

CHANCELLOR'S WEEKEND MEMO

September 7, 2007
Number 598

As the District continues to grow, so does its reputation for providing a unique, collaborative learning environment that appeals to everyone who wants service – and that also includes organizations who want to utilize our facilities for training and other non-traditional learning situations. We are very proud that Anthony Arminiak was the recipient of a complimentary letter from the United States Environmental Protection Agency who recently used the Michigan Institute of Public Safety Education at the Downriver Campus. The letter stated:

“Thirty-three representatives of local government agencies, fire departments, and hazmat teams were able to attend the U.S. EPA Monitoring for Emergency Response course. Wayne County Community College District continues to make an impact on a national level. Your facility is not only centrally located, but is also extremely well-suited for the small group break-out exercises incorporated into the class. Thank you for assisting us in providing this free training to all of our local partners. Please pass along our appreciation to Dennis Andrew and the rest of the staff. We look forward to working with WCCCD in future.”

Michelle Jaster,
On-Scene Coordinator

Such a letter proves that WCCCD is responding to and working with our constituents to give them the tools needed in their personal and professional endeavors.

EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR

- ♦ Shawna Forbes met with representatives from the Wayne County Mental Health Agency to finalize plans for the “Stop Suicide: A Prevention Workshop and Conference” scheduled for Saturday, September 8th at the Downtown Campus from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Keynote speaker Dr. Sean Joe, assistant professor at the University of Michigan, and Ross Szabo, author and suicide survivor, will provide insight for this growing concern.

CONTINUING EDUCATION ENROLLMENT

During the week of August 27 - September 1, 2007, the District served 1,076 students by partnering with nine community organizations. The numbers served at each campus are:

Campus	Students
Downriver	32
Downtown	869
Eastern	41
Northwest	113
Western	21

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Goals are dreams with deadlines.”

Diana Scharf Hunt

BOOK OF THE WEEK

Customer Service Excellence

By Debra J. MacNeill

PHYSICAL PLANT AND FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

WESTERN CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

- ◆ The curbing and parking islands have been installed for the south parking lot. The paving of the parking is scheduled to be completed by September 14, 2007. The additional parking structure will hold approximately 180 vehicles and the lighting of the new parking structure is 40% brighter than the previous lighting.



STUDENT SERVICES

- ◆ The Academic Support Department administered the Learning and Study Strategies Inventory Test to students enrolled in OTA 100. As a retention strategy, this test assesses students in 10 skill areas vital to students' success in higher education. After the test, students were provided access to online modules designed to strengthen deficient areas identified during the assessment test. The Learning and Study Strategies Inventory is available in each of the campus Learning Centers to take the inventory. Instructors are encouraged to call the Learning Center to schedule a time for their class.

INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- ◆ To learn how departments can contribute to the re-accreditation process, contact Johnesa Dimicks at (313) 496-2796 or via email jdimick1@wcccd.edu. The District Self Study Center hours of operation are Mondays 2 p.m.—3p.m., Tuesdays 10 a.m.—11a.m., Wednesdays 2 p.m.—3p.m., and Thursdays 10 a.m.—11:00 a.m.

DISTANCE LEARNING

- ◆ On Friday, September 14, from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m., a Blackboard Basics training will be held at the Central Administration Building in the Distance Learning Multimedia Studio, Room 109. This training is the first step towards online teaching certification and is designed for instructors who are interested in teaching online. It will provide basic level training for instructors wishing to supplement their face-to-face courses with a Blackboard course site. The development of the 2008 Training Calendar is underway.
- ◆ Mobility and convenience continue to be a demand from consumers of distance education. Apple is responding with iTunes U which is touted as the “Campus That Never Sleeps.” Colleges and universities build their own iTunes U sites. Faculty post content they create for their classes. Students download what they need, whenever they need it on a Mac, a PC, or an iPod. This technology is giving higher education institutions an ingenious way to get audio and video content to their students. Schools currently using iTunes U include the University of Michigan Dental School, Stanford University, Broome Community College, and Arizona State University.

CAREER AND TRANSFER PROGRAMS

- ◆ Students and alumni from the Veterinary Technology Program volunteered at the Miracle of Life exhibit at the Michigan State Fair. They spent time educating the public on farm animals. This is the third year the program has participated in this community service event.



DID YOU KNOW?

- ◆ A recent article in the *Community College Journal* reported that more than one million baby boomers are attending community colleges to retool for future careers. According to the Center for Community College Policy in Denver, older students are twice as likely to attend a community college as a four-year college or university.

Please extend your congratulations to Yvonne Wesley on her employment as the first full-time surgical first assistant at the Detroit Medical Center, Receiving Hospital. Ms. Wesley graduated in August 2007.



CAMPUS PRESIDENTS' CORNER

- ◆ Bonike Odegbami met with members of the Nigerians in Diaspora – Michigan Chapter to discuss strategies in recruiting students for WCCCD's online programs. Segun Adeyina, public relations officer, indicated that distance learning is a great opportunity for Nigerian students having difficulty in obtaining student visas to the U.S.
- ◆ The Downtown Campus hosted a Mental Health Conference which provided participants with information on mental health disorders, suicide, and its effects on the family and general community.
- ◆ Students from the Detroit Job Corp visited the Downtown Campus. During their tour, they learned about academic programs, admissions procedures, financial aid, and other student services.
- ◆ Ralph Hardin attended the Detroit International Jazz Festival to support the students in the Arts League of Michigan Jazz Camp during their performance with Regina Carter. The camp, held at the Northwest Campus, provided students with the opportunity to take part in the Artist Mentorship Program. The program matched students, in grades 8-12, with a working professional artist.
- ◆ The Downriver Campus hosted the Wayne County Heritage Chapter 4696 meeting of the American Association of Retired Persons.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

- ◆ Felisa Ware met with Derek Blackmon, manager of the Membership and Outreach of Detroit Parenting Network, to explore educational partnership opportunities in parenting and youth development.
- ◆ Judith Smouter and Felisa Ware met with Fred Pischke, director for the Ford Senior Center, to discuss the development of programs and services for their senior members. Located in Taylor, the center offers seniors a variety of activities and programs designed to enrich and educate program participants. Programs are slated to begin this fall.
- ◆ Reginald Witherspoon attended the Advisory Board meeting for the Detroit Regional Manufacturing Skills Alliance. Participants received information on the District's Advance Manufacturing Career Center Project. Board members provided recommendations for contacts with the Society of Manufacturing Engineers' Education Foundation and their initiative with the Lead the Way Program, a national program designed to promote science, technology, and engineering education across the country. The group will work with the Workforce Development Division to implement the Advance Manufacturing Career Center Project.

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

- ◆ The Learning Resource Center at the Northwest Campus received more than 70 new books. Disciplines include science and technology, behavioral science, and literature. Faculty, staff, and students are all looking forward to utilizing the growing collection.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- ◆ The department recently completed a policy draft regarding the Employee Tuition Waiver Program. Upon approval, it will be included in the District's administrative memoranda manual. For the past two academic years, the department has processed approximately 1,348 tuition waivers (including employee and dependent waivers). More than 200 have been processed this semester. The deadline for employees to submit their requests for this fall is September 12.

UPCOMING ART GALLERY EXHIBITION

- ◆ On Thursday, September 13, from 5:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m., the Arthur Cartwright LRC Library at the Downtown Campus will host the opening reception for an exhibition entitled "Facial Vision: Photography, A Photographic Tribute to the Visually Impaired" at the Brown and Juanita C. Ford Art Gallery. Created by artist Suellen Hozman, it is designed to be enjoyed and be equally accessible to those who are sighted as well as visually impaired and is the only known show of its kind. It is a collection of 29 two-and three-dimensional black-and-white photographic portraits of people who are visually impaired. The exhibition will be on display from September 13—October 11. To make reservations, call (313) 496-2570 or (313) 496-2521.