In total, 847 bags, each containing about \$20 of groceries, were distributed 11 times, serving 1,347 students.

The Food Pantry moved into the King Library and received increased support from campus and community entities. With the funds, Pope was able to purchase shelving to store food and a refrigerator for fresh produce, meat, and dairy products.

The Food Pantry offers students either self-service or pre-packaged bags including canned goods, peanut butter, pasta, and cereal. Fresh produce for students selecting either type of service includes three vegetables and three fruits.

Continued on next page

Undergraduate Student Characteristics (Fall 2021)

- ☛ Represented 44 states
- ☛ 58% from Nebraska followed by Colorado (12%), Wyoming (10%), and South Dakota (9%)
- ☛ Ranged in age from 15-80
- ☛ 82% under age 25
- ☛ 61% female, 39% male
- ☛ 80% full-time students
- ☛ 41% first-generation students

Enrollment

- ☛ 1,800 Undergraduate
- ☛ 450 Graduate

Tuition

- ☛ Undergraduate/Resident Credit Hour \$186.00
- ☛ Graduate/Resident Credit Hour \$232.50



Nutrition and Dietetics now offered

Chadron State College's new program, Nutrition and Dietetics, will be offered this fall. The program, based on the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) standards, requires a combination of Biology, Chemistry, Family and Consumer Sciences, and Nutrition courses.

According to Dr. Erin Norman, associate professor in Family and Consumer Sciences, the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) is an excellent match for students interested in science, health care, and nutrition. She said the core curriculum is similar to those in pre-medicine and pre-nursing programs, but with an emphasis on nutrition and food. Graduates with this degree can pursue careers in food service, public health, community nutrition, long-term care, sports nutrition, research, and education.

Norman said CSC graduates may become Registered Dietitians or Registered Dietitian Nutritionists if they complete the required course work, and a dietetic internship or supervised practice experience that has been accredited by ACEND. Finally, students will need to pass the Commission on Dietetic Registration exam for the credential they seek, and obtain any additional certifications required by the state in which they want to work.

Mischke to lead track and field program

In August, Seth Mischke was named the next head track and field coach at CSC, following head Coach Riley Northrup's departure.

Mischke spent the past 11 seasons as the head track and field coach, and assistant cross country coach, at Black Hills State University. There he

helped the Yellow Jackets make the leap from the NAIA into Division II.

Before BHSU, he was a two-time conference head coach of the year, coaching both track and field and cross country at St. Cloud State.

Mischke has overseen three national champions, 35 All-Americans, and more than 100 All-RMAC performers as a head track and field coach.

IDEA Space open at King Library

Chadron State College's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee is pleased to announce the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Space is open for students and employees. The IDEA Space is located in Room 109 of the King Library.

The IDEA Space is a safe space for underrepresented students, faculty, staff, and others to meet, organize, research, and study, and to foster community, solidarity, and trust. The DEI Committee hopes the dedicated space on campus will cultivate a culture of care and spread inclusivity.

"We are excited to open the IDEA Space," said Ted Tewahade, DEI co-chair. "Many students, as well as faculty and staff have put in a lot of effort to make the IDEA Space a reality."

The IDEA Space is funded by the DEI Committee. Tewahade said he expects members of the committee, as well as others, will have office hours in the IDEA Space during the fall semester.

CSC is the life force behind the arts and arts education programs in the Nebraska Panhandle and the greater High Plains region. The college prepares arts educators who value teaching in rural communities, and its arts programs and graduates also provide an incredibly wide range of artistic, musical, and theatrical events throughout the year. CSC has long had a strong commitment to the arts, and its educators and administrators stand firm in their support for the arts programs. It's been established through countless studies that the arts benefit student development, increase critical and creative thinking, help to develop self-discipline and time-management skills, provide emotional and creative outlets, and foster a sense of belonging in schools and communities. CSC's ambitious plans to improve its arts facilities in an upcoming capital project reaffirm the commitment that we all have at CSC to promote the arts and continue the long and storied CSC Eagle tradition of thriving arts education programs in our High Plains communities.



*Dr. Brooks Hafey, DM
Associate Professor of Music – Piano*

Continued on next page



The Big Event turns 10

More than 400 volunteers worked at more than 45 job sites in the Chadron area during the 10th annual The Big Event. The day of service capped off a special week for The Big Event since Chadron's City Council approved an official proclamation naming April as The Big Event month. The event normally involves painting, cleaning, yard work, hauling trash, food collection, and outreach to care facility residents.

Becky Fernau, assistant professor, said the Social Work Club members had a rewarding experience collecting food donations for the CSC Food Pantry and Closer to Home.

Some worksites involved reading and performing music for the elderly. Dr. Elizabeth Kraatz and Dr. Allison Fritz enjoyed interacting with Crest View Care Center residents.

"It's cool to see how many students are willing to volunteer in the community and all the projects that they've done in the past," Kraatz said.

CSC claims Rangeland Cup

A team of Chadron State College students placed first among six other teams in the Rangeland Cup competition at the International Society for Range Management (SRM) meeting in Albuquerque Feb. 6-10. They were Emma Pendleton of Hemingford, Nebraska, Brolin Morgan of McCook, Nebraska, and Hayden and Sage McGinnis of Buena Vista, Colorado. CSC won the competition once before in 2009.

CSC's winning presentation dealt with urban expansion and its impact, according to Sage McGinnis.

"Winning the award was so satisfying because all of our hard work over the past few months

really paid off and we are all very thankful for that. I am so thankful for the experience and to be able to represent ourselves, the Rangeland Management program, and Chadron State College well," Sage McGinnis said.

Morgan said she was impressed with the intelligence of those at the conference.

"Ultimately, I think that competing in the Rangeland Cup at SRM really broadened my horizons in rangeland and made me a better student overall," Morgan said.

Calderon earns All-America honors

Offensive lineman Justin Calderon became the 60th All-America recipient in Chadron State College football history last December when the American Football Coaches Association revealed its 2021 All-America second team.

Calderon, the Eagles' starting left tackle for the past three seasons, started all 26 games at the position from 2019 to 2021. He is a two-time All-RMAC First Teamer, a 2019 Don Hansen All-Region Third Teamer, and in 2018 he was named to the NJCAA All-America honorable mention list while at Nassau Community College.

CSC has only collegiate labyrinth

The Chadron State College labyrinth was featured in an online index of Permanent and Landscaped Labyrinths in Universities and Colleges in late 2021. A print version of the index, researched and created by Jan Sellers of Labyrinth Pathways, is also available.

CSC Art Professor Mary Donahue and her students worked with retired Instructional Designer Elizabeth Ledbetter, Grounds Supervisor Lucinda Mays, and others to plan,

design, and construct the labyrinth west of C-Hill.

Sellers is a retired education and guidance professional who has worked in universities, colleges, schools, and non-profit adult education in the UK and the US.

According to Sellers' publication, CSC is the only college campus in Nebraska to have a labyrinth.

CSC Foundation launches crowdfunding

The Chadron State Foundation has launched a crowdfunding platform, CSCCrowdfunding, so donors can support student-led programs and campus initiatives.

Ben Watson, Chief Executive Officer of the Foundation, said as CSCCrowdfunding projects reach their goals, new projects will appear on the platform, so supporters should check for updates.

All campaigns are reviewed and approved by the Foundation before appearing on the platform.

Text CSCrowd to 71777 to make a gift.

Tuition Guarantee expands

Chadron State College is expanding upon the Nebraska State College Tuition Guarantee program to include out-of-state students. The Nebraska State College Tuition Guarantee ensures that Nebraska resident students, and out-of-state new freshman and transfer students who are Pell eligible, can attend Chadron State College tuition-free.

Qualified new freshmen and transfer students pursuing an undergraduate degree will receive

Continued on next page



a combination of federal grants, state or private grants, institutional scholarships, or Foundation scholarships to fill any tuition gap left after the Pell Grant. The Nebraska State College Tuition Guarantee does not cover additional costs such as room and board, books, and fees. The student's private or community scholarships will not be considered when providing support to cover tuition costs.

The Nebraska State College Transfer Guarantee removes academic and financial barriers for transfer students. The Guarantee promises students that up to 66 hours of transfer coursework will be accepted from accredited two-year institutions while also providing institutional support to assist students on their degree pathways.

Two throwers earn All-America honors

Two CSC sophomore throwers on the track and field team earned All-America honors at national meets this year, one at the NCAA indoor championships and one at outdoors.

In Pittsburg, Kansas, in March, sophomore Daniel Reynolds competed at indoor nationals in the men's 35-pound weight throw. His third throw measured 61 feet, 8 ½ inches, putting him 12th among the 17 contestants, earning him Second Team All-America honors.

At the May outdoor championships in Allendale, Michigan, sophomore Shane Collins had a men's hammer throw best of 194-1 that left him in 11th place. Just a few weeks prior, he broke a 17-year-old RMAC meet record with a toss of 202 feet even.

Eagle Esports building momentum

The newest team on campus is Eagle Esports. The team is currently playing out of a location in Miller Hall, but will eventually have a permanent location at the Esports Arena, formerly The Landing, at Kent Hall.

Eagle Esports is an open gaming community for all students at all levels of gaming. Eagle Esports provides leadership, professional development, and a positive environment for CSC students through participation in gaming and social experiences through online and in-person formats.

The team has practices, competitive nights, and tournament nights. This fall, they will field competitive teams in Call of Duty: Vanguard, Rocket League, Rainbow Six Siege.

King collaborates with Alaska educators

Chadron State College's presence in Alaska is expanding. In addition to an established graduate program in Anchorage, an undergraduate cohort will enroll this fall.

Nearly 50 individuals have graduated through CSC's grow-your-own school administrator partnership with the Anchorage School District, according to Dr. Don King, recruiter for Education Outreach Programs.

As a result of increasing interest, King has helped to initiate a new program at the Matanuska-Susitna school district aimed at high school graduates earning their bachelor's degrees in education. The Mat-Su graduates will enroll as freshmen and, simultaneously, the district will hire them for 20 hours a week as para-professionals in one of their schools.

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In 2021-2022, you and 2,162 other donors gave \$2,398,430 to the Chadron State Foundation to support our students and campus through scholarships, capital construction and program support in academics, athletics, and fine arts. Your generous support made all this and much more possible for students, faculty, and staff at CSC. Thank you.

\$829,925

In scholarship aid provided by named endowments



1,432

Phone calls to alumni and supporters per shift by 12 student workers during the phonathon

633

\$100 gifts totaling \$63,330



1

Share of Berkshire Hathaway Class A stock given to support and endowment at CSC, the largest single stock gift to the Foundation.



20

Digital displays in labs and classrooms in the Math Science Center of Innovative Learning ranging from 55" to 86"

\$3,600

Committed to support the Esports Team by Great Plains Communications



416 Total gifts and pledges for the 2021 Fall Fund Drive raising more than

\$152,500

\$152.5 Million

Chadron State College added to the Nebraska economy

237%

Growth in the Women's Wrestling Program student-athletes from year 1 to 2, now up to 27 competitors.

\$15,816.52

Given to purchase Track & Field Video Results Board



CSC IMPACTS BY INDUSTRY (JOBS SUPPORTED)



1,071

Government, Education



255

Retail Trade



160

Government, Non-Education



152

Accommodation & Food Services



146

Other services (except Public Administration)

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Note: The complete audited financial statements of the Chadron State Foundation are available upon request.

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