

Chancellor's Weekend Memo

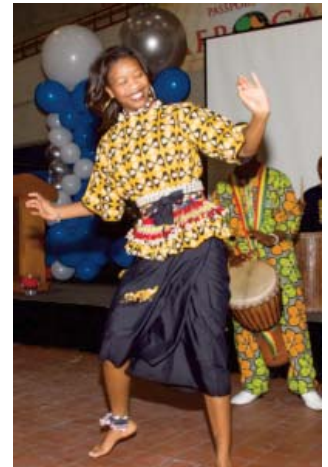


February 27, 2015

Number 974



13th Annual Passport to Africa



Northwood University Partnership

Northwood University is the latest university partner to join the Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center, whose MBA Degree Program is offered at the Western Campus. Dr. Keith Pretty, President and CEO of Northwood University headed up a team from Northwood that signed a Memorandum of Understanding with WCCCD this week to formally announce the Master of Business Administration degree at the MES University Center-West location. Members of the WCCCD MBA cohort were present at the signing ceremony.



Belarus Delegates Come to WCCCD

We were pleased to welcome officials from the ministries of education and commerce along with leaders from the state college and university of Belarus to the District on Wednesday. We shared best practices in workforce development and distance learning with members of the delegation in the visit sponsored by the U.S. State Department and the International Visitor Center of Detroit.



Division of Administration and Finance

Financial Forecasting/Data Points/Projections/Compliance/Accountability/Transparency/Human Resources



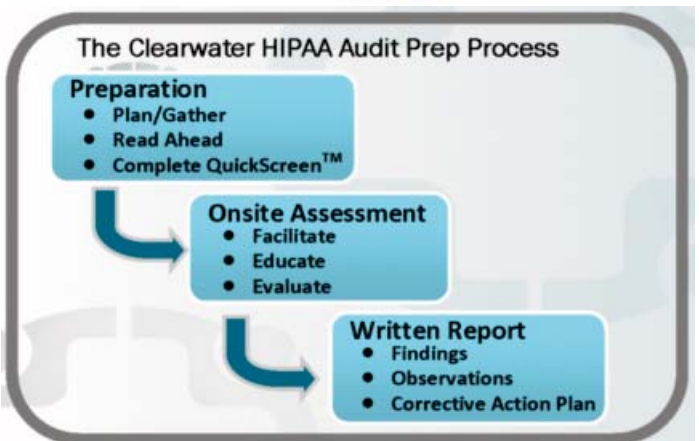
WCCCD is continually reviewing internal controls, best practice environmental scans, divisional reports, compliance practices, policy discussions and much more. Audit reviews and our policies and procedures help the district prepare for potential audits. Through the Office of Accountability, there is a team of administrators that review on a weekly basis best practice reviews and trends across community colleges and universities. Examples of up and coming workshops that have been identified are the following:

- **Information Technology**
 - o Access privileges
 - o Security

- **Administration and Finance - Internal Controls**
 - o Credit cards
 - o Travel policy
 - o Grant reconciliations

- **Human Resources – Internal Controls**
 - o Payroll
 - o Leave controls
 - o Timesheets
 - o Labor

- **Student Services**
 - o Student Aid Application
 - o Pell Grants



Office of Accountability

Follows the corresponding chart for review of audits.

Prepare Assess Reports

Division of Administration and Finance

Financial Forecasting/Data Points/Projections/Compliance/ Accountability/Transparency/Human Resources

This week Administration and Finance hosted the first of many workshops to come on the General Ledger, Chart of Accounts Budget Development and Cost Center Management. This informative workshop shared the coding process to ensure expenditures were reported appropriately in the General Ledger. Preparation, assessment, verification, reconciliation and reporting are essential for internal controls to ensure financial systems are accurate and recorded in a timely manner.



Chart of Accounts

A financial organizational tool that provides a complete listing of every account

General Ledger

Complete record of financial transactions over the life of the company

ACS Structure

State report derived from program codes which are part of the account number



Division of Administration and Finance

District Office Building Temperature

Due to the extreme record breaking temperatures in Southeast Michigan, it has been a challenge to balance air temperatures throughout the District building. Points of entry, at the lower and first levels of the building are particularly difficult to manage given a steady flow of traffic throughout the building. Temperatures with wind chills consistently below zero have caused unusually cold temperatures on the lower floors with unusually higher temperatures on the upper floors. According to official media outlets, the month of February, 2015 is one of the coldest since the national weather authorities began maintaining historical weather records.

Moving forward, District staff will make corrective adjustments to remedy and counter the extreme cold temperatures in all of the affected areas. At the moment, District staff is balancing the building's mechanical system to accommodate heat to those areas.



Federal Work Study Program

Student Ambassadors Get a New Look!

The Student Success Ambassador Program officially launched this week with student employees supervised through the Federal Work Study program office. The purpose of the program is to embrace the diverse backgrounds of the college's student body, enhance the student's college experience through campus activities and community events, and engage students in the District's recruitment and retention efforts. All 25 students were carefully selected by the campus presidents with the goal of having them promote the school, have a positive attitude and possess an outgoing and well-rounded personality.



Administration and Finance

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE - SNOW/ICE REMOVAL MANAGEMENT

Snow removal and ice control management is extremely important to the continuous operation of the District and the completion of its mission during the winter season. The District's Deferred Maintenance Taskforce takes a proactive approach to snow and ice removal. The taskforce meets weekly to discuss the snow removal process on sidewalks and in parking lots at five campus locations thus ensuring the safety of employees, students and the general public.



Administration and Finance

Deferred Maintenance



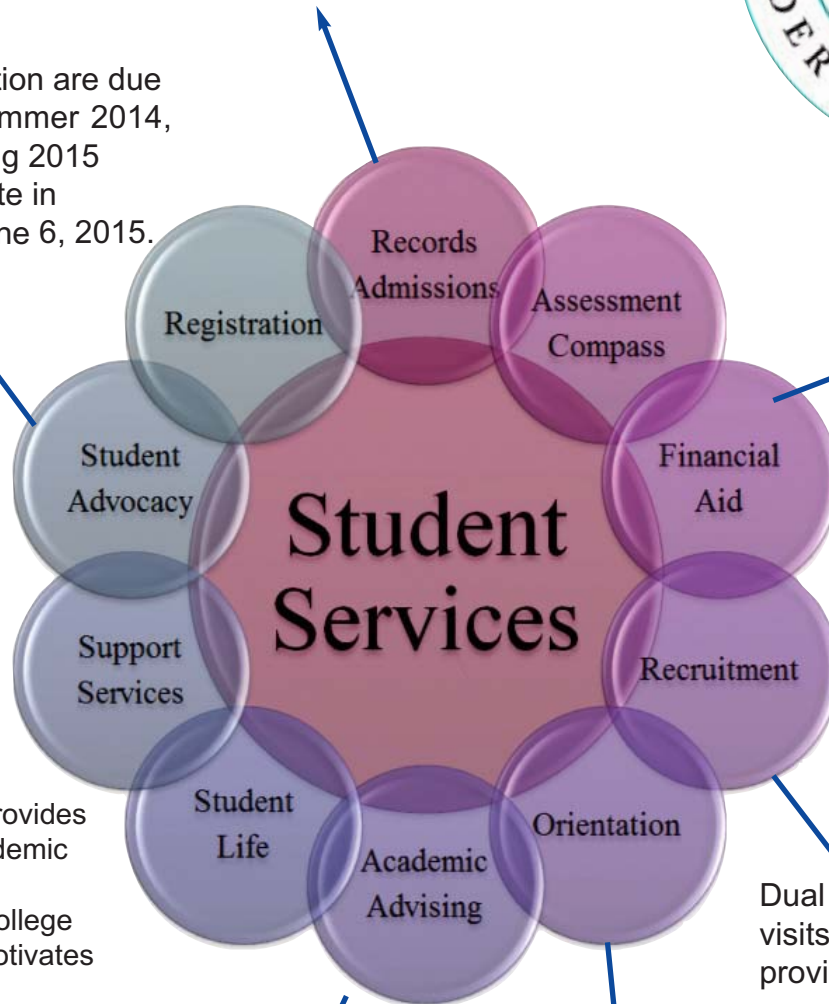
Division of Student Services



Student Services records are developed and maintained in order to meet the daily operating requirements of the District.

Graduation application are due March 6, 2015. Summer 2014, Fall 2014 and Spring 2015 graduates participate in commencement June 6, 2015.

The District Financial Aid Office is administering a new State of Michigan program entitled Fostering Futures Scholarship. This fund is provided to young adults who have experienced the foster care system. The State works with individuals, community organizations, and the business community to encourage charitable contributions to fund the Fostering Futures Scholarship program.



The TRiO program provides opportunities for academic development, assists students with basic college requirements, and motivates students toward the successful completion of their postsecondary degree.

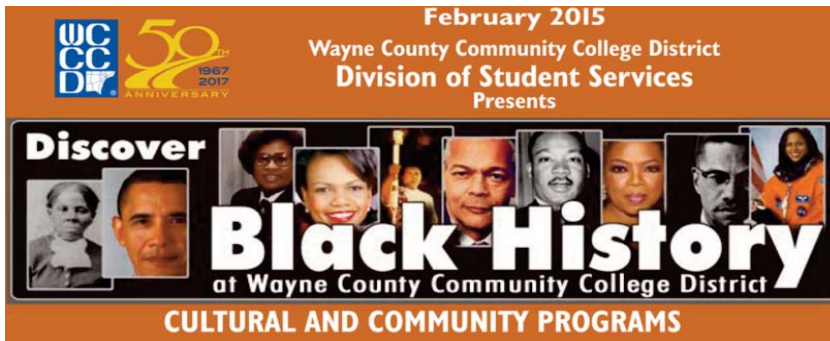
Dual Enrollment Champions visits partner high schools to provide updates, facilitate course selection and strengthen partner relations.

Ongoing workshops available to support academic advising at each campus.

In addition to online orientation, each campus will provide in-person orientation for students.

STUDENT LIFE - Student Activities facilitates student learning and development by providing activities and services that enhance positive relationships among students, the District and the community. These relationships are created and nurtured through accessible programs and services, connections to campus and community resources, and co-curricular opportunities that focus on diversity, leadership, services and personal well being. Student activities include; Student Council, Athletics, Student Clubs, Organization and Global Conversations.

The Division of Student Services *Presents . . .*



The **Downtown Campus** hosted the Journey to Midnight Bus Tour conducted by a 5th generation Underground Railroad Descendant, Kimberly Simmons conducted a tour of "Underground Railroad". By 1820 Detroit, a booming river town in Michigan was known as "Slave Haven or Midnight." Participants toured historic stops such as Finney Barn, the homes of William Lambert, George DeBaptiste, and William Webb.



The **Eastern Campus** hosted the multifaceted artist Mike Ellison. He incorporates live music, interpretive dance, and multi-media elements to address bullying and explore social plague's greater historical relationship to broad-based intolerance.



The Global Conversation Series at the **Downtown Campus** hosted the family of the late Henrietta Lacks. Henrietta Lacks was diagnosed with cervical cancer which quickly consumed her body despite radiation treatment. After her death, she unknowingly left behind a piece of her that still lives today – it's called the HeLa cell. Participants learned how her cells were taken and used for medical research without her consent.



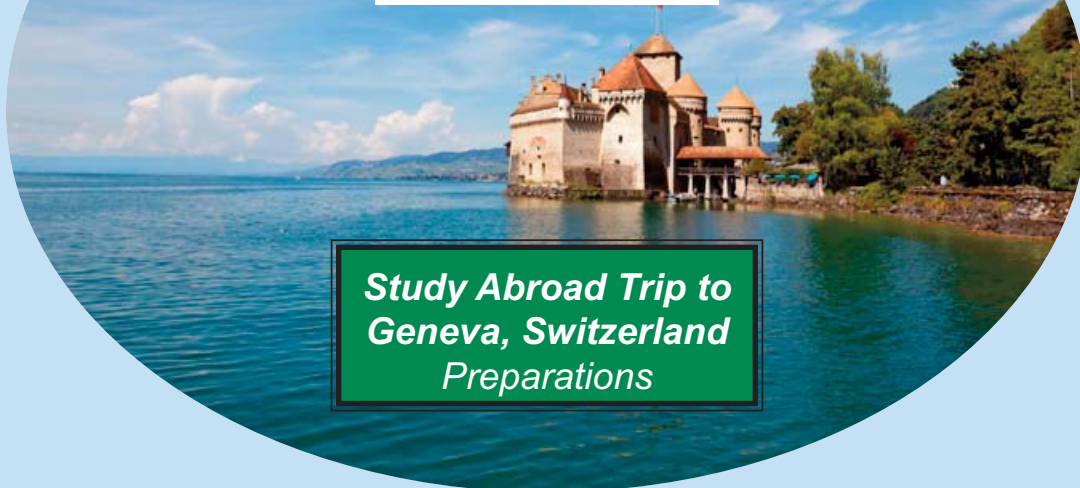
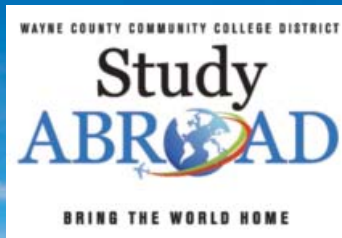
The **Downriver Campus** hosted Jerome Love, entrepreneur. His effective, engaging and humorous energetic style kept the audiences on the edge of their seats as he candidly shared practical steps on how anyone can achieve the prosperity and lifestyle they desire.



The **Northwest Campus** presented the Tuskegee Airmen program. Mr. Fredrick Henry, one of the original

Tuskegee Airmen, was a key note speaker. The WCCCD Color Guard presented Colors and Professors Conley Worsham, Bruce Smith, and Ron Trice spoke to the historical significance of the Tuskegee Airmen and reinforced how students should never forget their history.





Study Abroad Trip to Geneva, Switzerland Preparations

Study Abroad Orientation Meeting With Students

In preparation for the upcoming Study Abroad trip to Switzerland, students attended their first orientation meeting this week. Information discussed included passports and the necessary forms students will need to sign. The trip is in partnership with the University of Webster; where students will study international commerce and trade, diversity, culture and language.



Learning objectives:

- *Study the rich culture of Switzerland
- *Visit the Swiss Parliament to study the Swiss political system operates
- *Introduction to Swiss government and the description of how the Geneva Conference was established
- *Visit to the United Nations-based agencies in Switzerland including the United Nations' Office of The High Commission for Refugees; the UN World Health Organization



BUILDING CAREERS

DETROIT POLICY CONFERENCE

Shawna Forbes served as a panelist at the Detroit Policy Conference – focused on Filling the Gap Cultivating Detroit’s World-Class Workforce. The Detroit Policy Conference bolstered the city’s ongoing transformation by bringing together key business, community and political leaders to inspire innovative solutions and urban revitalization. By increasing dialogue between urban and suburban decision-makers, the Conference encouraged collaborative efforts to grow business and shape Detroit’s future. She was joined by Lisa Katz, Executive Director of WIN, Pamela Moore, President and CEO of Detroit Employment Solutions Corp., and Derek Turner, Vice President of Operations, Grand Circus.



Division of Human Resources



Tax-Sheltered Annuity

A tax-sheltered annuity 403(b) plan is a retirement plan that allows employees to have money deducted from their paycheck on a tax-deferred basis. All regular part-time and full-time employees are eligible to participate in the tax sheltered annuity program through WCCCD. MidAmerica, a third-party administrator handles all plan oversight and administration over the District's 403(b) plans.

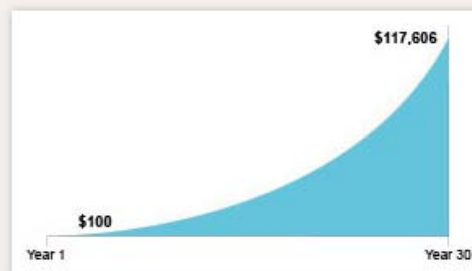
Step-by-Step Process for initiating a new 403(b) plan

1. Contact the Agent of your selected Financial Institution for Enrollment (vendor list can be found on Human Resources (HR) webpage)
2. Complete and return enrollment forms to financial institution
3. Complete salary reduction form and submit for validation
4. MidAmerica validates and sends to HR for payroll deduction

START SAVING NOW

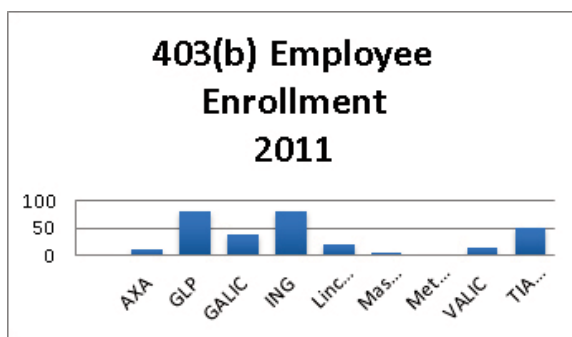
What happens if you earn \$40,000, pay federal income taxes of 25%, and contribute 3% to the UC 403(b) Plan?

You put \$100 a month to work in your Plan account. But your take-home pay is reduced by only \$75. And over 30 years your contributions could grow to **\$117,606**.



This hypothetical illustration is based on monthly contributions made at the beginning of the month to a 403(b) plan and a 7% annual rate of return compounded monthly.

All information the District's 403(b) program can be found on the HR webpage.

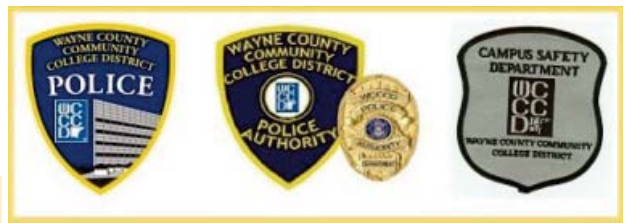


Employee Handbook

The Employee Handbook is a valuable tool that outlines rules and/or policies. The handbook can be found on the HR webpage: <http://www.wcccd.edu/dept/pdf/HR/employeehandbookwcccd.pdf>



District Police Authority



Dispatcher's Tabletop Emergency Drill



The District Communication Control Center (dispatch) conducted a tabletop emergency drill as a means of continuous quality improvement. The drill consisted of a few critical incidents to test and prepare the dispatch team for emergency telephone response. In support of the partnership, the District Police Authority and Michigan Institute Public Safety Education (MIPSE) will facilitate training activities and drills necessary to ensure the colleges ongoing emergency readiness. This training will involve a combination of orientation and education sessions, tabletop exercises, walk-through drills, functional drills, evacuation drills and full-scale drill exercises.

The Field Training Officer Program

The Field Training Officer (FTO) program was initiated for the new District police officers. The new officers are being presented with two professional development objectives: to learn the practical aspects of law enforcement and community service and to assimilate into the professional culture of the entire WCCCD community. The training started with the police officers being orientated on the Strategic Plan, familiarization with college administration, the District's Mission Statement, the Clery Act and basic police patrol and services. The FTO program pairs an experienced or senior member of the District Police Authority, who is responsible for the training and evaluation of a junior or probationary level officer.



Office of Accountability and Transparency

The Continuous Quality Improvement Audit Center collects, reviews and conducts monthly reconciliations and on-going audits of all District data. A systematic approach is used to procure data from multiple sources, allowing for collective knowledge through accountability and transparency.



Advancement of Operational Systems - Record Retention

As part of our strategic goals, the Office of Accountability is reviewing best practices for the advancement of operational systems. Staff from Human Resources and Accountability, Administration and Finance, Educational Affairs and Student Services met with Michelle Kendall, Records Retention and Archival Specialist at Schoolcraft College. Strategies for document retention, destruction and were discussed including compliance policies with the State of Michigan.

Pictured from left to right: Jeff Anderson, Jara Tekleab, Dr. Sherry Zylka, Michelle Kendall from Schoolcraft College, Adrian Phillips and Furquan Ahmed.



Distribution Center Update!

The transformation from shipping and receiving to a Distribution Center is nearing completion. The new entrance to the Center is now in place! A new secured mail slot has been put in place for all incoming mail. The placement for an outgoing mail slot is coming soon. All inventory is logged, delivered, tracked and reconciled on a continuous basis.



Front Entrance



Incoming Mail Slot

Showcasing Our Alumni!

Check out our new Alumni and Friends Society webpage!!



Sankaya C. Hall is the Associate Director for Chapter Development at The National Society of Collegiate Scholars and proud WCCCD alumni! Ms. Hall attended the college, transferred and completed her undergraduate degree from Texas Southern University and upcoming graduate of the Masters in Communications program at Georgetown University. She has also amassed a wealth of experience working for Radio One, TV One, BET and Google.

Ms. Hall credits the help of exceptional faculty at the college Dr. Kim Logan (Speech) and Dana Payne (English) as two persons who made an impact and difference in her educational pursuits. We salute Ms. Sankaya Hall as an outstanding example of a WCCCD alumnus.



Chancellor's Employee of the Month

Since its inception, in November 2012, the Chancellor's Employee of the Month has awarded 70 winners! Due to overwhelming responses and the excellent submissions that we received, we decided to recognize more than one employee for each month.

The Chancellor's Employee of the Month is an opportunity for the District to recognize those employees that strive to achieve the values, goals and objectives of WCCCD's Mission and Vision. The program is aimed toward employees who go above and beyond in performing their duties and responsibilities.

Their diligence, dedication, and the hard work they have demonstrated have been acknowledged by their supervisor and colleagues. We appreciate your devotion to your work and for enriching our work environment. Congratulations and thank you for your significant contributions to WCCCD's success!

TEAM – Together Everyone Achieves More!

Coming Soon!!! Employee of the Year award!

Office of Institutional Advancement



This week in the Office of Institutional Advancement, we reached out to contacts who were former WCCCD students to increase our growing database of WCCCD alumni. They were requested to provide a name, address, email and contact numbers to add to the database.

Alumni FAQs

What type of continuing education programs does WCCCD offer?

Many alumni return to the District for professional development and/or lifelong learning.

How can I view a calendar of events at WCCCD? Visit our website at www.wcccd.edu

How can I support WCCCD students?

Donations towards WCCCD Scholarships are greatly appreciated and tax-deductible. Visit www.wcccd.edu/about/scholarship_committee_donatetoday.htm

Division of Institutional Effectiveness

WHAT'S TRENDING AT WCCCD: TRANSFER AND MOBILITY



The Division of Institutional Effectiveness conducts ongoing transfer research to gain in-depth understanding of WCCCD's student mobility patterns. Research shows that student mobility patterns are very complex, and can sometimes involve students attending multiple institutions at the same time. There are three main types of student mobility patterns among institutions:

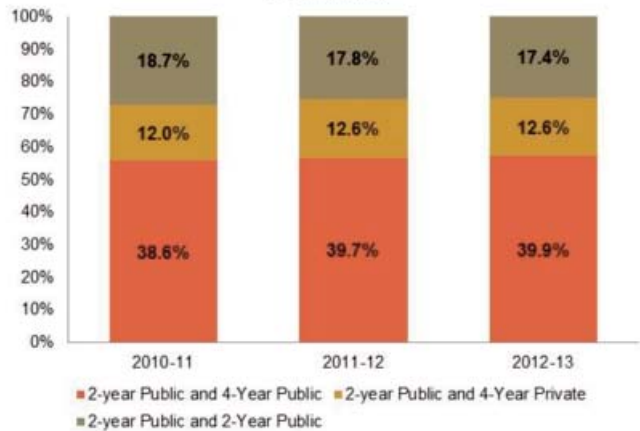
1. Vertical (traditional transfer) : 2-year to 4-year
2. Reverse Transfer: 4-year to 2-year
3. Lateral Transfer: 2-year to 2-year

According to research conducted by the Student Clearing House:

- Community colleges play an important role in student mobility
- Mobility rates are higher for younger students
- Mobility rates are higher among women than men.

Source: <http://research.studentclearinghouse.org>

Distribution of Mobile Students by Sector Combination



*A student is considered to have been "mobile" in an academic year if he or she enrolled for any length of time at more than one postsecondary institution.

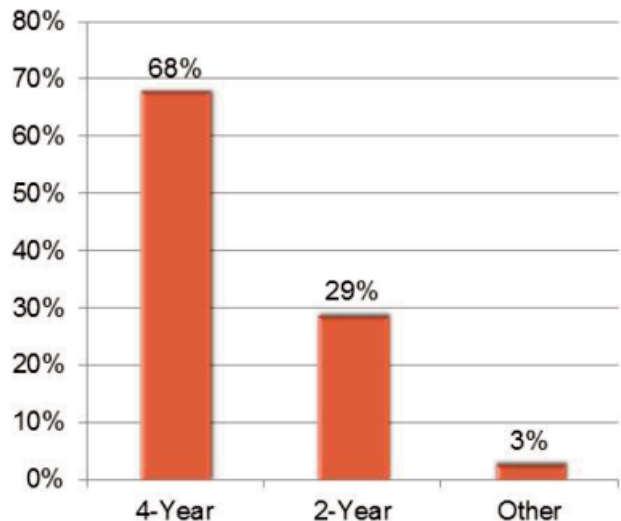
WHAT'S TRENDING AT WCCCD: TRANSFER AND MOBILITY

WCCCD Student Mobility Patterns as indicated by transcript request data:

- ❖ 15% of all Fall 2014 enrolled students requested a transcript during the semester
- ❖ 68% of requested transcripts were to 4-year institutions
- ❖ 39% of all 4-year transcript requests were to Wayne State University
- ❖ 37% of all 2-year transcript requests were to Henry Ford Community College

Top 4-Year Institutions	% of Transcript Requests
Wayne State University	39%
Eastern Michigan University	10%
University of Detroit Mercy	7%
Ferris State University	4%
University of Michigan Dearborn	4%
Oakland University	3%
Madonna University	2%
Davenport University	2%
Marygrove College	2%
University of Phoenix	2%

WCCCD Transcript Requests by Institutional Type



WEEKLY UPDATE

Student Kiosk One Stop Information Gateway

Information at the touch of a button. Fast and efficient access to:

- o Web Gate
- o Financial Aid
- o Class schedule

Event and program highlights unique to each campus.

Accommodates 6 Kiosk machines and it is ADA compliant.



The first phase of the student kiosk project has been implemented at Eastern Campus.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Software Application Empowerment Series
Introduction to Microsoft Access 2010
Thursday, March 12, 2015

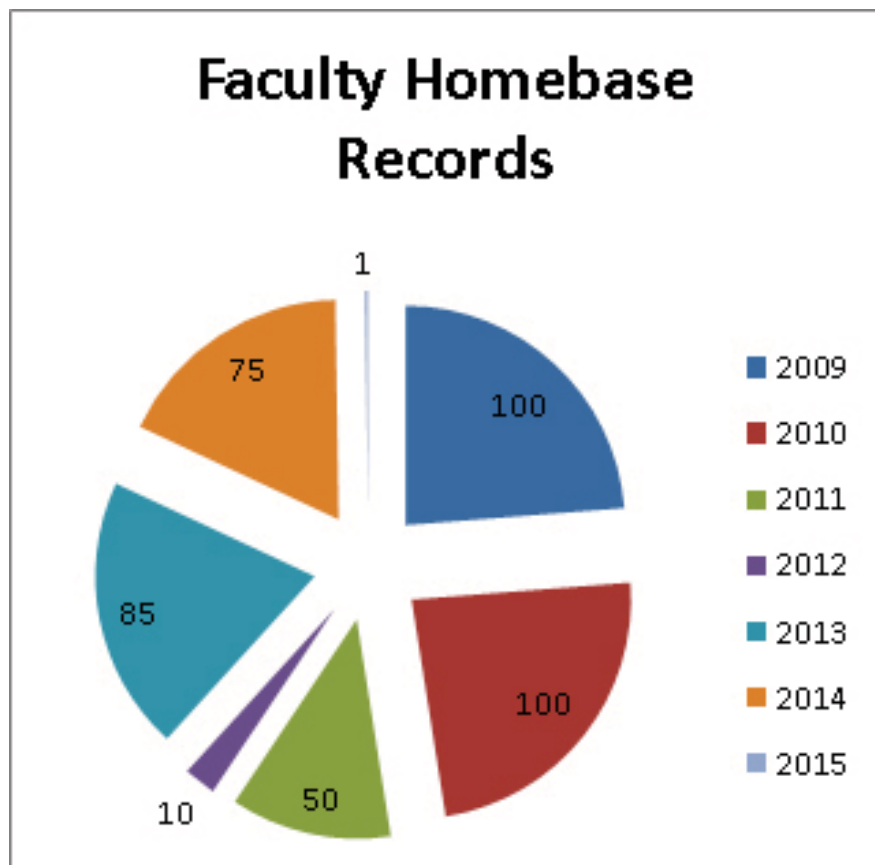
Library Resource Center

The LRC hosted an information session titled “Library and Educational Applications for Student Success.” Students were able to learn how to use the catalog and databases on their tablets or smart phone devices.



Records Retention: Ensuring District Compliance and Quality

Records management is the effective and systematic control of an organization’s records, ensuring that valuable records evidencing an organization’s activities are protected and accessible while useless records are systematically destroyed. The 5th Floor Executive Administration has successfully archived faculty home base records from 2009 to current.



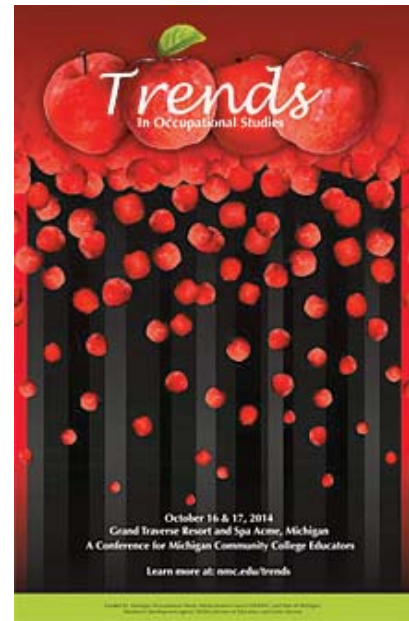
Division of Educational Affairs



WCCCD is constantly updating and increasing resources for faculty to enhance their online classrooms. According to Andre Bourque, online providers succeeding in terms of completion rates, student feedbacks, and highest growth, have some of the following characteristics:

1. According to the University of Illinois' Online Network group (ION), an online instructor must be able to compensate for lack of physical presence by creating a supportive environment in the virtual classroom where all students feel comfortable participating and especially where students know that their instructor is accessible.
2. Top online courses tend to provide first-class support so that students never feel lost or alone during the e-learning process.
3. A study by the Association of American Colleges and Universities found students value online technologies that personalized the instructor, allowing the student to see the instructor's image and hear the instructor's voice.
5. Group-based project work, where teams are provided with separate collaboration portals, forces students to interact with one another and talk about their projects.

Source: <http://www.huffingtonpost.com>



Career Education

This week, Dr. Ron Harkness attended the first planning committee meeting for the TRENDS in Occupational Studies Conference. This year's conference will be held at the Grand Traverse Resort on October 15-16 in Traverse City.

CHALLENGE DETROIT

Dr. Stephanie Bulger, Dr. Fidelis D'Cunha and Furquan Ahmed met with Deirdre Greene Groves, Executive Director, and Glenn Oliver, a Board Member from Challenge Detroit. Branden Bufford is a 2014-15 Challenge Detroit Fellow, who has contributed his talent to many areas of the District. An urban revitalization project in its fourth year of operation, Challenge Detroit brings together talented individuals of various intellects and backgrounds from our backyard and across the country to come together to live, work, play, give and lead in Detroit by uniting with area companies, non-profits and cultural institutions.



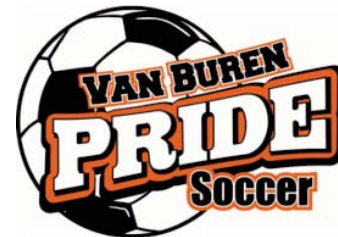
The Western Campus welcomed the second cohort of the Detroit Registered Apprenticeship Program (D-RAP), running February to April. In partnership with the School of Continuing Education and Workforce Development, we support the students as they learn to apply mathematics, blueprint reading, electrical fundamentals, sustainable design, shop equipment and tools.

Romulus High School Partnership

Mike Dotson and Cecile Taylor met with Principal Flinnoia Hall of Romulus High School. The purpose of the meeting was to review current partnership activity and make plans for activities and classes in the 2015/2016 school year.



The Van Buren Area Little League (VBALL) held a meet the coach and skill enhancement workshop at the Western Campus. Players and their families prepared for the upcoming opening day on May 9, 2015.



The Van Buren Soccer Association held a workshop for coaches and staff at the Western Campus. The workshop focused on rules of the game, teambuilding and troubleshooting techniques for adults working with young athletes.



Upcoming Autism Workshop at the Western Campus

Mike Dotson and Cecile Taylor met with the Autism Alliance of Michigan to continue plans for the April 18th workshop for families and health practitioners.

Human Trafficking Community Seminar

The Downriver Campus hosted the Taylor Substance Abuse Task Force – Human Trafficking Community Awareness Seminar. Speaker Theresa Flores discussed how to recognize a victim, help build a coalition against the growing problem and how to get involved.



Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education



Detroit Hazardous Materials Response Unit

The Michigan Institute for Public Safety Education (MIPSE) hosted the Detroit Hazardous Materials Response Unit for confined space training.



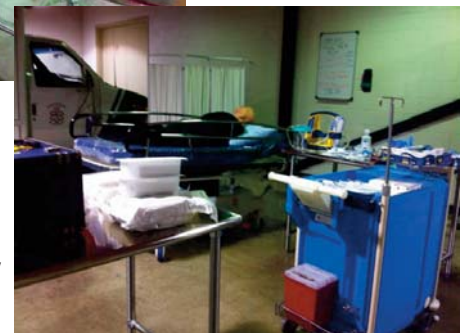
MIPSE EMT Program Simulation Lab

The EMT Program has updated the Simulation Lab with new manequins and work stations offering paramedic students invaluable practice time and mastery of advanced life support skills by using Scenario-Based Learning with a "Sim-Man" manequin.



Wayne County Sheriff's Training Unit – Social Media

MIPSE hosted Wayne County Sheriff's Training Unit for a workshop titled "Using Social Media to Enhance Law Enforcement Investigations."





African Explosion

The Eastern Campus hosted the 2nd Annual African Explosion. A President's Initiative to culminate Black History Month through a merging of culture, dance, attire and food.



Entrepreneurial Institute and Resource Center

The Entrepreneurial Institute and Resource Center hosted an entrepreneurial workshop conducted by the New Leaders Council. Richard Fowler, Host of the Richard Fowler Show spoke on effective messages and on-camera practice training.



Wayne County Taxpayer Assistance Program which serviced more than 500 Detroit residents.

Advanced Manufacturing Partnership

Mawine Diggs and Matthew Puwal met with Harvey Hollins from the Governor's Office, Hiram Jackson the Publisher of the Michigan Chronicle and Jim Robinson the Dean of Resource Development to tour the Eastern Campus Advance Manufacturing wing. The meeting explored training needs for individuals in the City of Detroit through potential partnerships and skilled trade opportunities with WCCCD.



Eastside Advisory Council



MARY ELLEN STEMPFLE UNIVERSITY CENTER

The MES University Center facilitated the quarterly meeting of the Eastside Advisory Council at the Grosse Pointe Historical Society. The EAC members recognized Mrs. Janice Kay at the meeting and her husband, Mr. Richard Kay, posthumously, for their years of dedicate service to the EAC.

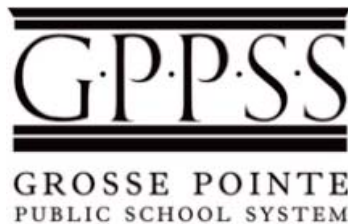


Marketing Strategy Meeting



Orlando Wilkins, Dr Sandra Robinson, Dr Julie Corbett and Dr. Pat McNally met with Melissa Bunker, Coordinator of the Grosse Pointe Village Association’s annual “Music on the Plaza” concert series to discuss marketing strategies for WCCCD during the eight – week summer event.

Dr. Sandra Robinson, Dr. Julie Corbett and Dr. Pat McNally met with the Superintendent of Grosse Pointe Public Schools, Dr .Thomas Harwood to discuss concurrent enrollment opportunities and online educational options for the Grosse Pointe High School students.

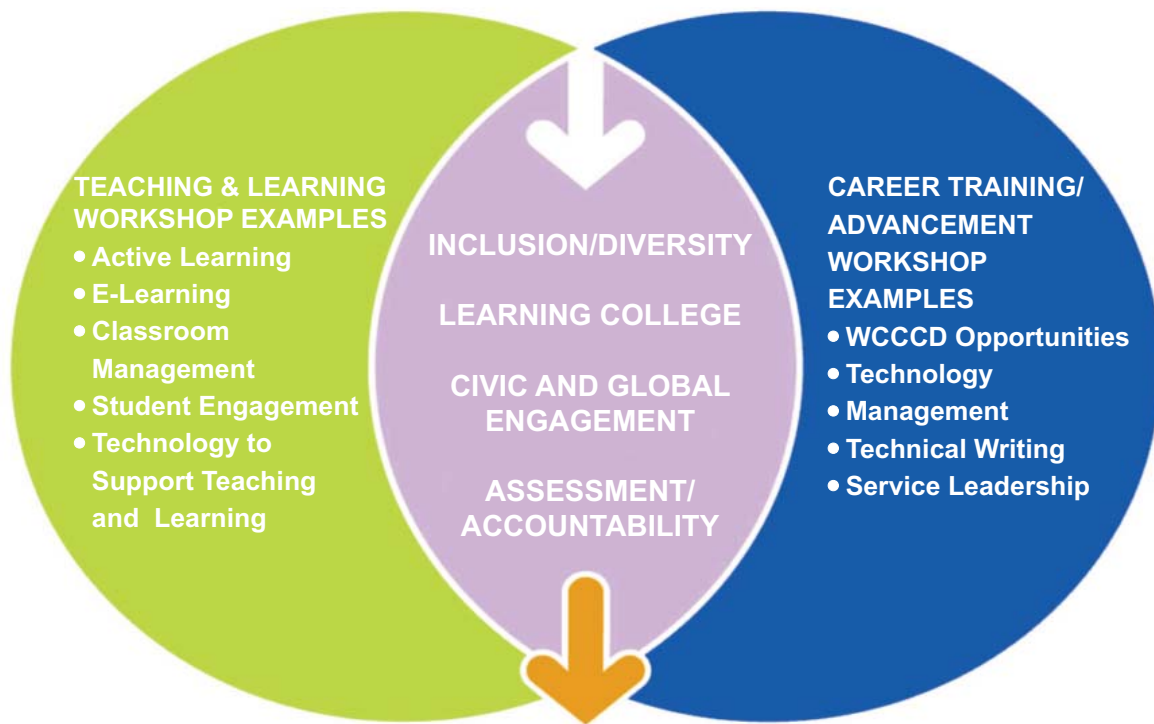


Dr. Harvey Dorrah, Dr. Sandra Robinson and Denise Williams – Mallett met with representatives from Central Michigan University via video conference to continue the review and discussion of degree partnership opportunities with WCCCD.



Orlando Wilkins, Dr Sandra Robinson and Dr. Pat McNally met with the Superintendent of the Chandler Park Academy and her staff to review the status of the dual enrollment program and to discuss the requirements for an Associate of Arts degree.

WCCCD Professional Development Essential Elements for All Employees



Support WCCCD Core Values Builds Organizational Structure

Dr. Christian Nwamba attended a conference on facilitating mentor and mentee training.

Jamila Sudduth conducted a professional development training on the “Role of Campus Instruction” for the campus administrators.

Richard Woolfolk provided a professional development training on “Employee Conduct” to the Student Services Staff.

Carole Deshazor attended the SWCRC Eco works Saving Program meeting.

James Dodson, Peter Sims, Kerry Miller and Susan Burton attended Oakwood Hospital’s workshop on Human Trafficking.

Andy Steeby attended a Wayne County Sheriff Using Social Media to Enhance Law workshop.

Omobonike Odegbami and Olusatosin Balogia attended an International Education workshop “Working with Sponsoring Organization and Embassies.”

Raquel Newell and Omobonike Odegbami attended the Community College for International Development conference.

Carolyn Carter attended the 2nd Annual African American Leadership Awards program at Lear Corporation.

Edgar Vann III attended the Michigan Political Leadership Program Dinner.

Dr. Stephanie Bulger recently participated in a Higher Learning Commission site visit. This is a professional development opportunity which involves visiting peer institutions and providing consultation relative to their ongoing improvement.



Harvey Dorrah participated in a planning and development session of the Media Studio and Poly comfocused on media studio design, learning space design, room usability, and sound proofing.

Donnell Mason attended the Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach/TRiO Training Institute’s seminar.

**Northwood University’s DeVos
Graduate School
Master of Business Administration
Degree Cohort**

Keri Wallace
Jara Tekleab
Denis Karic
Kuda Walker
Matthew Green
Harjit Grewal
Patrick O’Harris
Charles Bantom
Omobonike Odegami
Willie Sampson

**Additional Eastern Campus Professional
Development**

Facilities staff attended the “Importance of Work Life Balance” Professional Development. This Workshop assisted the staff with acquiring a healthy professional and personal life.

Student Services staff attended the Professional Development Workshop “Enhance Your Customer Service Skills.”

LRC staff attended the “MS Office Tips and Tricks” workshop.

Entrepreneurial Institute staff attended the “Power of Networking” Professional Development.

Educational Affairs staff attended the Professional Development Workshop “Email and Telephone Etiquette”.

Administration staff attended the “Power of Networking with Social Media”. The Administration staff learned techniques to create a brand for themselves and how to develop professional alliances with the assistance of social media.

Legislative Corner



New Details Emerge on America's College Promise Proposal: President Obama's FY 2016 budget plan, unveiled on February 2, included new details about his proposal for tuition-free community college. The cost of the program was revealed as \$60.3 billion over 10 years in mandatory funding, but only \$1.4 billion in FY2016. The disparity between those two numbers is because the U.S. Department of Education anticipates that not all states would participate in the program in its first year.

Draft Cohort Default Rates: The Department of Education intends to send Title IV eligible institutions draft cohort default rates as well as the underlying data on February 23.

Michigan New Jobs Training Program: As expected, this past Tuesday the Senate Education Committee took testimony and reported out on Senate Bills 69-71, which make our desired changes to the Michigan New Jobs Training Program. We anticipate the bill will likely be before the full Senate for consideration this week.

January Revenues Exceed Forecast: Revenue from Michigan's General Fund and School Aid Fund earmarked taxes, as well as lottery net revenue, totaled \$2.2 billion in January 2015, up 12.5% from 2014 levels and above estimates for the month, the Senate Fiscal Agency determined in its monthly revenue report.



2015 Michigan Governor's Economic and Education Summits: The two summits are being combined into a single two day event, March 2-3, 2015 at the Marriott Detroit at the Renaissance Center. Career Technical Education is the focus of the 2015 event.



On the Move...

Edgar Vann III attended Downtown Detroit Partnership Winter Stakeholder meeting. Major topics discussed were the decline in vacant buildings from 48 to 13, the new technological advances to improve parking, and the optimistic attitude towards the developing Downtown.