CHANCELLOR’S WEEKEND MEMO  
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As part of a new 21st Century Initiative, American Association of Community Colleges President and CEO Dr. Walter Bumphus and his senior staff were our guests this week as they launched a series of ten regional Listening Tour meetings with community college presidents and trustees at our Downriver Campus. This will be the only such session in Michigan. Dr. James Jacobs, President of Macomb Community College, co-hosted the event with me. Trustee Charles Paddock represented the WCCCD Board of Trustees. Dr. Gunder Myran convened the session and Dr. Bumphus led the discussion, which addressed topics including leadership, philanthropy, sustainability initiatives, federal funding for community college initiatives, and Pell Grants, community engagement, local funding challenges, greater responsiveness to students’ needs, developmental education, and the student completion agenda among others.

We express our appreciation to the other college CEO’s who participated in the session including those from Monroe County Community College, Henry Ford Community College, Oakland Community College, Schoolcraft College, Mott Community College, Lansing Community College, Ferris State University, Northwestern Michigan College, Macomb Community College and Jackson Community College. Michael Hansen, President of the Michigan Community College Association (MCCA) also attended. ** Stayed tuned next week for more pictures from the Listening Tour.

The District’s Heinz C. Prechter Educational and Performing Arts Center hosted Jeff Daniels, the star of Broadway and films such as The Squid and the Whale, Gettysburg, Dumb and Dumber, The Purple Rose of Cairo and Terms of Endearment for an evening of music entertainment. Mr. Daniels, who is also a noted playwright and founder of the Purple Rose Theatre Company in Chelsea, MI, performed his original humorous and poignant songs.

LEGISLATIVE CORNER

LANSING—In response to Governor Snyder’s proposed budget announcement today, Mike Hanson, President, MCCA released the following statement: “We are very pleased that Governor Snyder has recognized the importance of community colleges in restoring the Michigan economy, and the efficiency by which community colleges conduct their work. The Governor has remained consistent in his goal to reward and fund “value for money” and community colleges may be one of the best examples of this in education.”

The 2011 Community College National Legislative Summit (NLS) was held this week in Washington, D.C. Jointly sponsored by ACCT and AACC, NLS provides community college trustees and presidents with an opportunity to advocate for postsecondary education and job training programs in the nation’s capital. Trustee Alan Anderson and Attorney Godfrey Dillard were in attendance.
The Information Technology Division is facilitating ODI sessions for the Spring 2011 semester. The sessions have two tracks, BANNER training and General technical training. Two general technical sessions were held this week and focused on features of Microsoft Excel.

In a continuous effort to increase transparency, accountability and ensure integrity and compliance with Federal/State Regulations and General Accepted Accounting Principles, the Administration and Finance Division is in the process of the annual Single Audit. The Single Audit is an objective assurance activity designed to add value and improve an organization’s operations. The Single Audit will help the institution accomplish its objectives by providing a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, internal controls, and the reconciliation process.

The Bursar’s Office has completed the residual check audit for the first financial aid disbursement of the Spring 2011 semester. Student refund checks from the February 4th and February 9th disbursements have been mailed. We will continue to audit all financial aid disbursements and students can expect future refund checks to be placed in the mail within 14 days of their disbursement date.

April Brown, Biology Faculty has been selected to present and host a workshop at the NISOD conference this year. This is a great honor and the District is proud to have one of our own faculty selected to present at this distinguished conference.

We congratulate long time faculty member Dr. Michael Davis, who has been named the Assistant Director of Laboratories for the State of Alabama. Dr. Davis will be truly missed by colleagues and students alike.

The Veterinary Technology Program and the Southeastern Michigan Veterinary Medical Association held an Ultrasound Seminar at Wayne State University. Students assisted with monitoring the dogs and cats using ultrasound techniques.

Dr. Clinton Donaldson, Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement Administration/Corrections faculty, received a plaque on behalf of WCCCD for our participation with the LIFT Women’s Resource Center. The organization provides a life skills workshop series titled the Positive Change Project to women in substance abuse recovery programs, living in domestic violence shelters and/or living in homeless shelters.

The School of Continuing Education in partnership with the Detroit Medical Center’s Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan will offer a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Awareness workshop on March 23. The workshop is designed to raise awareness of serious head injuries obtained through sports, car accidents, and other means.

We received a letter of thanks from the Detroit Child Development Head Start/Early Head Start Program and I thought I would share it with you:

“We would like to thank you for coordinating the Safety Course that was presented for our parents and staff. We sincerely appreciated the expertise of Detective Fountain of the Detroit Police Department. The information on safety for staff who complete home visits as well as personal safety measures that can be utilized throughout our daily routines was excellent. Our agency appreciates the opportunity to work collaboratively with WCCCD in developing trainings for the community we serve.”
IN THE NEWS WITH DR. WARREN DODSON

♦ In the recently released 2011 National Freshman Attitudes Report, it highlighted the key attitudes held by incoming freshmen—particularly first-generation college-goers—that may have a marked impact on academic engagement.

Did You Know?
♦ One of the terminals of the “Under Ground Railroad” was Amherstburg, Canada. Amherstburg is the narrowest crossing between Detroit and Canada. Each campus library has been provided a DVD of a re-enactment of a crossing of escaped slaves into Amherstburg. Stop by and take a look!

CAMPUS OPERATIONS
♦ This week, the Campus Operations Division worked with the campus presidents to review staffing structures, staffing schedules and trends for staff sick time and other leave time. The goal of this process is to be sure that adequate staffing is present at each campus location when students need service. All leave requests for vacation, sick and personal time are reviewed and approved by the vice chancellor of campus operations in order to help facilitate this process and the tracking of data.

INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS
♦ According to an article in Population Reference Bureau, the proportion of young women enrolled in college has exceeded the enrollment rate for young men, and the gap has widened over time. About 43% of women ages 18 to 24 were enrolled in college, compared with 35% of young men. Additionally, the gender composition has shifted to the extent that women now make up the majority—54%—of the 10.8 million young adults enrolled in college. A review of WCCCD’s enrollment by gender shows a similar trend. The graph to the right shows the percentage enrollment by gender of WCCCD’s student population.

Sources: http://www.prb.org/; WCCCD IPEDS Report

In the Mail...
We received this complimentary letter from Sheryl Jones from the Detroit Public Schools Division of Academic Accountability.

“Passport to Africa was an overwhelming success! Our students and teachers greatly benefited from the immersion in African culture. Many things went very well, to name a few: your staff was efficient in assisting students to and from their busses, the Taste of Africa food was delicious, the performances were inspiring and entertaining, the souvenir bags filled with educational information, a puzzle and snacks were perfect and your security personnel were professional and courteous. We are most appreciative of our partnership with WCCCD and look forward to future collaboration.”

♦ Ethan Vinson, partner with the law firm of Cummings, McClurey, Davis and Acho, presented a workshop on sexual harassment as part of the Organizational Development Institute. Mr. Vinson engaged attendees in discussion of several real court case studies involving colleges and universities in Michigan.
WESTERN CAMPUS—Various colleges and universities participated in a collegiate informational fair during Welcome Week. Students were given the opportunity to talk to the college representatives about admissions, financial aid and transferring options. It was a great opportunity for new and returning students to gather information about their options for college and was truly a chance for “one stop shopping.”

EASTERN CAMPUS/UNIVERSITY CENTER—Welcome Week activities for both campuses included panel discussions by staff in Student Services, Financial Aid and Campus Safety. Students also enjoyed a panel discussion/presentation on exploring careers where various staff spoke about career paths available in law enforcement, education, entrepreneurship and the armed services. Entertainment for the week included two films and a musical concert by two violinists.

DOWNTOWN CAMPUS—Students enjoyed a week full of fun and learning about various services at the campus during Welcome Week. Activities included Webgate Day, sign language for Valentine’s Day, study skills workshops, film documentaries, and a collegiate information fair. Students were also treated to various refreshments throughout the week and enjoyed dancing the Hustle.

DOWNRIVER CAMPUS—Welcome Week included workshops from Student Services staff on Webgate navigation, financial aid, the learning resource centers. Various Black History Month displays were included. In honor of the 2011 theme for Black History Month honoring African Americans in the Civil War, we will kick off our black history film series, as well as a China documentary film and a Middle Eastern Melodies live entertainment performance. Community agencies displayed information tables for our students. Campus Safety gave presentation on student id's and parking permits, and vehicle and parking lot safety. MIPSE presented a hands-on fire extinguisher demonstration as well.

NORTHWEST CAMPUS—Welcome Week highlights included a presentation/performance by noted poet and singer/songwriter, David Blair, who has performed extensively throughout the U.S., South Africa, Europe, Mexico, and Russia. Mr. Blair was warmly received by our students. The collegiate informational fair hosted over 13 colleges and universities. Students also enjoyed the meet and greet with the campus president and administrative staff. The week culminated with popcorn and a movie, which was a student favorite.

Mail Merge  
Tuesday, February 22, 2011  
2:00 –4:00 p.m.  
Eastern Campus  
Room W210

Webgate for Faculty  
Thursday, February 24, 2011  
9:00—11:00 am  
Northwest Campus  
Room G4C

Microsoft Excel 2007 Advanced Part I  
Friday, February 25, 2011  
9:30 am– 12:30 pm  
District Office Building  
Room 112

To reserve your seat please contact Stefanie Smith at X2864 or by email ssmith5@wcccd.edu
♦ The Adult Education evening class had the privilege of having Dr. Bruce Smith, a professor of African American history, lecture to the class. Dr. Smith’s lecture was titled HISstory, HERstory and MISstory. The lecture was both engaging and informative. Students were impressed and amazed at the historical facts that Dr. Smith presented.

♦ Student Services staff visited the Achieving the Dream Learning Communities for Math 105/ Business 225 cohort classes. In an effort to enhance student success, students were informed about Learning Community expectations, Student Code of Conduct and campus etiquette. Students were excited to be participating in a Learning Community workshop. Katrina Hester from the Northwest Campus wrote; “Going back to school in your forties can be quite a journey as well as scary. I am 42 years old with four children and chose to complete a Nursing degree, since nursing has been a passion of mine since I was a teen. I have overcome so many challenges in my life but going back to school is going to be the most challenging, but with all the wonderful teachers and counselors, and the additional assistance from the Achieve the Dream Initiative team, I think I will make it. It’s never too late to follow your dream.”

♦ Dr. George Swan, Judy Smouter, Muna Khoury, Dr. Ella Davis and Kuda Walker attended the Achieving the Dream 2011 Strategy Institute hosted in Indianapolis – home of the Lumina Foundation. The Lumina Foundation conceived Achieving the Dream in 2004, and now this movement is 130-institutions strong, working in 24 states and the District of Columbia. The theme for this year’s conference was “Equity and Excellence” and more than 1,400 community college leaders attended this year’s conference which featured compelling workshops, presentations, and networking opportunities to address issues of equity and student success in higher education.

In celebration of African American History Month and diversity in general, Student Services and the School of Continuing Education are excited to announce several February events. The Global Conversations Speaker Series presentations included: African American History: An Enlightening Perspective by Pulitzer Prize winner, David Blackmon, and TCHIN, an American Indian Storyteller.