Special Events

ALL EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Downriver Campus - Bridge to Asia
April 2010
This culturally rich event is designed to educate community members about the diversity that exists in Asian culture, as well as promoting educational opportunities for the Asian community. Bridge to Asia will feature artwork, food, dance, and music that reflect Asian cultures.

Downriver Campus - Passport to Africa
February 2010
Passport to Africa provides educational and cultural enrichment activities for WCCCD students, area elementary, middle school, high school and community residents about the history, cultures and diversity on the African continent.

Eastern Campus - Tuskegee Airman Aviation
March 2010
The Eastern Campus is continuing the tradition of hosting the Tuskegee Airman a group of approximately one thousand black military aviators who trained separately from other pilots due to racial segregation during World War II. The event will feature the Tuskegee Airmen Inc., based in Detroit. The group was founded in 1972 and continues to honor the memories and achievements of the fearless pilots that have become a staple of Black history.

Northwest Campus - 3rd Annual International Book Fair
April 2010
The International Book Fair will give book lovers an opportunity to attend readings, participate in discussions and book signings. The International Book Fair will feature a wide range of genres including fiction, non-fiction, Christian writing, poetry, and children’s books.

Western Campus - Optimist International Celebration
February 2010
Participants attending this seminar will learn how important volunteerism is and how we could better serve the youth in every community. This program will also honor volunteer members for their years of dedication to youth advancement.

Information about all District events can be found at www.wcccd.edu.

Campus Information

21000 Northline Rd., Taylor, MI 48180 • 734-946-3500 www.wcccd.edu

Downriver Campus Hours of Operation:
Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Friday 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

WCCCD’s mission is to empower individuals, businesses and communities to achieve their goals through excellent and accessible services, culturally diverse experiences, and globally competitive higher education and career advancement programs.

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Letter from the President

We are pleased to share with you this edition of the Wayne County Community College District Downriver Campus My College Newsletter. Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD) serves a diverse region of 55 cities and townships in the County of Wayne. The Downriver Campus provides unique programs and services designed to meet the needs of those living and working in our service area, as well as access to the more than 90-degree and certificate offerings across the District.

During the past months, we have strengthened course offerings and added new opportunities for training in “green” and emerging technologies needed to move our region forward. As well, you will find that continuing education programs have been expanded and an increased schedule of distance learning classes that offer access and flexibility in meeting the demands of a fast-paced world.

While this newsletter can only provide a brief look at the people, programs and services that can be found within our learning community, I extend an invitation to you to visit the campus and see first-hand the exciting things that are taking place at Wayne County Community College District.

Sincerely,
Anthony Armeniak
President
Downriver Campus

MIPSE: Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education:
A Real Life Look at First Responder Rescue Training

WCCCD a national leader in emergency training and response.

MIPSE provides Homeland Security, Fire, Law Enforcement, EMS and industrial personnel throughout the surrounding communities, state and national level, with emergency response education and training services in a safe and controlled environment.

Prior to this facility, there was no emergency training center in Wayne, Monroe or Washtenaw County to provide homeland security, fire, law enforcement, EMS and industrial specialized, realistic and safe emergency training opportunities.

MIPSE plays an integral role in making WCCCD a national leader in emergency training and response.

Most people will never know firsthand what it takes to be an emergency first responder, but thanks to WCCCD’s Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education (MIPSE) and the International Association of Firefighters, elected officials from the Downriver community received an up close and personal look at firefighting 101.

Located on WCCCD’s Downriver Campus, MIPSE a 12,000 square foot training center offered Downriver officials hands-on training in firefighting, rescue operations and emergency preparedness. Outfitted with about 60 pounds of turnout gear, including jacket, pants with suspenders, tall rubber boots, a hood, goggles, helmet, gloves and air mask, participants learned what it really takes to be a firefighter.

Heralded nationally, MIPSE is one of the finest of its kind in the emergency training field and plays an integral role in making
Alternative Energy: Building Michigan’s Next Job Engine

Robert Kulick is clear about his mission: to teach Southeast Michigan residents the nuts-and-bolts skills they’ll need to participate in a quickly growing industry: alternative energy.

Kulick, President of Kulick Enterprises and President and Owner of Cresit Energy Systems, both in Wyandotte, is leading instruction of WCCCD’s new alternative energy program at the Western Campus.

Alternative energy sources used to be dismissed as a cause for the “tree hugging” fringe. These days however, the alternative industry has grown into a buttoned-up industry, poised not only to improve our environment, but create jobs, new revenue and position Michigan as a national leader. “There’s a tremendous amount of potential out there,” Kulick said.

So-called “green” jobs have become a national imperative. "There’s a lot to consider: harmonics and height for airplane safety, for example. Or basic equations; solar DC is calculated in watts. You need to be able to calculate that to function in the industry. That’s where the real-world education comes in,” Kulick said.

“From the battlefield to the “green” field”

Robert Kulick, President and Founder of Kulick Enterprises got involved with alternative energy through a different route. Kulick’s operation designed and manufactured mobile medical units for the U.S. Department of Defense. The units, designed to allow surgical operations in the battlefield, needed clean power sources to better veil their location versus the loud, massive generators that would otherwise be required.

The solution, Kulick said, was true-sign wave converters. With the success of the mobile medical unit, Kulick established Cresit Energy Systems (www.cresitenergy.com) to bring the technology to the general public.

From the battlefield to the “green” field

renewable sources by 2015; Granholm said she’d prefer that percentage grow to one-quarter, adding that renewable energy could create as many as 60,000 jobs by investing in solar, wind, biofuels and energy efficiency.

For Kulick, that means teaching students how to channel math, engineering and design skills in a new direction. It’s one thing to promote wind-generated electricity, he said, and quite another to get it built.

“There’s a lot to consider: harmonics and height for airplane safety, for example. Or basic equations; solar DC is calculated in watts. You need to be able to calculate that to function in the industry. That’s where the real-world education comes in,” Kulick said.

“Spotlight on: Lee Boslooper”

WCCCD Student’s Personal Journey

A good experience can last and shape a lifetime. Just ask Lee Boslooper, Commander of the Grosse Ile Chapter of the United States Power Squadron, a group that promotes safe boating through education.

Boslooper’s current role is a combination of two passions — education and boating.

Boslooper began taking classes at WCCCD when it was known as Downriver Community College. He participated in WCCCD’s Study Abroad Program, which has allowed the District to bring awareness of alternative energy to its students, as well as interested individuals.

Boslooper began her pursuit of higher education at a time when women had yet to find their way into the work world the way they have today. Instead, many remained at home taking care of their families. Yet, the 70’s were a time of emergence, for many women including Boslooper. She heard women speaking on the radio and television about equality in the workplace, and was touched by the words she heard. “They touched something deep inside of me,” she said. “Maybe it was my love of learning, and sense of equal work for equal pay. But, I felt something was about to change.”

Boslooper began taking classes at WCCCD when it was then WCCCD and classes were held in churches and other community buildings because the school had no buildings of its own. She was one of the first students to attend classes when WCCCD first opened its doors and amongst the first graduating class. After graduating from WCCCD, she went on to earn her Bachelor of Arts from Wayne State University. While there, she also worked as a teacher’s aide and later as a teacher for a period that spanned 25 years. While she loved and enjoyed all that she did, she always had a burning passion for art. So, in 2000 she decided to return “home” to WCCCD to study art with Carl Kumulski, who she calls “a brilliant, talented and thoughtful man who brings out the best in everyone.” Today, her artwork can be seen on display at art shows in the Downriver area.

Somewhere along the line, she also found time to join the United States Power Squadron, which teaches boating safety, navigation, meteorology and seamanship. Her affiliation led to her current role as Commander.

“I have been full-circle with WCCCD, and neither of us shows any signs of slowing down,” she said. “The college gave me opportunities when there appeared to be none, and yet even more when I was at a point in my life to do something that I simply wanted to do.” Boslooper remains a steadfast role model for many, both on the waters and landside as well.

Study Abroad: WCCCD Students “go green” in Brazil

Wayne County Community College District’s Study Abroad program continues its worldwide adventure to Brazil this fall. This once in a lifetime opportunity offers the educational opportunity to explore the culture, language and expand student’s knowledge of the country’s global affairs. This trip coincides with the District’s efforts to bring awareness of alternative energy to its students, as well as interested individuals.

Since 1970, Brazil has used sugarcane to produce an ethanol fuel program which has allowed the country to become the world’s largest exporter of this alternative fuel. Brazil is considered to have the world’s first sustainable bio-fuel economy and is also a bio-fuel industry leader.

This exposure to a leading global force within alternative energy will give WCCCD students the advantage of returning home with knowledge on the global trend of alternative energy. “We look forward to taking our students on this educational and cultural experience. We are focused on developing well rounded and knowledgeable individuals to bestow onto our society”, said David Butty, Executive Director for International Studies.

“Green energy education is going to change the way education is delivered for future generations, and that means that WCCCD needs to change the way we teach so that our students will be successful,” said Dr. Stephanie Bulger, Vice Chancellor of Educational Affairs, who is leading this effort. “I am optimistic that when our students return from their study abroad trip to Brazil, they will be energized.”