

CHANCELLOR'S WEEKEND MEMO

September 19, 2008
Number 650

This has been an exceptional week for engagement throughout the District. From the Northwest Campus Open House on Saturday to a significant number of presentations before civic and community groups, we have been working to heighten awareness of the great progress we have made. These efforts have included information updates for members of the 13th and 14th Congressional Districts, Southern Wayne County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Detroit Public Schools District-wide Principals meeting, Workforce Development Council, Legislative Caucus, and power luncheons with representatives of grassroots organizations. Thanks go to the many members of the staff that provide support for these presentations. In all, more than 500 persons participated in these events this week.

What is most important as we reflect on what has been shared by members of our community is a sense of accomplishment for what the District has done, yet an understanding of how much remains to do to address the workforce needs of this region. There is great excitement around the progress made with the capital improvement projects, transparency initiative, and development of new programs. As well, participants in these sessions have offered encouragement to continue this program of community dialogue and engagement.

What has been made most clear is that this community college district is needed more than ever in these uncertain economic times. The success of this region will come from a strong and vibrant WCCCD.

The District's Legacy Building Program, Great Leadership Conference, and newsletter were featured in the August issue of *Community College Times*. In the article, Dr. Stephanie Bulger remarked that it is the District's intention to build a legacy of leaders, particularly at the middle management level. Attendees from the Great Leadership Conference gave testimonials about the value of the conference to developing leadership talent and the benefits to those persons outside higher education. We have made great strides in our national profile. This article further demonstrates the prominence of WCCCD and its continuing contribution to leadership development in community colleges.

EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR

- ♦ The District's Dual Enrollment Team will launch its fall Dual Enrollment Program on Monday, September 22, 2008. This year's theme is "Jump Start Your Journey to Higher Learning." High schools throughout the District will participate. Students in grades 11—12 will take college courses at their schools and/or have the opportunity to take courses at one of our campuses.

CONTINUING EDUCATION ENROLLMENT

- ♦ During the week of September 7—13, 2008, the District served 332 students by partnering with eight community organizations. The numbers served at each campus are:

Campus	Students
Downriver	89
Downtown	25
Eastern	28
Northwest	0
Western	190

ACHIEVE THE DREAM UPDATE (ATD)

- ♦ The ATD core workgroup convened this week to work on a proposal that will be submitted for presentation at the 2009 Achieving the Dream Strategies Conference. The ATD implementation teams continue to meet and develop new strategies to enhance the experience and success of students.

INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

WCCCD 2010 Re-Accreditation Word Search

C Z L E V A L U A T I O N W H
O V M C T Y G F Y V K X G P Z
M P L S T R A T E G I C F P A
M N Z B K Q K X F Q X G D P S
U A C C R E D I T A T I O N S
N H T V D P K H E L K C Y H E
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Q L B P S D Q M R M F M O N N
E N G A G E M E N T T P N R G

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ACCREDITATION

ASSESSMENT

COMMUNITY

CRITERION

ENGAGEMENT

EVALUATION

EVIDENCE

GOALS

HLC

HOLISTIC

LEARNING

MISSION

REPORT

STRATEGIC

STUDENT'S

BOOK OF THE WEEK

101 Ways To Have A Great Day At Work

By Stephanie Goddard Davidson

HITS

- ♦ From August 18—September 17, 2008, the website had 135,214 visits from 64 countries. The top five countries were: United States, Canada, Spain, United Arab Emirates, Germany, and United Kingdom. The top five content views were: Distance Learning, Academic Programs, Financial Aid, Student Services, and Northwest Campus. The College Catalog had 12,920 hits and Academic Schedules had 10,579 hits.

SELF-STUDY TIP OF THE WEEK

- ♦ The Higher Learning Commission Self-Study process is designed to guide Self-Study committees in providing evaluative student, business, community, and faculty/staff evidence for the Self-Study report and also for data-based decisions related to other strategic processes such as the strategic plan update, the establishment of annual improvement priorities, and the District-wide Holistic Assessment Plan.



THE ROAD TO RE-ACCREDITATION



WCCCD is on schedule with its HLC Re-accreditation efforts.

Collecting evidence for the Self-Study Report *

Completed Section 1 of the Self-Study Report **

*College evidence includes important reports, data, brochures, catalogs, and other documents.

**Section 1 includes 3 chapters of highlights of each campus, significant changes, and the Self-Study goals.

FINANCIAL AID

- ♦ Congratulations! The District's official cohort default rate for fiscal year 2006 is 6.9%. The 2006 national average for public 2—3 year schools is 8.4%. A cohort default rate is the percentage of a school's borrowers who enter repayment on Federal Family Education Loan Program loans during a particular federal fiscal year and default or meet other specified conditions prior to the end of the next fiscal year.



EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS

- ◆ Dr. Debraha Watson and Charmaine Johnson participated in the “Children of Color Community Conversation” forum. Participants discussed the issues and concerns about early childhood programs and provided ideas on how community assets can be better utilized to serve families.
- ◆ Drs. Nick Fleezanis, George Swan, Martha Grier, and Michael Dotson attended the Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber of Commerce Board meeting. Ms. Grier, Mr. Dotson, and Dr. Swan gave a presentation on the District’s initiatives.
- ◆ Dr. Fleezanis attended the Southern Great Lakes Symphony’s Board of Directors meeting. He updated members on the initiatives of the Marketing and Promotion Committee that he chairs. The Symphony is celebrating its’ 54th year of providing exceptional classical music to the Downriver communities.

DISTANCE LEARNING

- ◆ The division is preparing to launch a software upgrade from Blackboard 7 to 8 in January. New features of Blackboard 8 include enhancements to the gradebook, a social bookmarking service, the self and peer assessment building block, and the safe assign tool. Faculty have been introduced to this software through training sessions.
- ◆ Please note this correction to last week’s 2007-08 Distance Learning comparative view of enrollment increases. There was a 33% increase in enrollment (last day of registration).

PUBLIC RELATIONS

- ◆ This week’s Organizational Development Institute (ODI) workshops included “Web-Gate for Faculty and Staff, Faculty Grading, Faculty Class Schedules” from the Faculty Track and “Microsoft Advanced Word” from the Skills Enrichment Track. Both trainings were well-received by both faculty and staff across the District. Next week’s workshop, “PowerPoint Presentations for the Classroom,” will be held on Friday, September 26, 2008 from 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. at the Downtown Campus in room 235. This workshop will provide instructors the knowledge and skills to develop, produce, and present powerful classroom presentations. To reserve a seat, contact Stefanie Smith at (313) 496-2864 or by e-mail at ssmith5@wcccd.edu

UPCOMING ODI WORKSHOPS

Improving Organization Performance in the Modern Community College: Introduction of the Community College Abundance Model

Managing and Leading Track
Monday, September 29, 2008
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
District Office

Microsoft Advanced PowerPoint

Skills Enrichment Track
Wednesday, October 1, 2008
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Downtown Campus, Room 265

ABOVE AND BEYOND

- ◆ Kudos to faculty members Clara Morgan and Herbert Lewis for volunteering to tutor students in the Northwest Learning Center. For more information regarding this student initiative or to volunteer, contact (313) 943-4063.
- ◆ Safety officers from the Western Campus volunteered for Gleaners Food Bank. They helped prepare shipments used to feed the hungry during the annual Duck Derby Benefit.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Your work is to discover your work and then with all your heart to give yourself to it. That’s the mark of a true professional.”

Buddha

CAMPUS PRESIDENTS' CORNER

- ◆ Staff from the Downriver and Western campuses attended the Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber' Legislative Forum. The keynote speaker was Terri Lynn Land, Michigan Secretary of State. Her presentation focused on the expansion of quality customer service, technology, and internet options. She also discussed the consolidation of Secretary of State offices.
- ◆ Anthony Arminiak attended an Education Forum at the Faith Christian Assembly. Participants developed various initiatives to reduce the number of high school drop outs within local school districts.
- ◆ Patrick McNally, Michael Dotson, and Dr. George Swan were the keynote speakers at the Romulus Chamber of Commerce Business Luncheon. Attendees received a presentation on the District's Pathways Program and participated in a discussion about future initiatives.
- ◆ Dr. Frank Dunbar attended the Regional Chamber of Commerce's "Breaking the Boundaries" event. Participants had the opportunity to visit a WCCCD display that featured information on the District's new programs and facilities.
- ◆ Mr. McNally, Diana Rosario and Dr. Dunbar met with representatives from Huron High School to discuss the potential for a concurrent enrollment program for high school seniors and the development of a WCCCD extension site at the school.
- ◆ The United States Postal Service conducted a seminar to educate and inform the home-based and business community about new online services and inform customers of changes. Dr. Jacqueline Hodges was presented with a token of appreciation for hosting the event. She was given a plaque of the commemorative postage stamp of Marian Anderson, an American contralto, best remembered for her performance on Easter Sunday, 1939, on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.
- ◆ J. L. King, New York Times best-selling author of the book entitled *On The Down Low*, hosted a workshop on "How To Get Your Book Published" at the Eastern Campus. Mr. King discussed the creative aspects of composing a book, finding a literary agent, selling a book, and getting it published. The event also featured the debut his new novel, *Love on a Two Way Street*.



HEINZ C. PRECHTER EDUCATIONAL AND PERFORMING ARTS CENTER UPDATE

- ◆ Trees and shrubs are being placed at the Downriver Campus as part of the construction. Windows are being framed in on the front of the new portion of the building. The pond area has been leveled and smoothed out.



DOWNTOWN CAMPUS IMPLEMENTS ALERT SYSTEM

- ◆ The Downtown Campus has implemented an emergency alert system to insure student and staff safety. A National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Public Alert Radio has been installed in the Security Department to support and quicken the response in emergency situations. The device is designed to signal different types of alerts to the public for hazardous situations ranging from weather and human-caused emergencies to law enforcement alerts, such as child abductions. The radio was sent to the campus by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

STUDENT SERVICES

- ◆ Welcome week activities were hosted at all campuses for the Fall semester. These events helped familiarize students to the campuses, administration, District policies, and services.



- ◆ The District Career Planning and Placement office launched the new academic year with an enactment of "First Impressions," a play focusing on the importance of making a good first impression with employers. Approximately 30 students participated as either actors or stage assistants. Kudos to Kaukab Usman for organizing this well-received and educational event.
- ◆ Judy Smouter met with representatives from Eastern Michigan University (EMU) to discuss ways to help students experience a smooth transition into the university.

ON THE MOVE . . .

- ◆ Ethel Cronk and Brenda Jones attended the Michigan Technical Academy High School's Alternative Fuels Open House. The school has expanded the biodiesel fuel component of its Automotive Service Technology Program through community partnerships.
- ◆ Matt Green attended Western Wayne County's Medical Control Board meeting. Members discussed the new protocol proposal for the treatment of diabetic patients and intravenous access.
- ◆ Alberta Eid and Andrea Juarez participated in the Southeastern Michigan Regional Job Fair. More than 120 employers and institutions of higher education provided information to displaced Ford employees and buy-out takers information about possible employment opportunities and career programs.
- ◆ Frank Romba and Bernard Thompson attended the Southeast Michigan Community College Consortium. The meeting focused on a status, outreach, and review of the Community Based Job Training Grant.
- ◆ Loretta Hunter attended a QuestionPoint training that addressed the needs of WCCCD's virtual students. QuestionPoint is a library reference service that assists students 24/7 by email or online chat. This service is a collaborative made up of many community colleges, including WCCCD, and some universities in the state of Michigan.

GREAT NEWS!

- ◆ The Southeast Michigan Community College Consortium Centers (SMC3) of Expertise Program, of which WCCCD is a member, was recognized as the "Educational Program of the Year" at the 2008 Automation Alley Awards Gala. More than 60 entrants competed for this year's award. The SMC3 has established Centers of Expertise to help build capacity and expertise in training tomorrow's workers. The District has focused its efforts on training and curriculum development in advance manufacturing.

WCCCD SPORTS UPDATE

- ◆ The District's cross country team officially opened the 2008 season by taking part in the University of Detroit Mercy Titan meet at Cass-Benton Park in Northville. In addition to WCCCD, other community colleges competing in the junior college division were Macomb, Schoolcraft, Oakland and Glen Oaks.
- ◆ Sophomore Vincent Butts led the Wildcat men's squad by placing 20th; freshman Derrell Williams finished 28th, and sophomore Anthony Favor finished 29th. WCCCD Wildcats next meet will be at Ferris State.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

- ◆ An orientation was held for continuing education instructors. A presentation entitled “Learning Styles” provided the instructors with an overview of the different styles of student learning.
- ◆ During the week of September 15—19, 2008, the division presented 16 community education programs. Topics included aviation, business and community luncheons, careers for the 21st century, loans, U.S. Postal services, fire safety, and bipolar patterns in children.

- ◆ Here's a section of the New York Times bestseller list. These books are available at the campus bookstores and all the titles are always 10% off the list prices. Some older titles are on sale for more than 20% off!

HARDCOVER FICTION

1. Dark Curse by Christine Feehan
2. The Book Of Lies by Brad Meltzer
3. American Wife by Curtis Sittenfield
4. Devil Bones by Kathy Reichs
5. The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

HARDCOVER NONFICTION

1. Stori Telling by Tori Spelling with Hilary Liftin
2. The Obama Nation by Jerome R. Corsi
3. Are You There, Vodka? It's Me, Chelsea by Chelsea Handler
4. When You Are Engulfed In Flames by David Sedaris
5. The Case Against Barack Obama by David Freddoso

MICHIGAN INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC SAFETY EDUCATION (MIPSE)

- ◆ The MIPSE facility hosted members of the Wayne County Sheriff's Special Response Team for a class on the transition to the new Bushmen AR15 semi-automatic rifle. Participants learned about the loading and unloading, malfunction drills, fundamentals of the rifle, and department policy. They concluded their training by practicing with the rifle at the gun range.