Rogue Community College will receive a five-year Title III – Strengthening Institutions grant of $1,824,670 from the U.S. Department of Education.

The grant will commence October 2005. It will focus on developing an array of career planning services and academic offerings through face-to-face, Web-based and video-conferencing learning.

The project seeks to boost RCC student access and student learning, help RCC better respond to the region’s high performance workforce demands, and train faculty and staff in the project’s new services and the use of electronic learning technologies. The Title III grant will be coordinated by Rich Kirk, director of Media and Distributed Learning, and Kori Bieber, associate dean of Student Development.

Mary O’Kief, grants development coordinator, played a key role in preparing the grant, which is titled “Connecting Our Communities to Strengthen Student Success.”

“The grant is unique in that it has an endowed future,” O’Kief explained. “By the end of the five-year grant, the RCC Foundation has agreed to provide a matching $250,000 dollar-for-dollar endowment, for a total of a half million dollars,” she added.

“The grant will also strengthen the institution’s financial stability by minimizing the impacts of distance on its educational and service offerings through technology, and by improving student enrollment through better retention,” Kirk said.

“It also means RCC will be able to improve access, retention, and academic success for its many multi-committed students, who live in a geographically disparate district,” he added.

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May 4, 2005