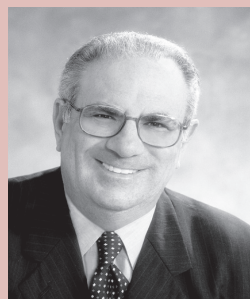




Foundation News

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Message from President & CEO Steven Helfgot



Steven R. Helfgot, Ed.D.
President & CEO

It’s hard to believe that we are approaching the end of the first quarter of 2011. We anticipated a busy year and that is certainly proving to be the case.

Before I share a bit about what lies ahead in the rest of 2011, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the work of Dr. Ray Weinhold, who retired as the Foundation’s Vice President for Development at the end of 2010. Ray anchored our Foundation’s

fund-raising efforts for a number of years. With his long history in the Valley, in education and healthcare and his wide range of relationships, he led our fund-raising efforts in many areas and in many parts of our community. Hardworking, thoughtful, and completely dedicated to the work that we did, he will leave a lasting impact on the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation and on the many students who benefited from his efforts. Our thanks go out to Ray. We wish him well in his retirement, and I am delighted to say that he will still be working with us, from time to time, on a variety of special projects.

—message continued, page 2

Phoenix Business Consultant, Ronnie Lopez, Named 2011 Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation “Hero”



HEROES of
EDUCATION

2011 Hero of Education
Ronnie Lopez

Sponsored by the Maricopa Community Colleges and the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation, the Heroes of Education Recognition Dinner honors those who have a proven personal and professional commitment to support Maricopa Community Colleges students and educational opportunities. Proceeds from the Heroes of Education Recognition Dinner support student scholarships awarded through the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation.

“It’s our privilege to recognize Ronnie and the work he’s done as a supporter of our colleges and students. Ronnie has been an invaluable partner with the Maricopa Community Colleges for a long time.” ~ Rufus Glasper, Chancellor of the Maricopa Community Colleges.

“It’s always gratifying to be involved with the Heroes of Education event,” Glasper added. “It shows the spirit of collaboration between the Maricopa Community Colleges and our community partners, with the Foundation, and the positive difference in people’s lives that we can make when we work together on such a worthy cause.”

—Lopez continued, page 2

Message from President & CEO Steven Helfgot (continued)

Now on to the rest of 2011!

For some months now, the Foundation, our colleges and the District have been engaged in a series of “visioning exercises,” the purpose of which is to focus our fund-raising efforts in the coming years. To do that we have been asking a wide range of people—our Foundation Board and leadership, District and colleges leadership, members of community advisory committees—the following questions as part of these visioning exercises:

1. What key issues impact the future of our community and the quality of life?
2. What role might the Maricopa Community Colleges play in addressing these issues for and with the community?

3. How do these issues and our responses to them inform our vision for fund-raising over the next five years; and what key themes, priorities and opportunities will drive our fund-raising activities?

The answers to these questions are taking shape and forming the basis for a major campaign for the future of the Maricopa Community Colleges. It promises to make the rest of 2011 very exciting.

Stay tuned – we’ll keep you posted!

As always, I want to conclude by thanking you, our generous supporters and donors, for your continuing generosity and support.

2011 Hero, Ronnie Lopez (continued)

Lopez has been chair of Phoenix International Consultants (PIC) since 1988. As an Arizona corporation, PIC consults with clients in the areas of contract negotiation and political and marketing strategies. During his long career, Lopez has been chief of staff and executive assistant to then-governor, Bruce Babbitt; president and CEO of Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc.; an elected Justice of the Peace for west Phoenix; and a field representative for the Arizona Civil Rights Commission.

Ronnie is presently a committee chair and board member of SCF Arizona, which provides Arizona workers compensation insurance to more than 40,000 businesses in Arizona.

In the past, Lopez has been a member of more than 20 boards, commissions and authorities, including the Greater Phoenix Economic Development Council, Central Arizona Shelter Services, Southwest Voter Research Institute, Maricopa County Sports Authority, among many others. He also has been integrally involved with political campaigns for the Clinton/Gore ticket, Bruce Babbitt, Walter Mondale, Ed Pastor, Paul Johnson and Phil Gordon.

Voted in 2006 to the Valle del Sol’s Profiles of Success Hall of Fame, Lopez was included in Hispanic Business® magazine’s “100 Most Influential Hispanics.” He was selected Executive of the Year in 1999 by the Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He was also featured in the 2008 book, *Building the Latino Future: Success Stories for the Next Generation*.

The Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation established The Ronnie Lopez Leading With Heart Award in 2008 for individuals who have demonstrated the same selfless and passionate commitment that Lopez has toward the Maricopa Colleges. At the same time friends and supporters of Ronnie’s created the Ronnie Lopez Leading With Heart - Scholarship Endowment in the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation. The endowment provides scholarships to graduates of the

colleges’ ACE (Achieving a College Education) program who continue their education at one of the Maricopa Community Colleges. Ronnie was a member of the ACE campaign cabinet and is a strong supporter of the program and its students.

“No one is more deserving than Ronnie Lopez to be honored at our Heroes of Education Recognition Dinner. He has demonstrated time and again his passion and commitment to support education and the students of our colleges and our community.” ~ Dr. Steve Helfgot, President and CEO of the Foundation

Two students who have benefited directly from these scholarships had the opportunity to tell their stories at the reception.

Caitlyn Benett, 18, has an extended family on the Navajo reservation. She lives in Tempe with her mother and father and a brother, who is autistic. Caitlyn’s father has been the sole provider for the household for the last two years, since Caitlyn’s mother lost her medical transcription job. To cover her own expenses and contribute to household expenses, Caitlyn works part-time at a popular pizza restaurant. She is an alumna of Mesa Community College’s ACE program and is currently working toward a degree in the legal profession. She hopes to practice tribal or family law and has taken on the challenge of learning her native Navajo language. She is the recipient of the 2010-11 Adelante Foundation Scholarship for ACE alumni.

Gerardo Rodriguez is a Carl Hayden High School senior who is enrolled in the ACE program through Phoenix College. He has earned more than 15 college credits with a 3.1 grade point average. Rodriguez aspires to become a cardiovascular surgeon by attending the University of Arizona and working at one of the St. Joseph’s hospitals in the Valley.

Planned Giving

As the new year begins, the Foundation would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your past support of the Maricopa Community Colleges. Your generosity is increasingly important to our students and educational programs, especially as public funding is being cut.

If you haven't already done so, we respectfully ask that you consider the many benefits of planned giving. Planned gift options are surprisingly varied and most offer estate or income tax deductions, while others can provide a guaranteed source of income for you and your family. Perhaps most importantly, planned gifts can ensure that the good work you currently support will continue as legacy to your caring and commitment.

Here are just a few of the many planned giving opportunities you might consider:

- Charitable gift annuities, often funded with appreciated assets such as publicly traded securities, allow you to avoid a capital gains tax, enjoy an immediate income tax deduction, and receive a guaranteed lifetime income.
- A life insurance policy you no longer need can be donated outright and qualifies for an income tax deduction or may be used to establish a charitable gift annuity.
- A future gift made as a provision of your will or trust is one of the simplest and most common forms of planned giving. Such gifts can help reduce estate taxes and have the added benefit of being revocable should your circumstances change.
- A vacation home; your primary residence; or a farm, ranch and other types of real estate can become a life estate gift that offers an immediate tax deduction while still allowing you the full use and enjoyment of the property for your lifetime.
- Federal legislation approved in mid-December reinstates the IRA Charitable Rollover for 2011. IRA owners aged 70½ may distribute up to \$100,000 to qualified charities, including our Foundation, without having to report the distribution as income. Also, because of the legislation's late passage, a qualified rollover distribution made in January 2011 may be applied retroactively to the 2010 tax year.

To learn more about these and other types of planned gifts, we invite you to visit our interactive planned giving website at www.maricopa.edu/foundation/ways and click on "gift planning" under "Ways to Give." While we always recommend that you consult your own tax and legal advisers, the Foundation does have staff and volunteers who would be happy to answer your questions and provide further information. Simply call Mary O'Connor at 480. 731.8403 for assistance.

**For more information, about Planned Giving contact
Mary O'Connor at 480-731-8403
mary.oconnor@domail.maricopa.edu.**

The Barrier Busters

The "Women's Philanthropy Circle of the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation" is quite a mouthful, even when reduced to its acronym: WPC. Now gaining traction, it has a more descriptive moniker: The Barrier Busters.

"The WPC works to reduce the barriers for women who aspire to a better life through higher education," explains Debbie Kushibab, vice president for student affairs at Estrella Mountain Community College and founding co-chair (with Jan Gehler, president of Scottsdale Community College) of WPC. "And we know that each woman who overcomes those barriers and completes her education is an example for her children and siblings, her parents and friends—everyone in her life!"



Members of the Women's Philanthropy Circle at the first Annual Tea.

Gehler describes the members' motivation: "We are committed to using our personal energy and professional influence to remove barriers women face on their paths through college. Our giving is much more meaningful because we understand—and many of us have overcome—the unique barriers women face on their way to a new life through education. This is not a hard sell. Not by a long shot."

Another part of the WPC mission is to turn "giving" into "philanthropy." "This is about more than raising money," says Anne Halvorson, the senior development officer who launched WPC. "Philanthropy is a philosophy that's not defined by a specific dollar amount. Our efforts are intended to give both donors and scholarship recipients the opportunity to make a positive impact on the world in ways that are meaningful to them."

That's not to say that fund-raising isn't important. The Barrier Busters each have made a commitment of \$1,000 per year to become a "member" of the Circle and create an endowed scholarship fund. Through December 2010, The Barrier Busters have raised more than \$64,300 in memberships and other fund-raising activities. This spring, five women students will receive scholarships from the group.

—Barrier Busters continued, page 4

Barrier Busters (continued)

WPC events play a considerable role in both “friend-raising” and “fund-raising.” In fact, the WPC’s guidelines require a fund-raising component be included in every event.

The first Spring Tea and Handbag Auction filled the Foundation’s Community Room to overflowing and resulted in 11 new members—doubling the number of WPC members at the time—and the sale of 22 donated handbags. The Summer Cool Down: Sangria and Sorbet event brought nine more members into the “Busters” fold. And, even the Member Thank-You event generated almost \$300 in donations!

Kay Martens, retired vice president of student services for South Mountain Community College, says fund-raising for WPC is a natural part of her daily interactions: “Everyone I talk to about the WPC is interested in supporting it in some way. I’ve had wonderful conversations with women I’ve known for years and others I’ve just met on planes, and each one has shared a story about her own struggle to complete her education.”



**Linda B. Rosenthal,
Women’s Philanthropy
Circle Member**

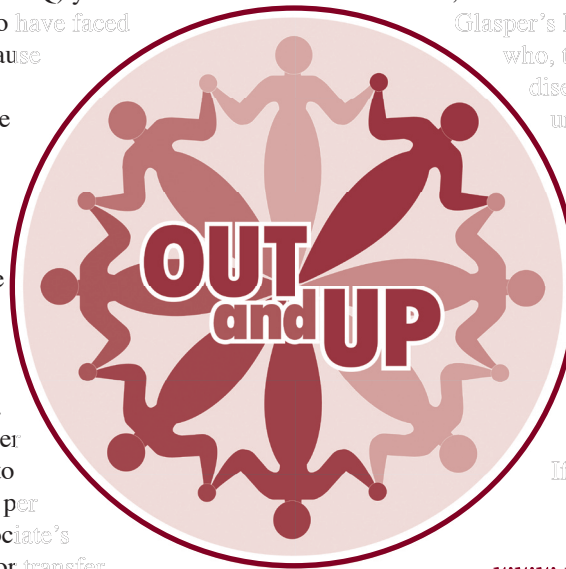
The two events netted close to \$25,000 for the endowment through memberships, auction sales and cash contributions. They also increased the visibility of WPC among women in the MCCC and the community.

The success of the Handbag Auction (in particular) indicated that WPC has reached a “tipping point” and is poised to move from the “friend asking friend” system used to create a core group of initial supporters to a more communitywide approach.

Out and Up Scholarship Established

The Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation is establishing the OUT and UP Scholarship Fund, an opportunity for disenfranchised lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth. Those eligible are young adults (under 25) who have faced negative responses from caregivers because of their sexual orientation and gender identification and are no longer welcome or living at home.

For these young people, education is the key to a better future. However, it often takes a backseat to finding a stable environment in which to thrive. Once in that environment, they are frequently more eager to further their education but lack the financial resources to do so. Each OUT and UP Scholarship will cover full-time tuition, books and fees for up to sixty (60) credit hours and up to \$5,000 per student, enabling them to obtain an associate’s degree or certificate of completion and/or transfer to a four-year institution.



MCCF convenes a committee of LGBT community leaders and straight allies who have been working on this initiative over the last two years. The committee is led by Kathie Gummere, a local lawyer who is also a member of Chancellor Glasper’s LGBT Constituency Group. It was Kathie who, two years ago, spoke about the plight of disenfranchised youth in our community and urged the Maricopa Community Colleges to address this issue.

To fund the scholarship, the committee is embarking on a yearlong campaign to raise \$200,000. It launched the campaign at Paradise Valley Community College’s Desperado LGBT Film Festival at the end of January and has raised over \$50,000.

If you are interested in supporting the OUT and UP Scholarship Fund, please log on at

www.maricopa.edu/foundation/egive.

Donating just got easier. Visit www.maricopa.edu/foundation