DENISE CRITTENDON  
**English Faculty**

Denise Crittendon is a veteran journalist and the founding editor of the former African American Family Magazine, an award-winning lifestyle magazine for black families in Metro Detroit. She’s also known for “Positive Thoughts,” a self-help column that appeared once a month in The Detroit News. The Detroit native and 1975 journalism graduate of Michigan State University worked for 15 years as a reporter/feature writer for The Detroit News. In 1994, Ms. Crittendon became the first woman in the history of the NAACP to be appointed editor of its national magazine, The Crisis (founded in 1910 by W.E.B. Dubois). She also worked as reporter/features writer and assistant teen page editor for the Kansas City Star newspaper in Kansas City, Missouri. In addition, she is author of Life Is A Party That Comes With Exams, a youth empowerment guide and Girl In The Mirror: A Teen’s Guide To Self Awareness, a book that focuses on the character development, self esteem and self empowerment of pre-teen and teenage girls.

In 2001, she received the Detroit City Council’s “Spirit of Detroit Award” and was honored by the Women’s Informal Network as “One of the Most Influential Black Women in Metropolitan Detroit.”

An avid motivational speaker, Ms. Crittendon has delivered her message of empowerment at middle schools and high schools, churches and community centers. A literature buff, Ms. Crittendon is also the founder of Esteem Multimedia, a local company that provides writing, editing and publishing services for aspiring writers. She currently teaches English 119 and English 120 at the Downtown Campus of WCCCD.

MELISSA MACHNIE  
**Artistic Welding Faculty**

Melissa Machnee is a sculptor from the Detroit area. She works primarily with metals and fabrics. She has been teaching at Schoolcraft College since 2009. She is currently developing the Metal Sculpture class at WCCCD for the fall 2012 semester through the welding department. She is a certified welder in MIG and TIG welding. She is also a Certified Welding Educator (CWE) and Certified Associate Welding Inspector (CAWI) through the American Welding Society.

In 2008 she received her MFA in Sculpture from Eastern Michigan University and in 2007 she received her Welding Fabrication Certificate from Schoolcraft College. Melissa has a strong passion for her art and helping people. She has developed a private sculpture park within the Irish Hills area of Michigan. She hopes to open the park up to other sculptors work someday.

MICHAEL PARIZON  
**Biology Faculty**

Mr. Parizon is currently teaching Pathophysiology and several Anatomy and Physiology labs. In the past, he has taught other Biology courses such as Environmental Science, Introductory Biology, as well as Anatomy & Physiology I.

Mr. Parizon is also employed as a Science Consultant for White Cloud Spring Water, a Michigan based artesian mineral water company. Mr. Parizon is a graduate from Wayne State University School of Medicine, Master of Science, Physiology, 1994 and also received his Bachelor of Science in Psychology degree from Wayne State University.

He co-authored seven original journal articles, 18 abstracts, and one review article concentrating in part in the areas of Neurophysiology/Cardiovascular Physiology with the Department of Physiology, Wayne State University School of Medicine.

In the past, Mr. Parizon has hosted several organic food feasts at the Northwest Campus of WCCCD in collaboration with fellow staff, students and various members of the community. Mr. Parizon loves to cook delicious, healthy food for friends and family and receive a great deal of gratification for doing so. Cooking is his passion and he finds it very therapeutic. He also enjoy traveling and discovering unique cultures in exotic places throughout the world, an avid reader and enjoy jazz as well as classical music.