

## CHANCELLOR'S WEEKEND MEMO

May 2, 2008  
Number 630

This has been an exciting week! As the Spring semester draws to a close, enrollment for the Summer has surpassed 9,500 academic students. With three weeks of registration remaining before classes begin, we are certain to exceed last year's enrollment. While we congratulate staff and faculty for their contributions towards the effort, this speaks of the need to continue the enhancement of services to students, look critically at increasing capacity for new programs, and assure that resources are available to support the delivery of instruction. As was remarked in a recent town hall meeting televised on Channel 7, Wayne County Community College District plays a critical role in the transformation of the state. It is an important responsibility and obligation that we must strive to fulfill each day.

As we begin the season of honoring our graduates, the annual Nursing and Allied Health Pinning and Recognition Ceremony was held this evening. Approximately 109 students in the following disciplines were pinned: Pharmacy Technology, Nursing, Medical Billing, Dietetic Technology, Food Service Systems Management, and Veterinary Technology. We were fortunate to have Dr. Gunder Myran serve as our keynote speaker for the event. More than 600 excited graduates and their families flooded the atrium at the Downtown Campus.

An important part of our mission is fellowship with our neighbors. With that in mind, several members of the Cabinet joined with the Eastside Advisory Council at the 22nd annual Mayors' Prayer Breakfast at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club on Thursday. The event, hosted by the city of Grosse Pointe and its Mayor Dale Scrace, is also sponsored by the four other Grosse Pointe communities and Harper Woods. Their keynote speaker was Dr. Jerry White, retired major general of the United States Air Force.

### EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR

- ◆ The fourth annual K-12 Student Art Exhibition opened on Thursday at the Brown and Juanita C. Ford Gallery to students, staff, and parents from local school systems. This year's event not only attracted more entries, but also more photography and ceramics pieces and provided students from local schools another opportunity to become better acquainted with the District's offerings, especially in the arts. With over 300 pieces of art on display, we are encouraging faculty and staff to visit the gallery and view the extraordinary talent of our prospective students.
- ◆ Students at Cody and Osborn high schools along with WCCCD liaisons, Lajuan Long and Kewan Covington, are partnering to improve retention in the Skillman Dual Enrollment Program. The students are participating in a survey to determine how the program can improve retention and the results will be used to make enhancements to classes and instructional support.

#### CONTINUING EDUCATION ENROLLMENT

- ◆ During the week of April 20-27, 2008, the District served 1,825 students by partnering with 18 community organizations. The numbers served at each campus are:

Campus	Students
Downriver	44
Downtown	266
Eastern	258
Northwest	1,249
Western	8



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## STUDENT SERVICES

- ◆ Will Sampson presented on the topic of enrolling students with special needs to Henry Ford High School's Special Education Department. The presentation highlighted support services offered by the District, financial aid, and the admissions and registration process. Applications for the Fall semester were also collected.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- ◆ The Career Planning and Placement office is participating in the Student Temporary Employment Program offered through the Integrated Logistics Support Center of the U.S. Army TACOM Life Cycle Management Command. Students majoring in business, information technology, or computer information systems are encouraged to apply.

## INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- ◆ The District has received an overwhelming positive response to the new website. Students, staff, and faculty continue to respond with compliments and inquiries about student-related information. The Information Technology Department encourages everyone to visit the website to get acclimated to its navigation and share their comments and suggestions.
- ◆ The Information Technology Department is proud to announce the deployment of new computers to the computer classrooms, Learning Resource Center, and other access locations throughout the Downtown Campus. The next deployment is scheduled for the Northwest and Eastern campuses during the week of May 5<sup>th</sup>.

### HITS FOR THE WEEK

- ◆ The overall count for visits to the website has increased. For the week of April 28, 2008, we received we received 32,032 visits.

### SELF-STUDY TIP OF THE WEEK

- ◆ Assessment is an essential component of the Self-Study process. Assessment means to continuously collect and review information to show why you're successful or need to make changes for improvement.

## DISTANCE LEARNING

- ◆ An upgrade to Blackboard 8.0 will occur prior to the Fall 2008 academic semester. This updated version provides many new and exciting features designed to improve the overall Blackboard experience. Some of the improvements include the introduction of the Grade Center, enhancements to SafeAssign (plagiarism tool), self and peer assessment, and a number of fixes generated by user feedback.
- ◆ The division is exploring ways to use a prototype of the Wimba Pronto instant messenger tool, designed for educators to advance and promote teaching and learning. Both the Distance Learning Council and division staff recommend Wimba Pronto to reduce the isolation felt by many online students. Some ideas for utilizing this tool are faculty office hours, synchronous online orientation sessions, customer service issues with students and faculty, student peer support, as well as group collaboration.
- ◆ According to a recent survey conducted by the 2007 Instructional Technology Council on Distance Education, the greatest challenges for administrators of distance education programs is the need to have support staff for training and technical assistance. Distance learning at WCCCD has sought to address these challenges by providing ongoing training through the District's Professional Staff and Development Institute publications, 24/7 technical support for all distance learning participants, and an online access to library needs as well as bookstore services.

### BOOK OF THE WEEK

*Service Magic—The Art of Amazing Your Customers*

By Ron Zemke and Chip Bell

## EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS

- ◆ A second round of training and data input for the System 25 Initiative was completed this week with individual teams from each campus working with Kathy Rosen, Technical Trainer from CollegeNET. An enormous amount of information was input to the software database that will drive room scheduling software throughout the District. Thanks to all those who participated from the campuses and to those who will make the implementation of this software possible.

## CAREER PROGRAMS

- ◆ Instructor Paulette Wood and 20 students from the Surgical Technology Program, participated in the Michigan Surgical Technology Student Association's (MSTSA) Surgical Technology Conference. The MSTSA provides students with educational opportunities that enhance their career, impact their professional development, and standard of patient care.



## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- ◆ The division is moving forward with the development of an expanded working relationship with DTE Energy. Frank Romba and Reginald Witherspoon met with DTE representatives to develop a new Electrical Line Design class for new employees. The new course, which could lead to the development of a certificate program, will begin in Fall, 2008.
- ◆ Mr. Witherspoon and Mr. Romba met with Baker College's Allen Park Campus President Aaron Maike, and Dr. Sandra Kay Krug, corporate services director, to discuss potential apprenticeship programs and collaborations.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

- ◆ The division is planning a state-of the-art Conferencing Center for the new Northwest Campus. The center, which is approximately 108,000 square feet, will competitively support and build college relations with business and industry in Southeast Michigan and provide educational and special event services for the community. It will offer:

- ⇒ Sixteen different meeting rooms
- ⇒ Thirty-two thousand square feet of flexible functional space
- ⇒ Two large dividable ballrooms that each measure approximately 7,500 square feet
- ⇒ A 4,100 square foot auditorium/theatre capable of seating 340 people
- ⇒ Full banquet/catering facilities
- ⇒ Continuing education and community education programs



- ◆ The Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education hosted the Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber Leadership 21 Educational Module. Business leaders were provided a tour of the District's Downriver Emergency Training Com-

- ◆ Since May is "Exercise is Medicine" month, the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) is launching a new program called, "May-Kit Happen." As a certified ACSM exercise specialist, Judy Smouter is working on providing the WCCCD family with fitness and health tips weekly for a new healthy lifestyle. Start your new journey by logging on to the following website: <http://www.maykithappen.org/>.



## GREAT NEWS!

- ◆ The Michigan Board of Nursing Home Administrators has approved the Long-Term Care certificate program for nursing home administrators as a pre-licensure course.

## CAMPUS PRESIDENTS' CORNER

- ◆ Staff from the Downriver Campus participated in this year's Healthy Downriver Family Expo 2008. The event was held in honor of the statewide celebration of the Month of the Young Child. Members of the Downriver community came together to exchange information about the importance of the role of parenting children during infancy through the teen years.
- ◆ The Western and Downriver campuses hosted a campus crawl for the William D. Ford Career-Technical Center. Approximately 70 students and five instructors toured the campuses, learned about career programs and services, and toured the Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education.
- ◆ "Project Lead the Way," a national year long project that pertains to science, technical engineering and math education, was held at the Downtown Campus. Participating educators included both high school and community college instructors.
- ◆ An art reception was held at the Downtown Campus featuring Michigan artists who are astute at a variety of visual art disciplines, including drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpting, and photography. Participants gained knowledge on basic elements of art, color and perspective, and basic strategies for drawing realistic facial features.
- ◆ The Arts League of Michigan held its "The Stars of Tomorrow" concert at the Northwest Campus. Dr. Patrick Pieh welcomed the more than 800 persons in attendance. Activities and performances included creative writing, dance, and a jazz string ensemble.
- ◆ The Eastern Campus held a lecture series entitled "The Social and Economic Impact of the Absent Father in Minority Communities." Robin Wright King, author of *Papa was a Rolling Stone*, spoke on the role of fathers in the growth and development of the entire family, especially girls. Approximately 100 students from the Communication Media Arts and Western International high schools attended.



- ◆ The Eastern Campus hosted a Creating Independence and Outcomes Youth Awareness Rally that addressed issues concerning foster care. More than 120 participated.

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

***Summer I Classes Begin Monday, May 19, 2008***

***Summer II Classes Begin Thursday, June 12, 2008***

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty."*

Winston Churchill

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ On Saturday, May 3, 2008, the department, in conjunction with the Educational Affairs Division, will host an Open House for part-time faculty applicants at the Downtown Campus from 9:00 a.m.—12 p.m. More than 80 applicants are scheduled to attend.

## ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

- ◆ This week, the Finance Department completed the final tasks for the preparation of the 2008-09 Operating Budget Proposal. The budget is a direct result of comprehensive planning and is directly tied to the goals and objectives of the strategic plan. Through this process, the District assures that resources are allocated in a manner consistent with the overall mission of WCCCD as well as specific priorities that have been outlined for the current fiscal and academic years. The budget will be presented to the Board of Trustees for approval at the May Finance Committee meeting.
- ◆ As of May 1, 2008, the District Financial Aid Department had disbursed \$54.4 million in financial aid funds for the 2007-08 academic year. Federal Pell Grant disbursements, the largest funding source, totaled \$30.6 million, representing 56% of all disbursements. Federal student loan disbursements accounted for 37% of all financial aid disbursements for the academic year.

### ON THE MOVE . . .

- ◆ Judy Smouter, Joann Broomfield, and Yvette McElroy participated in the Detroit Branch NAACP “Jobs, Jobs, Jobs, Super Career Expo.” Ms. Smouter gave a presentation on continuing education short-term certificate programs. A component of the fair, entitled “Preparation for the Workforce,” was held at the Northwest Campus to prepare perspective candidates for the expo. More than 60 employers and 3,000 participants attended.
- ◆ Bernard Thompson attended the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan forum on the “Michigan Prisoner Reentry Initiative.” Participants explored evidence-based practices that have been successful in creating opportunities for employment, training, and housing for that population.



### NEWS MAKERS

- ◆ Congratulations to Dr. Stephanie Bulger for receiving the ACE Distinguished Woman in Higher Education Leadership Award this year.
- ◆ Elizabeth Atkins was a guest on the Tyra Banks Show. Ms. Atkins discussed her recent article about skin color that was published in *Ebony*.
- ◆ Yvette McElroy was interviewed by *Detroit News* reporter Santiago Esparza regarding Freedom Weekend VII. Ms. McElroy has served as a volunteer and Steering Committee member since it's inception in 2002.