Message from the Interim President

During these touchy economic times it is sometimes difficult to keep our spirits UP, but just seeing those two little letters does give us a boost UP. This two-letter word perhaps has more meanings than any other two-letter word – check this out or should I say “UP” –

It's easy to understand UP meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake UP? At a meeting, why does a topic come UP? Why do we speak UP and why are the officers UP for election and why is it UP to the secretary to write UP a report? We call UP our friends. And we use it to brighten UP the silver, warm UP the leftovers and clean UP the kitchen. We lock UP the house and some guys fix UP the old car. At other times the little word has real special meaning. People stir UP trouble, line UP for tickets, work UP excuses. To be dressed is one thing but to be dressed UP is special. And this UP is confusing: A drain must be opened UP because it is stopped UP. We open UP a store in the morning but we close it UP at night.

We seem to be pretty mixed UP about UP! To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of UP look the word UP in the dictionary. In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes UP to about thirty definitions. If you are UP to it, you might try building UP a list of the many ways UP is used. It will take UP, a lot of your time, but if you don't give UP, you may wind UP with a hundred or more. When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding UP. When the sun comes out we say it is clearing UP. When it rains, it wets the earth and often messes things UP. When it doesn’t rain for awhile, things dry UP.

One could go on and on, but I'll wrap it UP.

For now my time is UP, so ........... Time to shut UP ....!

Keep your spirit's UP and think spring!!!!!

Diana R. Osborn
May Day, May Day: Faculty Learning Opportunity for Spring
The newest addition to the CTL course offerings is coming soon! It is a four day seminar (two of the days are hands on and two are seminars with demonstrations and presentations). May-Days will be offered from May 4 through May 7 and you will be able to sign up for any or all of the full days.

During the first full week in May the Center for Teaching and Learning along with the Academic Affairs Department is sponsoring a learning conference for both part and full time faculty, they are calling it MayDays. May 4 through 7 falls between the winter and summer semesters; no classes will be in session. The range of events for the week is designed to offer something for everyone from technical to pedagogical, from the classroom teacher to the online instructor.

A overview of programs is shown below so that you can plan how you wish to participate. We do encourage you to consider attending all four days but understand that schedules and interests may not make that practical. Also, if you are a Blackboard “Power User” you may not find enough items of interest on the first day. That being said, all are strongly encouraged to attend the second day when our focus goes to pedagogy with off campus presenters as well as some of your colleagues.

Lunch will be provided each day at no charge for all registered participants. The CTL is working with vendors to provide door prizes during the event.

Registration Information will be in this column next month as well as linked from Faculty Spot on Blackboard.

May 4: Blackboard Basics for faculty not yet using Blackboard or a refresher [Lab/hands on] Room L267
Creating and Uploading Course Content [45] 10:00am to 10:45am Sue Meeuwenberg
Quizzes and Test Strategies [55] 10:50am to 11:45am Sue Meeuwenberg
Interactive Content Sources Without Reinventing the Wheel [30] 12:30pm to 1:00pm Sarah Swart
Using Discussion Boards for Online and Campus Classes [45] 1:15pm to 2:00pm Becky Evans

May 5: Pedagogical Principles in Practice [Participation is strongly encouraged]
Room 1324
Speaker Topic: Effective Pedagogical Strategies Online and Classroom Strategies
[45] 10:00-10:45am Pam Lowry, PhD – Lawrence Technological University
Creating Course Packs with Library Databases [30] 10:50 to 11:20am Sarah Swart & Carol Briggs-Erickson
Student Learning Styles and Teaching [:45] 11:25am to 11:55am Sarah Swart
Syllabus as Communication Tool [:30] 12:40pm to 1:10pm Diane Krasnewich
Using Discussion Boards for Online and Campus Classes [45] 1:15pm to 2:00pm Becky Evans
Norms for Group Work and Collaboration [45] 2:05pm to 2:50pm Heather Witkowski

May 6: Interactive Content Design for 21st Century Teaching – Seminar/demo
Room L267
Using IM and Chat Tools [45] 2:05pm to 2:50pm Don Bogema
Software for today’s session: Blackboard

May 7: Interactive Content Design for 21st Century Teaching – Seminar/demo
Room L267
Using IM and Chat Tools [45] 2:05pm to 2:50pm Don Bogema
Software for today’s session: Blackboard
Instructional Design Roadmap Continued

How-To’s from your Screen
Images [:30] 10:00am to 10:30am Sue Meeuwenberg
Interactive Content with Audio [:75] 10:35am to 11:05am Greg Marczyk & Sue Meeuwenberg
Learning Games and Uploading Formatted Quizzes [:45]
12:35pm to 1:20pm Sarah Swart
Creating Audio Files for Teaching and Assignments [:30]
1:25pm to 1:55pm Don Bogema
Faculty Resources at MCC [:55]
2:00 to 2:55 CTL Staff and Panel

Software for today’s session:
Blackboard, SnagIt, Jing, Audacity, Camtasia, Respondus, Study Mate

May 7: Design Your Own Projects – Lab/Hands On

Create your own projects while presenters are available to assist you. You will select the projects you wish to work on for this session. Stay all day (10-3pm) or as long as is needed for your projects. Learning Objectives:
Choose from: Learning Games, Interactive Content, Digital Content, IM/Chat. You will get assistance with any of the tools presented during the week.

Software for today’s session:
All Software Packages

Four out of Five

For five months, each issue of Campus Connections will list “Five Things You Should Know” about our accreditation self-study. Here’s the fourth thing: assessment.

The assessment committee decided quite some time ago that the assessment of student learning should take place at five levels:

- Program
- General education
- Discipline
- Course
- Classroom

Here is an illustration of the levels we attempt to assess:

- A student named Jane Doe enrolls in Psychology 201 section F07. Her instructor may use classroom assessment techniques (CATS) off and on throughout the course to determine if students are progressing in their learning.

  - Jane finds out that her instructor meets with other Psychology 201 instructors to find various ways to assess whether students who complete the class are reaching the goals for this particular course.

  - The course is one of a number of psychology courses, and instructors complete a periodic review of all psychology courses to determine the effectiveness of this discipline.

  - This psychology course may be one of several options for Jane to complete a required general education category called “Social Relationships” to earn an Associate in Science and Arts degree.

  Jane completes all of her ASA general education and elective courses to complete the liberal arts/transfer program.

By: Richard Doctor

Contact Information
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I’m available for faculty assistance by appointment or drop-in. Monday till 6pm, other days until 5pm.
If you want people to embrace new ideas, then stamp out ‘dinosaur thinking’

Are your employees unwilling to break out of the mold and try new ideas? Do they always revert to the old way of doing things—even when the old way is no longer the best way? Then pay attention to this story:

Alagasco, a utility in Birmingham, Ala., had the kind of culture described above. More than 130 years of an “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it...and even if it’s a little broke, leave it alone” culture had destroyed employees’ willingness to try new things.

Enter Mike Warren. When he took over as president, he set about trying to change that old culture. And one of the most effective things he did was also one of the simplest.

He bought a rubber stamp in the shape of a dinosaur. And whenever he came across any piece of paper that he thought represented the old way of thinking, he would dinosaur stamp it and send it back. The message was clear: Update your thinking, or you will be extinct.

-Adapted from 1001 Ways to Energize Employees, by Bob Nelson (Workman)

Student Worker Tips

• Provide training so students recognize hazards and understand safe work practices.
• Place students with experienced supervisors who know proper safety procedures.
• Create an environment where students feel free to ask questions.
• Make sure students know that they should report an injury.
• Inform students of the importance of filing a claim if they are hurt.
• Create a mentoring program for new student workers.
• Ensure that students only operate legal and safe machinery.


*Information adapted from OSHA’s Teen Worker site
CONCERT WINDS
Performance featuring this year's Youth Soloist Scholarship winner
March 22 – 4:00 p.m.
Reeths-Puffer High School
Rocket Centre
Ticket Information: www.WMCW.org or call 616-847-8800

WEST SHORE YOUTH SYMPHONY – SPRING CONCERT
March 29 – 3:00 p.m.
Frauenthal Theater
Ticket Information: www.starticketsplus.com or call 800-585-3737

THEATER
SCAPINO!
By Frank Dunlop and Jim Dale, directed by Jim Sommerfeldt
March 25 – 28, 7:30 p.m. and March 29, 3:00 p.m.
Purchase/Reserve tickets in Room 166 or phone 231-777-0324

MATE Conference
Ahoy, Mates!
We’ve got some exciting changes made for the 40th Annual MATE Conference. The date has been changed from March 11, 2009, to Wednesday, March 18, to accommodate state testing.
John Carroll, Senior Consultant, ACT, Elementary/Secondary Services, will be our main speaker; he'll be speaking about English Language Arts related resources for the ACT. He’ll also talk about EXPLORE/PLAN resources…identically constructed assessments to the ACT (earlier versions that most schools give in Michigan). You will go away from this conference with some new, exciting and valuable information.
Please don’t forget to submit documents for the MATE-ing Ritual. Let’s make this the best resource book ever!
If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact Judy Romans, English Department Secretary, at 231-777-0371 or Judy.Romans@muskegoncc.edu.

Jan Agard, Coordinator
Muskegon Area Teachers of English
Muskegon Community College
### MCC Birthdays

#### March
- Mary Kaufman: 3/1
- Jane Atwood: 3/3
- Rod VanNortwick: 3/8
- Eileen Grunstra: 3/9
- Kathy Beachum: 3/10
- Clark Bingham: 3/10
- Jon Brown: 3/10
- Richard Doctor: 3/11
- Blair Morrissey: 3/11
- Tom O’Brien: 3/15
- Kathy Tosa: 3/15
- Cheryl Hite: 3/16
- Chris Patterson: 3/18
- Chris Donley: 3/21
- Judy Stonex: 3/22
- Georganne Myers: 3/24
- Cathy Rusco: 3/25
- Robert Ross: 3/25
- Larry Visconti: 3/25
- Richard Alexander: 3/29
- Jan Fields: 3/30
- Paula Halloran: 3/31
- Terri Hoffman-Forward: 3/31
- Dan Knue: 3/31
- Glenn Rutgers: 3/31

#### April
- Julie Weller: 4/2
- Tom Harryman: 4/2
- Charlotte Pond: 4/3
- Don Bogema: 4/4
- Lori Bailey: 4/5
- Kelli Loughridge: 4/9
- Carmina Martinez: 4/11
- Pat Huff: 4/14
- Judy Romans: 4/17
- Mary Smith: 4/19
- Greg Miller: 4/21
- Paul Oakes: 4/21
- Ann McManus: 4/23
- Lynda Ferry: 4/24
- Stacey DeBrot: 4/29

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### MCC’s Bulletin Board

- **Thursday, February 26 and March 26 from 2 - 3 pm all TOTS members are invited to attend a session to learn how to use the die cutting machine and laminator for professional looking projects.** We will meet in Room 346. Bring your materials for 3 feet of free lamination. Any larger amount is .50 cents a

- **GEO Club film, Kite Runner, March 25**
  Blue and Gold at 6:00 pm

- **The Gulag: a Smithsonian Quality Exhibit** is coming to MCC in April 2009. This exhibit will show how the Soviet system of forced labor camps, with several million inmates, handled political and religious dissenters. The Gulag, whose camps were located mainly in remote regions of Siberia and the Far North, made significant contributions to the Soviet economy in the period of Joseph Stalin.

- **CE/Country Line Dancing**
  - **March 11—April 1**
  - 7—8:30 pm
  - Room 262
  - Cost $33
  - Bring this to Mary Williams by March 4 & receive $10 off