After three days of in-depth, on campus evaluation and review in March, members of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) recommended WCCCD for another 10 year accreditation without any recommendations; the highest possible length of accreditation for any post-secondary educational institution.

The HLC accredits degree-granting post-secondary educational institutions in the North Central region. It is an independent corporation and one of two commission members of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA), which is one of six regional institutional accreditors in the United States.

The HLC maintains a Peer Review Corps of approximately 1,300 faculty and administrators from institutions within the nineteen state North Central region. The peer reviewers play an incredibly important role in all stages of the process. They are responsible for assuring that an institution is complying with the criteria as well as for helping an institution advance within the context of its own mission.

WCCCD faculty, staff, and members of the Board of Trustees were attentive while HLC Peer Review Chair, Dr. Phyllis Abt presented the team report. She praised the exemplary efforts WCCCD put forward in the District’s self-study report and preparations for the visit.

According to Abt, “The team examined the work of the District related to its mission, strategic planning, budget development and cost-containment, student outcomes, community engagement, and capacity to continue serving the constituents well. We were impressed by the efforts of the District and its Chancellor and recommended that the next comprehensive visit by HLC occurs in 2019-2020.”

In a few weeks, WCCCD will receive a draft copy of the team’s report to review for factual accuracy. A final accreditation report will then be issued to the HLC.
WCCCD has just successfully completed an in-depth evaluation by members of the Higher Learning Commission. It is an extensive peer review by outstanding educators from all across the country. The report reinforces what we are doing at the District and rewarded us with a perfect score of 10 extending our accreditation for another 10 years.

Our programs reflect the outstanding efforts of staff and faculty and recently, eleven members of our faculty received the NISOD Award in recognition of the importance of teaching and leadership excellence in higher education. When you read their short biographies, you will be amazed by the wealth of knowledge and talent.

The Heinz C. Prechter Educational and Performing Arts Center opened with the ribbon-cutting ceremony and opening sold out performance by Clint Black. The event was heralded by community leaders including the former and current City of Taylor Mayors and Mrs. Heinz Prechter.

Our students continue to broaden their cultural and educational experiences through the Study Abroad Program. The trip to Greece exposed students to Greek history, mythology, and conversational Greek language. The reports they have given upon their return reinforce my feelings that these trips are truly important in fulfilling our mission and I can proudly say that, we are the only community college sponsoring these studies abroad.

We embrace the diversity of our student and faculty populations. We are uniquely positioned as an educational center to be transformational. We have got to be about education and making an impact on this area. It is an exciting time and I am grateful to be a part of it.

Sincerely,

Curtis L. Ivery,
Chancellor, WCCCD
Our Pride is Showing

NISOD Winners

Since its inception in 1978, the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) has emphasized the importance of teaching and leadership excellence in institutions of higher education. NISOD has worked to serve, engage, and inspire teachers and leaders through community colleges throughout the nation. WCCCD proudly announces the faculty winners this year.

JOCELYN RAINNEY
Jocelyn Rainey has been recognized for her outstanding work as a teacher and artist.

She was awarded a bachelor's degree in fine arts from the College of Creative Studies (CCS) and master's degree from Wayne State University (WSU) in 1998.

Jocelyn said, "As a teacher of the visual arts, I focus on the development of my students' understanding of the importance of art and culture in their lives. They discover that through their creative skills they increase opportunities and further their educational goals. The arts provide a multitude of resources and enriching experiences."

In 1998 she established The JRainey Gallery in Detroit, ML, presenting emerging and establish artist the opportunity to exhibit professionally.

MARY PEQUINOT
Mary Pequinot is a Licensed Professional Counselor at the Northwest Campus. She has been in the counseling field since 1980. Her areas of specialty are career counseling and crisis intervention. She has a master's degree in Guidance and Counseling from Eastern Michigan University, and a bachelor's degree in Sociology from Michigan State University. She has also completed post-master's work in education from Marygrove College.

In addition, Ms. Pequinot is a member of the Psychology department at the District. She teaches psychology courses in addition to her regular counseling duties.

SANDRA KOTULIS
Sandra Kotulis has been teaching biology at WCCCD for 38 years. She said, "I have become a combination of all the teachers I've had and the colleagues I have worked with - minimizing the negative and maximizing the positive traits of each."

Kotulis began her education at the Katherine B. White School on Charles Street in Detroit. That was where she loved for school, teachers, and learning started. Following that, she attended the St. Augustine School and was the class valedictorian. At Siena Heights College, Kotulis graduated with a magna cum laude diploma and a teaching certificate in secondary education. She also holds a master's degree in biology from Wayne State University (WSU). Kotulis continued her formal education through an Eisenhower grant which enabled her to pursue a master's of arts teaching mathematics degree at the University of Detroit.

Her many teaching assignments include University of Detroit High School, St. Martin de Porres High School, Taylor Community Education, Siena Heights College, St. Alfred Elementary School, and WCCCD. She has also worked at Heritage Hospital in the lab and pharmacy department.

Numerous awards complete Kotulis's resume including many first place winners for her student's projects at the Metropolitan Detroit Science Fair, outstanding faculty member at the Downriver Campus, and "Teacher of the Year in Taylor, Michigan." She said, "Students have made me more effective, patient, and enthusiastic."

DAVID CADDY
David Caddy is a counselor at the Northwest Campus and has been a WCCCD employee for 32 years. In addition to his position as counselor, he serves as department chairperson and teaches psychology.

A GMC motor coach named "The Career Explorer," which operated all over the city and county, represented WCCCD during the late 1970's and early 1980's was Caddy's first classroom. He helped pilot and teach career education and other classes targeting new students. During this period, he also set up the career planning and placement offices on each campus.

As the Director of Student Services, and then Campus President of the Downriver Campus, his teaching role changed in 1984. During this time, Caddy chaired the campus specializations efforts and started a Saturday "Kid's College" in a partnership with Wayne County RESA. This program provided educational opportunities for under performing middle school students in the District. He also continued and expanded the corporate training program with local and national businesses expanding the Downriver Campus in the early 1990's.

In 1994, Caddy returned to the faculty as a counselor and began teaching psychology. He has served on numerous boards and committees in the community and at the District over the years. He is currently establishing a private counseling practice in the South Lyon/Ann Arbor area near his home.

HOUSAIN SAM BEYDOUN
Hussein Sam Beydoun, a psychology professor for five years at WCCCD, is a graduate of Wayne State University (WSU) with a bachelor's in psychology and a master's degree in educational psychology. He is currently pursuing a second master's degree in science at the University of Phoenix.

He is excited about the diverse academics population at WCCCD and has observed that students are serious about their respective academic careers. Beydoun is actively involved in the WCCCD middle college program and has certification to teach high school students. He said, "I enjoy teaching high school seniors the subject of psychology and they have been very receptive to the concepts and ideas of the mental health profession."

Beydoun is thankful for friends and family who have been instrumental in his success in school and work and is looking forward to a long career with WCCCD in an academically rich environment.

DR. CHARMAYNE JOHNSON
Charmaine D. Johnson is an experienced educator holding various educational positions including teacher, teacher coordinator, administrative positions and adjunct professor. She has completed numerous advanced degree programs including an Ed.D in Educational Administration and an Ed.S. in curriculum development from Wayne State University, a master's degree and a bachelor's degree from the University of Hartford in Connecticut and Wilberforce University in Ohio respectively.


The additional NISOD winners listed below will be featured in the next issue.

York Melvin Brown
Robert Muckenheim
John Wood
Thomas E. Howard Jr., III
Siddiqua Siddiqui

Our Pride is showing...
Performing arts centers housed in community colleges nationwide are as unique as the communities and colleges they serve. These halls located in some of our nation’s roughly 1,200 community colleges forge strong ties to their communities and civic groups while allowing professional, semi-professional and college-wide events to take center stage.

The Heinz C. Prechter Educational and Performing Arts Center will benefit from supporting communities in the downriver area. The center has been designed to provide the downriver community with a performing arts auditorium, classroom space, and technology to offer multiple programs. The Performing Arts Center will enable WCCCD to expand course and program offerings in performing and visual arts. The facility will support events for local citizens, businesses, industry, and governmental agencies.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony and grand-opening performance with country superstar Clint Black provided inspiration for many future events. Both events proved that the Performing Arts Center is a great entertainment venue.
Stage
and Performing Arts Center

Heinz C. Prechter Educational and Performing Arts Center

Mrs. Allan, Clint Black and Trustee Vernon Allan
Former Taylor Mayor Greg Petoniak, Current Taylor Mayor, Jeffrey Mamarand, Former Taylor Mayor Cameron Priebe
Trustee Charles Paddock and family with Clint Black
Mrs. Heinz Prechter

Mrs. Allan, Clint Black and Trustee Vernon Allan
Former Taylor Mayor Greg Petoniak, Current Taylor Mayor, Jeffrey Mamarand, Former Taylor Mayor Cameron Priebe

Mrs. Heinz Prechter
Wayne County Community College District
Study Abroad Students Return

Twenty-three students return home to Michigan after being delayed for four days because of volcano eruption in Europe.

BY DAVID C. BUTTY

We finally heard the news that we had been expecting since Wednesday when the Icelandic volcano erupted spewing a cloud of ash across Europe. As air traffic came to a complete standstill, we were caught in the midst of it all.

"Do you want to hear the bad news first or the good news first," an airline representative asked. "The bad news first," I told him. "Your scheduled flight out of Athens has been cancelled, and we are not sure when we will reschedule your flight. It might be a day or two, or perhaps three, but you can rest assured that we are working hard to get you a flight out of here," he added.

I listened to him with eyes wide open as I surveyed the tourists going up the Acropolis. Did they miss their flights too? I wondered as my mind began running in circles. I had to break the news to the students. Don't ask me if I had ever heard of Eyjafjallajökull or that there are others like it that at any moment could erupt. The only thing on my mind was that here we were, stranded in Athens, Greece, with 23 students just completing the District's study abroad trip.

While in Greece, the students had visited educational and cultural sites, including the Rock that most considered the most important monument because of its influence on architecture; the Temple of Athena Niké, founder of the city of Athens; and the Agora, the ancient marketplace and seat of Greek philosophy, religion, commerce, politics, arts, and athleticism. This is where Socrates addressed his public, where the concept of democracy was born and where St. Paul preached to the Athenians.

Other notable places of interest during this educational sojourn were the Benaki Museum, which offers visitors a quick view of Greek history; the Greek Parliament, where they observed the changing of the guards at the "Tomb of the Unknown Soldier;" the Temple of Zeus, considered father of the Greek gods; and the Temple of Poseidon. Students also enjoyed the tree-lined walkway which provided a continuous pedestrian link between all the major shopping places in Athens.

Following our intensive program of study and exploration of everything Greece had to offer, we were all ready to leave for home, but volcanic ash from the eruption of Eyjafjallajökull had disrupted our return home. We were not alone in this dilemma as millions of travelers around the globe were also caught in this episode brought about by a natural disaster. Everyone was wondering when the airlines would give the "all clear green light." I gathered our team together. There were mixed feelings about the situation, and at the same time there was joy. Some students were happy at the news that they were going to be able to explore Athens more because of the delay. Everyone, even families, friends and loved ones back home in the United States were monitoring the situation.

"I've had a great time in Greece. I hoped it would be sooner rather than later before we got a flight to go home," said one student as she tried to make sense of the whole episode. "One student suggested that we get on a cargo ship to Detroit. Like every other person stranded by the volcano, we were looking at whatever viable options that would allow us to return to the States. "I will never forget my study abroad trip to Greece and when people start to talk about the volcano eruption that shut down all air travel. I will say yes I know, I was in Athens," said one student.

Though the Acropolis Hotel was running near capacity to accommodate...
guests who had previous bookings, they were kind enough to extend our accommodations. Another concern for everyone was running out of essential items such as medications, clothing and funds, but we worked through these challenges.

Like every student who participated in the study abroad trip, Ursula Turner was grateful for the opportunity. She said the trip brought students closer together because it is a District-wide program, and the friendships made there will last forever. “It was a blessing to experience this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and I will be forever grateful to WCCCD for allowing me the chance to explore and learn. When I pursue my next career, I will return the deed by sponsoring someone in the study abroad program. Experiencing a country first hand is a whole lot better than just reading about it in books.”

Tiffany Murphy said the trip gave her new interest in mastering languages and becoming culturally competent. “Coming home from Greece, I realized that other countries have so much to offer students in the way of learning. Languages, cultures, foods, history, are all unique to each country. I wish one day to visit other faraway places to regain the wonderful feeling that I had when I visited Greece. WCCCD opened that door and made it possible for me. I can’t express how fortunate it was to be there. I hope the study abroad program goes on to enlighten other students to the extent that I have been enlightened.”

Kristi Regener says she will always remember how enlightening the trip was. She referred to the extra days in Greece as “being happily stranded and an opportunity that allowed the students to explore more of Greece. I took a one-day cruise tour of the islands of Hydra, Poros, and Aegina. These amazing islands reminded me of movies and paintings I’ve seen. I couldn’t believe that I was able to see them and feel fortunate to have had this opportunity,” she added.

“The 2010 Study Abroad Trip to Greece was nothing short of amazing! We had an exceptional group, excellent food and a remarkable learning experience. I am so glad that I was a member of this program,” another student wrote. As the Greek would say, Efharisto! (Thank you)!
The most recent art exhibit at the Brown and Juanita C. Ford Art Gallery “Manifestations” has engendered a lot of excitement. This exhibition features the works of WCCCDs’ art instructors providing an opportunity for the community and students at the college to view the remarkable talents of the WCCCD teaching faculty.

The art including drawings, paintings, and multi-media are works of Virinder Chaudhery, Henry Drynage, Jr. Gregory Johnson, WCCCD’s own Carl Kamulsiki, Chris Melikan, Jocelyn Rainey, Arthur Roland, Bill Sanders, Sarah Slobodzian and Roy Steyskal.

Jocelyn Rainey, painter and instructor who studied locally at CCS and WSU, is influenced by her environment. Her art reveals past, present and future influence - social, political, religious and moral. She uses her platform to express her beliefs. She uses various mediums to create paintings and sculpture. Her designs consist of bright, cadmium colors and familiar shapes that create excitement.

Carl Kamulsiki, says “I count myself as a very fortunate person, for more than four decades my passion has been my profession. As a professor at WCCCD, I have had the great opportunity to learn from thousands of students and professional artists.”

Bill Sanders is a photographer who works expressionistically with complex set-ups. He examines the nature of his medium and blends the resulting information to his own ends. Sanders final picture is a photographic image in which he records the various stages he goes through to produce it. Sanders received a BA, MA, and MFA from WSU.
Human rights activist, Kerry Kennedy, was presented to WCCCD students at the Downriver Campus as the third speaker in our 2009–2010 Global Conversations Speaker Series. Ms. Kennedy, daughter of the late Robert F. Kennedy, has led over 40 human rights delegations to over 30 countries, all with the goal of preserving the rule of law and human dignity. The Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Center for Human Rights was established by Kerry Kennedy in 1988 to address diverse human rights issues such as child labor, disappearances, indigenous land rights, judicial independence, freedom of expression, ethnic violence, impunity, the environment, and women’s rights.

Her presentation title was, “Power of One: Stories of Inspiration from Women on the Cutting Edge of Social Change.” Ms. Kennedy began talking to students in her enthusiastic manner about how any “One” can make changes in society. She told of how high school students did reverse giving during Halloween. When students were given chocolates they would give back information on how the workers harvesting cocoa beans in Africa were exploited. Kerry Kennedy elaborated on her world-wide travels interviewing people and telling the stories of such people as the Dalai Lama of Tibet and how such people who believe in a cause go to great lengths to make a positive difference in the lives of those who are suffering. Ms. Kennedy’s message to the students was to stand up for justice and make a difference as “One” person. The presentation concluded with a book signing of her book, Speak Truth to Power, which features interviews with international human rights activists.

Additional 2009–2010 Speakers

The Western Campus was the host for Faculty Organization Day (FOD) with the theme for the event, “Making Good on the Open Door: Fostering Student Success.”

In a unique format, a panel of internationally recognized authorities in community college education provided the keynote address and interactive discussion on critical challenges facing community college faculty. Dr. John E. Roueche, Professor and Director, Community College Leadership Program and Sid W. Richardson Regents Chair at the University of Texas at Austin; Dr. Walter G. Bumphus, Chair and Professor of Educational Administration, Community College Leadership Program at the University of Texas at Austin; and Dr. Jerry Sue Thornton, President of Cuyahoga Community College, shared applied research and best practice examples on a variety of topics including academic success, developmental education, working with veterans, and support services.

This distinguished panel concluded with an engaging question and answer period with faculty as well as breakout sessions. Over 700 Faculty members and WCCCD staff were in attendance for this kick-off for the spring 2010 semester.
MIPSE AND ALLIED HEALTH – A MATCH MADE FOR SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

WCCCD’s Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education (MIPSE) located at the Downriver Campus and the Health Science Center, located at the Northwest Campus, have formed a partnership that will enhance the opportunities for students interested in careers in public safety and Emergency Medical Technology (EMT).

MIPSE was built in response to the tremendous increase in the demand for WCCCD’s Fire Fighters, Emergency Medical Services and Industrial Safety Training programs. Its training programs provide emergency response education and training services in a safe and controlled environment. Prior to this facility, there was no 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 open to the community.

The training facility encompasses 10-acres which houses a five-story fire tower, a 12,000 square-foot training center, a 50,000 square-foot driving training area, a man-made lake for water rescue simulations and a mobile home for close quarters and/or disease response. The large campus also has aircraft, vehicle, ship, and residential room fire simulators.

Northwest Campus has introduced the Health Services Center where students are trained as medical technicians who can attend to emergency situations such as automobile accidents, childbirth, heart attacks, various wounds, and pandemics.

By partnering with MIPSE, students can augment some of the most popular programs like EMT or Firefighting with enhanced medical skills. Dr. Debraha Watson, Northwest Campus President said, “From traditional-age students to senior citizens, our goal is provide students with the training needed to secure high-wage, high-skill, jobs that are in high demand within the health care field.”

Demand for students who have mastered the skills required for certification is high. MIPSE head, Tony Arminiak said, “People try to hire our students before they can even graduate.” The partnership between MIPSE and The Health Science Center provides a seamless connection for students enabling them to tailor their curriculum for their specific career goal.
Passport to Africa, has, over the past eight years, provided an educational and cultural enrichment program to the communities of Metro Detroit. This program is coordinated and implemented by the WCCCD School of Continuing Education. Over the years the program has featured African music and dance; African crafts; languages, an African fashion show displaying the best fabrics out of Africa; African storytelling; drumming and a “Taste of Africa.” The eighth Annual Passport to Africa was held on each of the District’s five-campus location to educate students and community residents about the many different cultures, traditions, and rich history of the African Continent. The event, which is open to the public at no cost, is jointly sponsored by the United African Community Organization (UACO).

“Those who have attended Passport to Africa over the years have their own reasons for participating, and we have been able to design our activities accordingly to meet the needs of the communities and students,” said David C. Butty, who has coordinated the program from its inception.
Wayne County Community College District Increases Campus Safety Department Authority on All Detroit Campuses

In an effort to increase the level of campus safety services provided to the students, faculty and staff of WCCCD, a special swearing in ceremony was held for Public Act 330 (PA 330) Certification for Police Authority. The event was conducted by the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards – Michigan State Police.

This enhancement to the campus safety services are currently being offered at the three Detroit campus locations: Downtown, Eastern, and Northwest. With oversight from the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES), a division of the Michigan State Police and with the approval of the Wayne County Prosecutor and the Detroit Police Chief, WCCCD swore in a total of 17 officers during the ceremony.

Officers sworn in at this ceremony have WCCCD Security Police Authority giving them complete authority to apprehend and arrest anyone involved in illegal acts. The officers will be unarmed at this time. In the event of a major offense the WCCCD Security Police Authority will report the offense to the local police and pursue joint investigative efforts. The Director of Campus Safety is responsible for licensure of all officers including those officers that have the arrest authority under PA 330. MCOLES conducted a short orientation/inspection at the time of the ceremony regarding the policies and rules for PA 330.

The District is pursuing efforts to provide this enhanced level of campus safety staff at the District’s two remaining out county campuses, the Downriver campus in Taylor and the Western campus in Belleville.

Currently, there are 11 additional licensed security police authority agencies in Michigan: Schoolcraft College, University of Detroit Mercy, Pontiac School District, Lansing School District, Detroit Medical Center, Renaissance Center, Henry Ford Health Center, St. John Hospital, Fairlane Town Center and Spectrum Health (source MCOLES).

NORTHWEST – The Vision for the Future!