Wayne County Community College District’s mission is to empower individuals, businesses and communities to achieve their goals through excellent and accessible services, culturally diverse experiences and globally competitive higher education and career advancement programs.

WCCCD Welcomes Three New* Board Members

**Mary Ellen Stempfe**  
Chairperson - District 1

**Vernon C. Allen, Jr.**  
Vice Chairperson - District 3

**Denise Wellons-Glover**  
Secretary - District 5

**Sharon P. Scott**  
Treasurer - District 9

**David A. Roehrig**  
Member - District 2

**Scott T. Holiday**  
Member - District 4

**Marla J. Edwards-Wheeler**  
Member - District 6

**Dr. Patrick M. Kelley**  
Member - District 7

**Charles Paddock**  
Member - District 8
Message from the Chancellor

Welcome to our Spring 2017 Legislative Update. We are delighted to provide you this newsletter featuring our recent milestones and accomplishments.

Wayne County Community College District’s growth and progress continues into 2017. We have graduated thousands of students who are now successful contributors into the Southeastern Michigan economy. Due to the demands of an expanding job market and from partnering with higher learning institutions, our program offerings have become broader in scope.

WCCCD’s School for Continuing Education and Workforce Development has become a staple in the region for both individuals and businesses seeking to enhance skills and opportunities with relevant skilled job training programs. A product of the School for Continuing Education and Workforce Development is the Regional Training Center. This facility is located at the Eastern Campus and allows us to provide resources, grant opportunities and training to various talents in the region.

Our most recent initiative is a partnership with the Regional Training Center, the City of Detroit and Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation. This partnership will help to train and employ qualified commercial drivers. The program provides a training course as well as licensing for drivers who successfully complete the training component.

We continue to be present, active and committed to our diverse communities through high enrichment programs at all six of our campus locations. We maintain a deliberate, long-term strategy focused on continuously improving the quality of our programs, courses, services and facilities to meet the needs of our students and the communities we serve.

The District’s commitment to complete accountability and transparency is evidenced in the Pathways to the Future program. Because of the success of this initiative and expert financial management the District was able to hire 23 full-time faculty members and more administrative staff to serve the growing number of programs and students each semester.

Continued on page 2

WCCCD Partners with The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge Site

A unique partnership between Wayne County Community College District and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge will create a pipeline of next-generation conservationists and sustainability entrepreneurs to take root in southeast Michigan.

The partnership will provide new training space near the shores of the Humbug Marsh, including a 12,000 Gold LEED-certified visitor center with multipurpose spaces and classrooms, as well as a 740-foot school ship dock and fishing pier, a canoe and kayak launch, three wildlife observation decks, outdoor classroom spaces and more than three miles of hiking trails connected to more than 100 miles of greenway trails next year.

The work of the partnership also includes helping cleanup and restoration of an industrial brownfield into a gateway to the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge – the site of the visitor center and the only project in the world to successfully clean up and industrial brownfield to serve as an ecological buffer for a “Wetland of International Importance” – Humbug Marsh.

Continued on page 2
District Hires 23 Full-Time Faculty Across STEM, General Education and Other Programs Following Extensive Financial Restructuring and Management

Twenty-three key full-time faculty members have been hired to the Wayne County Community College District staff across its 500 square mile service area to support the full scope of its programming, services and operations. The new hires will help to bolster Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) programs, business management and general education programs at the District.

The 23 full-time faculty members were part of a District-wide initiative to hire 75 key personnel over the next two years as part of its 2015-2020 strategic planning process. The boost to personnel levels will help WCCCD recover important levels of operational support for its expanded role as a key education, workforce development and economic development partner in the region.

“We performed an exhaustive analysis of community colleges in Michigan and nationwide, as well as our own history and growth.” said WCCCD Chancellor Curtis L. Ivery. “There was little doubt that to appropriately serve the 32 cities and townships we cover, we need to commit dollars to recruit more full-time staff in key areas such as student services and information technology, including administrative staff, support staff, and more full-time faculty.”

While the District grew its offerings to respond to emergent needs of the region during the financial challenges of the last decade, including career training and innovative workforce development programming with public and private partners, it did so with reduced staff levels to appropriately respond to the financial instability of the time. Financial vigilance and rigorous planning allowed the District to maintain its services, programming and stability, and to emerge in a position to now add key supportive staff.

The 23 full-time faculty members were in the classroom for the start of the District’s Spring Semester, which began January 17, 2017.

Message from the Chancellor

Continued from page 1

We proudly introduced building two new facilities that will help expand our educational resources and offerings – a new Health & Wellness Center that will have a home on our Downtown Detroit Campus, and a new Horticultural Center in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at our Downriver Campus.

The District is continuing to assist high school students receive a jumpstart on their education by offering college credits through our dual enrollment program. This program allows students to have a seamless transition while preparing for college at a fraction of the cost.

We are always looking for suggestions and participation from our community partners. If you have questions, concerns or would just like more information on Wayne County Community College District, please give me a call at 313-496-2510.

Sincerely,
Dr. Curtis L. Ivery
Chancellor

WCCCD Partners with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Continued from page 1

WCCCD last fall announced its new Horticulture Education Center, a new structure that will be completed on the Downriver Campus in 2018. That center will provide certificate and associate degree programs for those seeking careers in landscape & restoration, hydroponics, aquaponics, irrigation, urban agriculture and more.

“The possibilities are really limitless.”
Anthony Arminiak, President
Downriver Campus

“We see this as an opportunity to engage the broader community, to educate and inspire youth and to model sustainability as a way to attract investment and broaden opportunity for all,” Arminiak said.
WCCCD Introduces Specialized Dual Enrollment Program, *Step Into Stem!*

The latest edition to the growing dual enrollment roster is the new STEP Into STEM program. Step Into Stem is a specialized dual enrollment program from WCCCD that helps introduce students and recent graduates to STEM careers and research opportunities in exciting fields fueled by science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Step Into STEM will give students access to state of the art facilities, one on one sessions with experienced faculty from the University of Michigan. Step Into STEM is available to high school juniors and seniors as well as recent high school graduates.

This free, one credit course will introduce participants to the vast world of STEM and related opportunities. The components of this course include mentoring, research orientation, career exploration, STEM applications, a STEM symposium.

Students who wish to get involved with Step Into STEM! simply need to be recommended by a parent, teacher, advisor or other adult. Once a student is recommended and goes through the application process, a course schedule will be provided. Students who complete Step Into STEM! courses have direct access to multiple options including additional courses, academic advising and transferable credit to other higher learning institutions.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Call 313-496-2600, or go to [www.wcccd.edu](http://www.wcccd.edu) for more info on applying.

WCCCD A Leader In Workforce Development and Training! New Program To Train Qualified Commercial Truck Drivers

WCCCD has partnered with the City of Detroit and the Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation (DESC) to provide training and licensing to qualified residents.

Thanks in part to a new contract through the City of Detroit, WCCCD’s Regional Training Center will be able to provide qualified participants with hands on training, field training and preparation for employment opportunities driving passenger van, delivery, school bus and or double/triple trailers.

WCCCD’s Regional Training Center works to identify talent and fill employment and training gaps in the region by providing a space for the development of skilled trades, training capacity, local workforce preparedness, sustainability, credentialing, collaboration and economic opportunities.

Truck Driver’s Training begins in March. For more information, please visit [www.wcccd.edu](http://www.wcccd.edu)