Dr. Ron Williams

With the excitement of a new semester and another record-breaking enrollment, the District held its Faculty Organization Day (FOD) at the Western Campus multipurpose room. Keynote speakers for the morning and afternoon sessions, Dr. Ron Williams and Dr. Gerardo E. de los Santos, motivated staff and faculty. Focusing on the theme “Winning the Skills race in a Globally Competitive World” keynote speaker, Dr. Ronald Williams, vice president of The College Board, delivered an inspirational message to the faculty.

Dr. Williams wanted the faculty to know that he started as a faculty member and commended them for their dedication in these challenging times, particularly as the skills problems deepen in the workforce. As jobs constantly evolve, so must the workforce, and the role community colleges play is about transforming skills with an emphasis on “brain work vs. brawn work.” Community colleges are no longer viewed just as inexpensive, but as an integral part of workforce development. He closed by stating: “Our work is our best hope for the future.”

Dr. Williams joined The College Board in 2007 after serving as president for many years of Prince George’s Community College. He also held senior level academic positions in the Minnesota and Connecticut Community College Systems. He is the author of several novels, and a book signing was held immediately following his presentation.

Dr. Gerardo E. de los Santos, president and chief executive officer of the League for Innovation in the Community College located in Phoenix, Arizona, spoke emphasizing the importance of the community college system. The League is an international organization dedicated to catalyzing the community college movement.

Dr. de los Santos spoke of his great respect for the value of community college from firsthand experience. He began his own post-secondary education at Mesa Community College in Arizona. He said, “Although I attended college for 10 years, my most powerful learning influence was at a community college; it had an amazing impact on my life.” His presentation highlighted seven current key trends in community colleges that enable educators and facilitators to adapt the learning environment to fit these emerging trends.

In WCCCD’s efforts to continue internal and community growth, the FOD was a successful tool in the implementation of this goal and will continue at every campus in the District.
Chancellor's Message

Welcome to another edition of Dimensions

The past year has been a record year for WCCCD in many ways and we continue to believe that the District is poised for taking advantage of the changing economy in unique ways. Our record enrollments are due in part to our successful implementation of our strategy, given our vision of how convergent technology programs have the potential to affect the workforce.

I believe leadership is dependent upon a vision of how the industries will evolve and the strategies WCCCD will employ to train students for new technologies based upon that vision. Our effectiveness in executing this approach will be measured by the number of students we can prepare for employment.

In this issue of Dimensions you will read about WCCCD’s environmental and renewable energy programs. Our graduation in June was again a proud moment for our extended educational community. Over 1600 students graduated with associate’s degrees or certificates enabling them to pursue advanced degrees at four-year institutions or careers in their desired fields.

The Organizational Development Institute provided tools to help our leaders reach their highest potential and improve team dynamics. Glen Fayolle of Vertex Innovation led a leadership workshop encouraging attendees to develop new skills and assume additional leadership responsibilities.

Many cultural and educational events continue to excite our surrounding communities. University Square hosted several events recently. The Health, Happiness, and Hurrah day long educational seminar confirmed the wealth of resources within the community with Beaumont Cottage Hospital and Services for Older Citizens in partnership with the District provided instructional events. The Wayne County Commissioner’s monthly meeting was held where local citizens were able to observe and participate.

Bill Cosby’s dedication to parental issues has culminated in several major events and he continues to consult with community groups. Other stories in Dimensions attest to the success of our former and current students. The Bridges to Asia and Passport to Africa are featured stories in this issue and you can also read about extraordinary art exhibits.

I am proud of WCCCD and continue to be an advocate for education in this community. When you read this issue of Dimensions, I am sure you will be proud, too!

Sincerely,

Curtis L. Ivery,
Chancellor, WCCCD

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Calling All Alums!

Are you a WCCCD graduate?

Have you recently been promoted, published an article in a professional journal, or gone “Above and Beyond” to make a difference in the lives of others?

If so, we want to hear from you! Send your news to ccarter1@wcccd.edu or call 313.496.2687

2 DISTRICT DIMENSIONS Winter 2010
In keeping with the District’s mission to empower individuals to achieve their goals through educational services that provide career advancement, the Hemodialysis Patient Care Specialist Program offers the certificate health-care curriculum to students interested in that career. By using classroom and distance-learning modes of instruction and establishing partnerships with the local health-care community for practical clinical experiences, students have access to the educational means and health-care venues, to demonstrate the skill, and the ethical behavior expected of a qualified hemodialysis patient care professional.

With this education, a student can sit for the national certification exam provided by the National Association of Nephrology Technicians/Technologists (NANT); once certified, these individuals can enter the health-care field fully qualified to work as hemodialysis patient care specialists.

Staff members at the Western Campus conducted a needs assessment survey in 2008 with DaVita Inc., one of the largest providers of kidney care services in America with 50 clinical sites in the southeast Michigan region. Upon review of the needs assessment survey responses, it was clear that the respondents were supportive of a Hemodialysis Patient Care Specialist Program. The results of the survey indicated that the program could be developed and offered with strong support from potential employers, and an analysis of national, regional, and local workforce hiring trends indicated favorable hiring potential.

With growing health problems in an aging population, the dialysis care team must cope with fixed payment levels, more regulations, and a nursing shortage. Yet, they have the vital job of delivering optimal care. The technicians—the largest number of caregivers in dialysis—need skill, professionalism, and knowledge to meet the ever-changing challenges of dialysis and continue to deliver high-quality care. Better technology has made dialysis safer and more efficient, but technology alone can never replace the commitment and dedication of patient care staff. By offering certification in this field, WCCCD takes the lead in the community by qualifying students to excel in this occupation.

In an all-out effort to keep students, faculty, and staff healthy, WCCCD provided information about the H1N1 virus with pamphlets “Taking Care of Yourself.” Attendees were given materials, “What To Do If You Get Sick,” a list of symptoms to recognize the flu, information about treatment, what can be done to help recovery from the flu, and everyday actions to stay healthy.

**STEPS EVERYONE SHOULD TAKE**
1. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
2. Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
3. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs spread that way.
4. Stay home if you get sick. CDC recommends that you stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.

**H1N1 Stay Healthy!**
Through dedication and purposeful dialogue, Dr. Bill Cosby has participated in many WCCCD events to improve and mold the futures of young people. One of his favorite phrases, “Our children are trying to tell us something and we’re not listening,” has been stated countless times in a challenge to parents to play an important role in their children’s lives. Cosby has visited the District on five occasions to work with community groups and WCCCD faculty and staff. His message has resonated throughout Detroit as people come together in an attempt to create better situations for children and youth. Dr. Cosby was the keynote speaker at the seventh annual district-wide conference day. His statements about commitment and dedication to education and opportunity as a key to community development were positive recognitions of the significant role of faculty and staff in student success at WCCCD.
To meet the growing demand for people knowledgeable and skilled in renewable energies, the Western Campus has initiated a renewable energy certificate program that consists of instruction in a combination with general education and career courses; Introduction to Renewable Energy, Residential Energy Efficiency, and Direct Current Fundamentals.

By 2030, the United States Department of Energy predicts that 20% of the nation’s electricity will be from wind power and the use of wind power to generate electricity has been growing at the rate of 30% per year for the past five years. The report states the ability to generate electricity from this renewable energy source will require an enhanced transmission infrastructure and improved reliability and operability of wind systems. Currently, the U.S. has the ability, using wind power, to generate sufficient electricity to power over a million American homes annually.

Renewable energy, a phrase used to describe energy sources that are naturally replenished and will never be depleted, includes, in addition to wind power, solar, hydrogen, hydropower and geothermal "earth heat." The topic of renewable energy has garnered significant interest of late with the high cost of fuel to operate our vehicles and heat our homes and businesses.

President Barack Obama has referenced clean energy as a means to reduce our need for fossil fuels from other countries and as an economic driver for producing jobs that are sorely needed in today’s daunting economic environment. During his campaign, President Obama indicated he wanted to see an investment of $150 billion over 10 years to create 5 million new "green collar" jobs as reported by the Yale Environment-360, Guardian Environmental Network. These jobs would include those in the fields of skilled trades and crafts, managers, and maintenance workers. *Yale Environment-360* also reported that the new jobs to be created “will require more than a high school diploma, but less than a four-year degree and [these jobs] will pay family-supporting wages.”
The Eastern Campus has finally received a long-awaited addition to their campus, a traffic light. This seems minor enough, but many staff and students felt that it was critical in upholding safety standards. A major intersection at the heart of campus, had become hazardous for pedestrians. The District has been waiting for over 25 years for a traffic light request to be fulfilled, but what happened recently demonstrated what dedicated staff and students can accomplish.

In fall of 2007 a Project Management class initiated a special project that would provide educational experience and benefit the campus. This team set out on a mission to have the long-awaited traffic light installed, and designed a feasibility study to determine the factors needed to achieve success of the project. The team evaluated its options, including the traffic light as well as making St. Jean into a one-way street. After reviewing the financial aspects, the team then collaborated with the City of Detroit’s Department of Public Works, and began its plan implementation. This level of commitment speaks volumes about the District and all concerned with not only themselves, but the community.

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The ribbon-cutting ceremony was attended by Dr. George W. Swan, III, vice chancellor for District Operations and Eastern Campus President Omobonike Odegbami. The people most proud of this accomplishment were the students of the course. “I was excited to see that our classroom project was taken so seriously and had an outcome that was favorable to all,” says Tracie McElroy, project manager for the traffic light project.
OUR PRIDE IS SHOWING

NISOD Winners

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

YVONNE LOVETTE
Yvonne Lovette has been teaching with the District full-time as a nursing professor since 1994. A certified clinical nurse specialist, she specializes in psychiatric nursing for children and adolescents. She has developed relationships with students and faculty who have encouraged her to grow professionally and personally. By taking advantage of opportunities for personal development at WCCCD, she has received certification in Instructional Television and online instruction enabling her to reach a broader student audience using new technologies. Currently, she is a doctoral candidate in higher education administration at the University of Toledo. “Through the richness of opportunities afforded by the college, as well as the students I teach, I have developed a passion for teaching and learning where I can have impact on student success.”

DR. HARRISON MUYIA
A native of Kenya, Harrison Muyia has always had a passion for academics. Muyia completed high school and continued his academic path by completing a certificate program at Cambridge University. Dr. Muyia completed his bachelor’s and master’s degrees at Wayne State University and graduated from the University of Michigan with a Ph.D. in political science. He has been a professor with the District since 1972 in the field of political science. In addition to his own educational accomplishments, Dr. Muyia has served in other capacities at WCCCD, including advisor of student government, co-chair of the “Core-Curriculum Committee,” and president of the Federation of Teachers. He is a published author and is currently authoring The Legacy of Tom Mboya on the political spectrum of Kenya.

BERTHA BYRD
Bertha Byrd, a Texas native, completed her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in science at Texas Southern University. Byrd has such a passion for science that in addition to her role as professor at WCCCD, she teaches science to anyone who is willing to learn, even her girl scout troop. She begins each semester with her favorite motto, “I am here to facilitate your success here at WCCCD, please use me.” She has been married to Kevin Byrd for 26 years and is the mother to twin daughters, Katherine and Katrina, who are both following their mother’s path in the sciences.

HONORABLE ADAM A. SHAKOOR
A prominent fixture in Detroit politics, the Honorable Adam Shakoor has served WCCCD since 1972. Many students sing praises of his mentorship and guidance. Shakoor received a bachelor’s and master’s degree at Wayne State University. In addition to making a difference in Detroit education, Shakoor extends his knowledge in the Muslim community by having been certified in 1977 by King Abdul Aziz University in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Shakoor’s achievement also includes founding partner of Adam Shakoor & Associates, deputy mayor and chief administrative officer for the city of Detroit, and two terms as chief judge of the 36th District Court in Detroit.

Spotlight on Sharon P. Scott

WCCCD trustee, Sharon P. Scott is a champion for what she calls “one of the top community colleges in the nation.” She represents the 9th District and is in the second year of a six year term that her husband, retired Westland Fire Chief Ted Scott, once held. The 9th District includes parts of Westland, Canton, and several other communities.

Trustee Scott states “I think it’s a very worthwhile position to have. I think WCCCD does need to become more known in western Wayne County.” Specifically referring to WCCCD’s Belleville-based Western campus, the home of what she describes as a “beautiful” new building that houses cutting edge programs.

Scott formerly served on the Wayne-Westland School Board and the Westland City Council and has remained involved in her community through the Westland Community Foundation, the Westland Downtown Development Authority, and St. John’s Episcopal Church.

Scott touted WCCCD and other community colleges as becoming increasingly important for students, including adults, who are trying to further their education or gain new skills while staying within a budget that is strained by a troubled economy.

Trustee Scott along with her fellow board members work with WCCCD’s Chancellor Curtis L. Ivery, who oversees the 72,000-student, five-campus community District. She described him as “a very capable chancellor who has got a lot of great ideas.”
Success Stories

The 2009 Success Stories Magazine has been acknowledged throughout the community as a surprisingly energetic publication telling stories of WCCCD alumni who are leaders in their field of endeavor. The magazine has been recognized by Torraspapel North America, the manufacturer of the Creator Star paper stock used to print the magazine. The award recognizes excellence in writing, design, and printing. Three of the candidates chosen for Success Stories are Rachael and Ron Elliott and Stephen Poloni.

Stephen Poloni (pictured below) is the director of public safety for the City of Grosse Pointe Shores and serves as chief over both the police and fire departments. He began with the city as a public safety officer in January 1987, after serving as a firefight er for nearly five years with the River Rouge Fire Department. In 1993, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant, in 1996, to the rank of lieutenant, and in 2000, to the position of inspector/deputy chief.

Poloni recalls that while attending the Downriver Campus he was inspired by Dick McIntyre and the two became friends. Poloni was an older student when he started back to school after having worked for several years in the fire department and as a police officer.

Poloni currently serves on the WCCCD Criminal Justice Advisory Committee. Most career programs are required to have professionals who are currently employed in the field. Poloni has worked with students at job fairs for the district and meets with the committee to advise the district on industry trends.

Ron and Rachael Elliot at December Delights.

As customer director for General Motors Worldwide with the Eaton Corporation Automotive Group, a Fortune 500 company and one of the premier diversified industrial companies in the world, Rachael Elliott coordinates global business activities and strategies for high performance in revenue, profitability, product technology road maps, and customer satisfaction.

Her easy demeanor is deceiving since her professional experiences include director of global sales, minority supplier development, and global strategic sourcing coordinator for Dana Corporation, sales account manager for Daimler Chrysler and General Motors, sales account manager for The Ring Group, and administrative assistant to some of the top law firms in Detroit and Washington, D.C.

Rachael and Ron first met at WCCCD while talking classes, but were reintroduced by Dr. June Ridley who played a major role in their initial relationship by hosting parties for students in her home. Ron says that WCCCD was a unique place when he attended, and students and faculty became as close as family. He still has contact with those friends. Rachael states, "WCCCD did turn me on to be interested in learning and I would not be where I am today if I had not started there."

Merçi Beaucoup

Forty WCCCD students representing many disciplines from the five campuses recently traveled to France to study at Paris Langues, an institute solely devoted to teaching French. Students were immersed in the culture and language by instructors who specialize in teaching French. The school is located within the FIAP Jean Monnet, a lively international accommodation center in the heart of Paris.

The Study Abroad Selection Committee selected students based upon criteria including a grade point average of 3.0 or higher, completion of a minimum of 12 academic credit hours at WCCCD, 18 years of age or older, a valid passport or visa, character references, necessary travel insurance, completion of a complete and accurate Study Abroad application, and a signed WCCCD Student Code of Conduct document.

Cynthia Ottoni thought the news was too good to be true upon learning that she was selected to participate in the trip. "I feared that I would get a phone call saying that the trip was going to be cancelled," Ottoni says. "I never dreamed that the trip was possible until the airline hostess checked my luggage at Detroit Metro Airport."

The students participated in the language and civilization courses and interacted with students from around the world who were also studying at the institute. Amber Cooper says the French classes were very interactive. "I learned so much French in such a short time. Our professor was such a great teacher who was patient with us, and everything was done in French."

Students also participated in city excursions and toured the Champs-Elysées, Notre Dame, the Chateau Vincennes, Opera House, Eiffel Tower, and the Louvre. Many ventured out to discover the grandeur of Paris on their own using the efficient metro and bus systems to travel from one district of the city to another.

WCCCD has offered numerous study abroad opportunities for more than 500 students who have studied the languages, cultures, social, political, and economic systems of Argentina, Austria, India, Mexico, and Australia. The Study Abroad Program, a classroom without walls, proves that education opportunities can be found in places other than the traditional classroom setting.

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Distance LEARNING SURVEY
VALUABLE INFORMATION FOR DISTANCE EDUCATION PROVIDERS

The Instructional Technology Council (ITC) sponsored a newly released study that was conducted by WCCCD to address intellectual property rights. The report, titled Who Owns What: Policy and Practice Regarding Online Course Ownership in Community Colleges, was based on a 2008 survey of 70 ITC member community colleges and is available at www.itcnetwork.org. Dr. Stephanie Bulger, vice chancellor of Educational Affairs and Distance Learning at WCCCD (pictured right), was the study’s principal investigator.

“We were pleased to assist the Instructional Technology Council with this survey on intellectual property rights given the importance of distance learning in our nation and the world,” says Dr. Curtis L. Ivery, chancellor of WCCCD. “With a better understanding of intellectual property rights, we will be empowered with information to lead future growth in distance learning.”

Some of the prominent findings include:

• 71.4% of the survey participants indicated that it was clear who owns the intellectual property rights (IPR) at their institution.

• 31.4% indicated that their college workload policy stated ownership; 20% that select individual contracts helped determine ownership; 21.4% indicated their union contracts helped determine ownership; and 5.7% were unaware how ownership was determined.

• 81.4% indicated having had no knowledge of disputes over IPR.

• 4.3% of the colleges in the study had a document that outlined ownership rights of online courses within intellectual property policies.

• 81.0% of the respondents indicated that their IPR policy was created after 1999; 36% of these indicated that their IPR policy was created after 2002.

• 21.4% stated that a work-for-hire clause was present in written agreements; while 12.9% indicated that it was in a collective bargaining agreement, and another 12.9% indicated the faculty handbook; and 11.4% specified an administrative memorandum. 29.2% did not identify a specific location.

• 31.6% of survey participants attended workshops or seminars related to IPR.

Fred Lokken, chair of ITC, notes the importance of this study for community colleges. “This report provides valuable survey data regarding the status of intellectual property rights on college campuses nationally. The results will be of great value to administrators as they assess where they are, and where they need to be.”

Blackboard Course Management System

Blackboard orientations have been conducted at the Northwest, Downtown, and Downriver campuses for distance learning students who will be using the Blackboard course management system. The orientations mirrored other online training so that students become familiar with major Blackboard features, enabling students and instructors to access a “one-stop shop” on the Internet. Common functions that can be performed in Blackboard include: (1) course announcements; (2) Web site for syllabi and course materials; (3) grade book; (4) calendar; (5) drop box for electronic assignments; (6) organizational tasks; (7) online quizzes; (8) discussion board; and (9) tracking course statistics.

Newsworthy

HELLO TO HOLLYWOOD!

WCCCD is preparing Metro Detroit’s workforce for more than 5,000 film-related jobs projected to be coming to the region. In partnership with a consortium of industry professionals, the District sponsored a seminar, “The Business of Show Business.”

“This state is on the precipice of a powerful movement in media production,” WCCCD’s Chancellor, Dr. Curtis L. Ivery, says. “We understand the need for training and skill development that will support this emerging industry. This seminar provided an opportunity for local citizens to see how they can successfully enter the field.”

Speakers included award-winning actress and Detroit native Lonette McKee, a veteran of many films, including “Sparkle,” “The Cotton Club,” “Jungle Fever,” “Malcolm X,” and others; Emery King, chair of the Michigan Film Advisory Council; representatives from the Screen Actors Guild, Michigan Production Alliance and Digital Image Studios; and independent producers, casting agents, and technicians in the film business.

CHANCELLOR HONORED

Dr. Curtis L. Ivery has been elected to the Board of Directors of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). As the oldest and largest membership organization of associate degree-granting institutions in the United States, Dr. Ivery joins a select group charged with governing the association. Founded in 1920, AACC represents more than 1,200 institutions serving 11.5 million students in the United States including international members in Britain, Korea, Japan, and the United Arab Emirates. This exceptional recognition reflects the growing reputation of the District across the country and represents the difference the chancellor, faculty, and staff are making daily in transforming the lives of students. As Dr. Ivery assumes his seat on the board he encourages us to remember that this honor comes with an obligation for all to continue to make a difference in this region, this state, and the nation.
WCCCD’s Brown and Juanita C. Ford Gallery hosted the Opening Exhibition of ECO d’ART!

ECO d’ART featured 20 mixed-media art works created by Jerome Feretti, Todd Erickson, M. Saffell Gardner, Lenore Gimpert, Tyree Guyton, Tara Lahit, Nora Mendoza, Jocelyn Rainey, Senghor Reid, Andrzej Sikora, Mark Schwing, Nancy Thayer, and Don Thibodeaux. These 13 artists exhibited art work that paid homage to ecology, created with recycled materials and seeking to educate the viewer about the importance of protecting the environment. These artists created new art work that reflects their relationship to ecology.

Nora Mendoza states, “The idea came to me concerning an issue that is dear to my heart. I have been worried about pollution of the water all over the world, and how people discard plastics, Styrofoam, medical materials, and the damaging oil spills. In my works I present the effects these acts have on us as a people and our environment.”

The visual arts are perhaps among the vocations whose interests and principles are most naturally aligned with the principles and interests of a balanced and healthy ecology. Whatever one believes about the beginning of Mother Earth, there can be little argument that, since its inception, the Earth has evolved. There is an interdependence among living things—florae, faunae, and humans an awareness that rain becomes the only water we drink, that we cannot do without air, and that the ozone layer is what protects us from the mighty sun. The visual arts have long had a connection with the earth for inspiration, subjects in nature, and an optimum environment for painting and drawing.

In this day and age the future of our global ecology hangs in the balance, and threatens the comforts and conveniences to which we have become accustomed. Tyree Guyton says, “I am searching internally to find what art is today. I created new works that seek to answer this query. My art is about honoring the Master, Earth, Spirit, and the Soul.” Wayne County Community College District calls upon the visual artists to lead and demonstrate how it is possible for a vocation to be “eco-friendly.” Chancellor, Dr. Curtis Ivery says, “As a learning institution, WCCCD must inform the students and community, and continue the dialogue about twenty-first-century ideas and concepts. Protecting our environment is one of the most important issues that we face as a world.”

The Art of Alice Smith

Alice Smith – “Women of Steel” Sculpture Exhibition

Alice Smith, educator and glass artist, studied sculpture at Wayne State University where she was a MFA and continues there as a faculty member. While Smith pursued her degree, there was no graduate-level glass sculpture program in the Detroit area but she continued to cast and blow glass whenever her schedule permitted. Determined to create a niche and voice in the tough world of sculpture where few women venture, she honed her metal fabrication talents. Today, she often combines glass and metal to create majestic works of art.
The Alain Locke Award is given annually to artists, scholars, and other individuals who have contributed to the advancement of African American art and culture. It was established by The Friends of African and African American Art in 1992 at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Recipients of the award must have exhibited exemplary courage, commitment, and leadership in promoting the legacy of Dr. Alain Locke. Local awardees are John Bolden, executive vice chancellor, WCCCD; Michael Kan, DIA curator emeritus, African, Oceanic, and New World Cultures; and Sherry Washington, proprietor of the Sherry Washington Gallery.

Alain Locke (1886–1954), a distinguished African American intellectual of his generation, was the leading promoter and interpreter of the artistic and cultural contributions of African Americans to American life. The professor of philosophy at Howard University, Washington, D.C., was especially interested in the visual arts, having observed the influence of sub-Saharan African art on the European modernists. Dr. Locke guided African American artists in their exploration of modernism, an approach that yielded many of the notable contributions by African American artists to 20th and 21st-century art.

**WCCCD’s John Bolden Receives Award**

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Alain Locke (1886–1954), a distinguished African American intellectual of his generation, was the leading promoter and interpreter of the artistic and cultural contributions of African Americans to American life. The professor of philosophy at Howard University, Washington, D.C., was especially interested in the visual arts, having observed the influence of sub-Saharan African art on the European modernists. Dr. Locke guided African American artists in their exploration of modernism, an approach that yielded many of the notable contributions by African American artists to 20th and 21st-century art.

**DR. HRAPKIEWICZ**

The Southeastern Michigan Veterinary Medical Association recognized Dr. Karen Hrapkiewicz as the “veterinarian who made the greatest contributions to clinical veterinary medicine for 2008.” Dr. Hrapkiewicz was honored for her role in helping educate veterinary technicians and her outstanding leadership in veterinary technician affairs at the state and national levels. Students in the Veterinary Technology program participated recently in an ultrasound veterinary laboratory at the Wayne State University Veterinary Science Center, utilizing the newest method for animal testing.

**GLORIOUS VISIONS**

The Brown and Juanita C. Ford Gallery hosted an electrifying student show featuring drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, and sculptures. The art work was selected from works of students in Region 1, which includes Detroit, Highland Park, and Hamtramck. The exhibit is part of the Michigan Art Education Association (MAEA) program, which promotes quality visual arts education through leadership, service, and professional development. MAEA also provides financial aid for students who are seriously pursuing a career and course of study to become an art educator. The exhibit was well received by the community and enjoyed immensely by the families whose student art was selected.
DOWNRIVER CAMPUS

**YAATC Program**

WCCCD has recently been awarded three automobiles for training. In a partnership with Ford Motor Company, youths and adults will be trained in basic automotive skills. The Youth and Adult Automotive Training Centers (YAATC) program recruits at-risk or disadvantaged youths and adults. The vehicles add to the fleet available in the lab, which is equipped with the latest technology for students.

**Dental Health Month**

WCCCD partnered with the Michigan Department of Human Services and offered free dental cleanings during the month of February to children who are currently in, and have aged out of, foster care programs. Representatives from both the Michigan Department of Human Services and WCCCD were present to introduce this program and its benefits to agency representatives of foster care programs.

“The current challenging economic environment forces more people to do without basic oral and dental health-care and this seminar aims to provide access to these services through our exemplary dental programs,” says WCCCD Chancellor, Dr. Curtis L. Ivery. Those who attended the session learned about oral health and proper teeth brushing.

Guests also were able to tour WCCCD’s dental facility at the newly opened Northwest Campus, which houses three dental career programs: dental hygiene, dental assisting, and dental lab technician. Students currently enrolled in the dental programs actively participated in the event.

DOWNRIVER

**Mega Conference Weekly Academic Quiz Bowl**

The Downriver Campus hosted its inaugural Mega Conference Academic Quiz Bowl weekly competition. This is a high school sanctioned competition where sixteen academic teams from the Mega Conference competed in a Jeopardy-style match. Each high school team consisted of four students, plus alternate players.

NORTHWEST CAMPUS – **FOSTER CARE DENTAL HEALTH SEMINAR**

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WCCCD’s Downtown Campus was buzzing with life as Detroit Public School (DPS) students, vendors, and community members packed the campus for the annual event Passport to Africa. As one traveled the upper level of the campus, vendors lined the hallways with artifacts from their respective countries. The program included a mock Ashanti marriage ceremony, an East African coffee ceremony, and cultural dances from the continent providing students with an opportunity to learn about African cultures and their ancestral lineage. The event culminated with a fashion show displaying the traditional garments of many cultures in Africa and a tasting of West and East African cuisines.

The Downriver Campus hosted the second annual Bridge to Asia event, drawing in crowds eager to learn about the Asian culture. Representatives from Singapore, Philippines, Cambodia, Pakistan, South Korea, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, and Thailand attended and shared items and stories about their cultures. Attendees were delighted by numerous stations where they were presented with an abundance of information and artifacts reflecting each country. Culture-specific dances, including Hindu Temple Rhythm, Chinese Folkloric, and Bangladesh Cultural Group Dance, were performed. Guests were also treated to a traditional Japanese tea ceremony, which provided insight into the ritualistic ways the Japanese continue to participate in this unique ceremony.
Kristin Hope completed the dental lab technician program at WCCCD at the top of her class and was hired by local Olson Dental Lab, in Clinton Township. WCCCD’s dental lab technician program has graduated students with a myriad of abilities.

Hope, a beautiful, healthy baby girl until the age of two, was stricken with pneumonia and scarlet fever, causing irreversible damage to her eardrums. Consequently, she faced many obstacles and says, “Communication was most difficult as I was living in the hearing world. When I enrolled in the dental lab technician program, it was necessary to have good hand-eye coordination and being deaf, my other senses became finely tuned, allowing me to excel in this field.”

Glenn Inger, vice president of Olson Dental Lab says, “We knew the skills were there, we just had to get through the communication barrier.” Walking through the lab you will see technicians at work making different molds for dentures, crowns, and bridges all using similar tools. When you reach Kristin’s station you will find an extra tool that helps break the ever-present communication barrier, a set of up-to-date TTY devices. “I looked at this situation as a challenge, but all the adjustments were worth it as we now have Kristin who is a great employee,” says Mark Michilli, cosmetics manager at Olson Dental Lab. When Kristin first began at the lab, she and Mark communicated through writing notes, which was very time consuming and ineffective. The laptop devices make communicating simple. “My experience at WCCCD was life changing; the staff and instructors made my experience enjoyable and comfortable. I was expecting it to be overwhelming and difficult, but it turned out quite the opposite,” Kristin raves about the program. Success stories such as Kristin’s shine light on WCCCD’s commitment to its students and our success rate post graduation.

Kristin continues to recognize WCCCD as the stepping stone that led her to her career path. JoAnn Nyquist, a dedicated member of the dental staff, spoke volumes about Kristin, “[She] was an exceptional student who was tough enough to make it through the program although it was a difficult path. I am proud to see what she has accomplished.”
There have been several momentous occasions for many students who completed requirements for degrees at WCCCD. In addition to the commencement ceremony, another event, called the Pinning Ceremony for students completing degrees in Nursing and Allied Health, provided an opportunity to praise students for their dedication by keynote speaker, Dr. Phyllis Meadows, associate director of public health at the University of Michigan. She encouraged them to continue their education in their chosen health fields. The Phi Theta Kappa International Honor society held its spring induction for 144 students who were recognized for high academic achievement. The culminating event at Cobo Arena brought together graduates and their families to celebrate the conferring of degrees and certificates. Dr. Cornell West gave the keynote address and encouraged students to be open to all the possibilities.
Senator Claiborne Pell was largely responsible for the creation of Pell Grants in 1973, originally known as "Basic Educational Opportunity Grants." The Pell Grants provide financial aid funds to U.S. college students. He was also the main sponsor of the bill that created the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, and was active as an advocate for mass transportation initiatives.

The Pell Grant Program provides need-based grants to low-income undergraduate and certain post-baccalaureate students to promote access to post-secondary education. Grant amounts are dependent on what the student’s family can contribute, the cost of tuition at the desired college, the student’s enrollment status either full-time or part-time, and whether the student attends for a full academic year or less.

Claiborne de Borda Pell was born in New York City, the son of a former congressman. He was also a direct descendant of mathematician John Pell, one of the heirs to the Lorillard tobacco fortune. Pell attended school in Newport, Rhode Island, and graduated with a bachelor’s degree in history from Princeton University in 1940. He served in the United States Coast Guard and was later a participant in the 1945 San Francisco conference that drafted the United Nations charter. Pell led a rich life full of public service and died January 1, 2009, at age 90.

"Senator Claiborne Pell will be remembered best as a selfless champion who devised legislation that created the Pell Grant – a federal need-based grant that has made obtaining a higher education possible for millions of poor and middle-class college students. More than 17,000 WCCCD students collectively received $35 million in Pell Grants during the 2007–2008 school year."

Marcus L. McGrew
Associate Vice Chancellor, Administration and Finance

For the 2008-09 academic year, 37,134 institutional student information records were loaded into the Banner system and 16,824 WCCCD students were awarded Pell Grants totaling $69,547,191.