

Glendale Community College

Memories



Volume Two

1965-2019



**GLENDALE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

A MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE



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COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

A MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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For the last several years, I have had the opportunity to work in the historical archives of Glendale Community College. Within these archives are items which chronicle the fifty year history of the institution. These include a collection of student newspapers reaching back from 1965 until today, fifty years' worth of literary and artistic journals, incredible photographs, and countless other documents, memorabilia and memories...

Then, one day, as I was reviewing some items within the collection, I came across another unassuming volume that was truly special. It was entitled *Memories* and it was created to celebrate the first thirty years of the college. In this book, founding faculty, staff, and students discussed their memories and experiences at the early institution and what personally mattered to them throughout these first formative decades.

Archives have long been preservers of memory, but often this is through historical documents and photographs like those I mentioned earlier. However, much of the history of the college lies hidden away within the minds and memories of those who have lived through it. For me, it was tapping into this rich history that made this book unique among the collection.

With this in mind, I wondered about the memories and experiences of others who had either served or attended the college. And with a desire to preserve and make these memories accessible, I decided to start this project and ask the GCC community a similar set of questions to those asked twenty years ago. Unlike twenty years ago, however, I leveraged the power of social media and email and received over sixty-five responses. Like before with the *Memories* book, I was amazed by the many remarkable and unique stories shared by the community.

In this volume are the bulk of these responses. In addition to the actual text, I tried to augment some of these testimonies with topical images from the archives, the GCC Flickr page, the Voice Newspaper, and the GCC Website. At the conclusion of the first-hand accounts section, I have also included notes about many of these photos to give context to some of the images contained within. Additionally, I decided to include the original *Memories* document at the end of this new edition.

For the very most part, these testimonies are as I have received them. That said, I made a few grammatical corrections. As well, there were a few lines which were removed that I felt might have been taken out of context, a funny story that involved vandalism that I did not think was necessarily appropriate, and a few lines that were slightly altered to protect student privacy. Additionally, there were two critical student submissions that weren't included as they focused upon issues concerning specific individuals and departments and fell outside of the celebratory nature of this project. Regardless, I do thank these students for these submissions and hope they are doing well since their time at the college. I believe these accounts serve as reminders that we as a college always need to do more to ensure every student is successful. That said, all of these testimonies will also be made available in an unabridged version of this document to be published in the archives later this summer.

Therefore, without further introduction, I would like to thank everyone who shared their story with our archives and hope you enjoy this collection of GCC memories!

Sean O'Brien

Faculty Library
GCC Library Archives

Memories

Volume Two

1965-2019



Dr. Terry Leyba Ruiz

President (2016-Present)

Vice President of Student Affairs (2014-2016)

Assoc. VP (2014-2015)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

The opening of the Randolph Automotive Training Center in 2016, the Exercise, Science & Nutrition building in 2017, the Grand Re-Opening of the Veterans Service Center in 2017, and the elimination of GCC Football at the end of the 2018-2019 Season.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Becoming the permanent president in May 2018 and hosting the 2018 53rd Commencement Ceremony. I remember looking out at the huge crowd gathered to honor the GCC Graduates and bursting with pride. I intentionally honored several students including the grandson of Dr. Vawter, GCC founding faculty.

What is your funniest memory?

I volunteered to sit in the United Way Dunk Tank. I was irrationally afraid that I might drown and said I would only get in the tank if I had a floaty. So I was dunked several times and didn't drown, or get my hair wet, thanks to the floaty. It was great fun to encourage students, faculty, and staff to try to dunk me.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Our incredibly talented and dedicated faculty always impress me with their content expertise and commitment to GCC students. At the same time, all of our dedicated staff members from our Custodians to our Secretarial Staff, Managers, and Administrators who are all dedicated to GCC and are responsible for their own "First 15".



Connie Greenwell

Staff (1992 - 2019)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

I've watched all of the new buildings and renovations take place during my tenure here. I remember the fig tree in the Library atrium, striped carpeting with duct tape, wooden doors with colored star inserts, the Phoenix Symphony playing here on campus, International Festivals that spanned a week, graduations in the Center Mall, Jeff Glemba hanging out of trees hanging lights, straightening chairs for days, and many, many noteworthy amazing students pass through our doors.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Commencement is it for me every single year. I watch the fruit of our endeavors cross the stage and move on to their respective amazing futures.



What is your funniest memory?

Absolutely any event I shared with Jim Reed.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC?

John Waltrip told me as a student worker that I could do anything because he not only believed that I could, but also that I was a student who happened to work here and because of that he worked for me.



Lyle R. Langlois

Professor CIS (May 1968 – May 2000)

May 1968 until May 2000

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

A Short History of Computers at Glendale Community College

I have spent one-third of the last century teaching students about computers. Several people even blamed me for the problems of Y2K! We were only trying to save storage space and two columns on an 80 column punched card. Remember, I was born during the Great Depression and was taught to save. I arrived at GCC as the first computer teacher on campus and assigned to the business department. An IBM model 1130 main frame arrived at the same time. It had all of 16 K for a memory. (The Vatican had the same model computer at that time) The only language it could compile was FORTRAN. For the other two languages we taught (i.e., COBOL and RPG), Alicia Ottenberg, our first lab assistant sent decks of student punched cards to Phoenix College via the district mail truck. They were usually returned to the students 24 hours later. Alicia's pay was \$1.10 per hour. A few years later, she returned to the campus as a respected professor of CIS.

Our first networked terminals were DEC writers (no visual display). Each terminal contained a phone and modem. Students would "dial up the computer". We progressed through a variety of shared mainframes including a UNIVAC 1106, an INTEL 360 and our very own on-campus DEC VAX. Our present VAX has progressed through many upgrades and software revisions.

The first personal computers arrived on campus in 1984. We had three different "flavors". Apple IIe's for Business Department, IBM PC's for the Math Department, and Radio Shack TRS-80's for the Electronics Dept. Each department had their own computer lab. In the spring of 1987 we all merged into the new High Tech Center. It was the "brain child" of Dean Larry Christiansen. This High Tech I center contained a so called "pit" with about 200 IBM PC's and about 40 MacIntosh. In 1991, High Tech Center II was completed. It was to be used primarily by the English and Math departments. Today (year 2000), there are probably 1,500 computers on campus and

200 different software applications. In the fall of 1968, we had six sections of CIS-105 (a beginning course) and I taught five of them day and night. In the spring of 2000 class schedule, I counted 154 sections of CIS classes! These are all taught by the Business Department and do not include CSC, CAD, ART, and biology classes. Apparently, the computer is here to stay! But (at 70), I'm on my retirement way. It was a great, unforgettable career!



Laura

Student (2014-2018)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

The Multicultural Services Office

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

The most satisfying memory from my time at GCC was during the graduation ceremony.

What is your funniest memory?

It was a trip to Sedona with the International Club



Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

The Excel program made a significant difference during my time at GCC because I had a lot of help from my peer mentors and success coach.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

Met a lot of people from different countries and fell in love with all the different cultures and languages.

Mark Cross

Student then Instructor (1979 – 1981, 1985 - 1992)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

The growth of the campus and the increase of the automotive training program.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Being asked to come back and become an instructor.

What is your funniest memory?

Doing a tune up on a Pantera but Mr. Randolph would not let me test drive it to check my work.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Phil Randolph, Wonderful instructor and helped get my first job.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

Was glad to be able to use the Dyno that they had.



Joe Kersting

Professor, Football Coach (1981-1984, 1987-1996, 1998-2016, 2017-2018)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Quite a few upgrades in facilities. The new Exercise Science & Nutrition Building for the Fitness & Wellness Department as well as the Automotive Building on the west end of campus. The elimination of the football program, which set historic standards in this district--3 National Championship Teams, numerous conference titles, national rankings and bowl game successes: a huge negative blow to our community, local high schools and student athletes.



What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Being the head football coach of the college's first national championship football team in 1988. It was my second year as the coach and as a full-time employee. In my first year we won only three games, but the students were really buying into the culture we were developing. In our second season we went undefeated and ended up ranked #1 in the country. After that we had sustained success as a program. We, literally, went from one of the poorest programs in the country to one of the best due to the dedication and commitment of numerous students, trainers, administrators and coaches.

What is your funniest memory?

One morning when I was feeling especially sorry for myself I heard a student yell at me from the far end of the walk-way between the gym and the athletic building. He called out, "Kersting, you changed my life." I didn't recognize him at first, but as we walked towards each other I realized this was a student I had taught in a Health class a few

semesters earlier. We took a few minutes and shared our thoughts. He expressed to me that he was living the six dimensions of wellness that he's learned while taking that Health class. It was quite a compliment for me and reinforced that, just maybe, I am getting through to some of the students on some important lifestyle choices. It was a funny and meaningful interaction that I won't ever forget. (HE WAS PAYING IT FORWARD--which is a movie that I often showed to my students.)

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Pete Pisciotta. He was the athletic director who hired me. He was instrumental in helping me advance in both my coaching career and in becoming an adjunct faculty member and later a residential faculty member.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

I have very fond memories of taking road trips with the football team. Having the opportunity for a group of student athletes to go somewhere they've never experienced and to face the challenges of trying to perform in a difficult environment. These were great learning experiences for both students and coaches.



Christina

Student (2014-2017)

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Graduation

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

The biggest difference for me was the entire childhood Development department. The professors there always supported me. They made it easier to do my internship after having my baby just a week before school started. They would help care for him so I can continue to breastfeed him and take care of my children. They were extremely supportive my entire time at GCC without there was no graduation for me.



Theresa Marie Canady (deceased)

Student & Disability Rights Advocate (1980-1985)

Graduation with Associated Degree in Communications.

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Theresa was given a note to take as an accommodation of her handicaps

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

After graduation Theresa was President of a disabled group on campus.

What is your funniest memory?

She loved the Iced Mocha Coffee and conversation in the activity center

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

The Administrator of the College disability support program for GCC was great!

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

Theresa was married in Saguaro park and 100+ persons in wheelchairs attended; many who attended GCC.



Scott A. Kozakiewicz

Media Supervisor/Coordinator, Media/IT Manager (1980 - Present)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

25th Anniversary

50th Anniversary

Construction of 16 new buildings

Beginning of GCC North

Technology Changes from 16mm projectors to digital multimedia systems

Serving as GCC and District Professional Staff Association President

Serving under seven College Presidents, etc.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

When I was able to prevent a very emotional student who was a single mother from dropping out of college and assisting her so that she could be successful.

She later graduated from GCC.

What is your funniest memory?

When Beth McDonald and Bill Austin from KEZ radio visited GCC

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Dr. Phil Smelser, Dr. Phil Randolph and Renault Catalano

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

The Old English Feasts/Plays that were put on at Christmas time and the last time Senator Barry Goldwater visited GCC. There are many more...



Oriol Vidal-Aparicio

International Student (2004 – 2005)

Adjunct Professor (2008 - Present)

Role at the College

International student (2004-2005) and adjunct professor (2008-present)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

The main changes I have witnessed at GCC are the expansion of the North campus, where I taught summer courses for several years, and extensive additions and renovations to the main campus.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Working as a tutor of Spanish while I was a student (2004-2005) allowed me to meet a lot of interesting people of all ages. But perhaps my fondest memory as a GCC student is having participated, in February of 2005, in the Global Leadership Retreat, a weekend program in Prescott with other international and American students from the Maricopa Community Colleges. The soul of that program was Ken Bus, director of the International Education Program at GCC, who truly believed in the importance of creating opportunities to develop cross-cultural communication and conflict resolution skills among people of different national origins.

What is your funniest memory?

My funniest memories at GCC come from being the tutor who initiated the Spanish conversation circles that Jim Reed launched as chair of the Communications and World Languages Department in 2005, and which were later established as a regular course. Those conversation sessions at the Center for Learning, with up to ten students twice a week, became true social events where we ended up telling lots of jokes (in Spanish, of course) and having a great time. My favorite time of the week at that time, no doubt.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

The person who made the biggest difference for me during my time at GCC (and beyond) is definitely Toni McClory, who was part of the Political Science faculty for fifteen years (1996-2010). Toni became a reliable mentor, always willing to provide helpful advice, and I would not hesitate to call her my "substitute mom in the U.S." Toni has helped me through many milestones in life, from writing letters of recommendation for my Master's and PhD applications, to giving me the opportunity to teach her summer courses at GCC after I got my Masters in Political Science, and many, many other occasions where she advised and supported me. Toni McClory perfectly exemplifies how community college instructors can play a crucial role in guiding students in their academic, professional, and personal life, and become an amazingly positive influence on them.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

The fact that I came to GCC as an international student and ultimately became part of the Political Science faculty is very special to me. Ken Bus, director of the International Education Program at GCC, once referred to this circumstance as "a success story", and I often remind my students that I was sitting in their chairs not too long ago. Teaching at GCC gives me special satisfaction because the GCC community opened its arms to me when I first came to Arizona. Amazing professors like Toni McClory (Political Science), Bill Lamkin (Economics), and Ruth Callahan (English) became real mentors and were always supportive of my academic aspirations and publishing projects, and I like to think that today I carry on their legacy by providing the same type of guidance for my students.



Linda Schallan

Student (1970 - 1972)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

The library has been remodeled. No more altered brain waves from walking through the long wavy stripes in the carpeting! It's also filled with computers now.



What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

GCC offered such a supportive environment. It was a great introduction to college. I enjoyed my classes so much that I graduated with 72 credits, only 64 of which were required for graduation.

GCC featured outstanding instructors teaching smaller classes while my friends who started as freshmen at ASU were being taught by teaching assistants in huge lecture halls.

What is your funniest memory?

I recall laughing all the time with my friends who attended GCC, but I can't recall specific memories. We would meet in the Student Union in-between classes to visit or head to the library to study. GCC was -- and still is -- a beautiful campus. We also enjoyed strolling around campus or sitting under a tree.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?



Vance Hansen, English instructor extraordinaire -- I took every class he taught and his influence resulted in me changing my major to English. I enjoyed dropping by his office for conversation. Irma Murphy, another exceptional English instructor, would be a close second. She encouraged me to attend NYU by telling me stories from her student years there, including mentioning the cocktail parties where the poet W.H. Auden was in attendance.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

GCC was a family affair. My younger sister followed in my footsteps and also attended GCC. She is now a chemistry professor. She credits her classes and student work with Charles West for her career choice. When she visits and we talk about GCC, we both agree that it had a significant impact on our academic success.

My mother and I signed up for a noncredit pottery class one summer. We would dodge the peacocks from Sahuaro Ranch Park that careened across the driveway as we pulled into the south parking lot. I was a typical teen and Mom embarrassed me tremendously. However, I treasure a little mug she made during that class. Our instructor had some involvement with a large Japanese-style tunnel kiln that was built in Payson during that time. We took a trip to Payson to see it.

Sally (Harker) Henrie

Student (1971-1973)

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Professor Charles West made a major difference for me not only while I was at GCC, but in my life. He really cares about his students, and I became a chemist because of him. It is a profession I have thrived in and truly enjoy. His organic chemistry classes, mentoring of me through several semesters of research and working as his student assistant for some of the labs he was teaching all greatly influenced me to pursue a career in chemistry. I am very grateful to him for being willing to take the time to show me how fulfilling a career in chemistry would be for me.



Damian Martell

Student (Five Years at the College)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

50 year celebration

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Passing hard classes

What is your funniest memory?

Failing a class during the summer

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

All math teachers

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

Communication classes are fun.



Dr. Sharenda Roam

Religious Studies Faculty (2014 - Present)

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Peter Lupu is an amazing Chair of our department and a mentor. He is one of the most brilliant individuals I have ever met. His first priority is educating students and helping them become effective leaders in their spheres of influence. He is incredibly supportive of any new creative ideas I have that determine student success. He sees the big picture and knows how to lead with vision.

Dr. Jeanne Saint-Amour is one of the greatest teachers I know. Her primary focus is developing curriculum that will engage the students and enhance their lives as scholars. She is amazingly generous with her ideas, books, and artifacts that help with classroom development. She is a wonderful friend and colleague; and integral to the fabric of GCC.



Julie Terrill

Student (1998-2000, and returned for a single class in 2013)

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

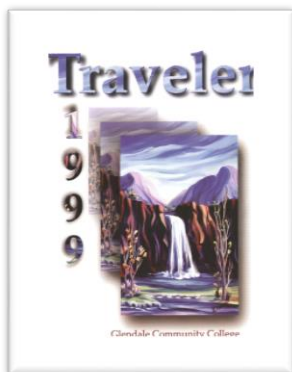
My nonfiction submission to The 1999 Traveler earned second place and a scholarship. I was invited to be the literary editor of The 2000 Traveler.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Professor Jim Reed hugely influenced my self-confidence, shaping my future. When I realized that I would need a communications class for graduation I panicked. I elected to take Small Group Communications, as it seemed to be the least intimidating option. I assumed the class would break into small groups of four or five people. Imagine my dismay when I discovered that Professor Reed considered the class, as a whole, to be a small group. At the beginning of the semester, I would run out of the classroom to vomit every time I had to speak. When I would return he made me continue. I hated it! However, I not only found my voice - I stopped apologizing for using it. Every time I conduct a meeting, facilitate a retreat or give a public presentation I think of Dr. Reed.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

Watching my daughter (who was in elementary school when I attended) graduate from GCC was a "full circle" moment.



Natalie Gould

Adjunct Professor (2002 - Present)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Complete integration of computers within the classroom and in teaching. Also, unfortunately, the loss of many of the liberal arts courses that make people creative and imaginative (unfortunately, this trend is pervasive in education).

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Most of my most satisfying or fondest memories have to do with the students. Each class takes on a personality all its own and changes the instructor's life forever.

What is your funniest memory?

Again, this has to do with my students. From the students who came to class with full dinners on plates and flatware to large pizzas to students who came in costume-- whether it was Halloween or not. It isn't really funny, but when all the rattlesnakes came to campus for the first time after Spring Break. One particularly large rattlesnake became fond of the snack machines over in the smoking area (at the time) many people were induced by this to quit smoking.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Both my students and my colleagues.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

One veteran who was struggling with PTSD wrote an unbelievable essay about the sound of a bullet and because he wrote it, I was able to get other veterans in the class to get him to counseling. Also, the time one of my students sobbed in my arms because her friend had died in a car crash.



Penny Havelly

Student (1986-2017)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

The build out of the new administration building, remodel of the Student Union, the building of the High-Tech center, the building of the firefighter's facility associated to the college.



What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

I enjoyed all my professors and courses. I really loved attending the Fourth of July events at GCC - attended the fireworks show since 1971 (give or take a year).

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

My Marriage and Family life instructor, Joseph Bendoza (spelling??). Took the course FALL 1990. Outstanding instructor!

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

My sister, Elizabeth Petersen, attend GCC in the early 1970s and my mom, Mary Ann Lavine, attended GCC for a course or two as well. I think my mom also taught a course in the late '80s to early '90s. And my son, Justin Havelly, and daughter, Mariah Havelly, have attended GCC, too. Daughter graduated with her associate degree Dec 2018! The rest of us all transferred out courses to universities where we all completed bachelor degrees.



Monica Haro

Student Services Technician (for sixteen years)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

I have witnessed departments playing musical chairs in where they relocate their offices to a different building on campus. I have witnessed the Student Services area move from the old Admissions office into the Enrollment Center. I have witnessed the Life Science building being built and staff and students coming in and out of the building. I have witnessed the Student Union under-go construction to have the old seating area in front changed into conference rooms and the old conference room changed into the new dining area including the outside area that is now inside and students have access to sitting in the sofa area near the fire place. Along with the new cafeteria construction. I have witness the Public Safety station move from the Student Union to the small building next to CCS now called VA center and then moving to their own building by the LSA building. I have witnessed the VA center staff move from old Admissions office to Enrollment center and now to their own VA building.



What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

I would say my fondest memory is being accepted into the ACE Plus Program to start taking college courses while in High School. After High School I applied as a student worker for the ACE Plus Program because they started me off in what would lead to my future with GCC. I stayed with ACE Plus for 7.5 years before moving on to learn from a different department which was Testing Services, Academic Advisement, and now Admissions and Records. This chosen path has had me dedicated to working at GCC for 16.5 years and continue to assist our future.

What is your funniest memory?

My funniest memory would be when staff that have not met me personally and only know my name confuse me for a student if I am in the employee locker room or employee break room. They laugh out of embarrassment but then realize that I am a valuable asset to keep in contact with if they need to refer students to speak with me.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Dr. Ibrahim Naim has made the biggest difference for me during my time at GCC because he has guided me as a student to an employee and has always mentored me to pursue my careers with GCC and to push myself up in high positions to work my way in different areas on campus.



Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

My family participated in ACE Plus after I completed the program and worked for them. My brother shortly applied then my sister applied both were accepted into the program. Eventually my Dad and Mom participated in events and we were featured in the ACE Plus Program brochure as the ACE Plus Family.

Rosa Ybarra

Student (1966-1968)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Growth of the physical campus.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

My graduation in 1968.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Mr Roberson - math teacher , Dr Lorenzini, Archeology professor and my astronomy professor (possibly Dr. Hoff) (pictures listed below in order)



Juan Stewart

Student (2004-2008)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Growth in diversity and art

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Mr Scott Henry (Health and wellness) also the diversity office staff.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Scott Henry my mentor



Lori Clement

Fiscal Office Staff, then Financial Aid Staff and BIT Adjunct (2005-Present)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Cutting of the Tractor/Trailer program and Child Care
Outsourcing of the Mail Room/Copy Center
Construction of the Life Sciences building
Remodel of the Business building classrooms
Championship football teams and cutting of the football program
Cutting of many community, non-credit programs
Cutting of many evening and Saturday PED courses
Arrival and departure of four GCC Presidents
Increased enrollment in a down economy and decreased enrollment in an up economy.
The State of Arizona cutting all funding to community colleges, beginning with capital funds, followed by a decrease and then ultimate end to operational funding

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

The laughter shared with co-workers, even during our most hectic, stressful times. The willingness of others to assist if asked.

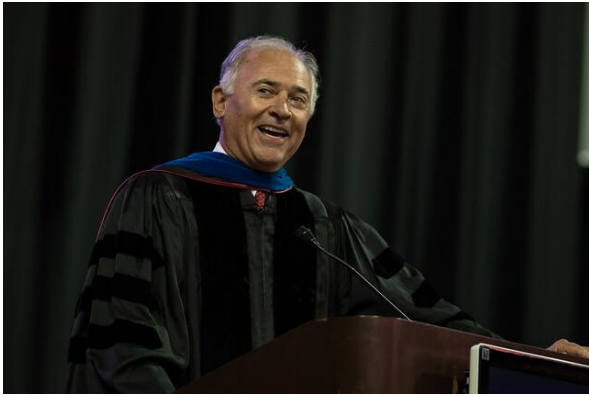
Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Jim Reed, Retired Communications professor.

When my child was looking into attending classes here, he offered to assist in whatever way he could, including contacts in other departments regarding textbooks, advice on classes or just a person to talk to if my child needed advice about GCC or classes.

I know Jim through Fiscal Office interactions. He always brought a little fun and laughter wherever I saw him and was always genuinely pleased to talk with everyone. I never had him as an instructor, but I know students loved him. I appreciated the time he always took to say hello and ask questions, usually regarding our last discussion. He

made me feel like a friend rather than a co-worker or a "non-faculty". The world would be a much happier place if we all emulated this man a little now and then."



Dennis Topel

Staff (1988-Present)

Role at the College

Staff

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

The building of HT2 and many other buildings

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Coming in early mornings to study for classes in the Student Union with friends.

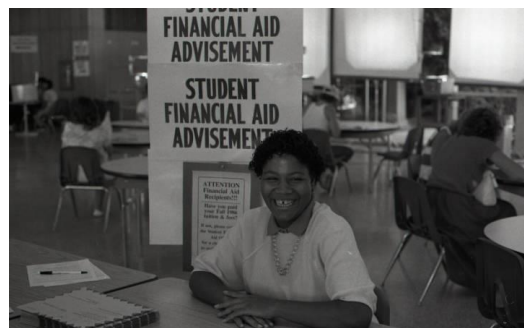


Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC?

Mark Montanus

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

Working with many student workers over the years. Such a variety of individuals.



Dr. Bonnie F. Saunders

History Instructor, mostly as an adjunct (Spring 1999 - Present)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

New buildings, renovation of old buildings, nicer landscaping

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

I love teaching history!

What is your funniest memory?

Seeing runaway peacocks from the Glendale Library on campus!

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Donna Allen



Virginia Ludders

Faculty (1987 - Present)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

The growth of campus buildings.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

We used to produce big musicals and that was so much fun.



What is your funniest memory?

We were always getting critters in our building. One time a snake crawled into my office to shed its skin. Never could find the snake and Biology department removed the skin. In our storage building, we could see a little fox coming and going for a while. One night, at rehearsal, I saw what I thought was a rat run under a backpack that was sitting on the floor. I got a broom and asked one of the students to quickly grab the bag and I would try to chase the rat out with the broom. When the student grabbed the bag this chubby gopher set up on its hind legs, hissed at us and ran out the door and into a hole. Chasing down Peacocks and peahen that would get into the theatre, however, was probably the most interesting encounters I would have. I would often stand out in the middle of Gauchito Way to slow down drivers as an ostentation of the fowl would try to cross the road on their way back to Saguaro Ranch in the evening. During one dress rehearsal, I was called in the lighting booth and told that a Peacock

was backstage. Everything stopped until we could entice him to leave. The most interesting of encounters I had with the fowl was when a couple of peacocks, a peahen and her chicks decided to retreat into the air conditioned confines of the PAC. I called Saguaro Ranch to tell them about the problem. A woman came over with some blankets that we put over their heads, once we cornered them. The fowl calmed down and were placed into the truck for a ride home.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Some of the students that still keep contact with me. They have now have Masters Degrees and are outstanding in their fields of endeavor.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?



I remember when the president of the college's door was always open. One day as I was passing Dr. Waltrip's office I saw him sitting at his desk so I thought I would take the opportunity to talk with him. I had always wondered about his last name. I was from a small town in Illinois where a lot of Waltrips lived. I told him about it and was surprised to learn that he too was from that same town. His and my ancestors were a few that had first settled a small area in east-central Illinois. We even shared some of the same relatives. It is a small world.

Jessica Dickison

Currently Student Services Specialist – Academic Advisement
(2000 – 2013, 2015 - Present)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Administration used to be in the Testing and Student Success Office and it had these very large stained glass door entrances on the E/W sides of the building. No PSS or Life Science buildings existed as they are now. Counseling, Career Services, Financial Aid and Admissions and Records used to be in what is now the Administration Building. Statues used to stand in the central mall areas of campus. The atrium in the Student Union was cool - I miss that. The atrium had plants and trees and it was surrounded by the student union. You could sit out there and be in the fresh air. It was really nice. I also remember the Volleyball courts on the west-side of the Student Union, by the BBQ pit. GCC used to host a book fair and there would be activity/game booths up and down the center area of campus, North, East and West and then a big tent to the South with tons of books for sale. Students and employees would dress up as Disney Characters, we had popcorn and cotton candy stands and then buses and buses of grade school children would invade the campus. I remember being here the day before the event learning how to make cotton candy so that we would have bags ready. We made so much. On the day of the event I got the opportunity to work one of the game booths. It was a fishing booth that taught children words or grammar (something in English). The children had so much fun. I am truly blessed to have been a part of this event and so many others on this campus.



What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

The beautifully kept grounds. GCC is a beautiful campus.

What is your funniest memory?

The peacocks and roosters that would come over from the park always made things interesting. However, some of the funniest memories, although also the goriest would be when I worked in the Counseling and Career Services Center, where it is now. It has glass on three sides and it provides a beautiful view of the campus. However, on some occasions, I would be sitting at the Welcome Desk concentrating on my work and all of a sudden a BOOM, like a gun shot would go off. I would jump, look up and see that a bird had run into the window. I don't know how many times maintenance would have to come clean the windows and get rid of dead bird carcasses from the east-side walkways. Thankfully - They were always quick to respond when we requested their help.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

The people who work here: Administration, Faculty and Staff. Over the years I have held different roles, and in every role, in one way or another I collaborate with other departments to do my job and I love the commitment to student success and the team effort that everyone contributes to help a student, event or program be successful. The people who work here make this institution the best place to be!

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

As a student, I have several fond memories of club events held on campus. I was a member of The Matrix Club - we were a non-denominational Christian club and we held several events on campus. One time we were all dressed in our club shirts and we played a scoop ball game in the central mall area of campus. Our club advisor, Dr. Louise Jones, (Counselor) - now retired, even played with us. We had a great time. We also provided a BBQ and Volleyball game event. This was a lot of fun as well. I was also a member of the Native American Student Association (NASA) Club and I learned how to make Indian Fry Bread. We held a fundraiser on campus, selling the fry bread. It was a really fun time. I have years of great memories as both a student and an employee here at GCC. I wouldn't trade my time here for anything!

Caryn Bird

Professor (2017 - 2019)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

In my two years here I have seen the removal of the football program and the reorganization of developmental education. I have also seen Dr. Terry become the President of the college.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Ignite...Every year!

What is your funniest memory?

During my interview I referred to myself as, "Smart and Pretty."

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Debbie Albury was incredibly welcoming and helpful and amazing!



Nicholas Restifo

Student (2014-2017)

Role at the College

Student

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

How new technology has changed the classroom.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Visiting different churches for my religions class.

What is your funniest memory?

Falling in the rain when I was leaving class.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

All of my professors and the friends I made. There's too many to list!

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

My class on the history of rock and roll was the most fun I've ever had while sitting in a class room!



James Songco

Student, Staff (OIT, T & CS Present)

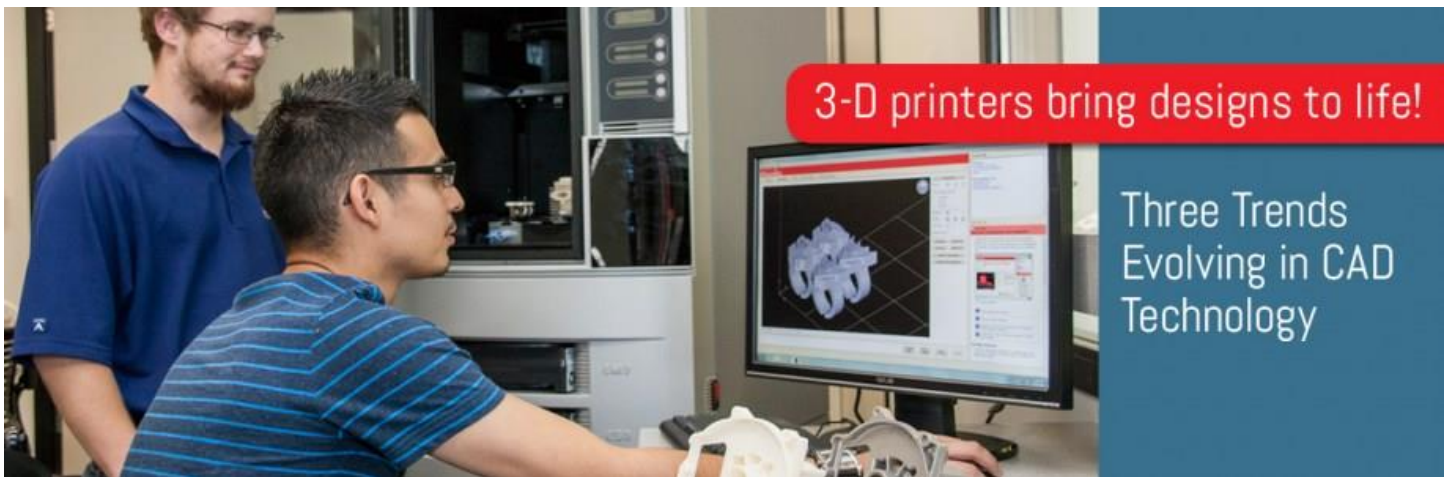
Board Approved since 2007, prior 2007 as instructional associate

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Life Sciences building opens, HT1 changes north portion interior, T1 and T2 remodeled;
CAD Technology programs relocates all classes to T1

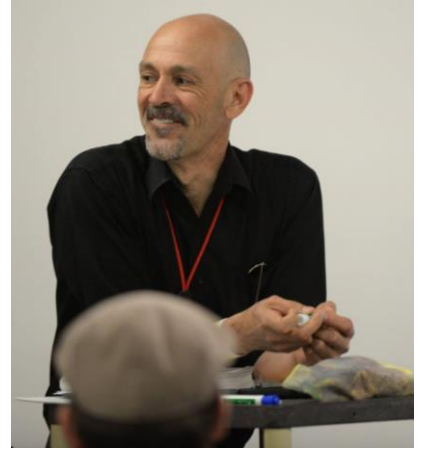
What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

CAD Technology Program acquires its 3d printer, 2011



What is your funniest memory?

I "sabotaged" Susan Campbell's instructor keyboard by wrapping it with countless rubber bands, prior to her class start. Her reaction was a gem. Fall 2017. This was in retaliation of (her placing) a pile of rubber bands mysteriously on my desk prior to my day arrival, 2 days prior.



Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Scott Kozak; he made an impression on me...to deliver my efforts/results to a higher level. The late Dr. Carlos Nunez-Noriega...to make a positive impact while one still can. The late Harry Nodine...to do what one enjoys at least once, because life is short.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

Free pizza days on the open plaza.

Suzy Treese

Professor (2010 - Present)

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

My fondest memory during my time at GCC is when our son played baseball for Coach Grant. Grant was my ENG 101 professor as well as my husband's baseball coach.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

As a student, Dave Grant made the biggest difference because he supported my success as a student. As a professor, my department chair(s) continue to support my success as an educator.



Derek Drumtra

Professor (2015 - Present)

Role at the College

Professor

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Cancelling the football program

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

I played football at GCC in the 90s. Playing football here was instrumental in me coming back here 20 years later as a professor.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Joe Kersting. Outstanding instructor and coach. He gave me a chance to play for him which truly altered my destiny. Crazy thing, I have his old office.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

I also went through the fire academy at GCC.



April Orr

Student and Staff (1994 - 2016)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Remodeling of GCC from 1994 and on. So many wonderful memories of programs and staff. Loved Readfest, College and Club Fairs. Setting up Commencement in the quad while they played Disney music.



What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Being an ACE student, then working for them. Anything involved Nursing Program

What is your funniest memory?

Dressing up as Snow White during Halloween in the Enrollment Center. Opportunity to greet the children from Childcare. Kids excited to explore the college and meet dressed up staff.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Pat Brodie, Melinda Ornelas, Bruce Thomas, Trini Sandoval, and Mary Blackwell. These are people who became my advocates to attend college and not give up. My family did understand attending college. Needed Cheerleaders through my journey as a student and career. Thus why I am passionate about helping and improving our students journey.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

As a student took video production courses. I created a promotion video for ACE and MAT108. (We used Super VHS back then)

Each Nursing Pinning and Commencement Ceremony has special memories.



Sue Oliver

Professor (2000 - 2013)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

The footprint changing due to the new buildings, and having the privilege of serving on those committees.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Teaching statistics and research methods using the animal model and having students present their research at WPA and APA conventions. Also, seeing former students obtain advanced degrees.

What is your funniest memory?

When the rats had to be secured in the women's restroom due to a water leak in the rat lab.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

The then chairs of the Psychology and Biology departments Ann and Steve Williams. What a dynamic duo! They definitely got things moving.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

Working and mentoring Native American students

Working with Psi Beta

Designing the rat lab in the new building

Memories of my colleagues in the Psychology department, that is of the original Over the Hill Gang!



Steve Kadel

Professor (1998 - Present)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Moving from old science building (now "new" math building) to new PS building in 2000.

Renovations of MANY old buildings.

9-11 and cancelling of lab class that day, with TV in lobby for everyone to keep up with events.

Building of new PSS complex, LS building, renovation of tennis courts

Decision to allow outer grass areas to "go brown" to save water/money

Winning of two national football and one women's volleyball national championships, decision to cancel football program

Dissolution of faculty and staff shared governance by Governing Board, return of faculty and staff shared governance by Governing Board

Transition from on-campus to off-campus graduation ceremonies

Being ranked "6th most wired college campus" in U.S. back in early 2000s, near-collapse of IT infrastructure due to massive budget restrictions by late 2010s

The employee and student data "breach"

Passing and/or retirement of many wonderful colleagues

Significant increase in both faculty and student diversity over the years

Pokemon go madness with over a dozen "pokestops" and multiple "gyms" all over campus

Six college presidents (and counting)

Three online student grading/management systems (with 3rd actually working well)

Multiple attempts to achieve "One Maricopa" or the like

Massive enrollment spike and then drop

Instigation of organized student and faculty peer-mentoring programs

Significant drop and then recovery of "student preparedness" for college coursework

Paper form to online form transition for nearly every function spread over about a 15-year period

Multiple floodings of PS lobby due to leaky roof - for 18 years.

Annual Christmas potluck in PS lobby with Math and Chemistry and Physical Science departments.

Crazy temp swings in Physical Science building

The day MCCCDC cancelled all classes at all campuses due to heavy rains. The flooding of the campus and a few buildings due to 500-year storms - twice - in Aug/Sept of 2015 or 2016

Leaf blowers outside of classroom doors during 8 and 9 am classes.



What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Summer student geology field classes, documented by MCTV.

What is your funniest memory?

Countless "out there" conversations with colleagues in PS stockroom area.



Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Our long-time lab and equipment coordinator, Wayne Johnson.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

Many Tucson mineral show trips to procure samples for geology labs, recon trips to prepare for new summer field courses, "Great Shake Out" earthquake simulation drills in Physical Science lobby,

Tia

Student (2016-2019)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Diversity

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

English with Morgan Bausch

What is your funniest memory?

Persuasive paper conversations with Morgan Bausch

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Morgan Bausch



Dario Herrera

Student (2008-2009)

Role at the College

Student

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

None

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Leaving

What is your funniest memory?

N/A

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

No one

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

Nope



Amanda

Administrative Secretary (2004 - Present)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

The cafeteria now offers meatless and healthier options now than when I first started. I eat there often now.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

GCC Band with Bill Humbert!



What is your funniest memory?

Every day in Band is pretty much a party. Best group of people to enjoy and learn music with. Writing po-ta-to and gibberish on my music to understand rhythms and endless inside jokes decorating the page.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Bill Humbert - first met him as a high schooler when he visited our school band to conduct. Knew immediately I wanted to study music at GCC. He is a master at balancing fun and professionalism in us students. You can't succeed in life without both. Now I work in the same department as the secretary :)

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

Great campus for Pokemon-Go



Dee (Deniece) May

GCC Switchboard, Fitness & Wellness Department (1992 - Present)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Enrollment process, New buildings, and Re-modeled buildings

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Employee Group Support and friendships/PSA

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Jean Ann Able-Dean treated everyone with respect and kindness.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

PSA Yard Sales



Alberto Vasquez

Student (2011-2013)

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

New experiences and teachers that cared.

What is your funniest memory?

That one time in one of my theatre classes...

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Professor Stoddard, his way of making each day count



Angie Acuna

College Registrar, Also, Counseling Faculty (2 OYO's) (2007 - Present)



What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

- 1) Taking the 50 year picture together. 2) Working as a family under a previous, retired Dean.

What is your funniest memory?

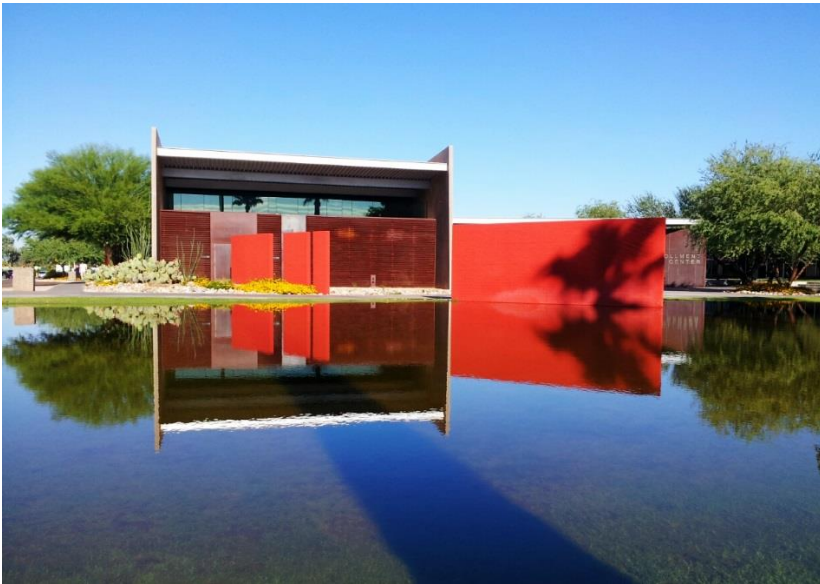
Anything having to do with Jim Reed. He always kept the campus laughing, either at him or with him.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Mary Blackwell impacted everyone she met. She was a kind yet strong leader. She empowered others to become the very best they could be. She introduced me and got me involved in the campus right away. She was a leader with HEART!

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

The implementation of the "new" SIS - from the old legacy system to the current system. WOW was that a lot of work and many days of long hours. While it was not GCC specific, it was hugely impactful to the lives of those in Student Affairs in 2008.



Kristin Shehi-Johnston

Adjunct Faculty (1994 - Present)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

New buildings

HT1 and HT2 developing

CTLE and the Tutoring developing

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

M. Hawkes



Kevin Fitzgerald

Football Coach, Professor (1996 – 1998; 2003 - Present)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

The shut-down of the football program.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Coaching football and watching my son play for the Gauchos.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Joe Kersting and Mike Holtfrerich. Joe was the best Head Coach I ever worked with and Mike was the best department chair that I have worked with...you did work for these men and you worked with these men because they were willing to do the unpopular jobs with you.



Peggie Murillo

Staff (1995 - 2019)

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

My fondest memory here at GCC, are simply my years here at GCC. We are truly a family that cares about each other on a personal level. Having so many years here at GCC and working at District Office, Rio and Phoenix College - GCC was and will always be home!

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

The Art Department - They showed me what it was to be happy in my job and with my co-workers. I was so appreciated and was happy to come to work.



Raquel

Student (2010-2014)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

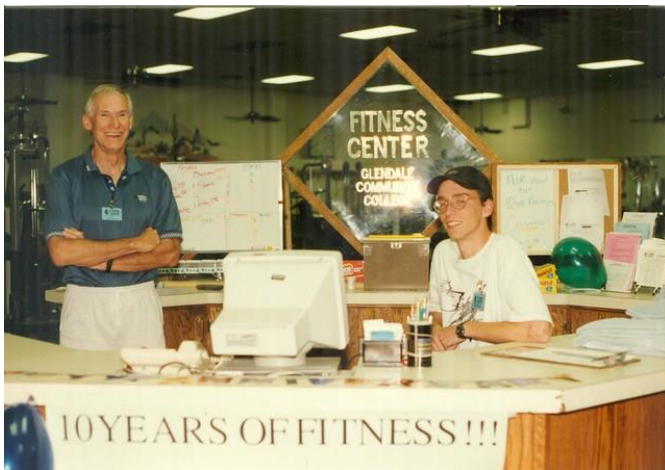
GCC campus expansion

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

The Fitness, Health, and Wellness Center growing

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

One of the staff at Enrollment Center regarding class swaps and equal class exchange.



Sue Komernicky

Adjunct Faculty (2011 - Present)

Although I was working at Glendale Public Library for 30 years & witnessed all the changes at GCC.

Role at the College

Adjunct Faculty

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Expansion both physical & curriculum

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Students

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Students & Library staff! Students for the most part are very courteous for the most part & are so appreciate for the help given to them! Library staff are just awesome & helpful!

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

You are probably aware, but AZ Memory Project has many interesting items about GCC



Rob

Professor (2012 - Present)

What is your funniest memory?

Watching the college president get dunked in the dunk tank at the student fair.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Phil Moloso, former math professor. His dedication to the college, education and focus on the students since the beginning of the college is inspiring.



Jayme Cook

Professor (2009 - Present)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Three presidents and the tobacco ban.



What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Becoming full-time residential faculty after 8 years of adjunct teaching.

What is your funniest memory?

My first week teaching here I took an English 101 class to the Student Union to practice writing sensory details and they scattered to the four winds. I lost the entire class.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Mary Jane Onnen. She hired me originally and maintained faith in me through more difficult times. She was an amazing leader, role model, and source of support.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

I conducted an experiment called 365 Days of Kindness and gave students extra credit for performing a selfless act that would positively affect a stranger. My students did everything from baking cookies for firefighters, to feeding a neighbor, to helping find a lost dog. They really impressed me.

Matt Salazar

Student (2008-2010)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Upgrading of computers.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

The professors and students! From engineering to physics I learned a lot.

What is your funniest memory?

Working on engineering projects.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Paula Cheslik and Ms Deli

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

Partnering with South Mountain for a weather balloon project.



David Raffaell

Professor/Department Chair (1994 - Present)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

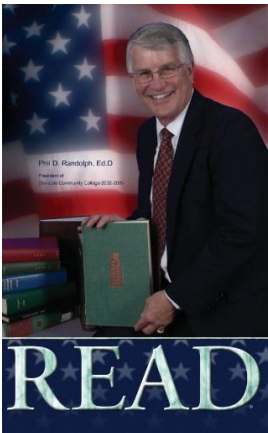
Change of President always feels "historic" as it is usually associated with a shift in culture.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Betty Hufford giving faculty address at convocation

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Irene Kovak, no nonsense mentor



Jamie Loehr

Student (2006-2009)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Expanding of the college

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Graduation Day



What is your funniest memory?

Having Class with my friend Kati

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

My Interpersonal Communication professor. She was so real and honest, and taught me so much about relationships.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

I loved seeing the peacocks walk around on campus.

Anna M Scroggins

Behavioral Student (2009)

Role at the College

Behavioral student

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

I took English 101 and passed the class.

What is your funniest memory?

Spending time with classmates at test time.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

I would have to say that my Instructors were wonderful.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

I also love the eating area I spent my time there between classes.



Anne Kilstofte, Ph.D.

Adjunct Faculty (2008 - Present)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Moving to online courses. I was the first in the music department to offer an online course.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Working with other faculty members at GCC. They are warm, inviting, and funny, but take teaching very seriously at the same time.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Dr. Robert Albury. He hired me and got me involved with this college.



Nick Alejandre

Student (1980-1982; 1986-1987)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Addition of North campus



What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

PE classes

What is your funniest memory?

I drove a motorcycle throughout my attendance at GCC and remember that it was so cold some mornings that I arrived an hour early to take a hot shower. I was always looked at a little funny attending first class dripping.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

A history teacher named Higgins. His sense of humor, and understanding that he was not just an educator, but also an entertainer

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

Getting in such good physical shape through a swimming class, that I almost fell asleep in the pool while doing laps.

Elesebeth Rodgers

Adjunct Faculty (2016 - Present)

What is your fondest memory from your time at GCC?

The students are amazing. I have international students and a wide variety of new, fresh from high school ranging to going-back-to-school in "middle age." Such a fun mix of people!

What is your funniest memory?

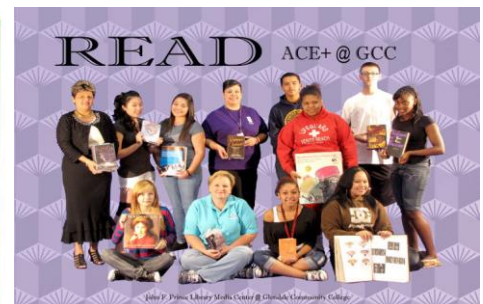
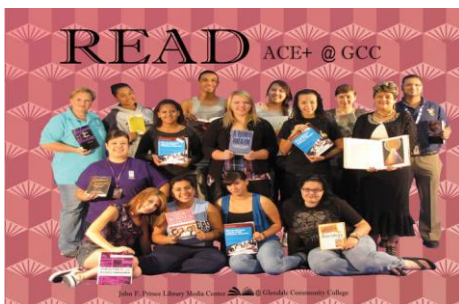
One of my students on the North campus was completing his Process Essay where students find their "dream job" on Indeed, then craft a 10 year plan to make that dream job a reality (including finishing school, transferring to a university, and doing internships where applicable). This student APPLIED for his dream job....and he got it!! Even though he didn't yet have his degree. It was a hoot, and very encouraging to all the other students.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

David Miller, because he is so professional yet very kind and caring. He has a great team put together in the English department.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

Having dual-enrolled high school students and ACE students since my own son and daughter earned college credits that way years ago.



Bonnie F. Saunders

Adjunct Faculty, (1999 - Present)

Except three one-semester-only assignments

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

New buildings, a more diverse student body.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Getting notes from former students about their success in the colleges to which they transferred and saying that what they learned in my classes helped them in later courses.

What is your funniest memory?

The noisy peacocks from the Glendale Public Library!

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

A variety of advice and assistance from all of the Chairs of the Social Science Department.



Cheryl

Student (2013-2018)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

New buildings being built, including the children's preschool area.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Being able to join the fun in the student union and surrounding areas, graduating!

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Many of my professors left impressions on me for different reasons! The main theme being not giving up.



Sue Oliver

Professor (2000-2010)

Full-time faculty, Part-time faculty before and after

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

The new Life Science building

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Watching and listening to GCC students compete with Master's, and PhD students from other colleges at the Western Psychological and American Psychological Association conventions when presenting their posters and seminars!

What is your funniest memory?

When the air conditioning went down in the rat lab and we put them (the rats) in the ladies rest room until it could be fixed (rats don't have sweat glands).

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Two people. Dr. Ann and Dr. Steve Williams who were the respective chairs of the Psychology and Biology departments. I worked with Steve on the Life Science building committee, and Ann knew how to handle people and run a department. Both were invaluable resources to GCC.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

Receiving letters and notes from former students letting me know that they had achieved their goal of graduation. One was from a former research student that had just received his PhD from the University of Illinois, and told me that he was using my research materials for his research lab.



David Schwalm

Husband of Karen Schwalm in the English Department.

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

I would encourage you to look closely at the origins and development of the Electronic Forum, driven by Karen Schwalm and Chris Zagar starting in the early 90s. It was way ahead of its time, and its local and national impact was remarkable.

Info Superhighway awaits GCC students

Electronic Forum to attract up to 8,000 members

By Kerry Devine
The Voice

As a new semester gets underway, GCC's Electronic Forum enters into its busiest time of the year, welcoming hundreds of new users.

A controlled, smaller branch of the "information superhighway," the Electronic Forum (EF) contains scores of discussion areas, in nearly every possible vein of interest. In addition, access to several Internet groups, as well as Internet Relay Chat and more.

Marla Dinchak, this year's system administrator compares the EF to a huge mansion.

"The EF contains hundreds of discussion areas or forums, similar to a mansion with hundreds of rooms, each of which have people carrying on conversations. When everyone first enters the EF, they are in the "Bulletins" forum, which is like walking into the entry foyer of the mansion. Bulletins provide campus information.

"Every room in this mansion has a sign or label on the door indicating what sort of conversation goes on in that room....to

enter each forum, a user simply types F and the name of the forum—as simple as opening a door and walking into a room."

Created in 1989 by Chris Zagar and Karen Schwalm, the EF has been used by 50,000 people. This year's influx of new members will be the biggest yet, with the semester's total users potentially numbering over 8,000.

"These numbers are increasing dramatically every year, putting a great strain on our technology," Dinchak said.

A recent survey, conducted by AT&T, showed that during a one-week period there were 55,000 call-in attempts to connect with the forum.

This strain has caused the EF's administrators to work exceptionally hard to keep up with changing technology. Zagar and Schwalm spend a great deal of time upgrading and modifying the EF to stay on top of the latest innovations.

This summer, in anticipation of increased modem activity (as the forum is easily accessed via modem), a new modem rack was tested. Increasing the ability for the system to handle heavy use is a constant battle.

But worth it, according to Dinchak.

"The opportunity to communicate worldwide is invaluable," Dinchak said.

"Those who can communicate effectively in our world will be the ones who create policy and make decisions. By teaching our students to communicate in a global society, we are giving them the tools to succeed in a technological world."

August 29th, 1994

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- See Academic/University Transfer Programs
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News:

- Spring 2002 class schedule now online
- New Press Release: 10/02/01...
- See College Publications...

Coming Up:

- NEW GCC CALENDAR...
- Career Fairs 10/23-24/01 at the Glendale Convention Center
- Upcoming Learning Center Open House (10/23-24/01)
- Life Skills Night Academy Workshop (10/24)
- Alumni Luncheon for Graduates (10/25)
- Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration (10/30)
- Welcome! (10/31)
- Raptor Parade (10/22)

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to excellence!

Glendale Community College is an equal opportunity institution. We are committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all students and staff.

Rozanne Workman

Student (1980-2016, intermittently)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Miss the July 4th Fireworks. Not much change to exterior campus grounds.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Enjoyed my time in the Audio Engineering Dept.

What is your funniest memory?

A wonderful interaction between the youth and senior students

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

The professors in the Audio Engineering Department

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

My professors were engaged and expected students to learn the material



Joseph Bednorz

Professor (1996 - 2016)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

New buildings, new people, the ever-changing student body, and the ever changing support from the state.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

My most satisfying memory is when I was first hired. It felt great/awesome. The people on the committee were great and I looked forward to working with them as well as the students. It is a great memory. I was on cloud nine for a very long time. Most of my time at GCC was spent working with great people. They made it all worth it. They cared for each other and for the student's. It was an awesome place to work. I am so thankful.

What is your funniest memory?

Funniest memory would be - seeing different administrators, faculty, and staff participate in the "dunk" tank. They were real, they cared, and they could have fun.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

The biggest impression was the dedication and hard work of the faculty. They really cared about their students. Students were always first. The question was always what is best for the student? How can we improve and help more students. They would go the extra mile to help students.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

I really loved graduation time. It was so wonderful to see all the students and their relatives being so excited. Even though it was a tad warm at that time. I did very much enjoy having it on our campus, in the mall. It made it more real, more personal.

I also remember how great it was when the football team won the national title. My son was on that team and we will never forget it. We continue to talk about it often. It was a cold, rainy night, but when it was all done, hearts soared and history had be made. GCC were national champions.



Valley Sun Bowl brings 'reign' to Glendale



Linebacker Bill McKeenan celebrates the first TD.



Defensive back Mike Smith attacks a Raider challenger.



Wide receiver Rich Weltbrock escapes for a first down.



A weary but worthy foe reflects at the end of a grueling battle.



Offensive back Travis Cutright evades three assailants enroute to a touchdown. Cutright ran in both touchdowns of the night.



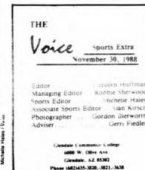
RB Conrad Swanson on the sidelines.



GCC's Renee Johnson and Linda Marks play in the halftime show.



Three bedraggled fans brave the elements until the final score.



THE Voice
Sports Edition
November 28, 1983
Editor: [Name]
Managing Editor: [Name]
Sports Editor: [Name]
Assistant Sports Editor: [Name]
Photographer: [Name]
Printer: [Name]

Alvin D. Shipley

Professor of Mathematics (1966 - 2001)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

A school in the country to one in the city. Mathematics Department growth from seven full time teachers to thirty-two full time teachers.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Being a part of the mathematics department. Also, we had a lot of freedom in teaching. Moving the number of students in our mathematics classes from fifty-five to at most thirty-five due to administration obeying the fire code.

What is your funniest memory?

Playing handball with Gene Eastin.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Professor Ed Hoff, Professor Mark Montanus, Dr. Walter Klann and President John Waltrip. Loyal friends.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

In 1972, Ed Hoff and I invented a "Word Processor" by printing a report on Fortran cards and running them through a computer which printed them out on computer paper. It was a report that went to the Governing Board Members to prove that faculty and staff with dependent insurance were overcharged by the District. We received compensation the following December.



Jessica Carlson

Student (2010-2011)

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

My Sociology class was unforgettable.

What is your funniest memory?

Tripping on my first day.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

My friend Jamie Bates! We met in sociology and are still friends today.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

I wasn't there long enough, but I enjoyed my time.



Victor W Selzer

Student, Parent of Student & Husband of Student (Various in 80s, 90s, and 00s)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

I know there have been many.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Experiencing the joy of learning something new when not compelled to do so.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Geology professor Pam who really made me think broadly.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

My wife attended and went on to ASU earning a BS in Accounting and obtaining her CPA. Our son also prepared himself and also went to ASU earning dual degrees in Finance and Economics. He went on to Law School and is now a respected member of the Delaware Bar. I attended to learn about things well outside my previous science and engineering degrees.



Marla DeSoto

Professor in the English Department (1991-2014)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Email for all students was instituted; the web was introduced and web pages created; GCC North was built.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Helping students to discover the internet and use it to improve writing

What is your funniest memory?

When a custodian drove his cart into the doors of HT2.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Margaret Hawks, English Department chair when I was hired. She encouraged me to grow and learn while teaching.



Virginia Ludders

Faculty and Adjunct Faculty (1987 - Present)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

All faculty now have computers.

IDs that unlock doors.

Professional security and police officers on campus.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Seeing my students achieving their masters' degrees and a former student having a major book published.

What is your funniest memory?

Chasing peacocks out of the theatre, a mole attending rehearsal, and a snake shedding its skin in my office.

Other special stories & memories from your time at GCC?

Working with Lenna DeMarco in producing several successful musical plays are among some of my favorite memories. We were able to sell out tickets for all performances before opening nights. Fiddler On the Roof, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, The Pajama Game, and The Fantasticks produced sellouts but Quilters, the last musical directed with Lenna had to be my favorite. We were invited as a region finalist to take the production to Cal State University, Hayward to perform as part of Region 8 of the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival.



Sean O'Brien

Faculty Librarian (2013 - Present)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

I think there has been a lot of thought and effort towards improving student success and the student experience at the college and I have really seen faculty and staff unite under this mission during my time at the college. This has been a very encouraging trend that I feel will only make our college better now and into the future.

In terms of my specific role as a librarian, I think that GCC can be a microcosm of the broader happenings within Arizona and the nation. That said, the last five or six years (since I have been working here) have been rather turbulent in the areas of information and research, and students are often unsure of what information to trust and what information may be scamming them. This can often be rather difficult to tell at times, as terms such as "fake news" and "misinformation" are batted about regularly. To this end, I think our library really stepped up our game when we saw these trends and offered a series of "Fake News" workshops to help students make sense of this perilous information environment and learn some strategies that can help them determine real news from fake news. These workshops have been incredibly popular and students often say that they get a lot out of them. That said, I think this illustrates the ever-increasing importance of higher education in helping to discern truth from falsehood, the critical role that instructors and librarians play in helping guide students to reliable information and resources, and the vital significance of students remaining ever questioning and ever curious.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

I always enjoy graduation each year as you get to see students you have gotten to know over the years succeed and take the next steps on their journey. I also have a lot of fond memories of participating in GCC Reads, which is basically a book club we host on the campus. In GCC Reads, we read a book over the semester and talk about it, and it is a great place for students and staff to come together to have interesting intellectual conversations without all the pressure of grades. Also, I am a librarian and I like to read.

What is your funniest memory?

At the library, we have a lot more information than books. We have a lot of online articles, books and videos that are really great for the modern day researcher. One day, I was showing students some of these online resources and was telling them about all of our great documentary and educational videos. To this end, I decided to click on a random scene in a video to show them just how simple it was to use these resources. Little did I know, but there were a lot of artsy films in the video database as well, and the scene I just happened to click upon involved a shirtless man and a blow-up doll doing some very artsy things. Immediately, I screamed and turned beet red, scrambling to turn off the video in front of the laughing faces of a classroom of students. I am now more careful of the random videos I click upon.

Who made the biggest impression or difference for you during your time at GCC? Why?

Lots of people. The students I help at the reference desk and the classroom who share their stories and successes with me, my fellow librarians at the college who I work with side-by-side every day to make a difference in the lives of our students, my mentors Lynn and Dean who gave me invaluable advice as I started, and so many others.



Bianca Armenta

Student (2010-2013)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

The campus growth.

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

The people I met.



Alex J. Babaian

Student (2012-2015)

What historic changes have you witnessed at GCC?

Enrollment

What is your fondest or most satisfying memory from your time at GCC?

Caring teachers

Personal growth

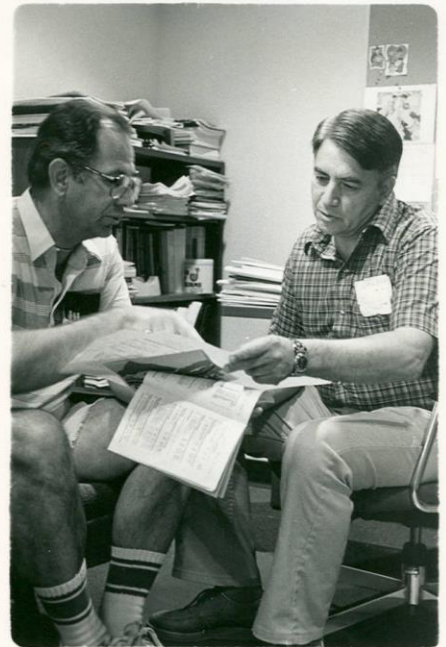


Photo Notes

Wherever possible, I tried to find either topical pictures or photos of people to match the testimonies.

Dr. Terry Leyba Ruiz, pg. 3

Profile image from GCC Website. Graduation Image from GCC Flickr page. Similar to the first Memories volume, Memories Volume Two begins with the college president, Dr. Terry Leyba Ruiz. The president featured in the Volume One Memories document is Dr. Waltrip.

Connie Greenwell, pg. 5

Graduation image from GCC Flickr page. The Dr. Waltrip image (who was featured at the start of the Memories Volume One book) is from the Bond Celebration towards the end of his over twenty year tenure as president of the college.

Lyle R. Langlois, pg. 7

All the computer shots are from the GCC Archives and are of eighties era computers at the college.

Laura, pg. 9

This photograph was supplied by Laura of the Sedona trip taken by the International Club.

Mark Cross, pg. 10

The first photo features a young Phillip Randolph speaking at a ribbon cutting ceremony for a brand new Automotive Building. Later, Dr. Randolph would become both GCC college president and Chancellor of the Maricopa Community College system. Then, after his retirement, a new Automotive Building was built and named after the esteemed former president and chancellor. He is featured in the second photo cutting the ribbon to that facility.

Joe Kersting, pg. 11

The first image is of the student newspaper, The Voice, which declared the 1988 Gauchos to be national champions. The second image is of that same team at the 2018 Homecoming being honored once again thirty years later.

Christina, pg. 13

Graduation image from the GCC Flickr page.

Theresa Marie Canady, pg. 14

Photo supplied by the family of Theresa.

Scott A. Kozakiewicz, pg. 15

The first image is of Senator Barry Goldwater speaking to the college. The second is a title slide for a slideshow that was running during the 25th anniversary of the college. The third image of Scott toasting the old library before a major remodel that would turn it into the modern GCC Library. The

assembled crowd was in an outdoor atrium that used to be in the library that now serves as the computer lab.

Oriol Vidal-Aparicio, pg. 17

This photo was found on the International Education Program page for what is known as the Maricopa Global Leadership Retreat.

Linda Schallan, pg. 19

The first two pictures are from the GCC Library in the 1960s and 1980s. During this time, the library had carpet with distinct wavy lines throughout. The third photo is of Vance Hansen from the GCC Yearbook. These photos were from the GCC Library Archives.

Sally (Harker) Henrie, pg. 21

Photographs of Chemistry Day, where schoolchildren are invited to campus to see an engaging chemistry demonstration. This even continues today. These photos were from the GCC Library archives.

Damian Martell, pg. 22

These photographs showcase events for the 50th anniversary celebration of the college. The first event is the burying of a time capsule to be opened in 2040 during the 75th anniversary of the college. The second is of the Golden Gala, which celebrated both the 50th anniversary along with our veteran services at the college. These photographs can be found on the GCC Flickr page and through the GCC Library archives.

Dr. Sharenda Roam, pg. 23

This is a photograph of Peter Lupu during one of his "The Philosopher is In..." sessions where he discussed and answered philosophical questions from the student body. It was taken from a story about the activity taken from the Voice student Newspaper.

Julie Terrill, pg. 24

Featured in these photos are the covers for the Traveler issues discussed in this testimony along with a photograph of Jim Reed from the Phil Moloso Music Collection Grand Opening. The Traveler can be found through the GCC Library and photos from the Phil Moloso Music Collection Grand Opening can be found on the GCC Flickr page.

Natalie Gould, pg. 25

The photograph honoring GCC veterans can be found on the GCC Flickr page.

Penny Havelly, pg. 27

These photographs were from the Public Safety Science Building Grand Opening and can be found through the GCC Library Archives.

Monica Haro, pg. 29

The first series of photographs from the GCC Library Archives are of the iconic dome being added to the Student Union. The second photograph is of the ACE Plus crew at the time and was found on the GCC Flickr page.

Rosa Ybarra, pg. 31

These photos taken from GCC Yearbooks are of professors Mr. Roberson, Dr. Lorenzini, Dr. Hoff, shown in that order.

Juan Stewart, pg. 32

This is a photo of Scott Henry taken from his veteran testimony taken as part of the Veterans Heritage Project.

Lori Clement, pg. 33

The first photograph, from the GCC Flickr page, is of Jim Reed who was giving a commencement address. The second two photographs are from the GCC Library archives and showcase the building of the Life Science Building along with the completed facility.

Dennis Topel, pg. 35

The first photograph is of Mark Montanus from an early GCC Yearbook. The remaining photographs are of student and service workers at the college found in the GCC Library archives.

Dr. Bonnie F. Saunders, pg. 36

Featured is a picture of a GCC courtyard from the GCC Flickr page and photo of Donna Allen from the GCC website.

Virginia Ludders, pg. 37

Here is a picture from the GCC staged play "Waiting for Godot" from the GCC Flickr page and a photo of former GCC president John Waltrip.

Jessica Dickison, pg. 39

Here are some archival photos from the GCC Readfest. The GCC Readfest was an annual event that began in 1996 and ended in 2005, bringing more than 6000 elementary students to the college annually.

Caryn Bird, pg. 41

Here is featured of photo of Caryn from the GCC website and a screenshot of the CTLE Ignite event video.

Nicholas Restifo, pg. 42

Here is a photo of a recent foggy morning taken by George Gregg and shared upon the campus email.

James Songco, pg. 43

Here is a photo taken from the GCC website about the GCC printer along with photos of Susan Campbell, Scott Kozakiewicz, and Dr. Carlos Nunez-Noriega.

Suzy Treese, pg. 45

Here is a photograph of a baseball player and coach Dave Grant taken from the student newspaper the Voice.

Derek Drumtra, pg. 46

This is a photo of the GCC football team taken for an article in the Voice student newspaper and a photo of the Grand Opening of the Public Safety Sciences Building from the archives.

April Orr, pg. 47

Here are two photographs from the archives. The first is of the set up for a GCC Commencement Ceremony, which used to be held in the Center Mall of the GCC campus. The second is of GCC Nursing graduates.

Sue Oliver, pg. 49

Here are several photographs of both a ribbon cutting ceremony and a topping out ceremony from the archives. All of these projects followed the passage of a community bond.

Steve Kadel, pg. 51

Photographed here is Steve Kadel with students in a geology field class captured by MCTV and Wayne Johnson captured from the GCC website.

Tia, pg. 53

This testimony features a courtyard filled with students from the GCC Flickr page.

Dario Herrera, pg. 54

This critical testimony features a photo of a lone student walking away. The original photograph was taken in the 1960s and can be found in the archive. Dario's was one of three testimonies received through this project. The remaining two we decided not to publish as they focused upon some specific departments and people and thus fell outside the celebratory nature of this project. That said, we hope Dario and the other two are doing well now and thank them for their entries. I believe these accounts serve as reminders that we as a college always need to do more to ensure every student is successful.

Amanda, pg. 55

Featured here is a photo of Bill Humbert leading the band from the college site and a photo of the band performing from the archives.

Dee (Deniece) May, pg. 57

Before enrollment was in the Enrollment Center, it was at the Student Union. Here is an archival photo announcing student registrations from several decades ago. Next to it, is a picture of the newer Enrollment Center where students now go to get help and assistance in enrolling into classes.

Alberto Vasquez, pg. 58

Here is the photo of the GATE awards from the GCC Flickr page.

Angie Acuna, pg. 59

All photos here are supplied by Angie.

Kristin Shehi-Johnston, pg. 61

Here is a photo of the groundbreaking ceremony of the High Tech Center found in both the archives and GCC Flickr pages. The High Tech Center was a major step forward for the colleges and provided students with a "pit" of computers that still exists today.

Kevin Fitzgerald, pg. 62

This is a photo of Joe Kersting and Michael Holtfrerich. Joe's photo was taken at the Homecoming event in 2018 and is part of a collection on the GCC Flickr page. The photo of Michael is from the GCC website.

Peggie Murillo, pg. 63

Here are some photographs of some of the sculptures found on the grounds of the GCC campus from the GCC Flickr page.

Raquel, pg. 64

Here is an older and newer photo of the GCC Fitness Center found on the GCC Flickr page.

Sue Komernicky, pg. 65

On this testimony, there is featured two classic archives photos of the GCC Library from both the 1960s and the 1980s.

Rob, pg. 66

Here is a Flickr photo of the Phil Moloso Music Collection taken during the grand opening. As well, there are two photos which feature Moloso taken from the GCC Yearbook.

Jayme Cook, pg. 67

Featured in this testimony are photographs of the last three GCC Presidents at Commencement Ceremonies: Dr. Green, Dr. Kovala, and Dr. Leyba Ruiz.

Matt Salazar, pg. 68

This features an older and new photo of the High Tech Center Computer Commons from the archives and website respectively.

David Raffaell, pg. 69

Featured here are all eight GCC Presidents in order. On the top row, from left to right, we have Dr. Prince, Dr. Hanhila, Dr. Waltrip, and Dr. Pollack. On the bottom row, from left to right, we have Dr. Randolph, Dr. Green, Dr. Kovala, and Dr. Leyba Ruiz.

Jamie Loehr, pg. 70

Here are some photographs of GCC Commencement Ceremonies from the GCC Flickr page.

Anna M Scroggin, pg. 71

This testimony features an architectural rendering of the Student Union from the archives.

Anne Kilstofte, Ph.D., pg. 72

Here are some photos of GCC musicians from the GCC Flickr page

Nick Alejandre, pg. 73

This testimony features architectural renderings of the GCC North campus from the archives.

Elsebeth Rodgers, pg. 74

Here are some GCC Reads posters featuring Ace Plus students from the archives.

Bonnie F. Saunders, pg. 75

In this testimony are featured aerial shots of both the Main and North campuses during their initial construction.

Cheryl, pg. 76

This is a photograph of GCC faculty during a Commencement Ceremony taken from the GCC Flickr page.

Sue Oliver, pg. 77

This testimony features architectural renderings of the Life Science building.

David Schwalm, pg. 79

On this page is featured an article from the Voice student newspaper along with images of the GCC website from the Wayback Machine.

Rozanne Workman, pg. 80

Here is some pictures of audio engineering equipment at the GCC campus taken from both the website and GCC Flickr page.

Joseph Bednorz, pg. 81

On this testimony are featured Commencement Ceremony photographs from the GCC Flickr page and an article from the Voice student newspaper about the championship football team.

Alvin D. Shipley, pg. 83

On this testimony are featured photographs of the founding faculty, both when they began and fifty years later during a reunion event.

Jessica Carlson, pg. 85

Here is a photograph of the GCC campus from the GCC Flickr page.

Victor W Selzer, pg. 86

Here are some shots of students on campus during the 1980s.

Marla DeSoto, pg. 87

Here is feature both a shot of GCC North Construction and an architectural rendering of the one of the GCC North buildings from the GCC archives.

Virginia Ludders, pg. 88

This testimony features Flickr photographs of students performing at the GATE awards.

Sean O'Brien, pg. 89

Here is a photograph of a Fake News Panel held in the student union where faculty from both GCC and ASU discuss the problem of fake news.

Bianca Armenta, pg. 91

The first two shots in this testimony are from the archives. The first of this pair is an aerial shot of the land upon which the GCC campus would be built. You will note it is agricultural fields and an orange grove. Since then, Glendale has had a great deal of urbanization. The second of this pair is a photograph of when the iconic palms were planted on the GCC campus. Finally, the third photo is a newere photograph of the modern GCC campus from the GCC Flickr page.

Alex J. Babaian, pg. 92

This testimony features a shot of the Enrollment Center and of GCC Counselor Dr. Joe Griego as he helps a student.

Memories

Volume One

1965-1995

GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
1965 - 1995

MEMORIES



GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Memories

*Founding
Faculty, Staff and Students*

Celebrating 30 years 1965 - 1995

President's Memories *from*

Dr. John Waltrip

President John R. Waltrip came to Glendale Community College as a history teacher in 1966, the school's second year, and the first year the new buildings were occupied at the 6000 W. Olive Avenue location. He became Executive Dean in 1972 and President in 1975. Waltrip is retiring during this 30th year.

What follows are Dr. Waltrip's memories of his 29 years at Glendale Community College, as told to Gerri Fiedler, Media Relations Specialist.

What do you remember about establishing the college?

Originally GCC was simply called the Northwest Campus. "I've heard that when they were talking about naming it, it was suggested our college be called 'Thunderbird' and Mesa, 'Superstition,'" Waltrip said, "but for the sake of community support, it seemed better to call them Glendale and Mesa, which they did."

Although the two new branches of the Maricopa County Junior College District, Mesa and Glendale, were established at the same time and in the same way, Dr. Waltrip seemed a bit puzzled that the Governing Board decided to put all their money on one campus — Glendale.

"We came out here in '66 to a complete campus, fully built, everything we needed, while Mesa was operating almost entirely out of portable buildings," Waltrip said. "I don't know how many they had out there, but they had a multitude of them."

Who was the most memorable person in the early years?

"Probably the most memorable person in the early years was Dr. John Prince, and the very inspiring leadership that he provided for the college at that time," Dr. Waltrip said. "I considered him a very kind, thoughtful man with an impeccable way of speaking — beautiful manners. He personified just about everything that I find admirable in an educational leader."

Dr. Prince was on the Glendale campus as Executive Dean (they were not called Presidents in those days) for only one year before he became District President, which is comparable to the Chancellor today.

"We didn't lose him, though," Waltrip says. "He just became the big man, the District President. My first several years as Executive Dean out here at Glendale I was working under Dr. Prince directly."

When asked if he had tried to model his own presidency after Dr. Prince, Dr. Waltrip said, "No, I couldn't match him in any way. I'm an original. I haven't tried to model myself after anybody."

What was the most satisfying memory from the early years?

Waltrip says serving on a district salary committee with GCC foreign language instructor Gene Eastin was very satisfying. The committee managed to get the first major pay increase for the faculty.

"Gene and I were the representatives from Glendale," Waltrip said, "and we (the committee) made a major change in the whole salary schedule, achieved a major increase."

Waltrip spoke with an air of amusement when he recalled that one strategy the committee used was to compare the faculty salaries with salaries of Greyhound bus drivers.

continued

Dr. John R. Waltrip continued

"One of the members on the committee had been a Greyhound bus driver," Waltrip explained, "and back in those days Greyhound drivers were very well paid. We were effective in comparing our salaries to those of bus drivers and indicating we should be making just as much."

What was the most significant milestone at GCC?

Dr. Waltrip thinks the most significant change on campus was when GCC entered the computer age. He was at the helm when the very first computers were purchased.

The GCC President was aware that Phoenix College had a grant to experiment with the use of computers in education, and to develop some classes. "I spent a lot of time talking to Bill Berry, PC President, and it just became apparent to me that computers were here to stay, and it was important to involve ourselves with them as soon as possible."

The opportunity to purchase computers came when the school was allowed to keep money left over from a building project. "I used that overage to buy the first group of computers," Dr. Waltrip said. "Probably between \$25,000 and \$50,000." Bertha Landrum, my first dean of instruction, set up the first computer lab in the Business Building around 1980, several years before High Tech 1 was conceived.

What are the funniest memories?

Dr. Waltrip couldn't recall a particularly humorous moment from the beginning years of GCC. "There were lots of things at the time that were considered *serious*, and they seem funny now," he said with a chuckle, "but I wouldn't want to go into most of them."

What are the fondest memories?

Dr. Waltrip spoke fondly of C. C. (Campus Cat), the yellow tiger-striped stray that took up residence in the bushes at the corner of the Administration Building. "He moved in and Lois and I (his secretary) fed him faithfully every day, including weekends, for a couple of years," Dr. Waltrip said. "He got so you could pet him and pick him up a little bit. Then he went the way of all cats — just disappeared."

The Waltrips have five cats at their home on the outskirts of Glendale. They take in the strays that people dump off in the country. "They're wonderful animals — very interesting to watch," Dr. Waltrip said. He believes people don't choose cats. "You have to appeal to them for them to adopt *you*," he says. "No two cats are alike; they're all unique."

What are the feelings about retirement after 29 years?

Dr. Waltrip has the distinction of having the longest tenure as a college president in the Maricopa Community College District. He's not particularly impressed by his record. "The best people have moved on to better jobs, the poorest people have gotten fired, and the mediocre people like me have stayed because it's very difficult to find a district that's better than this."

He said he imagines a lot of things at GCC will change after he leaves. But he hopes one thing that doesn't change is his staunch belief that buildings should be named for someone only if they are willing to pay for the building.

The retiring president said he's made it pretty clear he doesn't want a building named after him, and he thinks he has made a strong enough stand that his wishes will be respected.

"Besides," he said with a characteristic twinkle in his eye, "every building on campus has a 'John.'"

Founding Faculty

Memories

Founding Faculty Memories *from*

Dr. Lee Baxter

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

While the college was still under construction, I was given the responsibility to determine our needs for all of the equipment required for a music department. This included instruments, uniforms, cabinets, storage space etc. I then visited the various vendors and got bids for all of the items. To my surprise, the district purchasing office and school board approved everything we asked for – and they barely knew me.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

While the Music Building was under construction, my wife Wanda and I would check out the progress at least twice a week. One evening we came out to the campus and black smoke was pouring out of the building. So I did the only logical thing I could think of – I called the Fire Department. They arrived and determined that the building was not on fire, but that the construction crew was burning smudge pots one night to quick-dry some plaster work they had completed that day.

What was your most rewarding experience?

- a. Being the first band director of a new college, and starting without any musicians and watching the organization grow to 110 players.
- b. Taking two musical tours into Mexico and finding out how well the Mexican audiences accepted our type of concert music.
- c. Being invited by the San Diego Chargers to perform a halftime show on NBC Television.
- d. Being invited to Disneyland and Knotts Berry Farm to perform concerts on their main stages.
- e. Really, there are too many to list.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

Gaining the respect of the community as a very significant educational institution in Arizona. The respect is reflected in the enrollment of about 18,000 students per semester at this time.

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC?

Being asked by Dr. John Waltrip to serve as the chairman of the Fine Arts area, which included the Music Department and areas of Speech, Drama, Humanities, and Sign Language. I also enjoyed serving on the Faculty Senate and a host of other committees during my time as a full time faculty member.

Founding Faculty Memories
from

M. J. Benham

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

Returning from a second year sabbatical to teach at Glendale in 1967-68. Taught Physics and Geology. I enjoyed my two years there.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

President Matt Hanhila who interviewed me for chairman of the Science Department. I went on my two year sabbatical instead, returning in the year 1967-68.

What was your most rewarding experience?

Seeing a new college get started which began at the Camelback extension back in 1962-64 where I was chairman of Science.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

One of two new community colleges started after Maricopa Community Junior College system was instituted in 1962.

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC?

Fine faculty members in the Science Department, particularly Physics.

Founding Faculty Memories
from

Frank J. Bietto

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

Band chaperone for Dr. Lee Baxter and John Thrasher. Saw almost all of S. California, Disneyland, Queen Mary, Catalina Island.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

President John Waltrip barking at me from time to time. He reminds me of a cross between a tiger and a parrot. I never understood what the hell he was saying but I did it.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Dr. John Prince. He gave the college initial leadership; and Dr. Matt Hanhila when we discussed sports.

What was your most rewarding experience?

Just being at GCC. Great place to teach. Warm friendships.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

Expansion. Taking care of the west Phoenix students.

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC?

GCC winning the National Baseball Championship in 1966-67. Swimming coach Dick Fuenning's championships. Strong academic programs. Vocational technical expansion from virtually nothing.

Founding Faculty Memories
from

Dale Bloss

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

Some of the excellent staff members that I worked with and shared office space at the Jewish Center. Particularly, Nancy Noll, Mariam Austin and Herb Boetto.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

At a motel, at a National Baseball Tournament, after a game, waiting for the towels to dry, so we could shower. Our budget was very limited.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Dr. Matt Hanhila. He was a fine friend with a most unusual array of talents. I have never met anyone like him.

What was your most rewarding experience?

The many classes that I taught that included fun and eager students. Being a part of a National Championship Baseball team.

Choosing Dick Fuenning as a coach at G.C.C.

Sharing office space with him and watching him develop many fine track and field athletes.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

The building of the present campus.

What are other memories of your teaching career at GCC?

The many duties that I performed. The fond memories of the many fine athletes that I coached and the many fine people that I met as a Coach, Athletic Director, Regional Director and as National Sports Director.

Founding Faculty Memories *from*

Jan Boerner

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

Like everyone else, I have had a hard time isolating one fond memory. There are so many. One of my strongest memories is my feeling of pride when I walked through the finished buildings, especially the 02 faculty building where my office was going to be. Being able to have an individual office off the atrium was the height of luxury! I also remember the first flowers around the administration building (wondering when some would be planted around the rest of the campus).

What is the funniest thing you remember?

One of my funniest memories was having to look over people's heads when I walked in the library to avoid the "lonnnng" dizzying strips in the carpet! Another one was the Saturday morning the Honor Board students agreed to meet to dismantle the Christmas tree in the library (we were responsible for decorating the first years on the new campus) when only the sponsor appeared!

Whom do you remember most, and why?

I recall office staff members who always tried to make it easy for teachers to do what they needed.

Among faculty, I have fond memories of many people, especially Flo Kitts. I thought she was the most caring person I knew, the most sensitive to both teachers and students. I had just been teaching five years, and her way of working with people was frequently uppermost in my mind: "What would Flo say to this student?" I was proud for her when Dr. Prince asked her to write the words for the Alma Mater. I am so glad that we have a scholarship named for her in the English Department.

Among students, I think of the summer school student, an age forty-plus employee at Penny's who offered me \$200.00 to give him a passing grade! I was angry at the time, but several of us had a good laugh later to think we were worth so little on the world scale of corruption. In the same class was a dyslexic young man who worked so hard just to earn a passing grade. At the time, we had no special means to help him.

I will always recall the support the administration gave me as a teacher and as a department chair.

What was your most rewarding experience?

This may sound self-serving, but my most rewarding experience was just coming to campus every day and being paid for doing what I enjoyed, helping students learn the writing skills they needed and teaching the literature I loved so much.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

- Leaving the punch-card era for registration
- Moving into the computer age
- Opening new classroom buildings
- Recognizing our cultural diversity

continued

Jan Boerner continued

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC?

- Being the only woman on the first GCC Faculty Senate, meeting on Friday afternoons.
- Being English Department Chair for twelve years.
- Asking Barbara Hackett to "start" a Writing Center in an office (!) in the 02 office building.
- Working on *Traveler*, although I was not one of the original advisors.
- Doing an ENG071 computer project and then being named with my friends Joy Wingersky and Diana Balogh as GCC's Innovators of the year.

Founding Faculty Memories
from

Thomas R. Brazie

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

The enthusiasm which motivated us during those days, the drive to excel and achieve on our new campus, of which we were so proud.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

About 1975, witnessing a high speed chase across campus of a car of thieves by plain clothes policemen. The car hit a lightpole near the business building, one thief ran and was tackled by football players. The police went into a two-handed firing pose. Students applauded.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Dr. Betsy Herlihy, my first department chair, who was always so friendly and supportive when it mattered.

What was your most rewarding experience?

My classes of policemen and freshmen from 1970-75, which I taught by arrangement, one night class and one day class, so the officers could meet their day shift changes. They were always appreciative.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

The solid establishment of our basic courses in the eighties, and the spectacularly successful tutoring and technical programs.

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC?

The friendship and encouragement of my longtime mentor, Dr. Matt O. Hanhila from 1966 til his death. The longtime association with the surviving old guard, as we totter about this campus, presuming on the tolerance of the young teachers.

Founding Faculty Memories
from

Maurice M. Campion

What was your fondest memory of the early years?

When my initial class enrollment was 5 students in one class and 6 in another: 1963.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

Its constant growth from a very small faculty to become the second largest community college in the nation.

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC?

For three summers I took students to Costa Rica and Central America. During this period 12 faculty members attended as student participants. Three marriages occurred between GCC students and Costa Ricans and many close relationships were made. It was indeed a rewarding experience for all participants.

Founding Faculty Memories *from*

Frank T. Fitzgerald

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

My fondest memory of the early years at GCC was of my feelings driving north on 59th Ave. in my old 36 H.P. V.W. bus. I felt the most optimistic, energized, and productive in my entire teaching experience. I couldn't wait for each day to begin.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

Funny "Ha Ha": jurying the first art students exhibition on this campus during the Spring of 1967 in the basic design room was a bucket of worms. Transporting the accepted pieces to the student union lounge and hanging the show was like a three stooges comedy with four parts. We have gotten better since then but we get fewer laughs.

Funny "Weird": Theodore "Nat" Woods, a sculpture student, gave his direct plaster over an armature piece to Vincent Furnier, a design student, to destroy on stage in his act.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

I remember the art faculty already teaching at the community centers: Warren Gentry, Len Johanson, and Bob Lundeen.

I remember in particular some of my first students: Willi Tobias has continued as a sculptor, Theadore "Nat" Woods has continued in art education and 3D, Vincent Furnier has continued in entertainment, and Mike McCleve went on to work for Paolo Solari for over 10 years and continued in sculpture until his death in 1993.

What was your most rewarding experience?

My most rewarding experience has been my own artistic rebirth. This has happened semester after semester as an unexpected dividend of the steady stream of sensitive people choosing to attend GCC.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

The first milestone for me was the planning and building of an art complex of spaces and equipment as a part of the first phase of GCC. I felt heir to that plan. The second was when each full time faculty member received a telephone in their office. It had been difficult to handle paperwork from a stand-up phone in the hall. The third milestone that marked a significant leap for GCC was having a P.C. on each desk and then came the High Tech Center and now ...

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC?

Other special memories of my teaching career at GCC are prompted each time I show slides of past students' work to illustrate an assignment, problem, or idea to my new class.

Founding Faculty Memories
from

Moffat A.C. Gardner

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

The development of the campus both academically and physically.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

The mudhole on Camelback that we called a campus.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Dr. Prince because of his excellent leadership and character.

What was your most rewarding experience?

The opportunity to be part of a faculty that developed one of the finest community colleges in the United States.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

The change from a Junior College to that of a Community College.

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC?

The academic freedom enjoyed by the faculty of GCC.

Founding Faculty Memories *from*

Vance Hansen

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

In Glendale's first official year, we operated in the two temporary campuses that had been branches of PC for a couple of years. The English Department at Camelback branch suddenly proposed a list of required usage standards for papers written in Freshman English. Teachers at the Maryland branch immediately expressed hostility to the proposal, and the two staffs met to discuss the standards with Deans John Prince and Matt Hanhila present for the meeting.

It was a donnybrook. Camelback strongly argued for; Maryland vigorously opposed. If any teachers disagreed with sentiments held at their branch, they were too timid to speak up. For Prince and Hanhila it was an intellectual tennis match, their heads turning from branch to branch. The rift was as big at the end of the meeting as at the beginning.

The next morning when I headed for my office on the Maryland Campus, I passed Matt Hanhila and Flo Kitts in discussion and overheard this exchange:

Hanhila: Well, I'm sure it was meant merely as a list of suggestions.

Kitts: Hmph! For a list of suggestions, it sure as hell has an imperious tone!

What is the funniest thing you remember?

In one of those portable buildings converted into mass offices, Fara Darland and I were discussing Dante's *Inferno*, trying to remember the third traitor being chewed on by Satan in the bottom pit of hell. Henry Dixon from the Social Studies Department was quietly at work at his desk. Fara and I agonized over the identity but could only come up with the names of Judas and Brutus. Finally I said "Dammit, Judas and Brutus and who the Hell else?"

The quiet voice of Henry Dixon provided the throaty answer: "F. Dee. Rrrrrr!"

Whom do you remember most, and why?

The same Flo Kitts who impressed me with "It sure as hell has an imperious tone" soon caught my attention in many ways. She was a dynamic personality even though her health was past its prime. Students filled her classes early, and she wasn't an easy teacher. She could be blunt and irreverent: "The flag is a rag on a stick." This was how she explained symbolism when she taught general semantics.

Mostly I remember Flo Kitts because she was the incarnation of Love. Once while she was English Department chairman, I was in a severe depression that others either did not notice or mention. She accosted me one day, asking if she had done anything to upset me. I was taken aback and assured her that she certainly hadn't.

I don't remember all the rest of the conversation, but I do remember her saying that she was concerned about me, that she *loved* me. She loved me in the sense that she loved mankind. *Agape* love may not be rare, but the expression of it is; Flo was one of those rare individuals who could say something that others might feel but not be able to put into words. Flo Kitts is one of the Angels of my life.

continued

Vance Hansen continued

What was your most rewarding experience?

All my "rewarding experiences" have blurred together into a pleasant, hazy recollection – in much the same way that most of the "unrewarding ones" are unrecoverable as separate events. I like it this way.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

The most significant milestone was the one at the end of the first mile: the opening of the new campus. We were like grade thirteen that first year on the branch campuses; we were a college when we opened at 6000 West Olive. It had the atmosphere of a college, and it had the distinctive beauty that has marked Glendale Community College from the beginning.

The campus has more buildings now, more students, and more staff. And one of the major accomplishments of GCC is that it still has its atmosphere and its distinctive beauty.

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC?

All my special memories from the last thirty years merge into one pretty collage: the college atmosphere, the distinctive beauty, and the people. GCC's greatest asset is its people. Students, Faculty, Administrators, and Support Staff are by and large lovely people.

Founding Faculty Memories
from

Dr. Harriet E. Herlihy

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

After five years at Phoenix College, I found it exciting to be in at the start with a new college and to have the opportunity as chair of the Language Arts Division to work with a fine faculty in developing our own programs in English, Speech, Drama, Reading, Journalism and Foreign Language.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

Because of the limited space at the Jewish Community Center on Maryland, I could find no classroom for a small Spanish class, so it met in the office I shared with Flo Kitts, with instructor and students sitting on top of our desks.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

I remember the congenial, cohesive faculty group at the Maryland Branch, cutting across subject matter areas and working together to build a new college.

What was your most rewarding experience?

I was particularly proud of the development of the Language Skills program with participation of Speech, Reading, and English teachers as well as counselors. The program was copied by other colleges and given attention at national conferences.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

The first milestone – and a challenging one – was the successful evaluation by North Central shortly after our move to our new campus.

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC?

It has been an enjoyable and satisfying experience to work with faculty, staff and students in these thirty years at GCC.

Founding Faculty Memories *from*

Don Higgins

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

Very early, as in first 3-4 years: John Waltrip and I would take a walk around the perimeter of the campus.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

Lee Baxter giving me a script to announce for the band's halftime show. I (stupidly) read it verbalism; "The pom-pom squad is under the direction of Violent Kidney."

Whom do you remember most, and why?

John Prince and Andy Mikus – They interviewed me and hired me.

What was your most rewarding experience?

Interestingly all were off campus: The M.D., the four different attorneys, the countless school teachers, and many other alumni* who have introduced themselves as former students and expressed appreciation.

*Including one fulbright scholar.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

The secession of these presidents (well, two executive deans and one president) Prince Hanhila to Waltrip, all of whom served GCC so well.

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC:

"The Great Debate," starring Harry Matz and Tom Cook; it made the Clarence Darrow – Mrs. Jennings Bryan "Monkey Trail" pale.

Herb Boetto taking ten years off of Frank Biotto's life by throwing Frank's lecture cards away, 6:30 a.m. – he later retrieved them.

Announcing GCC's first football game at Mary vale H.S. – we lost 55-54; I think a player by the name of Mathis scored our first Touch Down.

Founding Faculty Memories
from

Robert Lundeen

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

Hearing Dr. Prince speak.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

Dr. Matt Hanhila describing to a faculty meeting his experience in trying to figure out how to unbuckle the seat belt in a new district car. And being unsuccessful having to slip underneath in order to get to a meeting on time.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Dr. Bill Berry, I found him to be a good listener, fair and supportive.

What was your most rewarding experience?

Going to Japan on sabbatical and living in a folk-craft pottery village next door to Hamada, Shoji, a "living national treasure."

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

Building an art collection. Developing the high tech programs.

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC?

Working with the "flower children," the war resisters, the Vietnam vets, women returning to education, and retirees. A most rewarding career. The friendships developed with faculty and students.

Founding Faculty Memories *from*

Harry Matz

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

Driving from home in north-central Phoenix past cotton fields, farms, sheep and goat herds to GCC in under 10 minutes because there was little traffic and few traffic signals. The beautiful, open, palm tree-lined campus served a student body of about 4,000 students and had a friendly, small country club-like atmosphere. GCC consisted of the following buildings: administration, business, library, science, fine arts, music, physical education and the gym, and the student union.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

Sherri Wilson, a young black single parent was not doing well in my language skills class so I decided to have a personal chat with her. During our conversation, I noticed that she was wearing a pendant inscribed with Hebrew letters, so I asked her about it, and she told me that her mother had given it to her and that they were Jewish. I told Sherri that had I known she was Jewish, I would have invited her to celebrate Passover, which had just ended, with my family. Sherri responded with, "Are you Jewish? You don't look Jewish."

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Kim Robinson and Jeanie Hogg, Honors Program secretaries. They made my job as Honors Coordinator easy. They were competent, resourceful, compassionate, and dedicated. They gave more than 100% whenever it was needed. I depended on them and they never let me nor the students down.

What was your most rewarding experience?

Teaching critical reading, particularly to those students who were eager to learn. This included the young coming from high school and the mature adults returning to school after an absence. Their enthusiasm made working with them an exciting adventure in learning together. Many of the returning adults who entered GCC with doubts about their ability to handle college level work grew quickly in confidence and graduated with honors.

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC?

Helping students achieve their goals by improving their reading ability, cultivating better study techniques, and assisting them with personal advisement.

Founding Faculty Memories
from

Leslie E. McCoy

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

The independence and ease of operating within the system. Such as: selection of books, setting up and getting approval for new courses, hiring new faculty.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

The workmen trying to move our Electronics Department portable buildings. One of them was very heavy with excess parts we had received from the state. They couldn't lift it til we emptied most of the parts out of the building.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Matt Hanhila. Because he came around to the Electronics Department after he retired.

Rene Catalano because we worked so closely together for most of these 30 years.

What was your most rewarding experience?

Being able to see the progress of students as they learned new concepts and how to apply them.

Founding Faculty Memories from

Mark Montanus

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

Working in the Camelback and Maryland branches was very rewarding. The staff was small but very dedicated and close knit. Dean Thompson was the only administrator along with several secretaries. The entire group spread administrative responsibilities among themselves and did a rather remarkable job.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

Ethyl Martin being appointed director of A.V. in addition to her teaching responsibility in 1965.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Dr. John Prince. I recall the night he was introduced to the staff. We met in a patio garden at the Camelback extension where Dr. Prince spoke briefly followed by a very nice social time. Dr. Prince brought a great deal of talent and class to us. It was a pleasure working with him.

What was your most rewarding experience?

The opening of the GCC campus in 1966.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

For me personally, it was the opening of HTC1.

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC?

Mainly the every special people that worked at GCC during these 30 years.

Founding Faculty Memories from

Richard D. Rees

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

My fondest memory from the 1965-66 school year is of sharing a community office on the Maryland campus with Flo Kitts, Vance Hansen, Henry Dixon, Marge Shank, Gus Lorenzini, and others. The conversations, the arguments, and the office dynamics were stimulating and fun.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

One day while beginning a lecture on the scientific method in Psychology, a frog hopped through the open classroom door and took a seat at the front of the class.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

I remember a lot of people, but John Prince was very helpful and supportive of me during my first year at GCC on the Maryland campus. He even corrected my grammar once during an in-class evaluation. I haven't misused lay or lie since.

What was your most rewarding experience?

My most rewarding experience in the early years was having the opportunity to team teach PSY101 with Steve Cooper and Duane Reeder. I learned a lot from them and will always remember and cherish those good times.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

I don't know. The finely tuned balance between transfer education, occupational education, and community support perhaps is a significant ongoing milestone. Certainly the focus on technology in education and the High Tech Centers would be important.

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC?

I'll never forget John Waltrip's "power and money" speech he gave to the faculty when he was faculty president. I appreciate his leadership, his fairness, and his evenhanded administration as President of GCC.

Founding Faculty Memories from **Margarethe E. Shank**

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

Enjoying a new campus – in itself a renewal for an “older” teacher: observing in students the sense of pride in a new campus, fresh buildings for a fresh start.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

Not any particular event; but as a writer, I savor the special and the peculiar in all of us: the stumblings and victories, the rationalizations and the achievements, and the losses and gains in daily human endeavor. Even in retirement, there's a “chuckle a day.”

Whom do you remember most, and why?

The great friends I made in and out of the English department; the general friendliness among staff, teachers, and administrators – all of which, when there are up's and down's among a few, over-balanced any problems.

What was your most rewarding experience?

The same experience repeated again and again: the moment in students' lives when they said, “Now I see what you mean”; or “That writer spoke to me, Mrs. Shank”; or another said, “What grammar is about is how we 'come across,’” and a few said, “I wasn't very good, but I'll remember you.” The last might not have been a compliment!

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

I'm not very political, so all I can say is that time in Glendale Community College's history when it became a place special to Glendale and its environs and it had accumulated reasons for being there for the many who needed it.

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC?

Walking across a darkened campus after teaching a late evening class – “late” because a student in creative writing had something he had to tell; listening to a young office “sub” in Evening College say, “You haven't been in school lately: I don't know about your credentials” – and walking away without arguing because “I'm in school” everyday; walking in early to a classroom, to find a shy young man near the lecturn, when I looked up, he said, “Hi, Mugs!” I grinned as I said, “Oh, you've apparently read The Coffee Train.”

Founding Faculty Memories
from

John Smart

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

- a) the beautiful campus
- b) the eagerness and willingness as well as their ability to learn
- c) the friendly interaction of faculty and staff

What is the funniest thing you remember?

My friend Lyle Walcott and me singing old gospel hymns as we commuted between the Camelback and Maryland campuses. (Lyle cannot carry a tune, nor could he drive a car.)

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Donald Higgins – one person who in the face of adversity (a calamitous or disastrous experience) has an affinity to come out a winner.

What was your most rewarding experience?

Having the opportunity to teach which I enjoyed doing.

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC?

Seeing Paul DePippo (one of my former students) earn a Ph.D. in Economics and return to GCC as a member of the faculty.

Founding Faculty Memories *from*

L. Smith

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

The friendship and camaraderie that existed among faculty and among faculty and students.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

The funny things tended to be at someone else's expense. I'll just skip them. Matt Hanhila – all arguments and discussions started the same way – "When I was at Kingman."

Whom do you remember most, and why?

John Prince – my English teacher at Phoenix College – dignity, fairness, hot tempered but a gentleman.

Flo Kitts my English teacher for 8th grade – love, compassion, keen intellect and insight.

What was your most rewarding experience?

Being a part of a highly vocal and independent faculty who reasoned through issues and acted rather than being passive. Watching students grow in their reading, reasoning, and thinking ability.

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC?

Good, happy memories too many to enumerate.

Founding Faculty Memories
from

Robert H. Wilcox

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

Meeting with my class under a huge tree – enjoying all the flanking and contemporary classes which met in the gym – "making do" and shaping the beginning lessons.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

Having lunch around the swimming pool, in which fish were also having lunch. The beginning "bookstore", with volumes stacked outside on the dirt.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Nancy Noll, Elaine Flint, Conrad Bayley – they were very friendly and helpful, making me welcome and offering sound advice.

What was your most rewarding experience?

Planning and launching RECOGNITION DAY. Also, put on book reviews for mostly Sun City people; arranged a large program of outside experts in commemoration of our country's growth and achievements.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

Making silk purses out of a bunch of low-grade student material.

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC?

I suppose the conversion of high-school children into thinking individuals. Also, I greatly recall and still enjoy some mature persons, some of whom I meet and greet frequently. I'm proud of what Glendale CC has become, and trust I had a hand in it.

I also still receive phone calls from students; also lunch with Jack Hartley.

I must also add that I retain bitterness toward District, which blocked publication of a book I had written.

Founding Faculty Memories
from

Charlotte Joanne (Backus) Williams

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

I remember the pride we had that our Business Department was the best in the valley.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

Bill Sickery and I had been out to dinner and we drove by an auction. Neither of us had ever been to an auction before so we decided to stop. We stood inside the door a few minutes and Bill raised his hand holding up two fingers. To Bill's surprise, the auctioneer said sold. We laughed because Bill didn't know what he had purchased. The next morning the faculty lounge in the Glendale Community College Library had 2 wood-grain end tables and a small matching coffee table, compliments of Bill's \$2 purchase. I wonder if they are still there . . .

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Ethel Martin because she was great to work with and a dear friend in those days. Ethel and I took an AV course together. As a project we chose to record some speed-building letters for Intermediate Shorthand. There was one phrase that gave us both the giggles everytime we read it. The phrase had something to do describing a bed that folded up into the wall. We were lucky to have finished it. Ethel also taught me how to share materials and she showed me a number of other teaching tricks . . . she is great. Every once in a while I would take my camera to school. I have a lot of pictures of Ethel with her hand in front of her face or of the back of her head . . . she did not want me to take her picture – the fink!

What was your most rewarding experience?

My most rewarding experience was having Dr. Prince tell me that the Office Machines class for which I had ordered all the equipment, and wrote the complete textbook, was the "show-place" of the campus when he had guests. In more recent years, another rewarding time was the first time I had a Championship Typing Skill Building Class. My students were so proud of their achievement.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

Dr. Prince formed the Campus Improvement Committee because he loved the architecture of the campus so much. He felt the best way to slow down change was through a committee. He would be proud today to see the campus. The architecture of the campus has not been changed.

What are other special memories of your teaching career at GCC?

My special memories are of the wonderful friendships I made among the faculty, staff, and students. I have made friends at Glendale that I will always remember and value.

Founding Staff

Memories

Founding Staff Memories
from

Victor Capper

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

The fun and joy of getting the college started.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

The predictions that our athletic teams would not be able to compete with the athletic teams of Phoenix College.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

I have fond memories of students, teachers, and staff.

What was your most rewarding experience?

Organizing the Continuing Education program.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

Moving from a branch of Phoenix College to an equal and separate entity.

What are other special memories of your career at GCC?

The retirement party given to me by the English Department.

Founding Staff Memories
from
Robert F. Easley, M.D.

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

The first successful District bond election which made our dream of a G.C.C. a reality.

Being the person to hand carry and present the check to the PUHS school board for the purchase of Phoenix College. This made our district governing board legitimate with a school, faculty, administration and real live students.

The fun and gratification of working with our administrators and architects to plan our wonderful GCC campus.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

The laugh that we all had over the media's criticism of the Board's folly in purchasing "too much" land for our campus.

Then there was the humiliating humor of the novice handball player trying to compete with the pro's – Deans Heuser and Hanhila.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Dean of Students Ted Pierson. When the school opened Dean Pierson was everywhere – doing everything – from opening classrooms to taking tickets at ball games, as well as greeting visitors and dignitaries along with his regular duties.

What was your most rewarding experience?

Helping persuade the State Nursing Board to give GCC the authority to grant R.N. degrees rather than the LPN degree for which we had originally been authorized to award.

Having the Honor of the Nursing Building named Easley Hall.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

GCC receiving accreditation on its own merits rather than on the coattails of Phoenix College.
Development of the successful computer labs and award winning programs.
Obtaining the cooperative programs with the business community.

What are other special memories of your career at GCC?

The memory of sitting across from John Waltrip at the Board-Faculty salary negotiation meetings when he was a faculty representative. Little did I know then that in the future I would sit across from Dr. Waltrip every Thursday at our Rotary luncheon meetings. Nor did I know then that he would surpass Prince and Hanhila in tenure, popularity, and success as President of Glendale Community College.

Founding Staff Memories
from

Al Flowers

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

Quality and enthusiasm of staff.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

Bob Jaap, Board member, objecting to sign on corner (59th and Olive) which indicated appropriation of federal funds (to the construction project) with President L. B. Johnson donor – until the amount of the appropriation was made known.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Dr. Matt Hanhila – a most unforgettable character – and a charismatic leader.

What was your most rewarding experience?

Completing the project well within the budget.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

The computer instruction program – Tech #1 and Tech #2 (interdisciplinary/open most of the time et al).

What are other special memories of your career at GCC?

Actually, not located at GCC – was Executive Vice President District level.

Founding Staff Memories
from

Eddie Garcia

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

How Dr. Prince could remember everybody's name. The flower gardens that Tibs planted and took care of.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

When Bill Estes fell in the canal by the stadium.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Dr. Prince – he hired me and gave me a good education.

What was your most rewarding experience?

There have been so many.

1. Getting a good grade in Mrs. Hawks English class.
2. Studying History with Don Higgins as professor.
3. Being able to keep our students, faculty and staff comfortable for all these years.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

The High Tech Centers adding the technology to the westside of the valley, and our beautiful P.A.C.

What are other special memories of your career at GCC?

The achievements of our students, staff and sports teams.

WE ARE CHAMPS AND WE BRAG ABOUT IT.

Founding Staff Memories
from

Betty Miller

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

The whole gang from West High being at GCC. They all know my three children: Steve Miller, Rusty Miller, and Bonnie Miller.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

When we had "The Streakers" – funny!

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Betts Doss, Mildred Young. Mary Lou and the whole gang!

What was your most rewarding experience?

Working in the office on the first key punch and then computers.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

Working with the whole staff, teachers and coworkers. I really loved my job. Also enjoyed working at West High and seeing my children graduate and also attend GCC.

What are other special memories of your career at GCC?

The yearbooks from West and GCC are still wonderful to read and reread them.

Founding Staff Memories
from

Madeline Tyler Petty
Secretary to Dean Theodore K. Pierson

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

I have many fond memories of association with faculty and students in the early beginnings of the excellent "Junior College" that GCC has become. It would be difficult to single out an incident.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

There were many – how could there have helped but be in the midst of all those "kids." I loved them all!!!

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Theodore K. Pierson my "boss" then and my continuing and very special friend down through all these years.

What was your most rewarding experience?

To have had the pleasure of working with Dean Pierson as his secretary. A gentleman whom I still admire and respect – well qualified and gifted with a heart to understand the needs of "teenagers" and to help them face the world!!!

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

Milestone(s) perhaps – but from the beginning their contributions to Glendale, Maricopa County, State of Arizona of an extremely high quality of education – proffered by well qualified and capable instructors.

What are other special memories of your career at GCC?

To have mingled those early years with a very special group of G.C.C. Students and to have earned their love and respect. I have testimonials in those early yearbooks (El Año) that will ever be precious to me.

Founding Staff Memories
from

Ted Pierson

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Bob Robertson and his attitude toward student government.

What are other special memories of your career at GCC?

Loud noise produced by guitar bands at student dances.

Founding Staff Memories
from

Steve G. Yturralde

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

My fondest memory of the early years at GCC is the dedication of the college by then Governor Goddard. When the flag was raised the band started playing, it brought tears to my eyes. The ceremony was very moving.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

The year, 1968, when I had the entire baseball team on the baseball field shoveling dirt for the infield. That year the team won the national J.C. Championship. I like to think it was the hard work that toughened them and gave them the strength to win that championship.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

The person I remember the most is Dr. John F. Prince, who was the first Administrative Dean of Glendale Community College. I remember him most because he was one of the guys. He was available to one and all. He was a team player who got involved with everything. I remember when we were clearing the front of the library so that we could plant grass, Dr. Prince rolled up his sleeves and pitched right in. He picked up rocks like the best of them.

What was your most rewarding experience?

The completion of the athletic fields. I was responsible for overseeing and maintaining the fields. I enjoyed dressing up the fields for events. I felt as if they were my own and I was proud when the athletes used the fields, whether it was golf or baseball, or any other sport that required one of the fields. It was very rewarding everytime a student took the field during an event.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

The growth of Glendale Community College has been astronomical to say the least. It has grown from the thirteen (13) original buildings to approximately 22 or more buildings. It is quite an accomplishment.

What are other special memories of your career at GCC?

I have special memories of the people I worked with at GCC. Specifically Mr. Rex Hopper. He was the Unit Foreman. Mr. Hopper was my teacher, my mentor. He taught me the ins and outs of my job so that I was able to perform at my very best. He had confidence in me and saw more in me than I did myself. He placed his trust in me and gave me more responsibilities.

Founding Students

Memories

Founding Student Memories
from

Marlayne (Faulkner) Boblett

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

Getting to spend quality special time with old acquaintances and new friends. Getting to see a dream of the new campus fulfilled. Learning that teachers were people also. Having the opportunity to learn education could be fun, as well as beneficial.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

Spending the first 6 weeks of Archery in Physical Education bruising my arm and arrows dropped at my feet. Also doing the Bunnyhop & Jitterbug at a dance and losing my grip causing me to almost end up in the Queen's chair, by the way, I ended up with an "A" in Phys. Ed.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

I still remember the friends I made and the group I ran with. Many memories were created and embedded in my mind and heart. We bowled, danced, hunted, played volleyball & ate together. Each was special in their own way.

What was your most rewarding experience?

Learning to live with people of other beliefs, people with disabilities etc. and acceptance achieved on both halves. This blessed and enriched my life greatly. It also helped in raising my own children to teach tolerance and acceptance.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

The transition of attending 2 campuses to one large beautiful campus. The quality of good caring teachers who molded us into people who, hopefully, improved society.

Which faculty member had the most impact on your life, and why?

There wasn't just one, but several. My English teacher, Miss Darland, created an enthusiasm for proper English and became a good friend. Dr. Neal taught me how to appreciate dissection of an animal and overcome my fears and revulsion. Mr. Smelser put up such good arguments in class that it taught me to look at more than one view and use my brain to sift through and form an opinion. Mrs. Austin taught me to "persist" so I ended up on the Archery team instead of arrows at my feet. Mrs. Dutton taught "true" music appreciation of all forms of music. I'm still using some of the Psychology Mr. Markowitz taught. All the teachers I had left lasting impressions and gave me things to improve my life!

Founding Student Memories
from
Swanee Holman Lavachek

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

We were like a family – an extended high school, only more mature and closer to one another.

Friday night dances. Everyone came. It was our social life.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

That our Student Body President Dennis Rich and his friend Roger Dodd had come here from California without graduating from high school.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

I remember Roger Michael Bowley, because we met and dated all thru college and were married for seven years. I remember Mike Sinanovic and Janice Craig, Connie Bilbery and Mimi Norton, our best friends, and Martha Peattie (Oxley) my best friend since seventh grade, and our jobs together at the Old Vista Theatre where The Sound of Music played for 2 1/2 years. And our late night tennis games after work at Encanto Park.

What was your most rewarding experience?

When I was nominated to run for Home Coming Queen. I was very honored. It wasn't so bad when I lost because one of my best friends won, Mimi Norton (Bilbrey), and I was really thrilled for her.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

I'd have to say moving to the present Campus. However, as with most progresses in life you gain something and you lose something. With a larger campus I'm sure the closeness and family-like atmosphere we all shared those first few years was lost forever.

Which faculty member had the most impact on your life, and why?

Miss Flo Kitts – no contest. My all time favorite teacher. She was a wonderful literature teacher. She woke us all up. She brought words to life. She wasn't afraid to let us see her deepest feelings.

Founding Student Memories
from

Linda (Smith) Kafouros

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

Meeting in the student union at noon and bombing a history final that Dr. Waltrip gave . . . I studied all night.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

When Jeff Fenton told all the girls he was going to inherit big bucks from Kodak as he was an heir. He became very popular.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

I remember meeting students from different rival schools and realizing that it was great to be "one" and friends instead of rivals.

I also remember Mrs. Douglas . . . English, a Psychology teacher that had a dog named god.

What was your most rewarding experience?

Cheerleading and getting good grades. As silly as it seems . . . crowned Homecoming Queen was special.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

Its great reputation! I have always been proud to say I went to GCC.

Which faculty member had the most impact on your life, and why?

Mrs. Austin – Physical Education Department. She confirmed my desire to teach Physical Education. Her encouragement was truly appreciated and I have been teaching for 20 years (Physical Education).

P.S. She also taught me how to golf.

Founding Student Memories *from*

Alice (Dunn) LaViolette

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

The P.E. Department, Professional Activities Class – we were together for 2 semesters. Student Government and clubs – conferences – planning the formals – these are so many wonderful memories.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

One of the “majors” (P.E.) put tadpoles in the pool so that we didn't have to swim in the morning. We snuck a cow's heart out of the anatomy lab and gave it to our boyfriends (collectively) with a card that said “Here's My Heart.”

Whom do you remember most, and why?

I remember so many of my friends and teachers. Glendale was small and intimate enough to know many people well. It was easy to get involved. When you walked across campus, you never stopped saying “Hi” to people you knew.

What was your most rewarding experience?

I had many. I was the first student body president (female) at the new campus. I attended Leadership conferences. Deans Pierson and Butler were great as was Mrs. Petty. I had the great fortune to have the best professors I ever had in college or university including Hal Markowitz and Helen Axelrod. Participation on the softball and volleyball teams, Honor Board, friendship.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

I think the move from 2 temporary campuses to the beautiful campus in Glendale and the gathering together of a wonderful faculty. GCC had the best psychology laboratory equipment around at that time – better than ASU.

Which faculty member had the most impact on your life, and why?

Hal Markowitz – I was his assistant and he taught me research methods and inspired me to change my major to psychology which I received my master's degree in. He was also a friend and mentor. Helen Axelrod – she was inspirational, dynamic and set real limits for me.

Mr. Wilcox – he insisted that I expand my writing and I did. He encouraged me to be more creative and today I'm a published author.

Founding Student Memories
from

Sally Redkey Marini

What do I remember most?

The valley of the sun wasn't so sunny that first winter of 1965-66. It rained and rained and rained some more. The Salt River washed out the westside of the Central Avenue Bridge, so a group of us, in a convertible, drove down, like tourists, not to gawk at the raging water, but to ride over the remaining half of the bridge. We went back and forth a few times yelling at other carloads of students who were doing the same thing. Back at school, the parking lot had turned into a muddy quagmire, grasping greedily at each fresh pair of shoes we wore. After one period with seven straight days of rain, I was reduced to wearing clear plastic rain boots with no shoes inside!

Founding Student Memories
from

Robert Noice

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

Great teachers/small classes. All teachers were really interested in their classes and gave the students a lot of individual time.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

School newspaper or yearbook had the heading "Two lost. One still missing." – referring to the parking lot at 16th Street and Camelback.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Ken Weiss, Basketball Coach and Jim Smith, Basketball Coach – Road Trips.
Lyle Walcott, most "outstanding" teacher.

What was your most rewarding experience?

Graduating (A.A.).
Playing on the basketball team.
Still seeing some of the friends that were met in the 60's.

Founding Student Memories *from*

Mimi Norton

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

The lunchtime dances at the Jewish Community Center and the Student Government retreats leave me with the happiest memories. I have warm memories about just "hanging out" in the lobby at JCC with all my friends.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

The looks of relief on my friends faces (or dismay) because they chose the right question to study for Mr. Smelser's tests.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

I remember all of the friends whom I spent so much time with at G.C.C. We were like a family. There was a close group of us: Connie Bilbrey, Roger Bowley, Jim Snider, Ron Golden, Carl Sellars, Mike Sinanovic, Swanee Holman, Martha Peattie, Janice Craig, Jeannie Christensen, Barbie Collins, Jamie Brooke, Dennis Rich and Roger Dodd. We did everything together.

What was your most rewarding experience?

The experience of being in on the ground floor of a college was wonderful! The students opinions were valued and needed. It was a warm, supportive environment in which to begin my college years. They were some of the happiest years of my life.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

I'm afraid I haven't kept up with all of the advances of G.C.C. I do know that the campus is gorgeous and that G.C.C. has a wide range of services for the community.

Which faculty member had the most impact on your life, and why?

Phillip Smelser – I took all the courses taught by Mr. Smelser. He was my favorite teacher because he really liked the students and took the time to talk to us. As a sixth grade social studies teacher I still refer to my Western Civ. book used in his class. His lectures contributed greatly to my love of ancient history.

Founding Student Memories
from

James (Jim) Perlow

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

The closeness of the student population while at the temporary campus on east Camelback, the breakfast gatherings at Guggys.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

How several of us guys got transfered to girls P.E. for not dressing out as a punishment from the coach. When in all honesty, we didn't dress out so that we could square dance with the girls, in lieu of the John F. Kennedy fitness program the P.E. classes were putting the boys class through. Bottom line, all of us who pulled off the unofficial transfer got A's without the exercise, met the girls and were later praised by the rest of the mens P.E. class for our wisdom.

What was your most rewarding experience?

Being able to return in 1991 and teach a class QC-141 Introduction to Quality Control.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

The completion of the new campus on schedule for our second year.

Which faculty member had the most impact on your life, and why?

Mr. Carl Squires, Engineering. He made his classes interesting, gave me a part time job @ 90 cents per hour doing re-draws of the new campus. As it turned out, my engineering education would be the stepping stone to my success in the Aerospace industry.

Founding Student Memories
from

Aileen (Weiner) Marcus

Which faculty member had the most impact on your life, and why?

There are two:

- 1.) Smelser – his style of teaching and gentleness.
- 2.) Knowles – he never made you feel afraid to speak in front of class – comforting teacher.

Founding Student Memories
from

Lona B. Maywald

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

I was a "late-bloomer" attending in my '40's. My son David helped me get registered because I was "huge" with a baby and I didn't feel much like standing in the lines to register. I had 2 offsprings and a son-in-law all - registered that fall of '66.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

Watching Mary Ann Dutton get excited about my late pregnancy antics in Mixed Chorus. She kept saying "Don't you want to rest some." I delivered a baby girl one month after our chorus went "on the road" to Buckeye Womans Club.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Mr. Overson - he had to "put up" with me in 3 classes. He was the epitome of my example of a professor in college. He was patient with me and treated me with respect, even tho' I was a bit slow to grasp the concepts.

What was your most rewarding experience?

Just knowing I had the drive and ability to get a degree. No one in my family had gone to college and when I did it seemed to give them inspiration to go also. They had a 4 year high school diploma and I just had a GED.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

Bringing higher education to the west valley. Now we have ASU West, but back then we had to go 25 miles to get in at ASU and Grand Canyon was only available to those who could afford the tuition.

Which faculty member had the most impact on your life, and why?

Dr. Gardener - U.S. History - 2 Classes. He made me love Social Studies, so I minored in it at ASU. He also taught a great class in Arizona History - my daughter and I both attended that one. Dr. Prince had been my high school math teacher at Tolleson in '39 -'40. By the way, we graduated together - 1st mom and daughter to do so.

Founding Student Memories
from

Tony Nakazawa

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

I was on the 1st college football team at GCC.

Which faculty member had the most impact on your life, and why?

Coach Rollins and his staff (Pisciotta, Pilch, and the others) emphasized hard work. GCC didn't have a game field – it was all dirt. The sun was hot in August. We won some games. We worked hard 7 days a week – sometimes 2 times a day for the season. The lessons I have learned with coach Rollins at GCC have stayed a lifetime with me.

Founding Student Memories
from

Daniel Spitler

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

Receiving the Medallion of Merit from the ASU Alumni Association. This was awarded based on my academic and other activities while at GCC.

The band trip in the fall of 1967 to Disneyland and then playing the halftime show at the San Diego Chargers football game.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

The groundkeepers testing the lawn sprinkler systems just as classes were changing, soaking every one on the sidewalks.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

The 1966-67 Pom Pom Squad. They were all friendly, beautiful, and very talented dancers.

What was your most rewarding experience?

The school was so new that you could participate in a large number of activities. I played in the band, played varsity tennis, was V.P. of the sophomore class, wrote for the newspaper, served on the honor board, and numerous other things. It was great experience for later life when I need to manage a lot of different activities and wear lots of hats at once.

Which faculty member had the most impact on your life, and why?

LeRoy Baxter, Band Director. Mr. Baxter was an example of someone who could always maintain calm and control in the midst of apparent chaos.

Founding Student Memories
from

Carol (Newman) Stamm

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

Naming the cat we dissected "Moonie Kong" and bothering my mother when we brought it home and all came to my house to study for labs.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

Changing clothes in the car after a game and forgetting the car was in reverse and upsetting the driver behind us. Fortunately no accident.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

Mrs. Axelrod, we really learned anatomy from her. The classes and labs were very small which allowed for lots of individual help.

What was your most rewarding experience?

Really learned sports and activities in depth in our pro. act. classes. It has been invaluable in my teaching career.

Founding Student Memories
from

"Buz" Milton Turner

What is your fondest memory of the early years?

My fondest memory was being voted the King of the Spring Formal Royalty with Queen Dominique Bischoff.

What is the funniest thing you remember?

The funniest thing I remember is going to parties with Bob Noice, Stan Hickerson and their crazy friends.

Whom do you remember most, and why?

My special relationship with Mary Lou as we grew personally, socially and professionally was very memorable. She is very deserving of her successes in life.

What was your most rewarding experience?

My most rewarding experience was having the opportunity to play on the college basketball team and being president of the sophomore class.

What do you consider GCC's most significant milestone(s)?

Glendale Community College allowed students to continue their education and maintain an identity, whereas, larger institutions are not conducive to this environment.

Which faculty member had the most impact on your life, and why?

Dale Bloss, Herb Boetto, Jim Smith, Kent Staheli and Ken Weiss all were very influential in my own personal success.