

CHANCELLOR'S WEEKEND MEMO

June 29, 2007
Number 588

The District has been selected to join Achieving the Dream: Community Colleges Count, a national initiative to help community college increase the success of their students. The college is one of 26 community colleges throughout the country joining the initiative this year. The initiative, which has grown to 84 participating institutions in 15 states, provides participating colleges with support to implement strategies designed to help more students earn degrees, complete certificates, or transfer to other institutions to continue their studies. Achieving the Dream emphasizes building a culture of evidence, in which colleges use data to identify effective practices, improve student success rates, and close achievement gaps.

EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR

- ♦ The District, in partnership with the Detroit Public Schools, is developing an Allied Health Middle College Program to expose students to careers in the allied health field starting their first year in high school. This effort is one of the many initiatives the college has employed to reach the constituents of this community and answer the call for health care professionals throughout the city, the state, and the nation.

EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS

- ♦ Dr. Ernest Retland, Clarence Madison, and Dr. George Swan met with members of the Tuskegee Airmen National Museum to develop an internship project for CIS students in providing database support for the newly launched national campaign to build a facility at the Coleman A. Young International Airport. The national museum is currently located at Historic Fort Wayne and will be moved to Hanger One at the airport upon completion of a national membership drive. WCCCD students will design the information infrastructure and maintain the database for this effort.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Start by doing what's necessary, then what's possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible.

Francis of Assisi

BOOK OF THE WEEK

The Power of Nice

How to Conquer the Business World With Kindness

By Linda Kaplan Thaler and Robin Koval



PHYSICAL PLANT AND FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

DID YOU KNOW?



♦ Cleaning is the foundation of the Maintenance Program. The Physical Plant/Facilities Maintenance Department recognizes that once a building becomes dirty, a multitude of issues can arise. A system of cleaning that enhances the well-being of students, staff, and

others in a college environment can help prevent the spread of disease and also provide a marketing edge. Open communication between the facilities maintenance staff and campus administration regarding the cleanliness of the District's buildings plays a vital role in the District's overall success.

WESTERN CAMPUS ADDITION UPDATE

♦ Construction at the Western Campus is in full swing. The north parking lot is being paved and will open in approximately two weeks.



Brick and block is going up and the heating, ventilation, and cooling systems are being installed. The fire protection system is going in along with the routing for electrical and plumbing.

STUDENT SERVICES

- ♦ Will Sampson met with over 150 students in the Upward Bound Program at Wayne State University (WSU) to discuss registration opportunities in the District's dual enrollment and Virtual Middle College programs. These Upward Bound students will be housed on WSU's campus for the next six weeks while attending WSU courses. The students represented 10th, 11th and 12th graders in the Detroit Public high schools. This opportunity to meet with the students and speak with administrators and faculty of the WSU Upward Bound Program has opened up other possibilities, such as, targeting specific Detroit Public Schools in the fall.

INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- ♦ After a series of discussions and broad input from each campus and functional area, the District is implementing its District-wide Assessment Plan. The plan is a critical component of the plan-do-measure-learn continuous improvement model. The assessment plan will provide performance data to inform and influence improvement decisions and action plans at the course, program/discipline, campus, division, and District levels. The assessment efforts produce evidence that WCCCD meets HLC accreditation criteria.
- ♦ Preparation has begun for the new Self-Study Center, formerly the Murray Jackson Reading Room. Over the next few weeks, the room will be transformed into a resource center to showcase the District's NCA-related documents, and provide a designated space for certain self-study activities to take place. An inaugural Open House event is in the planning stages to take place during the month of July.

SELF-STUDY TIP OF THE WEEK

- ♦ HLC has made a paradigm shift in its self-study review approach. It now asks colleges and universities to focus on learning outcomes and overall institutional effectiveness, demonstrate the linkage between mission and planning, and provide continuous feedback through assessment.

KUDOS

Manny Peraza, of Gonzalez Engineering, contacted the District in search of qualified individuals to occupy junior and senior automotive technician positions. Graduates of the Youth and Adult Automotive Training Center (YAATC) were contacted as potential candidates, of whom four were called for interviews.

Congratulations to David Dyda on his new employment!



DISTANCE LEARNING

- ◆ The Distance Learning Division has launched a Virtual Student Center in a Blackboard course site accessible to students in on-line, blended (on-line and face-to-face), and web-enhanced (face-to-face with an on-line component) courses. The site creates a virtual community where students are able to get the latest distance learning updates, tips for success, engage in live chats, and access student resources. The Virtual Student Center experienced 1,827 hits within 72 hours of its launch. Stay tuned for exciting updates to the Virtual Student Center as we strive to provide stellar customer service and improve retention efforts with our virtual learning community.



CAREER AND TRANSFER PROGRAMS

- ◆ Dr. Karen Hrapkiewicz and several second-year students in the Veterinary Technology Program participated in a free vaccination clinic. The event, organized by the Michigan Humane Society, was one of many community service events that students and staff have participated in.
- ◆ Dr. Karen Hrapkiewicz facilitated a tour of the Veterinary Technology facility to a group of Detroit Public School elementary children. The tour was part of their German class experience incorporating science and animal related terminology.
- ◆ Dr. Debraha Watson, Tamara Williams, and Dr. Frank Dunbar represented the District at the 2007 American Council on Education's (ACE) conference entitled "Chairing the Academic Department." This conference focused on providing effective leadership within the various academic departments.
- ◆ Dr. Debraha Watson and Doris Fields met with Rita Whitley and Tammy Walter-Carras from the Wayne County Executive's Office to discuss a clinical affiliation with the Nursing Program for Wayne County's Correctional Facilities. Correctional nursing is a unique specialty area in which nurses provide care to inmates in prisons, juvenile homes, jails, and penitentiaries. A partnership such as this will allow students the opportunity to explore employment in a non-traditional area of patient care.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

- ◆ Judy Smouter attended the National Strength and Conditioning Association's (NSCA) Michigan State Clinic at Delta College. Ms Smouter is researching a possible personal training certificate program to be offered to continuing education students.

CAMPUS OPERATIONS

- ◆ Dr. Nick Fleezanis and Reginald Witherspoon met with Sam Sobh, president of Technical Components International, concerning a possible linkage between Mr. Sobh's company, the Saudi Arabian government, and WCCCD. There is a current need for fire fighter training in the middle east that the District could help resolve by offering training for an emergency training facility that would be built in Saudi Arabia. A meeting is being planned with representatives from Saudi Arabia in July.
- ◆ Dr. Fleezanis has been contacted by John Lucher, director of the Downriver Family YMCA, to offer physical education classes in conjunction with the District at the Southgate Fun and Fitness Centre. A meeting will be arranged with to offer these classes through the Continuing Education Division.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

- ◆ The *Community College Times* recently reported that a House appropriations panel has passed a bill to increase student aid funding for fiscal year (FY) 2008, including boosting the Pell Grant maximum to \$4,700. Nevertheless, President George Bush has threatened to veto the spending bill because it would exceed his request for federally funded education and training programs. The FY08 spending bill would provide significant funding for the student financial assistance programs, raising the Pell Grant maximum by \$390 to \$4,700, and boosting the TRIO and GEAR UP programs by \$40 million and \$20 million. In addition, funding for adult education would increase by \$25 million to nearly \$589 million, and international education would see a \$9.9 million increase over FY07 funding.



CAMPUS PRESIDENTS' CORNER

- ◆ Dr. Wallace Peace, Willie Mae Hampton, and Downtown Campus Student Government Association (SGA) President Kenneth Love met with Cynthia Handford, nurse educator for the Michigan Epilepsy Foundation, to discuss plans for an upcoming workshop on epilepsy. SGA members, under the direction of Ms. Hampton, are planning to hold the workshop for Detroit residents during the first week of October.
- ◆ Members of the Waterford Hills Road Racing Organization attended a class on fire extinguishers. The participants, emergency first responders at local race tracks, were given a brief discussion on the proper use of fire extinguishers and training on extinguishing a fire in the car fire simulator.
- ◆ The Eastern Campus has partnered with Brothers Making a Difference to provide a four-week summer camp for boys ages 8 to 11. The organization's mission is to "build a foundation in young boys to prepare them to be productive citizens that build strong families and stronger communities."

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTERS

- ◆ The Learning Resource Centers (LRC) are reviewing all supply, capital, and equipment needs to ensure that Fall 2007 requests are submitted in a timely manner. Work is also being done on the periodical billing procedure, cataloging process, and other important on-going LRC procedures.



PUBLIC RELATIONS

- ◆ A student focus group was held to provide feedback on the image and user-friendliness of the District's new web site. The students, of various ages and ethnicities, browsed the site and were asked to complete a questionnaire which also included finding several items. Below, are some of their comments:
 - ◆ "Everything was easy to access. I loved it."
 - ◆ "I loved the new look."
 - ◆ "What an improvement! Not only is there more information, but it's much easier to locate it."
 - ◆ "I like the pictures and graphics, everything is so much easier to find."
 - ◆ "Navigation is a great improvement."
 - ◆ "Liked that I could order books and I also liked the map and directions."
 - ◆ "Eye catching and colorful; a top-notch university website, I really liked, 'Ask the Wildcat.'"

ON THE MOVE . . .

- ◆ Charles Crites, Jerry Sells, Beverly Paddock, and Brandon Swingle, an automotive instructor for the Taylor High School Automotive Program, attended the Hybrid Electric Vehicle Technology workshop at Wayne State University. The workshop encouraged community colleges to add hybrid and alternative fuel technologies to their curricula and aid students in building a hybrid vehicle.
- ◆ Lynda Naylor, Willie Mae Hampton, and Stacey Kline participated in a regional meeting at Madonna University. The meeting, held in response to the Foster Care Higher Education Summit, focused on foster care for youth in and around Wayne County.
- ◆ Tony Arminiak attended the 30th National Leadership Conference hosted by the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) in Orlando, Florida. More than 5,600 students from all over the country who attended.
- ◆ Cora Steinman attended the Annual Strategic Planning Meeting of The Guidance Center's Head Start Programs. Discussion centered around meeting children's needs for health and development, including hearing and dental exams; increased English as a Second Language training offered to parents; and family and child-care partnerships within the community.
- ◆ Judy Smouter and Donnell Mason attended the YMCA's Coalition Meeting at Oakland University. Other attendees included representatives from Eastern Michigan University, Wayne State University, University of Michigan-Dearborn, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, Oakland University, and Henry Ford Hospital. WCCCD will once again be partnering with Henry Ford Hospital to expose 8th—11th graders to various health care and non-traditional careers at Henry Ford Hospital on November 17, 2007.