



CHANCELLOR'S WEEKEND MEMO

May 18, 2007

Number 582

This week the District was host to Dr. Mary Breslin, associate director of the Higher Learning Commission and staff liaison for WCCCD, who visited the District for two days. During her visit, she met with the Self-Study Steering Committee as well as representatives from Central Administration and all campuses. During the meeting, she discussed some of the new trends, requirements, and tips about self-study, which will help the District carry its own self-study forward. Dr. Breslin toured the Downtown and Downriver campuses. She also visited biology/computer/automotive/surgical tech labs, LRC, one-stop student service center, counseling centers, MISPE, art galleries, and conference rooms. Dr. Breslin told us that she was deeply impressed by the transformational change of the District since her last visit in mid-90's, as well the professionalism of the staff and outstanding facilities of the District.



EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR

- ◆ Today, the District will hold its Spring 2007 Health Science Recognition Pinning Ceremony at the Downtown Campus. This ceremony is celebrates the hard work of approximately 100 students from the Nursing, Dental, and Pharmacy Technology programs. Please join us as we congratulate our students and families.
- ◆ From May 7-12, WCCCD served 1,927 students by partnering with 14 community organizations. The numbers served are as follows: **Downriver**, 61; **Downtown**, 1,037; **Eastern**, 145; **Northwest**, 419; **Western**, 265.



PHYSICAL PLANT AND FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

- ◆ Directors for the Physical Plant/Facilities Maintenance Department must be aware of the regulations, codes, and standards that influence building operations and daily tasks. Directors are required to understand common safety and environmental regulatory issues that affect the facilities they supervise. The Department is re-examining the guidelines for health and safety set by the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) for all maintenance personnel. Establishing a system that identifies, implements, and ensures compliance with the requirements of these standards, creates safe campuses. The department is also actively managing its health and safety risks by ensuring:
 - ◆ **Awareness** – All staff and students must be aware of their responsibilities.
 - ◆ **Communication** – Information is communicated effectively.
 - ◆ **Work environment** – Buildings, equipment, and machinery are maintained in safe conditions.
 - ◆ **Resources** – Adequate resources are provided to manage health and safety issues.
 - ◆ **Equipment** – Safety equipment and clothing (lab coats, goggles, machine guards, etc) are maintained and used correctly.
 - ◆ **Accidents** - Accidents are investigated to reduce risk of recurrence.
 - ◆ **Others on site** – All contractors are required to actively manage and reduce the risk of injury.

STUDENT SERVICES

- ◆ Trio Transfer program students Gregory Starks, Timothy Schleusener, and Clem Turner have been selected to participate in the Michigan College/University Partnership Program (MICUP) at Michigan Technology University (MTU). The honors students will be joined by other students from Delta College, Grand Rapids Community College, and Northwestern Michigan College. In addition to living on campus for seven weeks, the students will receive a stipend, take a three-credit MTU summer course at no cost to them, and will also participate in an Undergraduate Research Internship in their area of concentration. The students will present their research projects on June 25, 2007 at MICUP's Community College Day.

CAREER AND TRANSFER PROGRAMS

- ◆ Dr. Debraha Watson and JoAnn Nyquist attended the Power of Possibilities Breakfast for the Children's Center. The organization engages the community to produce fresh results and ideas to help children and families in need. The organization provides a full range of services including adoption, foster care, and mental health.

INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



SELF-STUDY TIP OF THE WEEK

- ◆ The meaning of "process" or "systems" is often misunderstood in education. A system is a set of concepts or parts that must work together to perform a particular function. In addition, an organization is a system or a collection of systems. Examples of systems in education include: teaching and learning, support services, technology, and others. Process is defined as a series of actions, changes, or functions bringing about a result. It is the way of doing, not what is done. Examples of processes in education include: the process of a plant's life cycle, the process of teaching basic writing skills, the process of preparing and submitting a syllabus, and etc.



DISTANCE LEARNING

- ◆ The ninth and tenth common questions about the "Request for Institutional Change" for delivering online degrees are where can we go and get more information about the WCCCD Change Request and how can we get involved? More information can be obtained by contacting Dr. Stephanie Bulger, Vice Chancellor for Curriculum and Learning Technologies. And, involvement can occur in a variety of ways, including (1) reviewing the Change Request draft document, (2) reviewing the Appendices document, (3) asking questions, and (4) making recommendations.
- ◆ Key distance learning operations are faculty support, schedule development, and student support. As Director for Learning Technologies, Dr. Letitia Uduma, manages these critical areas and recently created a *Faculty Lounge* in the Blackboard Course Management system to provide online faculty information and resources, and share ideas within an online community.

EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS

- ◆ Dr. George Swan served as the keynote speaker for the YMCA's 2007 Minority Achievers luncheon. Dr. Swan spoke on the educational offerings provided by the District.
- ◆ Dr. Fleezanis attended the Legislative Committee meeting of the Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber of Commerce. This committee hears from local and state elected officials as they discuss pertinent issues that impact the Downriver communities represented by the chamber. This meeting addressed the issue of the proposed gasoline tax promoted by the Governor and democratic legislature and a house bill on injection wells.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

- ◆ District representatives attended the Michigan Banner (Bug-Mi) Spring Conference which focused on using the Banner System to improve performance. Banner 8.0 will be introduced soon; it features new elements providing users the ability to track travel and employee expenses, perform algorithmic packaging allowing schools more functionality in automating the packaging process, and monitor and enhancing the human resources and payroll functions for greater accuracy and productivity. A breakout session revolved around the discussion of the Academic Competitiveness Grant and the Smart Grant, ending with a question and answer session on the method of validating, reporting, and processing these grants. The conference provided an excellent forum for sharing information, as well as opportunities for networking.
- ◆ The District Financial Aid Office (DFAO) is looking into ways to improve its customer service. At a recent staff training session, a campaign entitled "You never get a second chance to make a good first impression" was initiated. During the next few weeks, the DFAO will cover materials and engage in role playing that will address how body language, demeanor, and what we say impact the customer. The department is working to enhance customer service skills in preparation for fall registration.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK

Powers of the Mind: The Reinvention of Liberal Learning in America

By Donald N. Living

Making Teaching and Learning: Course Portfolios and the Peer Review of Teaching

By Daniel Berstein, Amy Nelson Burnett, Amy Goodburn, and Paul Savory

KUDOS

Please extend congratulations to Downriver Campus Safety Officer Martha Camp for being inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa International Honors Society.



CAMPUS PRESIDENTS' CORNER

- ◆ AT & T Michigan's President Gail Torreano made a major announcement about the completion of the company's 2006 Broadband Expansion initiative during the "Broadband Tour" which began its ten stop tour at the Western Campus. WCCCD's Western Campus embraced its partnership with AT&T Michigan and supports its investment of \$486 million in the state as it expands broadband capabilities to 57 communities including Belleville and Van Buren Township.
- ◆ The Western Campus' Continuing Education Department partnered with the Wayne County Sheriff's Training Unit to offer a Controlled Concealed Weapons (CCW) Class for women. The class reached its full capacity three weeks before the date it was to be held. A second class was opened for June and is already reaching capacity. The all-female classes have received positive support throughout the community and will continue to be offered to meet the demand of the community.
- ◆ The Continuing Education Department at Western Campus partnered with the Van Buren Public Schools to present The Young Authors Conference. Over 200 hundred participants attended. The program assisted the youth in discovering their creative abilities and expressing their thoughts in the context of instructional activities. Students interacted with established authors, poets, and storytellers.
- ◆ The Eastern Campus participated in the 15th Anniversary of the Letter Carriers Food Drive with over 500 items being donated by our staff.
- ◆ The annual Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society Induction Ceremony was held at the Downtown Campus. Phi Theta Kappa, founded in 1918, is the only international honor society that recognizes the outstanding scholarship of students attending two-year institutions. Congratulations to the newly elected officers of the Alpha Upsilon Zeta chapter: President Jocelyn Brown, Vice President George "Wes" Scott, Vice President Mary Knorp, and Secretary Sarah McDufie. A very special congratulations goes out to Jocelyn Brown who received a regional award from the Phi Theta Kappa Society of Michigan for her outstanding leadership. Ms. Brown is a single mother with full-time employment and manages to pursue her dream of education while also serving her colleagues. Ms. Brown is representative of many of our students who are juggling employment and family responsibilities while continuing their education. The number of inductees had grown steadily every year.
- ◆ The third annual Youth Fishing Expo, co-sponsored by the City of Taylor's Parks and Recreation Department, and held at the Downriver Campus, provided children from ages 5 through 15 and their parents with an opportunity to learn about fish, lakes, rivers, and ponds, as well as the enemies of the water and fish supply.
- ◆ The Downriver Campus hosted a tobacco prevention forum entitled, "Hooked on Hookah." It was sponsored by the Arab American & Chaldean Council (ACC) Public Health Division, Southeast Michigan Community Alliance (SEMCA), Wayne County Department of Public Health, ACCESS Community Health & Research Center, and KNOPF. The forum informed participants about a new trend in tobacco smoking that is considered more harmful than cigarette smoking by health officials but accepted as non-hazardous by the general public.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

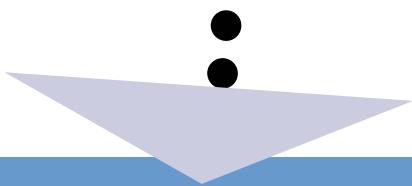
"When inspiration does not come to me, I go halfway to meet it."

Sigmund Freud



CAMPUS PRESIDENTS' CORNER CONTINUED . . .

- ◆ The Downriver Campus, in association with the Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency and Wayne State University, hosted the Children's Grand Rounds. This event, focused mental health practitioners, and assisted them in understanding the categories of staffs providing mental health services, their patterns of practice, the types of training and supervision, as well as the role they play in access, quality, and practice improvement of mental health care in Wayne County.
- ◆ Andy Steeby met with Tom McCracken, a certified priority dispatch instructor, to discuss developing and implementing a dispatch academy with WCCCD's Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education (MIPSE). Currently, work is underway to have an Emergency Telecommunications (ETC), Emergency Medical Dispatch, Emergency Fire Dispatch, and Emergency Police Dispatch classes offered in the Fall 2007 semester.
- ◆ Members of the Wayne County Sheriff Motorcycle Patrol attended a two-class session at the MIPSE facility this week. The members were required to drive various courses with their large motorcycles. This included tight corner turns, wet pavement, and braking scenarios. This annual update is required to remain a member of the motorcycle patrol.



ON THE MOVE

- ◆ Pamela Strober and Connie Holmes attended a luncheon meeting of the Michigan Youth Opportunity Initiative Community Partnerships Board Meeting. The organization brings together key local decision-makers who take responsibility for developing, implementing, assessing, and improving strategies to ensure a successful transition to adulthood for youth transitioning from foster care. The Board is composed of key decision-makers in child welfare, public policy and practice, employment, education, housing, banking, residents, and other social structures.
- ◆ Patricia Hawkins and Judith Smouter attended the first "Youth Voices Changing Public Policy" visitation organized by Michigan's Children and hosted by Vista Maria. Several youth provided testimonies about their experiences in foster care, dropping out and back into school, and various other challenges. Policymaker representatives from the offices of Councilwoman, JoAnn Watson, Senator Carl Levin, Kwame Kenyatta, and Martha Scott were present. WCCCD will host the second visitation at the Downtown Campus on September 17, 2007.
- ◆ Yvette McElroy will be the keynote speaker for the Macomb County National Council of Negro Women's 2007 Educational Awards Banquet. The theme is "Education Equals Endless Opportunities."

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

- ◆ Detroit Edison Fermi 2 held the first of six fire brigade training sessions. The DTE team practiced plugging an open sprinkler head, using fire extinguishers, fire suppression in the burn room, and applying foam to a fire. This is the second year for DTE, Fermi 2 training at the Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education (MIPSE) at the Downriver Campus
- ◆ The Wayne County Sheriff's Crime Scene Investigation Class concluded this week. The class, held at the MIPSE facility, included various mock crime scenes using different simulators and a trip to court to justify the evidence collected.