

WEEKEND MEMO

Number 253

To: WCCCD Board of Trustees

From: Dr. Curtis L. Ivery

Date: October 20, 2000

We received some very good news this week from the U.S. Department of Education. Our Cohort Default Rate on student loans has declined to 11.8% for the reporting period FY 1998. Some of you may recall, in 1987 the College's default rate was reported at 52.1%. Following the establishment of a Default Management Task Force and the implementation of a Default Management Plan, we have experienced significant declines as follows: 1988: 39.1%, 1993: 24.0%, 1995: 17.1%. Our Financial Aid staff should be commended as each has played a role in assuring that student awards are processed in a timely fashion and documentation fully supports the awards.

We continued our radio interviews this week promoting our efforts as follows:

- Tuesday morning, WJLB, FM 98, "Mason and Company".
 - Tuesday afternoon, WHPR "Wakeup Detroit" with Joann Watson.
 - Wednesday morning, WCHB "Inside Detroit" with Mildred Gaddis.
 - Wednesday afternoon, WQBH, 1400 AM "Back to Back" with Gil Hill.
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- On Monday evening, we were delighted to host the regular meeting of the Detroit High School Principals' Association in the Board Conference Room. Seventeen (17) Principals were present and we presented each with a small plaque in recognition of their dedication to educating the youth of our communities. We also took the opportunity to share with them our plans for recruitment.
 - On Thursday, I was honored to be keynote speaker at the Wayne-Metropolitan Community Services Agency's 7th Annual meeting. The program was held at the Grosse Point War Memorial, in Grosse Pointe Farm. More than 200 people representing various social service agencies and school districts were in attendance. This occasion gave me the unique opportunity to share with the gathering the direction in which the college is moving as we continue to be about "teaching and learning" for our students. Dennis O'Connell was also in attendance.

- Also on Thursday, the Education First Foundation held its Annual Recognition Reception at the Ponchatrain Hotel. This was the Foundation's third reception designed to honor individuals and businesses that have supported the work of the Foundation. In attendance and among those recognized were the co-chairs of the Golf Classic; Carl Collins, President of Charity Motors; Judge Jeffery Collins; Robert Warfel of Alpha Capital Management; Tina and Leland Bassett; Gregory Terrell; and Laura Huthwaite of Giant Janitorial.

Senator John Kelly was the Master of Ceremonies and after recognizing the Foundation's supporters, he introduced Mr. Arnold Miller, a member of the Foundation's Board, who announced the creation of the "Dr. Curtis L. Ivery Achievement Wall" at the Central Administration Building where plaques recognizing the Foundation's supporters will be displayed.

Also in attendance were: Council member Maryann Mahaffey; State Board of Education President Kathleen Strauss; Wayne State University Governor Annette Miller, Judge Cynthia Hathaway, Trustee Juanita Ford, former Trustee Charles Morton, former Trustee Ted Scott and several faculty and staff members.

The Foundation and its many volunteers, under the leadership of Executive Director Christine Freeman, continues to create outstanding events that generate increasing support for the Districts students.

- On Friday, more than 900 students, faculty and staff assembled to march for EDUCATION FIRST. The march route covered a little more than two mile and I would like to extend thanks and appreciation to all who participated in this worthy cause.

Educational Affairs- Dr. Joann Pieronek, Vice Chancellor

- On Monday, Debbie Fiedler participated in the filming of interviews for our upcoming promotional campaign.
- On Monday, Dr. Jacqueline Hodges met with Captain Kevin R. Wilkinson of The US Army Mt. Clemens Recruiting Company to the discuss opportunities for Nursing students to serve in the US Military Reserves. Information concerning the Solomon amendment was also released and exchanged.
- On Wednesday, Debbie Fiedler chaired an ad-hoc SEMTEC committee meeting to discuss reductions in airtime fees for members offering telecourses.
- On Wednesday, the Career Planning and Development hosted a Job Fair at the Downtown Campus. The theme for this year's event was "temporary and seasonal employment opportunities". Twenty employers and more than 300 students took part in this recruiting event.

- On Thursday, the Enrollment Management and Student Services Division held its bi-annual district-wide meeting. Discussions included the updates on academic programs and departmental information.
- On Friday, Debbie Fiedler attended the SEMTEC General Membership Meeting where she participated in a panel discussion on using Blackboard.com for online course delivery.
- Also on Friday, George Hicks downlinked a satellite teleconference for the NAACP.
- This week, Ron Dowe attended the NCHEMS Management Services Seminar, “Developing Databases to Analyze Students and Curricula” in Chicago. This conference will assist in developing our student assessment plan.
- This week, Glenda Norris was appointed by NAFEO to serve as one of the regional Peer Educator trainers for Midwestern HCBU's.

Administration and Finance- Mark Lang, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance

- On Tuesday, Edward Blackburn conducted a training session on fire evacuation with selected members who are assigned to the Central Administration Building. The purpose of the training is to designate the attendees as emergency response team members who will assist security in the safe evacuation of faculty and staff of the Central Administration Building.

Workforce and Economic Development- Willie R. Acosta, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor:

- On Monday, Nancy Higgins attended the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce meeting sponsored by the Brookings Institute Center on Urban and Metropolitan Policy.
- On Tuesday, the Workforce and Economic Development Department hosted the monthly meeting of the Southeast Michigan Community College Consortium. Topics for discussion this month included Keys2Work and the Economic Development Job Training Program for fiscal year 2000/2001. Workforce development representatives from Oakland CC, St Clair CC, Washtenaw CC, and Macomb CC were in attendance.
- On Tuesday, Nancy Higgins attended the Southeast Michigan Community Alliance EAG Board meeting and distributed WCCCD promotional materials to attendees.
- On Thursday, Dr. Smith attended the City of Detroit Workforce Development Board Meeting. Operation Fast Break Program design and match/supplemental funding requirements were discussed.

- Also on Thursday, Nancy Higgins attended the Career & Technical Directors meeting and reported National Coalition for Advanced Manufacturing, Smart Prosperity: “An Agenda for Enhancing Productivity Growth project”.

Government Relations- Jonathan Cartwright, Director

- On Monday, Jonathan Cartwright met with Congressional Chairpersons of the 14th and 15th District concerning ballot issues.
- On Wednesday, Jonathan Cartwright met with Detroit Caucus Representative concerning legislative issues.
- On Friday, Jonathan Cartwright met with the Detroit Democratic Committee to discuss current events.

Downtown Campus- Dr. Carolyn Wade, Provost

- On Saturday, the SEMMA hosted the “Parent Café.”

Downriver Campus- Paul Loeber, Provost:

- On Monday, Paul Loeber attended a Legislative Forum sponsored by the Southern Wayne County Chamber of Commerce. Guest speaker was Larry B. Lindsey, Economic Advisor to Texas Governor George W. Bush. Also in attendance were Governor John Engler, and Heintz Prechter, CEO and Founder of ASC inc.

Eastern Campus- Annie Comor-Jacobs, Provost:

- On Monday and Thursday, the University of Detroit Mercy set up an informational table regarding recruitment.
- On Tuesday, Provost Jacobs and members of the Bridges Project met with Jack Litzenberg, Senior Program Officer of the Charles Stuart Mott Foundation.
- On Thursday, the C.L.E.A.N. Team Meeting was held on the Eastern Campus.

Northwest Campus- Dr. Hattie Johnson-Norris, Provost

- On Tuesday, Jean Hawkins attended The Black Child Development Inc., meeting.
- On Wednesday, Jean Hawkins met with Dr. Mark Sperling, Principal and Elaine Head, Counselor/Compact Technician from Cooley High School, to share that several WCCCD employees have contributed to the purchasing of five savings bonds. The bonds will be given out to the Compact students who will be attending Wayne County Community College District in January.
- On Thursday, Dr. LaVerne Thompson attended the Executive Board Meeting, Young Educators Society of Michigan, College of Education, held at Saginaw Valley State University.

- Also on Thursday, Dr. LaVerne Thompson attended "College Night" at the Downriver Campus.

Western Campus- Dr. Marjorie Oliver, Provost

- On Monday, Dr. Alex DePetro wrote an article regarding the success of the current CIS110 class being taught in an e-learning, live interactive environment. The article was sent out to a number of local papers including the News/Free Press and included pictures of students with their headphones / microphones taking the class. This article included a quote from Gradepoint Inc. (e-Learning software provider) which stated "WCCCD is one of the few academic institutions in the nation teaching a class in this type of e-learning environment".
- Also on Monday, Frank Romba met with Elaine DeFalco, Employment Coordinator from ETD, Michigan Works Office to discuss transportation training programs for their clients.
- On Tuesday, Dr. Alex DePetro on behalf of WCCCD is in the process of applying for CISCO Local Academy certification for the Eastern Campus (empowerment zone).
- Also on Tuesday, Frank Romba met with William Musham, Romulus Technical Education to discuss additional partnership training programs.
- On Thursday, Frank Romba met with Kerry Navarre, Director of IVP Video Company to assist them with the production of a video featuring the professional truck driving program.
- On Thursday, Frank Romba met with David Gordon, Maintenance Superintendent from Cassens Transport regarding a presentation on diesel technician employment trends, to our Romulus High School HEM 100 class
- On Thursday, Dennis O'Connell attended the Board of Directors monthly meeting for The Senior Alliance an agency on aging. Information was distributed regarding the District.