

**WEEKEND MEMO****Number 323**

To: WCCCD Board of Trustees

From: Dr. Curtis L. Ivery

Date: March 15, 2002

Last week, Christina Munson and Marcus McGrew attended the U.S. Department of Education's Annual Spring Conference in Baltimore, Maryland. During the conference, they received updates and training regarding various electronic initiatives that the Department of Education is encouraging colleges to utilize in an effort to deliver financial aid services more efficiently. The District is at the forefront in the utilization of the electronic products and services offered by the Department of Education as evidenced by being among only 15 percent of colleges nationwide to process the year end fiscal report via the internet.

The site visit for the Occupational Therapy Assistant Program began Monday. The visitors represented the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education. They are recommending accreditation for the program, which has been consistently accredited for the last 20 years. The visitors were Rebecca West Dick from New Hampshire and Carol White Dennis from New York. We extend our congratulations to Jean Whicker and her staff for a successful visit.

On Wednesday, I had a delightful meeting with Benny Napoleon, Former Detroit Police Chief.

On Wednesday, Liz Chamberlain attended the annual All-Michigan Academic Team Awards Program and Luncheon held in Lansing. The annual celebration and recognition of Michigan's best and brightest community college students was co-sponsored by the Michigan Community College Association and Phi Theta Kappa International Honors Society. Twenty-four of Michigan's 28 community colleges were represented. Students Mianne Adufutse-Chandler and Nathan Latta represented WCCCD. State Representative Samuel "Buzz" Thomas III was the keynote speaker.

We hosted a luncheon on Thursday with County Executive Edward McNamara and a group of business and community leaders in the Board Room. It gave us the opportunity to meet and share the vision and direction of the District. Telling our story is always a positive experience. Having the dental hygiene students there to share their experiences was a powerful testimony to the need for supporting this college. As always, Mr. McNamara demonstrated his strong commitment and support.

On Friday, the Special Populations Advisory Committee met to discuss strategies to assist the program in establishing linkages between feeder institutions. Delores Norman, Assistant Director of Technical Education from the Detroit Public Schools will be forwarding a list of student names from the vocational-technical centers attending WCCCD this fall. This will allow us to provide comprehensive services to these students upon entry.

The Commission for the Blind agreed to work with the District in providing joint technology training to blind students. Students will become familiar with technology and enhance their academic performance. They will be introduced to this technology in training sessions at the Commission and have it reinforced once they reach WCCCD.

**Educational Affairs** – Dr. Joann Pieronek, Vice Chancellor

- On Wednesday, Dr. Alex DePetro attended a BlackBoard / Microsoft Conference on the e-Learning direction for both corporations.
- On Thursday, Dr. DePetro hosted a satellite conference on pathogens for over 100 employees of the Detroit Water Board.
- On Friday, Dr. DePetro attended a Virtual Learning Collaborative (VLC) meeting. Topics discussed included preparing for the upcoming NCA visit to the VLC to approve an online degree offered by the VLC and participating community colleges.

**Workforce and Economic Development**- Michael P. Dotson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Budget and Financial Reporting

- On Saturday, March 9, the Workforce and Economic Department sponsored an Antique Appraisal Fair at Lutheran High East. Joe Del Giudice of Del Giudice Antiques conducted the event. Michael Blair, Peter Ferrara, Phyllis Finch, and Kebina Young were in attendance.
- On Monday, Dr. Mary Smith, Faith Polk, Kebina Young, Andre Jackson, and Richard Lightbody met with Solomon Choice, Director of Operations, the Judge Greg Mathis Foundation. The group met to discuss the Detroit Self-Empowerment Expo to be held in May at the Downtown Campus. This event is designed to provide multiple resources offering family and business oriented guidance in employment opportunities, family counseling, entrepreneurship, education, career development, and youth programs.
- On Tuesday, Dr. Smith and Faith Polk met with Dr. Bryant, Principal of Loving Elementary School, to discuss “Reading is Fundamental” and other literacy programs for youth.
- Also on Tuesday, Michael Blair, Mike Dotson and Dr. DePetro met with representatives from Lutheran High East to discuss program offerings for the summer and fall semesters.

- On Thursday, Faith Polk attended a “Pathways for Post-Secondary Opportunities” meeting to identify gaps in student preparation for college and training programs.

**Government Relations**- Jonathan Cartwright, Director

- On Monday, Jonathan Cartwright met with Congressman David Bonior for a tour of the Downtown Campus and to discuss educational and legislative issues.
- On Tuesday Jonathan Cartwright met separately with Missionary Hattie Humphrey and Edna Roberson, Community Leaders, concerning upcoming community projects.
- On Wednesday, Jonathan Cartwright attended Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick’s “State of the City” address. Afterwards, Mr. Cartwright met with Mary Blazovich, Internal Director of Government Relations for Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick’s office concerning educational and community issues.
- On Wednesday, Jonathan Cartwright met with Former Detroit Chief of Police Benny Napoleon concerning legislative and community issues.
- Also on Wednesday, Jonathan Cartwright met with State Representative Samuel “Buzz” Thomas, State Representative Artina Tinsley Hardman and State Representative Irma Clark concerning legislative issues.
- On Thursday, Jonathan Cartwright met with Van Rohr, Manager of Infinity Broadcasting Corporation, concerning community projects.
- Also on Thursday, Jonathan Cartwright met with Betty Misuraca, Executive Assistant to CEO of Wayne County, concerning community and educational issues.

**Downriver Campus**- Dr. Randall Miller, President

- On Saturday, March 9, Dr. Miller, Mary Jones, Unbreen Amir and several downriver public officials participated in a “Walk for Warmth.” The Downriver Campus raised \$465.00.
- On Monday, Dr. Miller made a presentation to the Taylor Schools regarding the efforts of the Downriver Campus to reach out to the public school districts it serves. Members of the Board were given a tour of the campus.
- On Tuesday, Robert Bailey met with Mr. Edward Clemente, President for the Southern Wayne County Chamber of Commerce (SWCCC) and other members of the Education Committee of the Chamber to review the mission and plans of the Committee for a proposed SWCCC Board Presentation. Representatives from Henry Ford Community College, Michigan Family Independence Agency and Sylvan Learning Center were in attendance.

- On Wednesday, the campus hosted the Welding, Brazing and Soldering Workshop sponsored by Wayne RESA. Twenty vocational instructors from the tri-county area attended.
- On Wednesday, Dr. Miller welcomed welding instructors from secondary schools in the surrounding area for a day-long workshop involving the technology staff.
- On Wednesday, Dr. Miller met with Malin Wagner, Director of the Downriver Technical Consortium concerning possible partnerships.
- On Wednesday, Dr. Miller met with Ron Palmer, President of Learning Solutions, to discuss the Trillium Project for the Arts Downriver.
- Also on Wednesday, Dr. Miller attended the Society of Employers meeting.

**Downtown Campus**- Dr. Carolyn Wade, President

- On Saturday, March 9, the Downtown Campus hosted the Detroit Area Pre-College Engineering Program (DAPCEP).
- On Tuesday, the Wayne County Gun Permit Association met at the Downtown Campus.

**Eastern Campus**- Dr. George Swan, President

- On Monday, the C.L.E.A.N. Team met at the Eastern Campus to discuss community safety issues and beautification projects.
- Also on Monday, George Swan received notice of his election as president of the Board of Directors of the Detroit Area Lifelong Literacy Coalition.
- On Tuesday, George Swan attended the Board of Directors meeting for the George Crockett Academy to discuss plans for the new Consortium High School and Advisory Council.
- Also on Friday, the Eastern Campus hosted the Detroit Area Lifelong Literacy Coalition, which held a book presentation for five local community groups working to increase adult literacy.
- This week, George Swan attended the National Trustee meeting for the Council on Accreditation in New York during which he was re-elected to another three-year term.

**Northwest Campus**- Dr. Hattie Johnson-Norris, President

- On Saturday, March 9, Dr. Johnson-Norris welcomed the Detroit Chapter of the Delta Sigma who held a HIV/AIDS Workshop and regular monthly meeting at the

Northwest Campus. Approximately 300-350 Deltas along with members of the community were in attendance.

- On Tuesday Dr. Johnson-Norris, Dr. Karen Brantley, Dr. LaVerne Thompson, Jean Hawkins and John Bolden attended a meeting at Tried Stone Missionary Baptist Church regarding Workforce and Economic Development classes and community projects.
- Also on Tuesday, Mattie Porter conducted two financial aid workshops at St. John's Church. Registration and Financial Aid information was disbursed.

**Western Campus-** Dr. Marjorie Oliver, President

- On Tuesday, Dr. Oliver attended a community meeting in Wayne to hear a presentation by Michael Sumeracki, Police Chief, on the millage proposal to build a new police station.
- Also on Tuesday, Dr. Oliver met with Helen Foster of the Conference of Western Wayne to discuss new initiatives at the Western Campus.
- On Wednesday, Dr. Oliver met with Randy Brown, a landscape architect in Belleville, regarding promoting the agriscience program at the Western Campus.
- Also on Wednesday, Tony Arminiak attended a Michigan Fire Fighter Training Council, Regional Training Center meeting in Lansing.
- On Friday, Tony Arminiak attended the Environmental, Health and Safety Advisory Committee meeting.
- Also on Friday, Lynda Naylor and Aimee Sowden met with Rita Frye, Center Director for Van Buren Headstart, regarding collaborative initiatives with the Women's Resource Center.