

CHANCELLOR'S WEEKEND MEMO

November 2, 2007
Number 606

We were pleased on Wednesday to host Mrs. Waltrud Prechter, the Honorable Carmeron Preibe, mayor of Taylor, members of the Board of Trustees, elected officials, community leaders and members of the District faculty and staff for the naming ceremony of the Heinz C. Prechter Educational and Performing Arts Center. The center is a 74,000 square foot addition to the Downriver Campus that will include 14 classrooms, an 800 seat theatre, and state and rehearsal rooms for use by students and the community.

The late Mr. Prechter had a vision more than 20 years ago for a performing arts facility at the Downriver Campus that would serve as a regional educational and cultural arts center. Groups such as the Downriver Council for the Arts, Downriver Arts and Crafts Guild, Downriver Arts Ambience and the Seaway Chorale have been long interested in a venue that would support and promote education, training, programs and performance events in the Downriver area. As a result, the development of the Educational and Performing Arts Center at the campus has been met with great excitement and enthusiasm by the community.

The formal naming of the center in honor of Heinz Prechter, the "Duke of Downriver," not only recognizes his significant philanthropy in the region, but salutes his role as a leader and visionary. In accepting the plaque dedicating the facility in his name, Mrs. Prechter thanked the District and Mayor Priebe for making it possible for this dream to be realized.

This week represents a milestone at the District in promoting international relations and delivering instruction to a global community. A delegation of law-enforcement officers and fire-fighters from Chengdu, China trained at the Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education. The range of instructional activities included confined space training, hazardous materials, fire suppression, SWAT, elevator rescue, and incident command. Collaboration with the Wayne County Sheriff's Special Response Team, Downriver Hazmat, Water Rescue, and Fire Investigation Teams allowed participants access to best practices.



We are proud of the work of our staff and professionals in this important endeavor and understand that this is the first of many training programs conducted in our partnership with the City of Chengdu.

More than 30 staff and administrators participated in the Jeanne Clery Act Compliance Web Conference presented by Academic Impressions to gain insight on how to maintain compliance as it relates to campus safety. The Jeanne Clery Act requires that all higher education institutions participating in federal financial aid programs keep and disclose information about crime on and near their campuses. During the three-hour conference, participants learned about the Clery disclosure requirements, how to manage crime data, campus safety policy development and disclosure, and Act disclosure considerations.

EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR

- ◆ More than 73 faculty members attended The Adjunct Faculty Open House at the Downtown Campus. The event provided participants with useful information related to professional development, how to enter grades, and syllabus development. The faculty members were very pleased to hear of the upcoming professional development opportunities.

- ◆ Classes for the Detroit Allied Health Middle College Program at Kettering High school are underway. Students have expressed excitement about being part of a rich and rigorous program that guarantees them a job when they



CONTINUING EDUCATION ENROLLMENT

- ◆ During the week of October 22 - 27, 2007, the District served 689 students by partnering with 18 community organizations. The numbers served at each campus are as:

Campus	Students
Downriver	142
Downtown	188
Eastern	320
Northwest	No Report
Western	39

STUDENT SERVICES

- ◆ Carol Wells and Brian Singleton presented at the annual Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO) Conference in New Orleans. The presentation, entitled "Managing Dual Enrollments at an Urban Community College—Lessons Learned," was well-received especially by those who were interested in establishing or improving the management of a dual/concurrent enrollment program at their institutions. Approximately 800 student services and instructional staff from colleges and universities throughout the U.S. and Canada attended. This year, AACRAO featured a special track for community colleges interested in learning more about implementing a strategic enrollment management plan.

DISTANCE LEARNING

- ◆ Students from Earhart Middle School toured the Downtown Campus. The students, who are also participating in the Virtual Middle College, learned about admissions, program offerings, support services and financial aid. Below, are some comments from the students and the teacher who accompanied them:

- ⇒ "The campus has a good location and is very organized and clean."
- ⇒ "I like that while I was having fun, I was learning at the same time."
- ⇒ "I'm very pleased that 8th graders are exposed, in this program, to higher education. This can make all the difference in some of their lives. Thank You! My own children will enroll this summer."

GREAT NEWS

- ◆ The division was selected to be a member in the Blackboard Idea Exchange (BIE) Program for two years. The BIE is an influential and structured client advisory program for the Blackboard Academic Suite. The members of BIE represent the voice of the client community by engaging in beta tests, product development partnerships, and online forums.

EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS

- ◆ Dr. Nick Fleezanis and staff from the Downriver and Western campuses attended the Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber of Commerce Legislative Forum. Keynote speaker Robert Ficano, Wayne County executive, discussed many issues facing the county and how the county government has made attempts to improve the economic outlook of the area.

CAMPUS PRESIDENTS' CORNER

- ◆ The Downtown Campus hosted a lecture series entitled "Education and the Law: Civil Rights from 1955 – 2007, what the past has taught us and the present has brought us." Attorney Warren Ballentine, host of a nationally syndicated radio talk show and Civil Rights activist, addressed Civil Rights issues.
- ◆ The Downtown Campus hosted a Black Business Expo, "Sales Success in Traditional versus Non-Traditional Industry Sales." Workshop topics covered the differences between traditional and non-traditional industry sales.
- ◆ Dr. Frank Dunbar, Nancy Ruetz, Kerry Barnett-Novack, and Dr. Jacob Smith met with Al Leavel and Peggy Carr of the Inkster School District to discuss plans for future dual enrollment programs. Over 80 Inkster students are participating in 10 dual enrollment courses. Dr. Smith spoke about the challenges of time management, commitment, and parental expectations.
- ◆ Tony Arminiak, Michael Dotson, and Mark Lang attended the City of Taylor Master Plan Open House. The District was able to provide a brief presentation on the District activities and construction project at the Downriver Campus.
- ◆ WCCCD hosted its first international training program as the Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education this week. Police and fire officers from Chengdu, China trained and learned best practices that will help enhance their police and fire services. Training was provided in areas of confined space, hazardous materials, fire suppression, SWAT, elevator rescue, and incident command. Best practices were also provided by the Wayne County Sheriffs Special Response Team, Downriver Hazmat, Water Rescue, and Fire Investigation teams.
- ◆ More than 200 people attended the annual Family and Safety Halloween Celebration at the Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education. Activities included face painting, a clown caravan, safety tips, and games.



- ◆ Durell Thomas met with Carol Schoch, director of the Detroit Children's Choir, to discuss formulating a partnership with WCCCD. The choir is a neighborhood program that is open to students in grades 3-8 in the Metro Detroit area. The program will consist of weekly one-hour rehearsals that will cover singing, music reading, performance techniques, listening, harmony, and music of many cultures and languages. The Detroit Children's Choir will also provide performances in the community each semester to showcase the talents of its members.
- ◆ Ralph Hardin, Dr. Patrick Pieh, and Yvette McElroy attended the fifth annual "Images and Perceptions of Arab Americans" workshop at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. The workshop examined the immigration of Arab Americans and the effects of discrimination as a result of recent events in the Middle East.
- ◆ The Alpha Upsilon Zeta Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society held its semi-annual new member orientation at the Northwest Campus. Prospective members watched a film on the opportunities and benefits of membership.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

- ♦ The Michigan Economic Development Corporation convened the six participating companies in the new Wayne County Advance Manufacturing Collaborative at the Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education to officially launch the project. Under this partnership, the District will conduct classroom training for the companies over the next 12 months. Over 300 workers from the participating companies will receive instruction in areas such as welding, quality, electrical and mechanical plant maintenance, computer design, and manufacturing processes.
- ♦ The No Worker Left Behind Implementation Group, a working committee that identifies various policy implementation issues and concerns for the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth, met this week in Lansing. WCCCD is one of the three community colleges participating in this policy advisory group for the state.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

- ♦ The Professional and Staff Development Institute (PSDI) held a workshop entitled "Diversity and Communication: Learning to Understand and Respect Differences." Facilitator Rick Weaver, president of the Multicultural Business Council, led participants in a discussion of how one's personality elements are influenced by cultures. Mr. Weaver also presented the different customs of key ethnic groups in the southeast Michigan region.



UPCOMING PSDI WORKSHOP

Balancing Work and Family

Wednesday, November 7, 2007

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Board of Trustees Conference Room

Central Administration Building

To register, contact Stefanie Smith at
(313) 496-2864 or email at ssmith5@wcccd.edu.

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

- ♦ The Center for Michigan, a non-profit bipartisan steering committee, is sponsoring a Michigan Story Competition. Students and residents statewide can submit photos with captions, online videos, or a narrative on what they love about Michigan or what their best vision is for the state's future. Over \$30,000 in prizes, including college scholarships and vacations to top Michigan resorts, will be awarded. WCCCD students are encouraged to participate in the competition, which is open through March 2008. For more information, log onto www.thecenterformichigan.net.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Motivation is what gets you started. Habit is what keeps you going."

Jim Ryn

BOOK OF THE WEEK

Gray Matters: The Workplace Survival Guide
By Bob Rosner and Allan Halcrow

- ♦ Congratulations to student Joni Burgess for winning the 17th annual Pumpkin Carving Contest. Under the direction of Carl Kamulski, this annual event promotes creativity and student participation.





ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

KUDOS

- ◆ The Michigan Guaranty Agency awarded WCCCD a certificate of achievement for consistent dedication to the prevention of student loan defaults. The District's cohort default rate has been below 10% for the three most recent cohort years as published by the U.S. Department of Education.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- ◆ The department is kicking off the annual open enrollment period for employee benefits selection. Employees can view their current benefit elections on *employee self-service*, which was part of the BANNER implementation in 2006. For the first time, all forms pertaining to open enrollment will be available on the human resources web page. The department will be hosting a Benefits Fair on Friday, November 16, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Downtown Campus. Open enrollment is scheduled from November 1, 2007 through November 21, 2007.

ON THE MOVE . . .

- ◆ Muna Khoury attended the Conference on Education Practice in Leadership (EPL) – Transforming Community Colleges in Kansas City, Missouri. The conference encompassed a tri-dimensional program consisting of topics for CEO's and administrators including diversity and social justice and transforming colleges for the next decade.
- ◆ Elta Hambrick attended the 15th Anniversary Founders' Day Reception for the Women's Informal Network (WIN). The event honored its 58 founding members, including Ms. Hambrick. WIN promotes the growth and development of African American women.
- ◆ Lettie Redley attended the 2007 TRENDS in Occupational Studies Conference in Grand Rapids. The keynote speaker was Andy Levin, deputy director of the Department of Labor and Economic Growth, who discussed the economic status of Michigan and it's relation to the No Worker Left Behind Program.
- ◆ Yvette McElroy attended the "Variables that Impact Student Learning and Success" workshop at Oakland Community College. The workshop examined student learning and offered possible solutions to improve student success.