

# GCC Alumni News

## WINTER 2023

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## Welcome: Dr. Ryan Cornner, Superintendent/President

### Dr. Ryan Cornner Takes the Lead

As the leader of GCC, Dr. Cornner is dedicated to fostering an environment that promotes an ethic of care for students and the community through empathy, respect and trust. Indicative of this work is supporting the college in being inclusive and promoting equitable success for all students. Dr. Cornner centers his work on building consensus and a mutual vision for the college. His collaborative approach to leadership encourages experimentation and innovation to better support students. He believes academic success thrives on engaging students inside and outside the classroom and creating an environment that enhances learning and allows self-exploration.

Dr. Cornner has twelve years of teaching within the community college and university systems, including providing instruction in the Master of Higher Education Counseling Program at USC. Prior to his position at GCC, Dr. Cornner served as Vice Chancellor, Educational Programs & Institutional Effectiveness for the nine college Los Angeles Community College District. Previously, he served as Associate Vice President for Strategic Planning and Innovation at Pasadena City College and Dean of Institutional Effectiveness at East Los Angeles College.

A native of Southern California, Dr. Cornner earned his Doctor of Education and Master of Social Work at the University of Southern California. He also holds a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from UC San Diego.



#### WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO GLENDALE COLLEGE?

Glendale Community College is dedicated and innovative in ways that support and prepare students for excellence. This commitment extends beyond the borders of the college and is ingrained in the community, which has been exceptionally welcoming to me as a newcomer. It is this opportunity to expand on the college's reputation and success and the ability to join the Board in its leadership of this great institution that drew me to GCC.

#### WHAT PHYSICAL CAMPUS CHANGES ARE TAKING PLACE?

GCC has a newly-renovated Kinesiology and Athletic Complex that provides top-of-the-line training facilities to our athletes, students, and community members. We're nearing completion of our state-of-the-art new Science Building. We're actively improving energy efficiency throughout GCC's campus buildings with the Central Plant. Our Garfield parking lot has recently been expanded, and additional facilities have been added to enhance allied health programming for those looking for exciting careers.

#### WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE?

GCC has a proud history with nearly 100 years of service to the community. We will continue to build on this history by connecting our Tradition with Innovation. The nation and our communities are facing great change and we must continue to find ways to adapt and best meet the needs of our students and communities. We will challenge each other to find novel ways to continue building a premier learning institution known for leading the way through innovation.

#### WHAT IS GCC'S VALUE TO THE COMMUNITY?

GCC is a resource for all. We are the third largest feeder to USC, with 75% of our UC applicants being accepted into the UC system and an 85% acceptance rate for our students who apply to the CSU system. GCC provides college courses to high schools, STEM programming to elementary schools, and collaborates with GUSD across the curriculum. We have been able to create life-changing opportunities from gifts received through our Capital Campaign initiative, and with increased support, we will be able to extend our reach even further.

#### WHY DO STUDENTS & FACULTY CHOOSE GCC?

Faculty choose GCC for its deep commitment to students and excellence in instruction. Likewise, it is this genuine care for students that draws faculty and students here. Glendale Community College is the Bridge to Success and works to ensure that students feel included and supported in achieving their goals.

## Bridge to Excellence Capital Campaign

Glendale Community College (GCC) is known for its bridges, connecting the campus in a seamless flow throughout the hills and valleys of the college's physical footprint. These bridges create a dynamic community of teachers and students striving together for excellence in all that they do.

GCC also provides bridges for students to overcome challenges – educational, financial, and social.

At GCC, no gap is too large and no dream goes unfulfilled. At the core of the college's mission is the belief that one of life's greatest achievements is to realize one's best possible self. It is this mindset that inspires our students to serve the world with passion, inquiry, and resiliency.

By offering a transformative educational experience, the college helps students grow, learn and thrive together - their lives forever connected by the spirit of community that defines GCC.

Glendale College Foundation (GCC) is rooted in this connected community and committed to overcoming any gap, no matter how wide. With valued input from the Foundation board, the GCC Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, alumni, donors, and other constituents, have created a strategic program with facility funding plans.



Kinesiology and Vaquero Athletic Complex



New Science Building



Performing & Media Arts Building

## Appeal Priorities At-A-Glance Goal: \$3,000,000

We invite you to continue the legacy of alumni support that made it possible for you to experience an excellent education. Your gift to The Bridge to Excellence Campaign will make it possible for current and future GCC students to also receive an outstanding education.

### ATHLETICS

**\$1,000,000**

Investing in developing character outside the classroom, building life-long bonds, and instilling a sense of community

- Bleacher Seating
- Ticket Booth
- Therapy Tables
- Weight Storage Rack
- Whiteboards
- Lecterns
- Washers/Dryers
- Wall Pads
- Balls/Nets/Rackets
- Trophy Case
- Upright Bicycles
- Pilates Reformer & Bow Flex
- Ice Bath System

### SCIENCE

**\$1,000,000**

Creating a 21st century teaching and learning facility

- Wireless Scientific Instruments
- Digital Camera Microscopes
- Portable Photosynthesis System
- 3-D & Anatomy/Microbiology Holograms
- Multimode Microplate Reader
- Anatomage Tables
- Webcams & Tablets
- 3-D Printer
- Telescope

### PERFORMING & MEDIA ARTS

**\$1,000,000**

Shooting for the stars with upgraded equipment, technology, and facilities

- Recording Studio, Screening Room and Recital Hall
- Digital Music Technology Classroom
- Grand & Upright Pianos
- Surround Speaker System
- Digital Surround Mixer
- Analog Console/Control
- Choral Risers & Choir Uniforms
- Instruments
- Video Projector & Bluetooth Speakers
- Serger & Mannequins

As part of the capital campaign, each of the three programs will benefit from having an endowment established so that they can fund future equipment and program needs.

Visit online to  
support  
the campaign



## DONOR SPOTLIGHT

### Richter F. Kinnune

#### 1. What made you reach out to GCC after so many years?

My wife and I took a road trip to southern California, which included a "trip down memory lane" with a day in Glendale. It had been over 60 years since we attended GCC. We were considering our financial legacy plans and supporting education is high on my list. While on campus, we inquired about becoming a donor. Lisa Brooks met with us, introduced us to the Glendale College Foundation and arranged a visit to a Chem lab, which brought up fond memories of attending chemistry courses.

#### 2. What makes Glendale stand out from other community colleges?

The GCC community values maintaining an excellent learning environment. Whether it's a college degree or a certification course, higher education is the main driver of personal and societal growth and success. GCC provides the ability to deliver a high-quality educational opportunity.

#### 3. How did you learn about the new Science Building Capital Campaign effort?

I read about the bond measure and project on the GCC website. The study of the Physical Sciences was the key to my personal success, so I inquired about "sponsorship" opportunities for the New Science Building project. Foundation Executive Director, Lisa Brooks, took it from there, arranging a Zoom presentation that effectively presented the facility and brought up possible sponsorship ideas.

#### 4. Why did you choose to sponsor "Student Collaboration Spaces"?

My appreciation for my professors inspired me to sponsor the "SCS" adjoining the Physical Science teaching facilities. Both science and teaching knowledge were influential to my career success. Researching their program offerings and careers only bolstered my personal impressions of their dedication to science education and validated my choice of honorees.

#### 5. What was your most notable experience as a student at GCC?

GCC's affordable tuition allowed me to complete the necessary prerequisites to obtain my engineering degree from UC Berkeley. I will never forget the support from Professor Joel Youngquist, who inspired me to study business and engineering, which ultimately propelled me into a rewarding career in "High Tech."

#### 6. How has GCC supported your success?

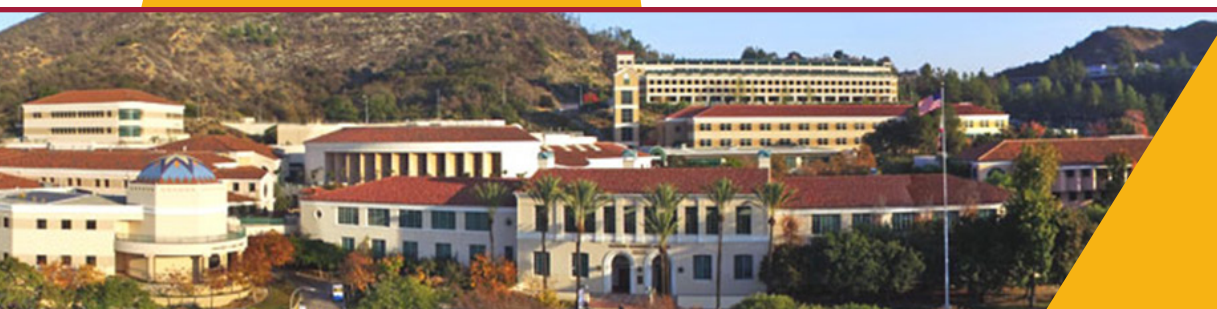
GCC provided me with the tools and support to receive my BSEE in Control & Power Systems and my MBA in Industrial Marketing and Procurement from UC Berkeley. I have achieved a rewarding career with Raychem, a Fortune 500 materials science company, developing a wide range of products based on radiation polymer chemistry. Attending GCC set me on the trajectory that now allows me to serve as the Director of US Sales and North American Marketing for the Electrical Products Group.

#### 7. Why choose to support GCC?

I am a "poster child" beneficiary of California's original "Master Plan For Higher Education" initiative. More than ever, it is clear that many California students need our additional support to achieve higher education. No one "gives you a good education!" Serious and successful work requires cutting-edge tools and techniques to maximize productivity and results. Building facilities, developing properly focused curricula, and hiring skilled educators require significant investments. GCC is well positioned to provide that access and tailor courses to fit the current educational needs of society and the present/future student population. These investments must be made today to ensure our continued future success as a vibrant society!



Richter F. Kinnune



To learn more or make an investment, please contact:

**Lisa Brooks**

Executive Director  
Glendale College Foundation  
lbrooks@glendale.edu

## LEADERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

### Rick Dinger, Foundation Board Chair

**1. How long have you been affiliated with Glendale Community College?**

My relationship with GCC started in 2003 when Tony Tartaglia asked me to be on the Glendale College Bond Oversight Committee. At the same time, I started my GCC student journey at that time. Then, in 2009, I began serving on the Glendale College Foundation Board.

**2. In your opinion, what makes Glendale Community College stand out from other community colleges?**

GCC's administration, faculty, and coaches really care about student success. At larger institutions, students can often become just another number. However, GCC faculty is able to engage more with students and provide them with a more personal experience.

**3. As an alum of GCC, can you share a notable moment you and/or your children have experienced while at Glendale?**

Seeing the growth and success of the college brings joy to my heart. We have a gem in our community, and I see more and more local families taking advantage of it. Glendale College offers a place for students to grow, learn and prepare for their future, and it is affordable and provides an excellent education.

**4. Why did you choose to be involved in the Bridge to Excellence Campaign?**

I have been able to see first-hand how Glendale cultivates students for success. I wanted to join in supporting the path to greatness. The better our community college is, the better our community will be in the future.

**5. How do you measure the success of the Capital Campaign?**

Our success will be measured by each goal we reach. The best case would be to have as many people participate as possible. Each donation, both big and small, gets us closer to providing our community with the best facilities and educational resources available.

**6. What challenges and opportunities lie ahead for the Campaign?**

There is a lot of competition for donations. We keep pushing forward because we know that our community is filled with talented and determined students who need support. As I look back at my own experience, I get excited knowing that our effort will help more people to reach their dreams of higher education.

**7. What do you want potential donors to know about the Capital Campaign?**

Your donations provide an opportunity for someone to achieve greatness. The money that we receive from donors will support the outfitting of our new classrooms and facilities with the very best equipment possible. As a donor, you will become part of each GCC student's success story.



Rick Dinger, President,  
Glendale College Foundation



## BRIDGE TO EXCELLENCE

To learn more or make an investment, please contact:

**Lisa Brooks**

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[CLICK HERE](#)