In May 2020, The Nancy R. Chandler Visiting Scholar Program sent out an on-line survey to gather opinions from students, community members, COCC staff and program sponsors. Our goal was to gather input as we prepare for future programming.

Overall the feedback was very positive. We also heard suggestions and ways to improve the program. Please review the results below.

Q1 What is your overall opinion of the programming offered through the Nancy R. Chandler Visiting Scholar Program?

Q2 How many of our programs have you attended in the past three years?
Q3 Please tell us what topics most interest you for future programming? (click all topics that you have interest in)
Other Topics of Interest: Topic additions from respondents: Environment / Climate Change (10), History (3), Native American Culture/Language/History (2), Music (2), Natural Resources/Forestry (2)

Q4. Do you have any specific speakers you would like to suggest to us for future programming?

We received a wide range of answers to this question, from very well known people to local experts and teachers. Respondents suggested authors, politicians, activists, journalists, professors and many more. Names that were suggested more than once were David Brooks, Bill McKibben, john powell, Michelle Obama, and Barack Obama. We will certainly keep this very large list of suggestions in mind as we plan for upcoming programming.

Q5: Do you have a connection/relationship to any interesting presenters that you could connect us with?

Sixteen respondents answered “yes” to this question. Because we run our programming on a fairly small budget, connections/relationships can really benefit us when trying to contact a speaker. We will be contacting these respondents (if they agreed to be contacted in the next question) to learn more about their connections with presenters.

Note: Q6 asked for respondents with a connection to provide their contact info.
Q7 How do you learn about our programs? (click all that apply)

- Email
- Event Poster
- Print Advertising
- Social Media
- Website
- Scholar Program
- Local Media (radio, TV,...)
- Word of mouth / friends
- Other (please specify)

Q8 What barriers prevent you from attending our programming? (click all that apply)

- Location
- Schedule / Timing
- Cost
- Transportation
- Parking / Concerns
- Other (please specify)

Other barriers mentioned: Parking/Winter road conditions/finding venue in dark (8), Interest in the speaker/topic (7), COVID/Stay at home orders (5), Childcare (1)
Q9 Please provide any suggestions you have to improve our program.

In our opinion, this question provided the most valuable insight although 147 people skipped the question. We received 67 responses and of those 15 responders answered with “none,” “no suggestions” or “N/A.” Another 15 responders answered with positive remarks such as “The program is a wonderful resource,” “Fortunate to live in a community with such an interesting and important program,” “Love the program,” and “Keep up the good work.”

The most common suggestion was to provide programming on-line/virtually/on Zoom/Live-streamed. (6) Another common suggestion was to provide programming a different times – earlier in the day, weekend evenings or Sunday matinees. (4) One respondent suggested more political diversity, another requested speakers who accurately represent the conservative point of view while another felt we needed to provide a more balanced point of view. Two respondents mentioned the price: with one person offering to volunteer in order to attend for no charge while the other suggested adding more free events.

A few more interesting suggestions:
- Dare to be more edgy
- Youth-led programs
- One visible speaker per year
- More events in Redmond or other Central Oregon communities
- More free events / lower the cost
- Consider larger venues
- Provide a 6-12 month calendar of programming
- Pre or post presentation small group discussion
Q10 Tell us about yourself. I am a...

- Community Member
- Student
- COCC staff
- COCC alumni
- COCC retiree
- Sponsor
- Other (please specify)

Q11 Age

- Under 18
- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65+