October marked another milestone in the history of WCCCD as a ceremonial groundbreaking was held for the new Educational Multi-purpose Center at the Western Campus. This 43,143 square foot addition to the District’s fastest growing campus will be built immediately west of the existing campus and will provide the District and area employers with a flexible, high-tech academic environment for employee training and student learning.

WCCCD Chancellor Dr. Curtis L. Ivery stated, “Our long term strategic plan focuses significantly on our suburban initiatives and the District’s capital improvement plan for the Western Campus is built around the unique needs and demands of the Western Wayne county. The Western Campus is one of the fastest growing campus-es and has been an extraordinary learning environment for students. This new center will enable us to further enhance the quality of educational services that the campus provides.”

The new facility will include a 100-seat lecture hall with interactive conferencing capabilities. There will also be six seminar rooms featuring full teleconferencing capabilities and complete multi-media resources, a computer commons lab complex, three flexible technology labs, dining space, and a gallery area. The Western Campus Educational Multi-purpose Center will expand the District’s Health Science program offerings along with other public safety programs such as Criminal Justice, Corrections, Law Enforcement, and the new “Emergency Response and Safety” associate degree program. These program offerings will support the staffing needs of the airport authority, business, and governmental agencies within Western Wayne County.

The Western Campus of the District serves as the center for the delivery of innovative distance learning throughout the state and globally. The District collaborates with hospitals to offer accelerated online programs in Surgical Technology and Surgical First Assistant at the campuses.

WCCCD is committed to the continued development of new programs, hosting more community-based training sessions, improving student facilities and services, upgrading technologies, making capital investments in massive building expansion projects, training staff members to enhance their skills, and revamping internal processes to maximize efficiency.
CHANCELLOR’S MESSAGE

“Constantly evolving to meet expectations”

Welcome to the winter issue of Dimensions. The coming year promises to be one of great change at WCCCD, as the stories you will read in this issue will reveal. Based on the communication between the District and those we serve, we have been proactive in responding to what we have been hearing from students, community leaders, staff, and administrators. Our facilities and programs are constantly evolving to meet the expectations of our constituency.

WCCCD was featured as one of the nation’s fastest-growing two-year institutions according to a special report recently published by Community College Week. Increased marketing efforts and programs retraining displaced autoworkers were cited as key contributing factors toward a rise in the District’s enrollment. The article, entitled “Colleges Wading In Rising Tide,” also reported continued growth in distance learning and highlighted our capital improvement projects. Overall, this recognition is a true testament to the hard work, dedication exemplified by our faculty, staff, and members of the Board of Trustees.

In this issue of Dimensions, you will learn more about the special activities that have happened at WCCCD including the return of Bill Cosby, our latest study abroad, and technological advancements in course management and instruction. The pictures speak to the energy and enthusiasm for all our projects. We have excelled and enhanced our image as a leader in education on a national level. Our work has really just begun.

Sincerely,
Curtis L. Ivery, Chancellor, WCCCD

The American Association of Women in Community Colleges Launches a Chapter at WCCCD

WCCCD has launched what hopes to become a long and prosperous relationship between the AAWCC and WCCCD. The officers, Omobobine Ogedebi (Western Campus), president; Danielle Player (Central Administration Building), vice-president; Avanti Herczeg (Western Campus), secretary; and Kerri Barnett-Novack (Northwest Campus), treasurer, met at the Western Campus’ Women’s Resource Center where they discussed the beginnings of the organization and plans for the future. This is a great opportunity to join other women at WCCCD in promoting excellence in education and for women in community colleges. Membership is open to all faculty, staff, administration, and students. Please contact Avanti Herczeg 313-496-5567 or Kerri Barnett-Novack 313-496-5570 for more information.

STEEPING STONES TO TOP JOBS

Four-year degrees are not necessarily the requirement for well-paid and exciting careers according to Jeff Gerritt, writer for The Detroit Free Press. Training for many jobs listed by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth include registered nurse, customer service representative, truck driver, manufacturing sales representative, medical assistant, nurse’s aide, maintenance and repair worker, retail sales manager, carpenter and computer systems analyst. Thousands of qualified people to fill these jobs will be needed in Michigan between now and 2012. Community colleges are key in training students in these areas and WCCCD is well positioned to provide instruction. John Bolden, executive vice chancellor, said; “The need has to get out that you don’t have to be in school for four years to get meaningful employment.” WCCCD offers more than 80 career technical programs.
WCCCD and Washtenaw Community College hold Banner Workshop

It has been almost a year since the last module of Banner has been implemented at WCCCD. Although the upgrade to newer versions is an ongoing process, the major implementations have been completed for some time. However, end users are always required to network with other institutions and attend various user group meetings. These meetings provide a forum for Banner users to discuss issues and possible solutions.

In an effort to cultivate these types of interactions, WCCCD held a Banner workshop in partnership with Washtenaw Community College.

Washtenaw Community College has utilized Banner for over five years. Representatives from the institution shared a wealth of experience with WCCCD staff including best practices. WCCCD staff benefited from this experience and networked with Washtenaw Community College on future Banner-related issues.

“The workshop with Washtenaw Community College reflected a level of institutional collegiality and collaboration which is a necessity for those of us in higher education who strive to maximize the benefits of new technology. Despite the institutional differences that may exist between two community colleges, the goals of providing quality services to students and of generating data to make sound decisions represented the common denominator for this meeting,” said Carol Wells, vice chancellor for student services. “Staff from both institutions learned from each other, and the commitment to work together in the future will benefit both schools as we continue to learn how to navigate through Banner. I commend WCCCD’s Information Technology Division for their leadership in hosting a meeting that was mutually beneficial to both WCCCD and Washtenaw.”

“It was a pleasure spending time with colleagues who have experienced some of the same challenges. Our interaction provided the opportunity to learn processes that will successfully move Online Student Services forward as soon as Spring, 2007,” said Patricia A. Hrobowski-Hawkins, associate vice chancellor for student services.

Updates

Distance Education

FAST FACTS ABOUT DISTANCE LEARNING AT WCCCD

Distance learning occurs when the student and the instructor are in different locations, either at the same time or at different times, and are connected to the learning experience through technology. The benefits of distance learning classes are many and include flexibility, quick access to instructor support, cost savings, increased choices in courses and programs, and team work opportunities. Distance learning can also address barriers of time, distance, physical disabilities, personal, and professional responsibilities. Here are some fast facts about distance learning at WCCCD:

1. Interactive Television is videoconferencing technology that connects multiple campus locations or external locations to the District.
2. Live-Interactive Online courses require a computer and internet access to participate from any location and classes meet at specific days and times in a live virtual classroom.
3. Telecourses employ commercially developed video and require some campus meetings with the use of Blackboard.
4. Online courses require a computer and internet access to participate from any location at any time on Blackboard.

Blackboard is a web-based “course management system” that can be used as a tool to deliver a course completely online or to supplement on-campus courses. Blackboard does not require any special software, only a web-browser such as Internet Explorer.

A comprehensive array of support services are provided to distance learning students including technical support, online admissions and registration, library services, and online orientation.

Did you know?

• According to the Summer 2006 survey of student instruction, distance learning students reported positive ratings for instructor performance, course delivery, and support services.
• Distance Learning currently supports over 3,000 students taking classes in the four modalities and another 3,000 students who use Blackboard while taking classes on-campus.

SKILLMAN Foundation Grant

WCCCD, in partnership with Detroit Public Schools, is proud to announce the receipt of a Skillman Foundation Grant. WCCCD, through its Middle College, will be providing college coursework to 11th and 12th grade students from Osborn and Redford High Schools. Students will be able to earn both high-school and college credit for these courses. This program will allow students to enroll in courses in a variety of academic areas, eventually having the option of transferring to senior institutions for bachelor’s degrees or to enter the world of work in a specialized area. This collaboration bridges the divide between high school and college, introducing high school students to a college environment at an earlier age.

The Middle College activities will include student advising, tutorial support, and orientation to college life for parents and students. This project’s goal is to increase academic performance and retention of these students by providing a structured Middle College environment. The Skillman Foundation is a resource for improving the lives of children in metropolitan Detroit. The Foundation applies its resources to foster positive relationships between children and adults, support high quality learning opportunities and strengthen healthy, safe, and supportive homes and communities. The Foundation was founded in December, 1960, by Rose P. Skillman, widow of Robert H. Skillman, vice president and director of Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company.
Students Celebrate INTERNATIONAL Education Week

More than 200 of WCCCD’s international students joined the local community to celebrate International Education Week 2006, a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of State. The week draws attention to the role of international education in creating understanding and promoting tolerance among people around the world.

In her statement on International Education Week, Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings stated, “Education teaches more than students. It teaches all of us to see beyond our borders and boundaries, both real and imagined. It teaches us to overcome stereotypes and appreciate cultures other than our own. In so doing, it gives us hope for a brighter future by advancing freedom, opportunity, and understanding.”

The program, held at the Downtown Campus, began with a March of Nations with students carrying their respective countries’ flags. The day-long event, which included traditional music and dance from around the world, also offered mini-dance lessons along with a variety of pastry samplings from various countries.

Cosby returns to Detroit

Comedian Bill Cosby co-hosted the My Life! Who’s in Charge? workshop, with social worker Barbara Reed (pictured right). The empowerment workshop at WCCCD’s Downtown Campus was attended by a crowd of over 600. Cosby has been inspiring Detroiter since his first visit in January 2005. The ARISE Detroit initiative was a result of the first workshop that encouraged groups to promote community activism by linking city programs that help develop neighborhoods, provide social services, and address family issues as a result of advocates such as Luther Keith and Rochelle Riley (pictured right with Cosby). Barbara Reed emphasized accountability and helping people believe in their own worth. She urged attendees to continue working together as a community and support families to take control of their households. Cosby urged attendees to, “Challenge yourself to move in a positive direction.”
VIDEO GAME INDUSTRY

The video game industry is a rapidly growing, multi-billion dollar industry. WCCCD instituted the Computer Game Design and Animation Concentration Certificate Program last fall. Video games require unique design, programming, business skills, and animation. Animation involves bringing artwork and characters to life with such precision that they truly seem real. Animation is part acting, part storytelling, and part visual art - it's a mix of both electronic arts and traditional animation skills. WCCCD students learn in a state-of-the-art Mac lab, with classroom instructors who have experience in the video game industry. Students are immersed in all levels of video game design, from the initial story boards to the final, polished project. Students will graduate with portfolios that demonstrate their proficiencies. Graduates are prepared to enter the game art and design field as modelers, storyboard artists, animation artists, 3-D illustrators, digital artists, special effects artists, video post-production artists, and broadcast graphics designers, as well as game designers.

CHELYABINSK MEDICAL ACADEMY TEAM

YURI I. DOLGUSHIN, Doctor of Medical Sciences, Professor, Honored Scientist of the Russian Federation, Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences, President of the Academy.

YURY S. SHAMURIN, Doctor of Medical Sciences, Professor, Honored Worker of the Higher School of the Russian Federation, Academician of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences, Head of the Neurology Department of the Academy.

VALERY A. PRIVALOV, Doctor of Medical Sciences, Professor, Distinguished Health Care professional of the Russian Federation, Head of the Surgery Department of the Academy.

TATIANA M. SERIKOVA, Senior teacher, Head of the English language Department, the Council Member of the International Cooperation Center, Coordinator of International Training and Scientific Projects of the Academy.

R U S S I A N Medical Team Visit

Last October WCCCD’s Surgical Technology Department, headed by Dr. Mark Shikhman, and Oakwood Healthcare System hosted a visit from a Russian medical team from the Chelyabinsk State Medical Academy, one of the principal academic institutions in Eastern Europe.

The institution was established during WWII as the result of the leading medical school’s evacuation from the Ukraine to central Russia, because of German occupation. Some very prominent western scientists in anatomy, physiology, general surgery, internal medicine, and ear, nose, and throat came together and for the next half century this medical educational institution trained thousands of physicians and scientists. Many leading technologies, surgical instruments, medical devices, and surgical procedures were developed during this time. For example, a special device was developed in this school to train vestibular systems of future astronauts all over the world including the United State of America.

Over the last four years, WCCCD’s Surgical Technology Department has established an educational and clinical relationship with Oakwood Healthcare System, one of the leading medical institutions in the Southeastern Michigan, which includes four major hospitals (Oakwood Hospital and Detroit Medical Center, Dearborn, Southshore Hospital, Annapolis Hospital, and Heritage Hospital). This affiliation comprises research programs, annual research conferences, annual medical ethics conferences, and clinical training for students.

For the last few years WCCCD has been promoting distance learning in different academic directions. WCCCD sees great opportunities for a partnership in establishing educational and research contacts. The College recognizes vast benefits for the local medical community alongside with the international relationship. Specifically, the partnerships will provide an opportunity to create an administrative, medical, and educational team, which will help to develop and launch programs such as Surgical Technology, Surgical First Assistant, and distance learning in Russia. It will encourage educational exchanges between American and Russian physicians in hopes of establishing an international fellowship program and other research programs.

The American National Surgical Assistant Association (NSAA) has an international branch in Holland, which, based on the previous discussion promises to provide students with outstanding opportunities. Students will be able to register and transfer course credits from WCCCD in new programs and be eligible to sit for American National Surgical First Assistant Certification Exam. In light of future shortage of the operating room nurses, surgical first assistants, and other medical staff for the next few years, and based on the American National Certification process indicated above, Oakwood Healthcare System will have an opportunity to employ internationally educated medical professionals.
Beginning this year, Metro Detroiters will benefit from a new regional police academy formed by a partnership between WCCCD and the Detroit Police Department (DPD).

MCOLES has statutory responsibilities assigned under two Michigan laws that require the Commission to prepare and publish mandatory minimums for recruitment, selection and training standards for entry-level law enforcement officers in the state of Michigan. It also requires the Commission to define categories and classifications of in-service training to be received by Michigan law enforcement officers. The Commission sets these standards for traditional, municipal, county, and state agencies as well as a variety of specialized agencies throughout the state.

This unique partnership between DPD and WCCCD will train both the recruits of the law enforcement agency as well as students enrolled in the school’s program.

“This new regional police academy will provide both new Detroit police applicants and college students with the highest quality of educational services and training facilities that are needed to empower them with the skills to keep our communities safe,” said Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick. “The formation of the regional police academy is a shining example of the coming together of two vital entities to form a partnership and share resources that benefit the organizations, the recruits and students, and the members of the community.”

“This partnership is a unique example of the pooling together of resources for the larger good and is one of the first of its kind in the nation,” said Dr. Curtis L. Ivery, chancellor, WCCCD. “The students and recruits will receive the highest standards of education and training. We are delighted to be able to work together with the Detroit Police Department and establish this regional police academy which is a significant milestone not only for WCCCD but the entire metro region as well.”

“We have to be creative in the allocation of our resources,” Police Chief Ella Bully-Cummings said. “This partnership with WCCCD allows the Detroit Police Department to not only continue to advance our distinguished pre-service training for recruits, but also increase the training modules for officers currently on the force.”

The new regional police academy provides a shared curriculum and training for qualified WCCCD students enrolled in the Police Academy Certification Program and new DPD recruits. WCCCD will have administrative responsibility for the program and Chief Ella Bully-Cummings will continue to chair the Criminal Justice Program Advisory Committee.

All students will receive college credits and be ready to sit for State of Michigan Law Enforcement licensing upon graduation. WCCCD students will receive a two-year associate’s degree. The instructional staff for this unique program will be highly qualified and state-certified law enforcement personnel, including members of the DPD. The MCOLES accredited curriculum is ready for presentation by WCCCD.

James W. Jackson
PRESENTATION AT WAYNE COUNTY CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOCIATION

During a November luncheon at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, Grosse Pointe Safety Director, Stephen Poloni was sworn in as president of the Wayne County Chiefs of Police Association (WCCPA). The WCCPA is the largest chiefs association in the state and includes representatives from the Secret Service, Drug Enforcement Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United State’s Attorney’s office, and others. By describing the WCCCD police academy, James Jackson was able to provide information to the chiefs that will be beneficial to all safety departments in the Wayne County area.

Mr. Jackson described WCCCD’s unique partnership with the Detroit Police Department that enables WCCCD to assume all the instructional programs formerly administered by the Detroit Police Academy. Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick and Dr. Curtis L. Ivery recently announced this partnership. Students who qualify for this program must be able to pass all the required tests prior to being admitted. In addition, the first new police academy established by the State of Michigan in 25 years is being awarded to WCCCD. The District’s academy will be similar to those located at Lake Superior State College, Macomb Community College, Delta College, Ferris State, and Grand Rapids Community College.
Delighted guests were thrilled with new additions for this year’s December Delights instructional presentation on preparing a holiday buffet. In addition to the favorite, Executive Chef Michael Conner of The Hill Seafood and Chop House, General Manager, Nicholas Graczyk, and Chef de Cuisne Andre Neimanis joined in the presentation and Michael Peterson provided additional information about the wine selection. New boutique vendors were added this year to provide all with opportunities to purchase holiday gifts for friends and family. Best of all was the runway fashion show choreographed by Sal Vitale of the Coloseum and Jane Woodbury of The Jane Woodbury Shop featuring professional models, local celebrities, WCCCD personnel, and two spectacular black standard Poodles! Music provided by the Marty Ballog Duo set the mood with holiday tunes, old favorites, and upbeat jazz.
IN THE SPOTLIGHT:
Dr. Stephen D. Chennault
WCCCD Faculty Takes Sabbatical to Develop Literary Anthology of Student Writings

THE PROJECT

Those who know Dr. Chennault describe him as being devoted to his students and dedicated to his craft.

True to his reputation, he will be taking a sabbatical leave during the Spring 2007 Semester to develop a literary anthology that will reveal the creative voices of students he has taught in the Introduction to Creative Writing course at WCCCD.

With the completion of his project, Dr. Chennault hopes the volume of writings will add to the growing trend to publish student models in college language-arts classrooms and speak directly to the need for teaching students how to develop their literary identities through the use of personal language uniquely reflective of their own cultures.

According to Dr. Chennault, as higher-learning institutions continue to accept the diversity of their ever-growing student populations, a wider variety of voices will emerge to join the current trend that acknowledges "other" literary voices and cultural expressions of reality in college composition/literature classrooms. And, as student readers of his literary anthology relate their own experiences and emotional feelings to the selections, their writing skills, he feels, are bound to advance.

"I envision this project to be a solid account of writings reflective of common subjects that most lay readers can relate to and appreciate. Additionally, it will provide a solid sense of creative efforts of WCCCD students and I am hopeful that it will become a showcase and major catalyst that exposes impressive levels of abilities of WCCCD students."

ABOUT THE PROFESSOR

Stephen D. Chennault, a native Detroiter, is a devoted husband, father of three, and loving grandfather of five.

He received his Doctor of Arts in English and Sociolinguistics from the University of Michigan in 1973. Currently, he is a professor of expository and creative writing courses at WCCCD.

He has an extensive history of professional positions that have also allowed him international travel, including two years of teaching as Senior Fulbright Professor of African-American Literature at the Universities of Florence and Pisa, Italy, and a two-year stint as Country Director for Peace Corps Liberia, West Africa.

For Dr. Chennault, education is the key to success. "Had it not been for my educational background, I would not have had the opportunity to land some of the professional positions I have had, mainly the Fulbright experience in Italy."

He has appeared as a guest analyst for a freshmen-composition telecourse entitled A Writer’s Exchange which aired on PBS and cable TV outlets in colleges nationwide and abroad.

"I decided to teach to have a job and to take on the challenge of dealing with young minds like my own. I was fortunate to teach at the same high school (Central High School in Detroit) from which I graduated."

Prior to joining WCCCD, Dr. Chennault worked at the University of Illinois as an associate professor in the Department of English and as the national coordinator of teacher-recruitment projects for the National Council of Teachers of English.

His passion for Detroit and its people brought him back to Michigan.

Dr. Chennault began working at WCCCD in 1993. When asked what has inspired him to stay at WCCCD, he replied, "The love for the city (Detroit) and the composition of its people. But, more specifically, the challenge to bring out of my students a sense of awareness and worldview discovered through the writings in which they are engaged."

THE JOURNEY AT WCCCD

His passion for teaching is derived from the continual awareness that students need to have confidence in their ability to write. "Students don’t have trouble sharing their feelings when talking. It’s when they’re asked to write that they have difficulty," said Dr. Chennault. "I welcome that challenge because I know they need attention."

Although he has had many memorable moments at the college, one that stands out is the publication of Jump at de Sun. The book, an anthology used in creative writing courses at WCCCD, is primarily a compilation of personal experience essays, short stories, autobiographical and biographical profiles, poems, and a play which reflect the writings of his former students.

"From day one (in the classroom), I like to approach my writing courses with the concept in mind that one’s language is more than words and sounds. It is personal identity and worldview manifested."

Dr. Chennault’s advice to young, aspiring teachers is to be honest with their students and sensitive to their needs. "Teaching is a very human experience because we (teachers) are dealing with people’s lives. We must be able to interact with students with honesty, genuineness, and openness."

Dr. Chennault and wife Barbara in the Joe Louis room of the Cobo Center at a reception to honor him prior to his departure for a lecture tour in Germany, Italy, Liberia, and Ghana sponsored by the United States Information Agency.

Dr. Chennault and good friend, playwright Ron Milner recalling experiences about their travels in Africa. Framed pieces of the Berlin Wall hang on wall (left).

Dr. Chennault with two former students

Dr. Chennault visits the tomb inside of the W. E. B. DuBois home.

Chennault in Ghana marketplace.

Resurrected Voices: The Eloise Cemetery Project

For over 50 years, the burial location of more than 7,000 former patients of Eloise Mental Hospital in Westland was known only to a handful of people. The Downriver Council of the Arts, Friends of Eloise, and Wayne County Council for Arts History and Humanities assembled artists, musicians, and writers to pay tribute to these long-forgotten individuals.

The Eloise Cemetery Project was hosted by WCCCD’s Downriver Campus and the Downriver Council for the Arts (DCA), in partnership with Friends of Eloise, Downriver Poets and Playwrights; Artists Collective (ARC); Wayne County Council for the Arts, History, and Humanities.

Over 100 artists were invited to share their vision of Eloise Hospital and Cemetery by creating artwork, poetry, music, and luminaries. The artwork was displayed at the DCA for a reception and was on display in November. Following the reception, the Downriver Poets and Playwrights provided poetry recitation commemorating the memory of the 7,000 plus patients who are buried anonymously in the cemetery, and musical entertainment was provided by Western Campus faculty member, Levi Taylor, pianist, and Sylvia LaPratt, harpist, also performed. Dr. Nick Fleezanis, Downriver Campus president, Carl Kamulski, Downriver Campus art instructor, and Martine McDonald of the DCA, as well as Mono D’ Angelo of the Downriver Poets and Playwrights worked in conjunction with many supporters to promote awareness. Approximately 200 people attended this compelling and educational event.

“This event was a true collaboration of concerned citizens, artists, and musicians that all came together to correct a societal oversight. It was a truly remarkable outpouring of thought and emotion,” said WCCCD Downriver Campus President, Dr. Nick Fleezanis.

Regional Transportation Symposium

Approximately 170 attended the Regional Transportation Symposium held at the WCCCD Downtown Campus in November. The event focused on the transportation needs of this area and the implications for the District in identifying opportunities for programs that respond to these needs. Transportation is a vital component to the region’s ability to attract, maintain, and build a strong economic future. Dr. Mogens Ayale, director of the National Highway Institute, and his colleague Lisa Glover addressed curriculum development, government funding for programming, and the necessity for increasing pipelines for transportation technicians. During the panel discussion, participants engaged in a question and answer session.

Panelists included: Hester Wheeler, executive director of the Detroit Chapter NAACP; Benjamin Talleric, managing principal of Vilcan Ieman, Inc.; Wayman Guillebeaux, vice president of the Detroit Economic Development Corp.; Mark Roseboom, Detroit Department of Transportation; Josh Bassett, WCCCD Institute for Social Progress; Mark Lang, provost of WCCCD’s Entrepreneurial Institute and Resource Center; Reginald Witherspoon, WCCCD Workforce Development Division; and Dr. George Swan III, president of WCCCD’s Eastern Campus.
Thanks to a new partnership between WCCCD and Wayne State University (WSU), pursuing a bachelor’s degree just got easier.

WCCCD students can now benefit from enrolling into WayneDirect, which is an early admissions partnership program between both institutions.

WayneDirect is designed for current WCCCD students who have designated WSU as the university where they will complete their bachelor’s degree. Those students will be admitted to WSU at the same time they are admitted or enrolled at WCCCD. Through WayneDirect, WCCCD students have access to special services and opportunities at WSU. Students can ease into their transition at the university while increasing their chances for academic success.

“We are committed at WSU to working closely with our community college partners to ensure that those students receive the best education with the greatest amount of flexibility, convenience, and access to resources, not only at the community college they are currently attending, but also at Wayne State where they will complete their bachelor’s degree,” said Wayne State University President Irvin D. Reid. “I am looking forward to working with Chancellor Ivery and the WCCCD students who will become part of our institution.”

“Each year, a large number of WCCCD graduates select WSU as the institution of choice to further their education. This new initiative, WayneDirect, will present opportunities to an even greater number of students. We value our relationship with WSU and look forward to a continued partnership,” said WCCCD Chancellor Dr. Curtis L. Ivery.

Benefits include:
• Direct contact with advisors, faculty and staff during special “Bridge” sessions which provide the information needed to make a smooth transition to WSU, including career and internship information
• WSU library privileges to assist students in conducting research, preparing term papers, or addressing other library needs while attending WCCCD
• Receiving a special WSU OneCard, a multi-purpose identification and debit card, used for parking, library services, copying and printing services, as well as food and bookstore purchases at WSU and its neighboring partners
• Participation in Wayne State’s Honors Program and the opportunity to become actively involved in many of the activities offered by the program. Competitive scholarships will also be available for WCCCD Honors students.
• Access to theatre and sporting events, lectures, and numerous other activities

WCCCD’s Honors Program promotes scholarship, leadership, and civic engagement. The program recognizes and cultivates academic excellence through active participation in monthly seminars with community leaders, study abroad, service learning projects, internships, and mentoring.

Faculty, staff, and the community help to create a comprehensive learning community emphasizing independent thinking, collaboration, and diversity. Participants selected for the program have the opportunity to present at local conferences and attend special events sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa the international honors society for two-year colleges.

Benefits include:
• Small interactive classes
• Individualized academic advising
• Individualized career planning
• Study abroad opportunities
• Campus leadership roles
• Opportunities to collaborate with professors and peers
• Special notation of Honors Program on transcripts and diplomas
• Recognition at commencement
• Community leadership roles
• Development of capstone project which may lead to publication
• Transfer scholarship opportunities

Admission requirements for the program are:
• Having a 3.5 GPA after completing a minimum of 12 college-level credit hours
• Fulfilling WCCCD admission requirements
• Completing and signing an Honors Program application
• High school students must have a cumulative 3.25 GPA in high school coursework

For more information, contact Associate Dean Shawna Forbes at (313) 496-2866.
WCCCD’S SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM HOSTS

ANNUAL COMMUNITY

Thanksgiving Luncheon

Hundreds of homeless and underserved members of society were treated to a festive Thanksgiving lunch as part of WCCCD’s Service Learning Program. The event, held in the main atrium at WCCCD’s Downtown Campus, brought together students and faculty from WCCCD’s Athletic Department as volunteers to host and serve lunch.

Several local organizations and churches worked closely with the District to invite and bring community members to share in the special event.

According to WCCCD Chancellor Dr. Curtis L. Ivery, “At WCCCD, we believe that no education is complete without learning the value of giving back to the community and making a meaningful contribution to society.

Our Service Learning Program focuses on this value and during this holiday season we encourage and support our students in their efforts to give to the less fortunate among us.”

Service learning is a teaching method that engages students in solving problems within their schools and communities as part of academic studies or other type of structured learning activity. Service learning helps students master important curricula content by making meaningful connections between studies and applications. Service learning also helps students develop a broad range of service skills, from acts of kindness and caring, to community stewardship, and civic involvement.

“With this event, the students learned what it means to serve the community,” said Thomas E. Howard, Jr., who serves as the chief operations officer of finance and administration and as the Athletic Director at WCCCD. “Without WCCCD, this could be one of them. For those of us representing the Athletic Department, we want our players to understand that there’s more to it than just playing sports. The more you give, the more you are blessed.”

The WCCCD Wildcats (pictured above) include the men's and women's basketball teams, the men's cross-country and golf teams, and the women's volleyball team.

For Brian Mills, (right) who plays basketball and is currently pursuing general studies at WCCCD, giving back to the community was a memorable experience. “I learned that people go through hard times. Sometimes, nice people are caught up in a bad situation.”

Kinya Chatman, (right) who also plays basketball and plans on entering the criminal justice field, feels that life is too short. After volunteering at the luncheon, she realized the importance of not taking anything for granted. “It’s important to cherish all that you have and know that you are blessed.”

Mr. Hayden served for more than 14 years and his dedication and enthusiasm, along with his advocacy, did much to further the District’s goals for serving thousands of Metropolitan Detroiters. Prior to the last Board of Trustees meeting for the year, a gathering at the Downtown Campus was held to honor Mr. Hayden. Numerous officials from across the city, county, and state came to say a few words and present honors to the man who has helped so many. Their words were a testament to his character and dedication.

Frank Hayden with Council Member Brenda Jones, Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans, and City Council Member Shelia Cockrel

WCCCD BID A FOND FAREWELL TO TRUSTEE FRANK HAYDEN AS HE VACATED HIS SEAT ON THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

State Representative, District 14, Ed Clemente (left), Frank Hayden, and State Representative, District 2, Lamar Lemons
An educationally stimulating day was planned again as WCCCD held the annual District-Wide Conference Day at the COBO Center in October. Dr. Ivery challenged faculty and staff to “make the most of our skills in teaching – a sense of work we truly love.” He said, “We are about creating tomorrow’s leaders and we who teach are bound to each other by service.”

Dr. Vincent Tinto, chair of higher education program at Syracuse University revealed statistics and information from his research about teaching and learning. He stated that, “The future of our society rests on the community colleges, not Harvard,” and encouraged faculty to promote student success by reshaping the environment for student learning. By asking, “What are the conditions that promote learning,” he guided attendees through proven systems that change the way we think about student learning by moving from an instructional to a learning paradigm. He advised setting high student expectations saying that, “No one rises to low expectations.” The specific steps he recommended are setting clear concise expectations and providing academic support located in the connected classroom where students and faculty can gather and support each other’s learning. He stated, “The more students are engaged with faculty and peers, the more likely they are to be successful,” which he labeled cooperative/collaborative learning. He emphasized that feedback is essential to success and early assessment and warning systems are key for early intervention.

The day ended on a high note with Ms. LaShell Griffin, “Oprah’s Pop Star Winner” vocals and an awards ceremony.

Special Interest Sessions

1. Adjusting to changing Characteristics in Enrollment for Student Success – Linda Lora Hulbert, Wayne State University, Department of Interdisciplinary Studies
2. What’s New in Payroll and Human Resources at WCCCD – Gail Arnold and Anna Yelenich
3. Administering Learning Communities with Focus on the Urban Institution – Vincent Tinto, Ph. D., Distinguished University Professor Syracuse University and Chair of Higher Education Program
4. Postmodern Pedagogy: Teaching and Learning with Generation Next – Mark Taylor, M. S. W., Ed. D, CEO TaylorPrograms.org
6. Using Voice Tools to Increase Interaction and Student Engagement – Dr. Leticia Uduma and Mark Bevenour, Wimba Representative
7. Closing the Academic Achievement Gap – Dr. Willie Kimmons, Author and Motivational Speaker
8. Information Session UAW and P&AA – Danny Norris and Mary Gill
9. CVS Customer Service Testing
10. The Net Works – Glenda Baylor, CEO, Baylor Consulting

New Trustee Vernon C. Allen

Vernon C. Allen, newly elected to the WCCCD Board of Trustees from District 3, is a lifelong Detroit resident and a City of Detroit employee for 32 years and most recently, Deputy City Clerk. He is a combat Vietnam veteran, serving from 1968 to 1970. Mr. Allen has a special insight into the progress of WCCCD having attended WCCCD prior to attending Walsh College and the University of Detroit. He is an executive board member of the 13th congressional district and a lifetime member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Dr. George Swan III Appointed to the Gold Ribbon Committee for the Ray and John Kroc Crops Community Center

The committee, chaired by Tom Wilson and Edsel Ford, is focused on securing support for the Cultural and Recreation Center that will be built across from the Eastern Campus and Chandler Park Golf Course. The center, which will be managed by the Salvation Army, is projected to serve approximately 700 – 1,000 persons daily. The Eastern Campus will assist in the programming of continuing education events through this $92 million dollar project funded in part by the Ray and Joan Noc Foundation and local support.

Outstanding Child/Family Advocate Award

Dr. Ivery received the Outstanding Child/Family Advocate Award from the Child Care Coordinating Council of Detroit/Wayne County. The Child Care Coordinating Council of Detroit/Wayne County works to educate, support, and empower families, communities, and service programs to provide quality care environments for children. The organization has promoted, within strong family units, the development of children to their full potential and well being.
Conference Day

EXCELLENCE

Vice President of the Belleville Area Council of Arts
Dr. Frank Dunbar was elected as the Vice President of the Belleville Area Council of Arts (BACA). In his new capacity, he will support BACA’s programs, in particular its annual Art Scholarship Show. In addition, Dr. Dunbar will assist community members in gaining access to WCCCD’s art development funds and will also serve as chair of the nominating and by-laws committee.

Inducted into the Belleville Rotary Club
Bonike Odegbami was inducted into the Belleville Rotary Club representing WCCCD on issues related to higher education. The Rotary is a non-political, non-sectarian organization that enables it to cross borders and accomplish projects that would otherwise not be possible. Ms. Odegbami also serves on the Rotary’s International Service Committee.

PEER REVIEW CORPS
Dr. Stephanie R. Bulger was accepted as a member of the Peer Review Corps of the Higher Learning Commission’s North Central Association. As a consultant and evaluator, she will serve the commission in its accreditation processes of postsecondary institutions throughout the region.

SPECIAL FEATURE

Winter 2007

DISTRICT DIMENSIONS

1. Martha J. Grier, assistant to the chancellor for board and public relations, welcomes remarks.
2. Dr. Gunter Myran, senior consultant to the chancellor, gives introductions.
3. Dr. Curtis L. Ivery, chancellor, encourages faculty to make the decision to lead.
4. John Bolden, executive vice chancellor, provides over keynote activities.
5. Dr. Vincent Tota, professor, Syracuse University, guest speaker.
6. David Beaumont, vice chancellor for educational affairs, introduces the guest speaker.
7. Deborah Dyck, executive director of public relations, introduces the keynote speaker.
8. James Jackson, president, MFT Local 288, introduces MSOD Faculty Excellence Award winners and speakers.
9. Outstanding Faculty Award Winners (left to right), James Jackson (author), Ernest McCutchen, Beatrice Talpos, Shirley Kennedy, Tom Francis.
11. Karl Mohr and Anne MacDougall impart wisdom about delivering great service.
13. Faculty attendees in a special Interest session.
15. Dr. Ivery with Dr. Vincent Tota.
16. MSOD speakers; Dr. Alida Quick, professor of psychology, James Jackson, Beatrice Talpos, professor of political science and history, Dr. Curtis L. Ivery, chancellor, Dr. Vincent Tota, Dr. Trudy Forkes, professor of biology, Ronald Van Donze, and Courtney Allen, professor of dentistry.
17. Outstanding Service to District Award, Sheila Easley, Mary Thakady, Mary Gill (Presenter), Debra Swope, Diane Gonzalez.
18. Outstanding Service Award, Mel Allen, Michelle Wray, Dr. Stephanie R. Bulger, John Bolden (Presenter), Stellana Smith, Michael Blair.

NFL Symposium
This past year, WCCCD partnered with the Grosse Pointe Public Library System to offer a series of events for serious fans of professional sports. The first in the series which was held at the new Grosse Pointe Woods location offered fans of Major League Baseball a chance to interact with former Detroit Tiger Dave Bergman and sports writer Curt Sylvester and hear about their views on the great American pastime. The second event held at the Ewald Branch focused on the National Football League and featured speakers Curt Sylvester and Mike O’Hara. Future events are being planned with the library for an NHL and NBA event.

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is the experience of a lifetime for students

Twenty-four WCCCD students, accompanied by David C. Butty, executive dean of international programs, Mary E. Jones, district dean of student services, and Beverly Paddock, transportation technology specialist, returned home recently following a successful 12-day study abroad trip to Salzburg, Austria. While in Austria, the students attended classes at the University of Salzburg Business School where they studied government, politics, culture, Austria's role in the European Union, and the study of the German language. They received certificates indicating their completion of an eight-day intensive program. Students also toured the Mozart Museum and went on an excursion tour featuring landmarks from the popular movie “The Sound of Music.”

Ask any of the students and their response will be a life-changing experience. Emanuela Aliaj says she cannot find words to describe how she feels about Austria. “I am so blessed that I got the opportunity to come to Austria. There is so much history to this country and I learned so much by going to class everyday. I am so grateful for this opportunity to make some new friends. My favorite thing on this trip was going on top of the castle at night. I could see the city of Salzburg and it just looked so amazing. It was peaceful and I wish I could spend the rest of my life on top of that castle,” she said.

For Sandra McCartha, it was an experience of a lifetime. “This was one of the greatest experiences in my life. My family was very happy to see me, so that I could give them the details of my trip. I still have over a hundred pictures to show them,” she said. “Now one of my grandchildren, who is ten, and other teens in my family, want to travel, and see the world.”

Cindy Hernandez, a dental hygiene student, said the trip helped her view the world differently. “It made me a bigger person inside and I’m so proud to be a part of a lifetime opportunity. The University of Salzburg was great and I enjoyed the professors. They taught us so much about their government, culture, and the German language. Overall this trip was a breath-taking experience for me. I came back home with a bigger heart for everyone.”

Caroline Pruitt said she is still in a state of euphoria. “The trip abroad to Austria was a wonderful experience that I shall never forget. I learned a lot! I will never express a disinterest in politics or government again. If nothing else, I learned what loyalty is when it pertains to one’s country. I also see how even though we are from different countries and have separate governments we are all very much connected. It behooves American students to learn as much as possible about other cultures because our lives are intertwined.”

A traditional Bavarian inn where the WCCCD students stayed in the town of Puch is about 15 miles from Salzburg.

A beautiful picturesque of the Trapp Family castle.

A guide leads WCCCD group on a “Sound of Music” tour, featuring notable landmarks seen in the classic movie starring Julie Andrews.

WCCCD students pose with their European political science instructor, Professor Marietta Feichtinger.

A chess game in Mozart Square.

How do you say “my name is” in German? “Mein name ist...”

Professor Marietta Feichtinger teaches German language and lays emphasis on the vowels.

A group photo outside Salzburg College.

With the Alps as a backdrop, students enjoy the time together.

Students learn how to waltz properly, courtesy of WCCCD staff member Mary Jones, in red.
Detroit Public Schools team up with WCCCD

Beginning next fall, all eighth grade students in the Detroit Public Schools (DPS) will take an online course that prepares them for high school and college under a partnership agreement with WCCCD.

The one-hour college credit course, known as Career and Professional Development 100, is an online class designed to help students improve their academic, social, and interpersonal skills through interaction with the college community. The primary focus of the class is to help students learn such critical skills as goal setting, note taking, time management, conflict resolution, information literacy, and career planning.

DPS expects to have 8,000 eighth graders next fall; half of these students will take the course in the fall and the other half in the winter. WCCCD will offer the course at no cost to the students and application fees for admission into the College will also be waived. In addition to receiving one college credit, students will receive identification cards from WCCCD and have access to all of its vast resources, including a 24/7 online help desk.

By learning critical skills in middle school, students are likely to be better prepared as they enter high school and more successful in their secondary and post-secondary pursuits. DPS officials are certain that increased preparedness could help lower the school system’s dropout rate. The career-planning component will make high school more relevant because students will see how it connects to their future. It is hoped that by offering eighth graders an opportunity to become college students at an early age, the students will have incentive to enroll in additional college courses while in high school. The course also achieves another goal by fulfilling the new state high school graduation requirement mandating at least one class online.

“This partnership with WCCCD is another example of the many outstanding programs available to DPS students,” said William F. Coleman III, DPS superintendent. “Teaching students such basics as time management, conflict resolution, note-taking and presentation skills are critical to increased student achievement and performance. In addition to building confidence among our students as they enter high school, it will give them a taste of the college experience and motivate them to aim high in life. I am grateful to WCCCD Chancellor Dr. Curtis Ivery, whose passion for education in this city extends to all grades and all children, for working diligently to make this partnership happen.”

Dr. Ivery added: “This innovative approach makes higher learning educational opportunities a reality to middle school students. We believe if a student has college credit hours as early as the eighth grade, then not only high school but also college becomes the norm for educational accomplishments. We are proud of our partnership with DPS and commend the leadership Bill Coleman has demonstrated in continuing to put the interest of students first by enhancing academic offerings. We also look forward to welcoming many new students from the Detroit Public Schools to WCCCD.”

GROSE POINTE Santa Claus Parade

The Grosse Pointe Santa Claus Parade sparked the holiday mood for residents with tinsel, glitter, and of course the appearance of Santa Claus. This year’s special guest of the parade were the “Holiday Family Traditions Essay Contest Winners.” The talented winners are students from the Grosse Pointe Public Schools who shared what holidays meant to them in a WCCCD sponsored essay contest. The essays covered a broad range of family traditions both secular and family. The winning children had a great time riding on the fire truck and helping to welcome the winter holidays.
WCCCD: The Year in Review 2006

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

Dimensions Needs Your Input for 2007

Capture the Moment!
Contribute to the District Dimensions Newsletter

When WCCCD successfully delivers a great experience, we want to capture that moment and share it with others. Please complete this form and mail it to Unbreen Amir in the Chancellor’s Office. You may forward your questions via email at uamir1@wcccd.edu or call (313) 496-2819.

You Name: ______________________________________
Today’s Date: __________________________________
Date of Greatness: _______________________________
Who was complimented: ___________________________
WCCCD Location: _________________________________
Compliments: ___________________________________
Phone: _________________________________________
Email: _________________________________________

Briefly Describe Situation:
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Contribute to the District Dimensions Newsletter

Fall Enrollment (Three-Year Comparison)
WCCCD: The Year in Review 2006

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