

CHANCELLOR'S WEEKEND MEMO

November 30, 2007
Number 610

While we have experienced the impact from the tremendous growth in student enrollment during the past few years, it is good to receive acknowledgement of our efforts to serve this community on a national level. The *Community College Week* magazine produced a special report on the "Fastest Growing Community Colleges" in the nation. In the list of the top 50 institutions, WCCCD was ranked as number one of the "Fastest Growing Public Two-Year Colleges with 10,000 or more students." It was noted that we had attained a 30.5% increase from the prior year for which enrollment numbers were reported (2005), that represented twice the rate of the college that ranked second on the list. With all that attends increasing numbers of students coming to WCCCD, we welcome the challenge and opportunity of continuing to offer access to quality programs and services to meet the need for success in a global community.

We were pleased to have Dr. Christine McPhail and Dr. Kriesta Watson visit the District this week in their roles of coach and data facilitator for our Achieving the Dream (ATD) work groups. As one of 83 institutions nationwide participating in the initiative, the team is engaged in the planning phase for this four-year effort to enhance student success through the WCCCD experience. It was noteworthy to receive Dr. McPhail's perspective of how well-positioned the District is to serve as a model ATD college for other colleges. The teams spent three intensive days and have prepared plans of work that will lead to the development of initiatives that will support the ATD goals of increasing the percentage of students who successfully complete the courses they take, persist in their studies, and earn degrees and certificates. We are proud to have been selected to participate in Achieving the Dream and look forward to the further development of this initiative.

EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR

- ◆ The Allied Health Special Recognition Pinning Ceremony will be held on Saturday, December 8th at 10:00 a.m. at the Northwest Campus Auditorium. Graduating students from Nursing and other allied health programs will be honored for their achievements. The keynote speakers will be Drs. James and Sophia Womack, well-known physicians from the Metropolitan Detroit area. Let's join the celebration in honoring our students.

CONTINUING EDUCATION ENROLLMENT

- ◆ During the week of November 19 – November 25, 2007, the District served 249 students by partnering with seven community organizations. The numbers served at each campus are:

Campus	Students
Downriver	No Events
Downtown	112
Eastern	98
Northwest	No Events
Western	39

***Note: There was an error in last week's report. The correct numbers are Eastern Campus 2, Northwest Campus 80, and Western Campus 199.*

COMMUNITY COLLEGE TID-BITS

- ◆ According to the *Community College Journal*, major foundations see community colleges as partners in accomplishing their objectives to close the equity gaps; seeking economic development, entrepreneurship, and civic engagement; and assisting the coming boom of retirees.

INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- ◆ The division reconvened with the coaches from the Achieving the Dream Initiative. Members engaged in strategic conversations about the culture of evidence, data analysis plans, and the progress the data team has achieved.

DID YOU KNOW?

- ◆ Academic computing products, which include learning management systems, expect high growth in assessment systems, collaboration platforms, and digital asset management systems, as well as content creation tools. Spurred by growth in collaboration and communication technologies, the academic computing market is forecast to hit \$419 million by 2010, according to a forecast from an education consultancy.

SELF-STUDY TIP OF THE WEEK

Essential Learning Outcomes

- ◆ Students of all ages should prepare for 21st century challenges by gaining:
 - ⇒ Knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world.
 - ⇒ Focus by engagement with questions that are both contemporary and enduring.

PHYSICAL PLANT AND FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

- ◆ Phase III site work at the Downriver Campus is almost finished for 2007. Once the temperature consistently stays below 40 degrees, the asphalt plants will shut down for the winter.



DISTANCE LEARNING

- ◆ The division will substantially increase training offerings beginning Spring 2008. In addition to offering training in Blackboard Basics, Blackboard Advanced, and pedagogy training, workshops featuring the latest technologies will be offered throughout the year. The Distance Learning 2008 training calendar in the Professional and Staff Development Institute will be designed to meet technology training needs at varying levels (novice to expert) and roles (online and face-to-face faculty members and staff).

STUDENT SERVICES

- ◆ Diana Rosario and Andy Steeby met with Suzy Siegle from Concordia University to discuss establishing an articulation agreement for the Emergency Medical Technology and Fire Protection Technology programs.

BOOK OF THE WEEK

It's All About Service
How to Lead Your People to Care for Your Customers
By Ray Pelletier

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"To be successful, have your heart in your business and your business in your heart."

Thomas Watson

EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS

- ♦ Dr. Debraha Watson attended the Kaleidoscope Leadership Institute. This institute assists in preparing for and gaining leadership positions in higher education. Individuals in leadership positions also find assistance in gaining a greater understanding of ethnic differences and similarities to strengthen leadership skills.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

- ♦ The Accounts Payable Department has created a Vendor Relations Line to receive vendor inquiries and concerns. Institutional vendors may call 313-496-2888 on a 24/7 basis to report inquiries and leave questions about payment and other related issues. All calls will be returned within one business day.
- ♦ Effective Monday, November 26, 2007 through Monday, January 28, 2008, students who have a Spring 2008 financial aid award and payment authorization form on file may utilize their book voucher to purchase books and supplies at the campus bookstore.

- ♦ Last week, the winners of the WCCCD Family Holiday Traditions Essay Contest participated in the annual Santa Claus Parade in Grosse Pointe. Dozens of students from the Grosse Pointe Public Elementary Schools submitted essays describing their family's special traditions during this holiday season. Twelve students were selected to ride on the WCCCD fire engine in the parade and the *Grosse Pointe News* published portions of their essays in the weekly paper.



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

- ♦ Kenyatta Green-Scott and Judy Smouter joined various colleagues from other colleges and universities at the YMCA Coalition meeting. Past program debriefing and upcoming youth program planning was the focus of discussion. The "YMCA Teen Success Fest," conducted by the YMCA, Henry Ford Hospital, and WCCCD, received praise and was recognized as an exemplary program. The January YMCA Coalition meeting will be hosted by WCCCD.

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

- ♦ ChiltonLibrary.com from Chilton, a well known automotive publisher, is one of the new databases available on the Michigan Electronic Library website, mel.org. The database provides exclusive photographs, diagnostics designed by instructors, step-by-step repair procedures, original equipment manufacturer maintenance schedules, wiring diagrams, recalls, and technical service bulletins for automobiles and light trucks. Staff and students may access this database from any college computer and from home.

IN THE NEWS ...

- ♦ The Heinz C. Prechter Educational and Performing Arts Center was recognized in the Fall-Winter 2008 *Taylor Info* newsletter. The article spoke to the growth the District has seen and its commitment to the Downriver communities.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

- ♦ The Student Occupational Therapy Association is collecting toys to donate to the Children's Hospital in Detroit.

CAMPUS PRESIDENTS' CORNER

- ◆ The Downtown Campus hosted the Sierra Club this week. The group discussed storm water pollution, industrial pollution, water turnoffs, sewage overflows, and environmental justice concerns. Participants were encouraged to write letters to the editors of local papers and join watershed groups.
- ◆ The Student Occupational Therapy Association hosted a lecture at the Downtown Campus. The guest speaker was Joe Legros from Bioness, a company that makes functional electrical stimulation devices. Mr. Legros demonstrated how the devices help restore function in paralyzed muscles for patients who have problems from stroke or spinal cord injuries. Occupational therapy students from Wayne State University also attended.
- ◆ Dr. Curtis Green and the students in his biology class at the Eastern Campus hosted a science fair. An array of experiments, collections, and models showcasing student research on various diseases were exhibited in the atrium.
- ◆ The Downriver Campus hosted the Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency's "Ethics for Mental Health Practitioners" workshop. The organization agency provides outreach, homeless prevention, employment and training, youth programs, weatherization, and Wayne County neighborhood legal services.
- ◆ Tony Arminiak and Tamara Williams met with Chuck Hawes, president of the Michigan Institute of Aviation and Technology, to discuss curriculum alignment with the District.
- ◆ The Western Campus hosted the Southeastern Michigan Community College Consortium Steering Committee Meeting. Topics of discussion included a Community-based Job Training Grant works planning review along with college training start-up projections and timing. Representatives from Monroe County, Schoolcraft, Oakland, Henry Ford, Washtenaw, and Mott community colleges also attended.



HUMAN RESOURCES

- ◆ This week concludes the annual open enrollment for benefit changes and updates to be submitted to the Human Resources Department. Employees should be mindful of uninsured medical expenses, dependent care expenses, the college's flexibility spending accounts, uninsured medical expenses, and contributions made to tax-sheltered annuities. The amount that an employee may contribute continues to be capped at \$15,500 per calendar year with a catch-up provision for persons over 50 at \$5,000 per calendar year.
- ◆ The Michigan Chapter of the American Association for Women in Community Colleges was officially chartered today. The ceremony featured the Region V Director Gladys Hardnick-Bouyer and board members Shirley Carpenter, Teresa Walker, and Barbara Britton. The officers for the 2007-08 year are President, Omobonike Odegbami; President-elect, Danielle Player; Secretary, Avanti Herczeg; and Treasurer, Kerri Barnett-Novack.



ON THE MOVE . . .

- ◆ Yvette McElroy presented at the Michigan Association for Adult and Continuing Education 32nd Annual Conference. Ms. McElroy's presentation was a concurrent workshop entitled "Reaching the Adult Learner with Technology in Open Door Institutions." Participants learned about the strategies that engage the varied student population in "open door" institutions and the different learning styles in adult learners.
- ◆ Raj Sinha, WCCCD Faculty attended an Environmental Protection Agency/Housing and Urban Development Conference in Washington, D.C. Participants received information on eliminating lead poisoning in children under the age of six years.
- ◆ Brenda Jones along with several faculty and staff attended the "Educator's Visit to the Ritz-Carlton." Participants learned about how to deliver great customer service by paying attention to details "the Ritz-Carlton way."