Soaring Even Higher!

2014 – Our Best Year Yet!
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Welcome

Dear Friend,

We invite you to delve into this special edition of Dimensions which showcases the many exciting activities taking place at Wayne County Community College District. I consider myself very fortunate to be part of the production of this dynamic magazine. Every issue covers exciting programs taking place at WCCCD. Our goal is to provide students with a personalized, affordable, high-quality education that will prepare them to be successful in their chosen careers.

WCCCD is one of the largest and most diverse community colleges in the state of Michigan. Although we serve a large community, we specialize in offering classes taught by exceptional faculty who bring experience and a passion for teaching and learning to the classroom. We offer flexible evening and weekend scheduling, accelerated courses and online options—all the conveniences you need to fit any lifestyle.

Our priority is to serve students and promote their professional and scholarly growth, as we continue to move forward and make WCCCD a place where learning truly leads to a better life. There is so much happening at WCCCD. We invite you to visit any of our five-campus locations and the Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center and see the uniqueness of WCCCD for yourself.

We hope you get as much enjoyment reading the publication as we did in putting it together.

Sincerely yours,

David C. Butty
Executive Dean for International Programs/ Media Specialist

Mission Statement
Wayne County Community College District’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.

Vision Statement
To be recognized as an institution that has achieved national and international recognition for enduring excellence as a comprehensive, multi-campus community college. The Wayne County Community College District will focus on continuous self-evaluation and improvement; preparation of a highly skilled workforce in support of the Wayne County economy; student academic and career success, and leadership in strengthening the open door philosophy of educational opportunity.

Values Statement
- Excellence in teaching and learning
- Diverse, international and intercultural education
- Student and community service
- Accountability
- Integrity

Accreditation
Wayne County Community College District is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
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Chicago, Illinois 60604-1411
1-800-621-7440 or 312-263-0456
(fax) 312-263-7462
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CAMPUS LOCATIONS

Downriver Campus
21000 Northline Rd.
Taylor, MI 48180 • 734-946-3500

Downtown Campus
1001 W. Fort Street
Detroit, MI 48226 • 313-496-2738

Eastern Campus
5901 Conner
Detroit, MI 48223 • 313-922-3311

University Center
19305 Vernier Rd.
Harper Woods, MI 48225 • 313-886-2425

Northwest Campus
8200 West Outer Drive
Detroit, MI 48219 • 313-943-4000

Western Campus
9555 Haggerty
Belleville, MI 48111 • 734-699-7008
Chancellor’s Scholarship Banquet

The world-renowned astrophysicist, “Cosmos: A Spacetime Odyssey” host, author and science communicator, Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson, was the keynote at the Wayne County Community College District Chancellor’s Scholarship Banquet on September 30, at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center. Dr. Tyson is the first Frederick P. Rose director of the Hayden Planetarium at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, has become one of the best-recognized scientists in the nation, and a passionate advocate for science education. In addition to hosting “Cosmos: A Spacetime Odyssey” and the PBS-NOVA four-part mini-series “Origins,” Tyson also has authored 10 books and contributed countless essays and articles to academic and popular science journals and magazines.

All proceeds raised from the banquet were used to support the Wayne County Community College District’s Scholarship Fund.

“Today we say you’re smart if you know stuff. I rather say you’re smart if you can figure something out that you’ve never seen before.”

Director of the world-renowned Hayden Planetarium in New York City—Frederick P. Rose Directorship, Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson is also a research associate of the Department of Astrophysics at the American Museum of Natural History.
When Professor Rochelle E. Danquah is not in the classroom teaching something she loves best, she is either quietly quilting or finding her roots, using the tools most familiar to genealogists. She always tells her students that for her, every student is unique and special.

Professor Danquah, who holds a Master’s degree in Humanities with a concentration in history from Central Michigan University, also holds a Bachelor’s of Science Degree with major concentration in Secondary Education and a Minor in Black Studies from Western Michigan University, in Kalamazoo. She holds a State of Michigan Secondary Education Teaching License, and is a “Trained Orton-Gillingham” Reading Instructor.

She is an adjunct faculty member at WCCCD who believes, “Students are unique, and are a joy to teach. The student population is diverse and I employ teaching strategies that enhance all learning styles (auditorial, kinesthetic, and visual learners). I also utilize a teacher’s blog to communicate and reach students outside of the classroom 24/7.”

Professor Danquah enjoys learning about her students’ personal stories. She said every student is unique and each student possesses his or her own personality. She loves to tell the story of a student who was required to return to active duty in the Middle East, but still had not completed his class assignments. “He had completed 70% of the class, and after we met and talked, I developed a plan for him to complete the class on time with his classmates while serving on the front lines for America. While he was on active duty, we communicated through Skype and through my teacher website/blog.

I had the opportunity to meet the other guys in his platoon, who often wanted to talk to me while on Skype as well. He completed his assignments on time while serving this country—in a hot military tank in the deserts of the Middle East,” said Danquah.

She was the former director of education for the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, and in 2004 appeared in a web-based lecture on the Underground Railroad Movement in America, sponsored by the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. Additionally, Ms. Danquah is currently a gubernatorial appointee as the Chairperson of the Michigan Freedom Trail Commission.

“WCCCD students are unique, and are a joy to teach. The student population is diverse and I employ teaching strategies that enhance all learning styles (auditorial, kinesthetic, and visual learners). I also utilize a teacher’s blog to communicate and reach students outside of the classroom 24/7.”

Professor Danquah was selected and appeared in the Inaugural Edition of Who’s Who in Black Detroit Publications.

On a personal note, Professor Danquah is happily married to Professor Eugene Danquah, P.E, and their oldest child, Jaimi, graduated from WCCCD with honors, and currently attends Western Michigan University. Their youngest child, Asante is a junior at Detroit Catholic Central, and concurrently attends WCCCD.

“My primary area of expertise and research is focused on unearthing and preserving lesser known individuals and the stories involved in the Underground Railroad Movement in southeastern Michigan, and I have lectured at educational institutions, libraries, museums, and universities across the country.”

Professor Danquah finds her niche in the classroom

The International Underground Railroad Memorial is located right here in Detroit’s own Hart Plaza.
Passionate about teaching

Professor Jonia Tamburi, a native of Tirana, Albania, is passionate about the importance of helping her students become multi-lingual; especially in today’s global society.

“We live in a world that is hyper connected by means of social media, yet what stands between us could be converted into bridges that bond us. People and nations are more interdependent than ever. If we are to face the road of common suffering and pain, unity is the only answer. Language is the first building block and stepping stone to cultural harmony and societal broad-mindedness,” said Tamburi, who has been teaching Spanish Language and Literature at Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD) for three years now. She speaks six languages—Albanian, English, Spanish, French, German and Italian.

Tamburi, whose hobbies include reading classics, watching historical documentaries, travelling, and swimming is also a sought after interpreter when it comes to languages. Among her educational credentials are: Master of Communication Studies with a minor in Spanish from Wayne State University, Bachelor of Arts degree in Modern languages, Literature and Culture, from the University of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, where she also received a double major in Spanish and German. She is a member of the “Golden Key International Honor Society.”

She was born and raised in Tirana, Albania, where she received superior language training in a number of languages from world-renowned institutions such as L’Alliance Française, Amigos de España, Goethe Institute, etc. Her family moved to Canada in 1999 where we have resided ever since. In her university years, she served as a TA for Spanish and German, as well as embarked on the new path of translation and interpretation. The challenges and rewards of this path helped to shape her into the persevering, attentive and open-minded educator that she is today.”

Professor Tamburi said every student in her class has a unique story and that it is the stories of her students that led her to become a more empathetic educator. “The examples that motivate me are about students who fight hard when all odds seem to work against them, when there is little to no support system, when they are afraid to return home, when their dreams were shattered in the past and yet they reemerge and persist undeterred,” she added.

“I strive to be a cultured cosmopolitan with a refined appreciation for classical literature, cultures and the power of words. I have an inquisitive, analytical mind with nuances of abstract thinking and endeavor to help cultivate the same idealistic principles, research ethics and outside-the-box thinking in my students. My special interests are media theory, new media practices, communication in pedagogy, rhetoric and speech-writing. I am actively engaged with what I consider to be an obligation to keep current with the changing face of media and the evolution of pedagogical methods. She said it is very important to reach out to every student in her classroom. “I make the conscious effort of getting to know the names of all my students. I show interest and concern to them on a personal basis. From day one, my tradition is to exchange emails with my students. The greatest joy is derived from token displays of appreciation in the form of cards or emails that indicate heartfelt gratitude for patience, words of encouragement and positivity. I believe that sincere compassion and thoughtfulness can make the difference between success and failure in the lives of students. Whenever personal issues or absences are detected, I make contact with the students and offer to work out a plausible solution together.”

Tamburi also said there are many examples of her students that lead her to become a more empathetic educator.

She has extensive background as Editor and Communication Specialist for a wide array of public sectors, including but not limited to immigration, law, state and federal agencies, healthcare organizations, help desks, district and municipal courts, governmental agencies, school districts and institutions of higher learning.

“In my line of work as Editor and Translator, I have been frequently exposed to challenging circumstances, the continual need to learn new concepts and adapt to ever-changing work-related demands.”

She has received numerous awards among which are, the Zentrale Mittlestufenprüfung (ZMP), authorized by the renowned Goethe Institute, at the German Studies Department – University of Windsor, Canada and the LLE-LINK INTERPRETER Certificate for Telephonic Interpretation (Albanian, English); Interpreter Language Skills Assessment Tool Certificate approved by The Ontario Ministry of Citizenship.
Therese R. Yglesias, a professor of mathematics at Wayne County Community College District, knows that being a little creative and connecting math to real life situations also helps students to gravitate to the subject matter.

“It’s sad that more students don’t get excited about math,” said Yglesias, who began her teaching career in the Detroit Public Schools before joining the faculty at WCCCD. Yglesias said ‘math is in everything we do, see, touch and appreciate. We are a great problem solving society yet many students get anxious just thinking about a typical ‘word’ problem’.

Yglesias was born and raised in Detroit, and is a proud alumna of Western International High School. She received both her BS Degree in Education and her Master’s Degree from Wayne State University.

“I introduce myself to students as a mathematics counselor determined to convince them that they are ‘good’ at math, she said. “Building confidence is paramount to mathematical understanding. Mistakes are an opportunity to learn concepts more deeply, generating stronger connections in the brain’s highway of dendrites. To witness the “aha” moment of a student successfully solving and verifying a solution is like being the first to drive on the new I-96 expressway! From celebrating ‘Pi day’ with pizza or fruit pies, to sharing the zany mathematics in a particular date or time, using the Sieve of Eratosthenes to discover prime numbers or having a whiteboard filled with many solutions and asking the students to find the two incorrect answers. Teaching math is fun and learning it should be at least half as enjoyable!”

Professor Yglesias said that throughout her career, she had pursued the study of Instructional Technology, Network Administrator and Workforce Development. Although she had been teaching math for 30 years, the adoption of interactive educational programs like My Math Lab and Web Assign at WCCCD has allowed her to provide students more individualized instruction, building stronger conceptual understanding of the universal language of mathematics.

Among some of her honors was being awarded the Goodfellows of the Year Award in 2008. “I am honored to serve as the President of the Old Newsboys’ Goodfellow Fund of Detroit during our 100th anniversary. We’ve kept our pledge of ‘No Kiddie Without a Christmas’ throughout the past century to an estimated 3.5 million children in Detroit, Highland Park and Hamtramck and for the last couple of years included River Rouge and Harper Woods. The Goodfellows couldn’t accomplish this incredible task without the public consistently helping us reach our fundraising goal which is 1.25 million this year! I’d like to thank everyone that purchases a newspaper during our Sales Day campaign.”

She said she has many unique stories about her students from the past but one student’s story stands out; that of John Gillis, from her fourth grade class at Holy Redeemer in Southwest Detroit. “He was one of the smartest students I’ve ever taught. I imagined John Gillis would become a famous Neurosurgeon or NASA scientist but his amazing mind was that of a musical genius instead. John is known worldwide as Jack White of the White Stripes and many other bands. He’s won numerous awards including Grammys for Best Alternative Music Album and started his own recording studio returning music to vinyl records.”

Professor Yglesias said she is proud and grateful to have met Emmett Yglesias, a man she has known since age 11. They have been married 26 years. “We have four amazingly unique children.”

**Did you know?**

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“We are a great problem solving society yet many students get anxious just thinking about a typical word problem.”

“BUILDING CONFIDENCE is paramount to mathematical understanding.’”

it is in everything we do’!

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After retiring from the Detroit EMS, Steven Ladd was motivated to find a new career path. He looked into the field of surgical technology and found it interesting. He tried applying to programs closer to where he lived, but he chose Wayne County Community College District because he could get into the classes he wanted immediately.

Today, Ladd is a proud graduate of the Surgical Technology Program. More importantly, he is part of the class that had a 100% passing rate for the National Certifying Examinations for Surgical Technologists.

“It makes me feel great that 100% of us passed the national certification. That success rate doesn’t happen very often,” stated Ladd. “It was a special group of people who were in that surgical technology class. Everyone got along so well including the students and instructors. The fact that everyone was there to learn made the whole experience easy.”

“A 100 percent pass rate for the 2013 and 2014 academic year for the Surgical Technology Certification Exam, offered by the National Board of Surgical Technologists (NBSTSA), is one of WCCCD’s best kept secrets. “It makes me feel great that 100% of us passed the national certification. That success rate doesn’t happen very often,” said Steven Ladd, now employed with the Detroit EMS.

‘Cut Above the Rest’

“They are ready, upon graduation, to enter the medical profession to support the welfare of patients and assist other medical professionals as part of a surgical team and wear their scrubs with pride.” — Dr. Mark Shikhman, Surgical Technology program director.
WCCCD faculty member Damus Golida has a great sense of pride when he thinks about his students’ accomplishments. “The students’ success rate has given me the proud parent syndrome since we have had some students who have recently been displaced from lifelong careers and have had to retool themselves. To have a 100 percent passing rate on the certification exam, then to have them get jobs almost immediately after completion lets all the instructors in the department know that we must be doing something right!”

WCCCD graduate Ali Assaad got a job with Beaumont Hospital just one month after passing his certification exam. “Mr. Golida had a lot of faith in me and was able to set up my clinical site at Beaumont Hospital even though they had never taken WCCCD students. It was awesome because Beaumont Hospital opened a position for me the first week I was there.”

Recently, the National NBSTSA announced that WCCCD student Michelle Witt is the recipient of the 2014 Sandra Edwards CST-NBSTSA Scholarship. This prestigious national award is presented annually to just a few students in the country. Witt graduated from WCCCD’s Surgical Technology Program in 2009. Upon passing the National Certification Exam, she immediately found employment as a Certified Surgical Technologist at Cardiothoracic OR at Oakwood Hospital. She is currently enrolled in the WCCCD Surgical First Assistant Program and is completing her clinical internship. “I am very proud of our students. Like every professor, it is heartwarming to see your students excel. It makes me proud and it makes WCCCD a very proud institution,” says Dr. Shikhman.

Q&A with Ali Assaad – Surgical Technology Department Graduate

How did you get interested in the Surgical Technology Program?  
I became interested in the surgical technology field as I had recently retired from Detroit EMS. I was looking for another career and surgical technology sounded interesting. I graduated from the Surgical Technology program at Wayne County Community College District.

How does it feel to be a graduate?  
It feels great to be a graduate of the Surgical Technology program.

You were part of a class that had a 100% passing rate for the certification exam. How does that make you feel?  
It makes me feel great that 100% of us passed the national certification. That success rate doesn’t happen very often.

In your opinion, what are some factors that contributed to such an amazing success for you and your classmates?  
That was a special group of people who were in that Surgical Technology class. Everyone got along so well including the students and instructors. The fact that everyone was there to learn made the whole experience easy. I felt very good I had put out half a dozen applications and within a month I was hired full time.

What brought you to Wayne County Community College District?  
I heard about it from a friend.

What were some of the programs/services at WCCCD that you helped you as a student?  
Financial aid.

What was your most positive educational experience at WCCCD?  
Clinical rotations.

Do you have any positive experiences you would like to share about WCCCD faculty?  
Mr. Golida had a lot of faith in me and was able to set up a clinical site for me at Beaumont even though they have never taken wcccd students.

Did you have any positive and memorable learning experiences in the classroom?  
The lab and hands on activities were the most helpful parts of the program.

How has your education and training at WCCCD helped you in your profession?  
It gave me the foundation of skills I needed in the operating room.

How did it feel to be able to get a job just one month after passing your certification exam?  
It was awesome, Beaumont opened a position for me the first week I was there.

What are your future plans?  
I just recently accepted a full time job at Beaumont Royal Oak as a surgical tech first assistant. I plan on staying there for a few years and then travel when my kids are graduated from high school.

What advice do you have for other fellow students?  
This job is not easy. You need to be prepared for anything and everything that could happen. Pay attention in class; do well in clinicals and just have common sense!
From Nairobi, Kenya to Detroit: Anything is Possible!

Ms. Muli, who holds a dual citizenship of both Kenya and Canada, is also a legal resident in the United States with a home in Detroit. “My residency in the US affords me most rights and privileges as any US citizen except the right to vote and run for any political office and or apply for certain federal jobs.”

Ms. Muli represented Wayne County Community College District’s graduating class of 2014 during the commencement at Ford Field in Detroit, Michigan, on May 31st where more than 1,500 students received associate’s degrees and certificates in various disciplines. Wayne State University President, Dr. M. Roy Wilson, former deputy director for strategic scientific planning and program coordination at the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities of the National Institutes of Health, delivered the keynote address. Dr. Wilson challenged WCCCD’s 45th graduating class to always strive to be the best in any undertaking as they embrace the world.

“Growing up as a young girl in Nairobi, Kenya, no one could have convinced me that I would be standing here today delivering the valedictory on behalf of my graduating class. I am convinced that anything is possible.”

When Ms. Muli first enrolled at WCCCD in the fall of 2001 she was young and full of energy with an ambitious plan for her future. “I can vividly remember standing in the hallways of the Downtown Campus and feeling so small, so insignificant and so overwhelmed. I called my sister after my first day and expressed my experience and she said “Don’t worry. Soon you will see a light at the end of the tunnel.” I thought to myself, “Well, I can see the light as we speak and I’m pretty sure it is a freight train.”

“Two years into my plan I was diagnosed with a form of lung cancer and some autoimmune condition I couldn’t even pronounce at the time; sarcoidosis. I had to stop nursing school dead in my tracks in order to take care of my health. I went from training for the Detroit Free Press Marathon to not being able to go up a flight of steps without getting winded. Someone was meddling with my order of events! I was devastated! I was currently enrolled in WCCCD’s Nursing Program, and might I add that on May 10, 2014, I ran my first 5K marathon since my diagnosis and actually finished it… in 34 minutes!” she emphasized.

“Today, I stand before you healthy through no strength of my own, but by the incredible, incredible grace of God and the support of my family,” said Muli, whose hobbies include writing and traveling. “I have a huge passion for living. I believe that every day is a gift and so I try to make every minute count.

The world is your playground. Be bold, be colorful, be kind, be honest and most importantly give back.”
2014

More than 3,200 graduates!
WCCCD Unveils Center for Distance Learning

There’s room at Wayne County Community College District’s Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center for more students to pursue a certification, associate’s degree or acquire credits toward a bachelor’s degree.

With the opening of its newest building at a ribbon cutting ceremony earlier this year, the Center for Distance Learning, at the University Center in Harper Woods offers continuing education for everyone, from high school students to senior citizens.

The 20,000 square foot building has eight classrooms and two computer labs: one an interactive lab and the second a Mac lab for digital production. The building also includes student self-service kiosks, a learning commons and virtual classrooms for video conferencing.

“With the opening of the Center for Distance Learning, students can enroll in a mixed mode,” University Center provost Sandra Robinson said, “Students spend half their time here and half their time on-line.”

This is advantageous for the working adult, she said, because they are able to enroll for on-line classes and access those classes at their convenience. Yet, instructors are available for in-class time.

“People are enjoying coming to the University Center,” Robinson said, “because hours match what they are looking for.”

The University Center in Harper Woods offers continuing education for everyone, from high school students to senior citizens.
Lights! Camera! Click!

There is more to photography than just pointing the camera and clicking. But today, with advanced technology everyone is a photographer, causing this much-loved art form to reach epic proportions in terms of popularity, either as a hobby or as a profession. Also, the Internet alone is a mecca of modern day imagery and photos can literally come from anywhere—cell phone, iPad, and every digital phone with more megapixels than ever before. The future of photography will be interesting to watch unfold in the years to come since more and more people now have access to today’s nearly professional grade equipment—the camera.

The age-old saying that a single photograph is worth a lot more than words is true. Special occasions like birthdays call for pictures to be clicked, and memories to be created. Then there is always the family albums from the wedding party, graduation, a child’s first birthday, and even the family get together are all prominent as part of the family archives. The photography world is a prime example of technology’s ability to advance itself exponentially year after year.

Wayne County Community College District photography program offers variety of career options and students are capturing the opportunity.

“Students can take any of the photography classes offered at WCCCD to earn either an associate of applied science degree or a certificate. There is work in place right now to extend this program to every campus. Currently, the program is located at the Western Campus and the District was kind enough to provide to students their first cameras to jumpstart the program.” Just like the painter selects the perfect colors and the perfect size paint brush to do the job, photography follows in the same trends.”

Cameras have certainly come a long way since the early camera obscura. Today the digital point and shoot cameras used by many fit easily in one hand and are fully automated. You no longer need rolls of film required for cameras from a couple of decades past, yet can store hundreds of high quality photographs on a memory card less than a square inch in size.

“Regardless of advance technologies in cameras today, one thing is certain: your camera will still not take that perfect photo without your guidance. Choosing the target, the angle of view and cropping the photograph will still be left for you to take care of and excel in the final image. If you are into photography, you probably want to get better at it. This requires practice—a lot of practice. However, it is often helpful to be taught about the theory, too.”

Where is photography heading? A question posed to Bill (William) Sanders, a professional photographer for over 30 years. “Ah! Where is photography going? That is a very good question,” said Bill, who is teaching photography at Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD). “Photography is an art, and it will always involve various techniques and rules. And this is what we teach and practice every day.” Sanders said that there are all forms of photography—digital, forensic, commercial and photojournalism.

FYY:

*Average Earnings: $28,490 (2012)

*Employment of photographers is projected to grow by 13% by 2020. Salaries vary based on experience and place of employment.

WCCCD Completion Hours: 36 credit hours for a Short-Term Certificate in Digital Photography.
It wasn’t long ago that James Reppert decided to attend Wayne County Community College District. After completing his bachelor’s degree in Psychology, he couldn’t get loans to cover a second bachelor’s degree.

“There was no wait list. They (WCCCD) recognized my Emergency Medical Technology license towards my application into nursing school. I could pay for the classes while working.”

Reppert graduated in May 2012 and obtained his Registered Nurse License in June 2012.

Two years later, he is the recipient of the 2014 Harper Hospital Nurse of the Year Award.

“I am both honored and humbled by being named Harper Hospital Nurse of the Year. It is nice to be recognized for hard work and dedication.”

In addition to his efforts as a professional who is dedicated to providing quality health care and being actively involved in community service, Reppert attributes his success to his training and education.

“I was glad I chose WCCCD. The nurses from WCCCD are more clinically capable than other associate degree students. I was able to take my knowledge, skills, and abilities learned from WCCCD and apply them as soon as I graduated and obtained my licensure.”

Reppert feels that the WCCCD faculty has provided him with many positive educational experiences.

“Dr. Laynette Goudy-Egger really had a lasting impression on me. She expected all of her students to have already read and understand the material prior to her lecture. During the lecture, she used the material and her personal knowledge/experience to elicit critical thinking. She is a truly impressive lady.”

Other faculty members that stand out for Reppert are Caroline and Maddie. He feels they taught him how to learn and understand the nursing process.

Reppert is very involved with community service. He frequently volunteers at health screening programs like the Sophie Womack Women’s Health Series. He also participates in fundraisers like the Make-A-Wish Foundation, American Diabetes Association, Juvenile Diabetes Association, and the Danielle Karmanos Work-It-Out for Childhood Obesity.

Reppert is also grateful for the professional guidance given by his manager Selina Dallas who is also a WCCCD alumna.

“She has allowed me to take the lead on many processes and has encouraged my growth and development. If it was not for her guidance I would not have been as involved with Harper Hospital.”

Reppert’s future plans include returning to WCCCD in a new role – as a teacher. He is currently pursuing his Masters in Nursing Education with a certificate in Nursing Management. His goal is to become a nurse educator while working in a management role for the hospital.

“One of the reasons I was recognized as nurse of the year is because of how I like to teach new staff. I love teaching, training, and developing staff. Having the ability to teach at my alma matter would give me the opportunity to teach new students things I have learned.”

Reppert’s advice to students at WCCCD is to take it one day at a time. According to him, nursing school and working as a nurse can be overwhelming.

“There are many things that you will be unable to control like deadlines, tough patients, etc. The only thing you can control is yourself and how you respond to adversity. By controlling your emotions, you will find that the patient and those around you will also be calm. The opposite will also be true. If you get anxious or frustrated, then those around you will also take that on.”

Alumni Receives Nurse of the Year Award

Did you know?

Nursing is the largest health care occupation, with approximately 2.6 million registered nurses.
The Kingdom of the Netherlands also known as Holland is tucked inside the middle of Europe. Not only is it situated below sea level, it is also a country of countless canals and dikes and where bicycling is the most used method for transportation. However, this tiny country, the size of New Jersey, is rich in so many ways. It is a country where cheese, tomatoes and cucumbers are king and considered to be an appetizer before any meal.

While famous for its tulips, the Netherlands is also known for the liberalism that is respected throughout Europe. Most recently, 27 students from WCCCD spent a week in Amsterdam on a study abroad trip in partnership with Amsterdam University College. Their visit was well rewarded with lectures by Professor Jonathan Gill a historian and professor of humanities. Professor Gill, author of “Harlem: The Four Hundred Year History from Dutch Village to Capital of Black America,” shared light on why the Dutch are fond of their open and liberal society and talked about the Dutch culture.

Each student took away a piece of the Dutch culture and embraced its tolerance of diversity. “I came back as a different person. I learned a lot from this trip and I could say that I am really grateful that I had the opportunity to go study abroad,” said Mutmainnah Quayoum.
Dual Enrollment Program Allows Qualifying Students to Begin College Prior to Graduating High School

WCCCD is striving to deliver on a promise to both the community and our students. The District has taken a new team approach to an initiative of establishing and maintaining relationships with area high schools. Members from the Chancellor’s Executive Cabinet have begun a proactive approach to building these relationships.

Each cabinet member has been assigned a high school and will be responsible for communicating with the principal and faculty on all concerns related to the Dual Enrollment program. This weekly connection will allow the District to obtain pertinent information that will help us to better serve and address the needs of each school.

WCCCD’s Dual/Concurrent Enrollment Program is designed to make college education more accessible to high school students so they can achieve their educational/career goals while saving both time and money. Dual/Concurrent Enrollment allows qualifying high school students to begin their college career studies prior to graduation from high school. Whether students attend career/technical programs, plan to achieve an associate’s degree or a baccalaureate degree, Dual/Concurrent Enrollment will allow them to take college-level classes for credit while still in high school.

WCCCD has established partnerships with over 40 high schools in nearly 15 school districts throughout our service area including Detroit, Wayne-Westland, Taylor, River Rouge, Harper Woods and the Grosse Pointe schools. Through these partnerships, the District provides more than 100 dual enrollment cohort course offerings each semester.

Dual Enrollment: Did You Know?

Dual/Concurrent Enrollment will allow qualifying high school students to begin their college career studies prior to graduation from high school.
DID YOU KNOW?

- Cass Tech’s notable Dual Enrollment Program with Wayne County Community college District is the largest program of its kind across the city that allows students to earn college credits while in high school.

- Spring 2015 approximately 25 Dual Enrollment students will receive their high school diploma and associate degree at the same time. Forty-five students will have at least one year of college completed.

Thanks to Cass Tech’s notable Dual Enrollment Program with Wayne County Community College District—the largest program of its kind across the city that allows students to earn college credits while in high school—in May, LoReal Harris will graduate from WCCCD with her associate’s degree along with 24 other students. In June, she will accept her high school diploma.

“Technically, I’ll be a college graduate before I graduate from high school!” says Harris, who plans to study pre-law at the University of Toledo in the fall. “I’ve always wanted to pay my mom back somehow for all that she’s given me. Now, I get the chance to do just that.”

What exactly does this mean for mom and Harris?

- Two years of college tuition that she will not have to pay for because Harris will enter the University of Toledo as a junior in the fall;

- A tuition-free undergraduate degree as Harris has already secured scholarships to cover the final two years; and

“Cass Tech: #1. Second to None.”

WCCCD has established partnerships with over 40 high schools in nearly 15 school districts.

Through these partnerships, the District provides more than 100 dual enrollment cohort course offerings each semester.

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At left and this page: Examples of the Dual/Concurrent Enrollment Application.
Frequent visits to the dentist as a high school senior with braces is what got Marwa Olayan interested in the field of dentistry. The dental hygienist in the office where Olayan went for follow-up visits was a graduate of the WCCCD Dental Hygiene Program. “We spoke back and forth with every visit. The more I watched her nature of work, the more curious I was to ask questions and learn about the dental field.”

As Olayan’s curiosity grew, so did the dental staff’s appreciation of her eagerness to learn. In fact, her enthusiasm helped her get a job in the same office. “The dentist and the hygienist both recommended that I apply at WCCCD. The hygienist told me it was the best, cost-effective program.”

Their advice provided Olayan with the confidence to apply at WCCCD. “My journey began from that day. I will never forget who put me on track. The dentist and the hygienist secured my future and made my decision so much easier.”

Olayan graduated from the WCCCD Dental Hygiene Program in August of 2010 and received her state licensure in October of the same year. She went on to pursue her education at Sienna Heights University and graduated in 2012 with a Bachelor’s Degree in Applied Science and a minor in Healthcare Administration. “Even though it was tough and we had to be there almost 12 hours a day with weekly exams, I have to admit that if it we didn’t go through the pressure, we wouldn’t have been able to face reality.”

Olayan credits the faculty for her positive educational experiences at WCCCD. She remembers how dental faculty member Pamela Zarb taught her the rules and techniques to use to achieve perfect X-rays. “The offices I work at brag about my X-rays and always leave comments like those are perfect X-rays.”

“I will never forget the first time Ms. Nyquist taught me how to hold a scaler. It left a mark in my career and I think of it whenever I get ready to start scaling.”

Olayan is grateful for the everyday lessons that Ms. Nyquist enforced in the clinic that are essential in her profession. “She (Ms. Nyquist) would walk around the clinic making sure we were sitting in proper ergonomic position. She always used to tell me feet flat on the floor and shoulders back. Because of her, I try my best to practice proper ergonomics today through my daily job.”

Olayan is still in touch with her WCCCD classmates who wish those college days were now back. One of Olayan’s most memorable experiences at WCCCD include participating in a study abroad trip to Paris in December of 2008. “I still think it was a dream. I can’t believe that I actually went to Paris,” stated Olayan. “I still remember the French sentences I learned from our daily class sessions, going on a tour bus to explore the city, the Eiffel Tower and going all the way up and capturing the breathtaking view, visiting the Cathedral Notre Dame de Paris, and the commonly known shopping street LeChamps-Elysées.”

Olayan recently began working with schools and giving presentations to the public. She is passionate about educating others about the benefits of oral health. “It’s such a rewarding feeling knowing that I am helping the public. Whether it is a simple presentation or oral screening, referring out children to the dentist and knowing that I made a difference early on in a child’s oral health is rewarding. I love teaching and giving back what I’ve learned from school and my experiences.”

Olayan’s advice to WCCCD students is “To enjoy every moment and know that they are in the right place (at WCCCD). It might seem hard at the moment and might not make any sense right now, but it will all come together later. They (students) will definitely thank WCCCD for making them the person they will become in the future.”
An increase in security officers and training standards are two benefits of the transition to Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards by Wayne County Community College District for some of its officers. The certification will add additional requirements to the current P.A.330 WCCCD had used to provide guidelines to its security training.

MCOLES curriculum for certification requires a minimum of 560 hours of law enforcement training compared to 120 hours of training required under the current standard. The standard also confers full law enforcement authority on the WCCCD Police Authority, and makes it possible for the WCCCD to apply for certain grants and provides greater access to law enforcement databases. “We have long provided a full array of public safety programs and a close collaboration with multiple law enforcement departments in the District,” said WCCCD Chancellor Dr. Curtis L. Ivery. “The MCOLES curriculum enhances that collaboration and also provides more training and more officers to ensure our top priority—the safety of our students, staff and the community on and around our campuses.”

The new security measures include having more police officers and expanding their jurisdiction beyond the school and into the surrounding neighborhoods. WCCCD also uses modern technology and an extensive 24/7 monitoring system that features video cameras located throughout the campuses. Dispatchers are able to observe activities on campus to ensure safety for students, staff and visitors. “We are pleased to be working with the cities of Detroit, Taylor, Van Buren Township, and Harper Woods’ police departments, as well as the Wayne County Sheriff in launching this increased safety effort,” said WCCCD Director of Public Safety Darrick D. Muhammad.

The MCOLES police certification is the same level of authority other Michigan universities and colleges have adopted including Wayne State University, Oakland University, University of Michigan, Michigan State University and others.

“MCOLES curriculum enhances that collaboration and also provides more training and more officers to ensure our top priority—the safety of our students, staff and the community on and around our campuses.”
—WCCCD Chancellor Dr. Curtis L. Ivery

Newest addition to the line of Wayne County Community College District security vehicles.
Reclaiming Our Legacy
Raises Community Awareness

Marcus Ivery, Melani Ivery, Ola Ivery, Grandson Myles Ivery, Dr. Ivery and Godfrey Dillard

Dr. Abby Freeman

Former Trustee Ted Scott and Charles Paddock

Anthony Adams, Denise Mallett, Danni Burke

Ted Scott and Dr. Curtis L. Ivery

Gary Brown and George Barnes

Martha Grier and JoAnn Watson

Wayne County Executive Warren C. Evans and Rev. Edgar Vann

Julie Figlioli, Aracely Hernandez and Tameka Mongo

Vernon C. Allen, Jr., Hon. Mayor Dave Bing and Dr. Ivery

Dr. Debraha Watson having a book signed

Theo Broughton and Catherine Nelly

Carolyn Carter and Mark C. Carter, II

Vernon C. Allen, Jr., then Mayor Don Bing and Dr. Ivery

Dr. Patrick J. McNally and Kim DiCaro

Theo Broughton and Catherine Nelly

Wayne County Executive Warren C. Evans and Rev. Edgar Vann

Julie Figlioli, Aracely Hernandez and Tameka Mongo

Wayne County Executive Warren C. Evans and Rev. Edgar Vann

Brian Singleton and Shawna Forbes

Dr. Ivery and Joe Thrower

Alberta Tinsley-Talabi and Rev. Edgar Vann

Marcus Ivery

Melani, Marcus and Myles Ivery

Marcus Ivery

Myles Ivery

Marcus Ivery

Marcus Ivery, Melani Ivery, Ola Ivery, Grandson Myles Ivery, Dr. Ivery and Godfrey Dillard

Dr. Ivery and Godfrey Dillard
On the evening of October 30, 2014, a gathering of more than 600 business, elected and civic leaders joined many WCCCD Board, staff and faculty members at the Detroit Athletic Club for the book signing of “Black Fatherhood: Reclaiming Our Legacy,” authored in collaboration by Dr. Curtis L. Ivery and his son Marcus Ivery.

Marcus is president for the Ivery Literacy Foundation, which provides vital educational resources and materials to children at early stages of learning that they otherwise may not receive. The book signing, spearheaded by Muna Khoury, vice chancellor of institutional advancement and alumni relations, raised more than $6,000.00 to support the Wayne County Community College District Scholarship fund.
Thanks to the School of Continuing Education and Workforce Development

2014 – A Year to Remember!

Reading Carnival

Passport to Africa

A Year to Remember!