Message from the Interim President

With the hectic pace of four weeks of the new semester under our belts, it may be time to kick back and meditate. Here are some Zen thoughts for you to ponder:

Do not walk behind me, for I may not lead. Do not walk ahead of me, for I may not follow. Do not walk beside me either. Just pretty much leave me alone.

The journey of a thousand miles begins with a broken fan belt and a leaky tire.

It’s always darkest before dawn. So if you’re going to steal your neighbor’s newspaper, that’s the time to do it.

Don’t be irreplaceable. If you can’t be replaced, you can’t be promoted.

Always remember that you are unique. Just like everyone else.

Never test the depth of the water with both feet.

If you lend someone $20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.

If you tell the truth, you don’t have to remember anything.

Some days you’re the bug; some days you’re the windshield.

Good judgment comes from bad experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.

The quickest way to double your money is to fold it in half and put it back in your pocket.

A closed mouth gathers no foot.

Duct tape is like the Force. It has a light side and a dark side, and it holds the universe together.

Generally speaking, you aren’t learning much when your lips are moving.

Experience is something you don’t get until just after you need it.

Never under any circumstances, take a sleeping pill and a laxative on the same night.

No matter what happens, somebody will find a way to take it too seriously.

There comes a time when you should stop expecting other people to make a big deal about your birthday – around age 11.

Everyone seems normal until you get to know them.

Get out and enjoy the great Fall weather and clear your mind – and keep good thoughts.

~Diana R. Osborn
AskOnline Comes to MCC

The Tutoring Center, Room 204, has purchased AskOnline e-Tutoring System for the benefit of our students. AskOnline personnel are currently building the MCC website. As soon as it is complete a few tutors will be trained in its use. Math and Biology will be the first subjects available for online tutoring. You will be apprised of our progress. AskOnline is graciously sponsoring three tutors to this year’s Michigan Tutorial Association Connections Conference XXVI: Building on our Legacy, held in Lansing on October 17th. The Tutoring Center is grateful to the support of Vice President Bob Ferrentino, Perkins Funds, and the cooperation of AskOnline.

Flu Shot Clinic

Hackley Visiting Nurse Services will conduct a
FLU SHOT CLINIC
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17
11:00 AM – 1:30 PM
Room 1204 in the Stevenson Center

No appointment necessary. Available to anyone age 9 or older. Medicare Part B members, no charge with card. (All others $30).

Pneumonia shots also available, $40 (first-time or with doctor’s orders only).

FOR ADDITIONAL FLU SHOT CLINIC DATES AND TIMES, GO TO:
www.vns-muskegon.org
1-800-499-5025 / (231) 726-5025

Fall 2008 Conference MI Community College Biologist

The Life Science Department is planning and hosting the Fall 2008 Conference for Michigan Community College Biologists on Friday, October 24 and Saturday, October 25, 2008. On Friday, October 24, we will meet with high school teachers to discuss and design improved learning environments and strategies for our in-common students.

Topics range from creative assessment in the classroom, aquatic plants, sinkhole communities in the Great Lakes, microbial communities in hot tubs. The guest speaker Dr. Keith Crandall will present his findings on crayfish ecology. Dr. Crandall is from Brigham Young University and is the son of our Trustee Dr. Crandall.

The conference fee of $40 is waived for Muskegon Community College employees and students. There is a charge for food and beverages. Please see the Michigan Community College Biologists website for more information:
www.mccb1.org/conferences.htm
Accreditation Heroes

Here’s this month’s accreditation self-study question (we’ll even make it multiple guess):
What do all the employees listed below have in common?

a. They all use the north parking lot
b. They all own a cat named Kitty
c. They all are serving on a self-study committee
d. They all have the same middle initial: W

If you chose answer C, you are right. Recognize any names of people you work with? If you do, tell them “thanks a lot” for their efforts. Without these 85 volunteers serving on 12 committees, a self-study would be impossible. They are our accreditation heroes.


*Chairperson of a Committee

Take the 7-Step Peak Energy Solution Challenge

“Peak Energy” is a motivating and educational seminar geared toward improving your lifestyle.

Join Dr. Scott Semlow, D.C., on Monday, October 13 from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. in Room 1100 for a life-changing seminar that will help you feel more rested, energized and focused in just 14 days!

- Raise energy levels by 40%
- Reduce stress levels by 50%
- Prevent workplace injuries

Topics include:
- Why high carbohydrate diets lower your energy levels
- How much water is really necessary
- Why inadequate rest can shorten your life
- Simple stretches to increase performance
- How poor time management increases your stress levels

If you find yourself:
- Feeling out of gas at some point during the day;
- Daydreaming throughout the workday;
- Requiring coffee or caffeinated pop to get the morning started;
- Feeling the physical effects of stress;
- Taking medication to improve the way you feel;

Then you owe it to yourself to learn the steps necessary for making healthier lifestyle choices. In just one hour, you will master these simple techniques and achieve extraordinary results.

Sponsored by The Healthy Lifestyle Committee
Student Services

Student Services has Staff changes with the new Student One Stop
Patti D’Avignon—Associate Registrar, Supervisor to all Generalist
Kelli Loughrige—Student Services Generalist
Vicki Kraus—Student Services Generalist, Call Center Lead
Sche Cornelius—Student Services Generalist, Student Service Center Lead
Terri Jourden—Student Services Generalist, Student Assistant Counter Lead
Also, Brenda Mitcheltree has transitioned to the Administrative Services Division.

Healthy Lifestyle Committee Needs You!

The Healthy Lifestyle Committee is looking for new members. The mission of the Healthy Lifestyle Committee is “to create healthier and happier employees through awareness of health issues and wellness programs.” Wellness is not just for those who are exercise enthusiasts, but also for individuals who want to enhance their mind. If you would like to be involved in planning various activities, please contact Stacey DeBrot.

Faculty Seminar Slideshow

I put together a slide show of MCC people that showed during Fall faculty seminar days. The slide show is available on the common drive in a folder called MCC presentation for anyone to look at it if they are interested. I would also like to put together another one for the winter seminar days; however pictures are needed. If someone has some pictures I would appreciate it. A scanner is available and the photos will be returned. When submitting the photos, please state who the person is. I’m looking for MCC staff—past and current—I prefer no students or family members.

~Phyllis Robey.

Early Childhood Conference

Early Childhood Conference “Path to Success”, Friday, November 7 and Saturday, November 8. Preregistration open to all students at $15.00 (includes lunch) Instructors free.

Tutor Appreciation Week

October 6th – 12th is Tutor Appreciation Week. I’m hoping that all of MCC’s faculty and staff will show their support for tutors and the work that they do. All of the tutors are students and are in your classes. Ask them to make themselves known (Believe me—most of them are not known for their shyness.). Let them know that you appreciate the hard work they do and that you’ll be there for them if they are ever in need of your guidance.

~Kathryn Schrader

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~Phyllis Robey.

~Phyllis Robey.
International Studies

Join us in October for these three outstanding events:

1. **Travelogue - Thailand - A Cultural Journey.** Join Steve Fiorenzo, Julie Weller and Nancy Slater on Monday, October 20, 7:00pm – 8:30pm in room 1100 as they share amazing images and observations from their recent travels to Thailand. After the presentation there will be plenty of time for questions, followed by refreshments.

2. **MCC’s 8th Annual International Panel Discussion:** Monday November 17– 7:00pm - 8:30pm in the Stevenson Center for Higher Education, Room 1100. Our panelists will be there to share insights with you about their corner of the world.

3. **Go Abroad!** Join us Wednesday October 15, 12:00-1:00pm or 5:00-6:00pm in the Student Union to find out more about international travel and study abroad programs from both MCC and the Midwest Institute for International/Intercultural Education. A second session, **Go Abroad 2!** will be held on November 18, 12:00- 1:00pm or 5:00- 6:00pm in the Student Union. Many students have found travel and study abroad to be the best experience they had while in college. Come and find out if any of our travel and study abroad opportunities are for you! **Free Popcorn!**

**Come to the 8th Annual International Student Panel on Monday November 17 - 7 - 8:30pm in the Stevenson Center for Higher Education, Room 1100.**

Michigan Sociological Association

The Michigan Sociological Association will host its Annual Conference at Muskegon Community College on October 17-18, 2008. The Conference Theme: Rebuilding Communities; the Keynote address will be given by Dr. Michael Schwalbe professor of Sociology at North Carolina State University. Dr. Schwalbe’s current research focuses on identity, life history the reproduction of inequality. He has authored 4 books, 30 articles and has also contributed chapters in other sociological literature. Currently, Dr. Bev Hair uses his text “The Sociologically Examined Life: Pieces of the Conversation in her introduction to sociology courses. Dr. Hair is also the president of the Michigan Sociological Association.

The cost of this conference is $60 for professionals and $30 for students. If you need any other information do not hesitate to contact Bev Hair.

Phi Theta Kappa

Phi Theta Kappa will begin its fall membership drive in late-September. Students are eligible to join the MCC chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, Beta Xi Xi, after they have earned 12 or more college level credits at MCC and have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or above. If you know students who meet the requirements who would benefit from the recognition as well as opportunities to develop leadership skills, pursue highly competitive scholarships, participate in service projects, and travel to various state and national events, please encourage them to join. Drop-in information sessions will be held **October 8, from 3:00 – 6:00, and October 9, from 12:00 – 3:00, in Room 1118.**

We welcome interested students as well as faculty and staff.

Questions? Contact advisors Kelley Conrad or Jenny Klingenberg
“272 faculty members were surveyed in this effort to illustrate one way in which faculty attempt to improve student learning.”

THE ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING REPORT CARD 2007-2008

By Richard Doctor, Assessment Coordinator

PROGRAM LEVEL ASSESSMENT: Grade: A-
A comprehensive assessment of all programs (Liberal/Arts Transfer, Occupational, and Learning Skills) took place while creating the Academic Master Plan. Now in the first full year of implementation, many goals for improving student learning were completed, and a good number of others demonstrated significant progress.

However, the progress report on the Academic Master Plan insufficiently addressed goals for the Learning Skills Program.

GENERAL EDUCATION LEVEL ASSESSMENT: Grade: C+
Information from five years of Academic Profile/MAPP general education testing has not been adequately analyzed, and, therefore, we still await significant recommendations for improving student learning based on test results.

In addition, results of years of General Education Graduate Surveys have also been insufficiently analyzed.

However, data from both the MAPP test results and the surveys, illustrating that students improve their skills and knowledge by completing our general education requirements, were used to support the approval of a “Liberal Arts Transfer Certificate,” which potentially could increase enrollment in general education courses leading to the ASA degree.

Also, an IAC-appointed subcommittee is taking another look at how well our general education requirements help students achieve what may be called Information Literacy. The subcommittee made significant progress in identifying appropriate information literacy skills to be measured and in creating modules that faculty can use to teach these skills.

In addition, the College needs to take another look at how we evaluate the benefits of the general education requirements in occupational programs.

DISCIPLINE LEVEL ASSESSMENT: Grade: B-
Discipline reviews for the Occupational Program use the SSEOP process, and last year, three disciplines were evaluated, and five more are scheduled this year.

Unfortunately, Liberal Arts discipline reviews continue to trickle in behind schedule. However, follow-up reports from discipline reviews completed in the past demonstrate that the achievable goals created by the reviews produce important changes that benefit student learning.

COURSE LEVEL ASSESSMENT: Grade: C
The number of faculty creating individualized student surveys for all courses continues to grow steadily (nearly 100 courses now have surveys). However, there are dozens more to create.

Some departments consistently assess some courses, such as the English 101 and 102 annual assessment days, and the use of standardized tests for final exams in Chemistry. Most major courses, however, do not undergo any established method of assessment.

CLASSROOM LEVEL ASSESSMENT: Grade: B
A new “Assessing and Improving Learning Report Form” was created to document faculty use of classroom assessment techniques (CATS). Campus-wide, 272 faculty members were surveyed in this effort to illustrate one way in which faculty attempt to improve student learning. For full-time faculty, 47 out of 94 (50%) submitted reports. For adjuncts, 27 of 178 (15%) participated. For both groups combined, a total of 117 reports were submitted. Almost all participants indicated some change in how they taught and how it led to improved learning.
The MCC College Singers invite you to join in the Community Chorus. Classes meet Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11:15 a.m. – 12:10 p.m. Performances throughout the year require involvement in several concerts and other community events. Contact Cathy Gilson at 231-777-0616 for additional information.

MCC LECTURE SERIES

October 23 – 7:00 p.m.
Room 1100 - Muskegon Community College, Stevenson Center
“The U.S. Supreme Court at the Precipice of Change”
by Christopher E. Smith, Professor School of Criminal Justice, Michigan State University

October 8 - 11 – 7:30 p.m.
October 12 – 3:00 p.m.
OVERBROOK THEATER

Sophocles’ Antigone
Translation
by Nicholas Rudall
Antigone, daughter of the cursed house of Oedipus, must defy her king to bury her brother, the fallen leader of a failed rebellion. Can one young girl, willing to sacrifice everything, face down the power of a state determined to destroy her if she does not obey? Sophocles’ timeless myth pits the baser instincts of enmity and revenge against the power of love and reconciliation.

Tickets:
Current Muskegon Community College Students/Faculty/Staff/Alumni - $5.00
Adults/Seniors - $10.00
Information or Tickets call: 231.777.0324

Chapter 8 Announcement

Hello, MCC instructors! We are the Self-Study Chapter 8 committee, and our job is to examine whether the following statement is true about MCC: “MCC's goals for student learning outcomes are clearly stated for each educational program and make effective assessment possible.”

The HLC would like us to prove this point by (1) evaluating the "direct and indirect" ways MCC measures student success and (2) evaluating the level of faculty involvement in "defining expected student learning outcomes" and "creating the strategies to determine whether those outcomes are achieved." So . . . we need to hear from you!

Many of you have shared your CATs (Classroom Assessment Techniques) with Richard Doctor over the past year. Thank you! We’ll be reviewing this collection as part of our evaluation of assessment at the classroom level.

Do you have any additional assessment practices to share with us? What do you do to evaluate teaching and learning in your classes? We’d hate to have any of your valuable efforts fall through the cracks as we collect MCC’s formally documented assessment practices, so please share! Send your responses to CTL@muskegoncc.edu.

Thank you!
Chapter 8 (Don Bogema, Sherri Chandler, Jenny Klingenberg, Papa Njai, Judy Romans, and Kathy Schrader)
MCC Birthdays

**October**
- Janet Taylor 10/1
- Peggy Jacobs 10/4
- Jennifer Vanwoorst 10/6
- Leona Adams 10/6
- Janie Brooks 10/6
- Janice Whitlow 10/7
- Steve Fiorenzo 10/8
- Jerry Nyland 10/10
- Jesse Montgomery 10/12
- Phyllis Robey 10/19
- Beth Smith 10/20
- Jim Royce 10/22
- Sylvia Hayes 10/27
- Bob Vanderlaan 10/27

**November**
- Paula McClurg-Ziemelis 11/1
- Char Parker 11/2
- Martha Reyna-Gonzalez 11/2
- Dale Devries 11/4
- Sue Zemke 11/5
- Donna Warner 11/8
- Rich Brimmer 11/8
- Barb Holtrop 11/9
- James Donohue 11/10
- Bev Hair 11/11
- Janice Alexander 11/13
- Margitta Rose 11/13
- Erin Hoffman 11/14
- Kathy Krentz 11/18
- Patti D’Avignon 11/19
- Chris Nowak 11/25
- Becky Evans 11/27
- Larry McDaid 11/29

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**MCC’s Bulletin Board**

**Watch for Open Enrollment**

being sent via email the week of October 6

**Fall Fitness Hours**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 2:30 pm—5:30 pm

Friday 12:30 pm—2:30 pm

**If you need a key to a computer lab or classroom see your Department Chairperson**

**AUDITION ANNOUNCEMENT**

October 15 & 16, 2008

Shooting Stars

A play about an all women’s basketball team in the 1960’s

**NEEDED: 7 WOMEN & 1 MAN**

Audition time: 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, Overbrook Theater

Scripts available in Room #166 - $5.00 returnable deposit