NEW FILM PROGRAM
TRAIN WORKERS FOR MICHIGAN'S EMERGING FILM INDUSTRY

Shoot for the Stars
Foundation for MCC
Hosts Golf Outing

MCC Promotes Green Initiatives at Earth Day Event
Two New Alternative/Renewable Energy Certificate Programs are Equipping Workers for Tomorrow's Jobs
FEATURES

3 Dr. Glenn Swartzlander Receives 2010 Distinguished Alumni Award | Retired pediatrician awarded for longstanding contributions to MCC and his profession

6 Introduction to Film Production Course Meets Needs of Michigan’s Emerging Film Industry | 18 students sign up for inaugural offering of course geared to workforce development

6 Calculus Comes to Life on Twitter | Professor Maria Andersen creates a buzz with a novel method of engaging students in interactive learning

7 Students Learn State-of-the-Art Skills in Interactive Media Design Class | Constantly evolving, growing field provides opportunity for students to engage in increasingly interactive worlds

8 MCC Adds Green to the Blue and Gold | MCC celebrates Earth Day 2010 with event celebrating the many ways the College is going green

11 Foundation for Muskegon Community College Hosts Golf Outing | July 30 event will support upgrades to Carr-Fles Planetarium

DEPARTMENTS

5 From the Desk of the President
10 Trustee Focus
10 Focus on the Foundation
12 Alumni News
14 Campus Events
15 Donor Profile
15 Faculty/Staff Updates

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Cover: Photo of SWIFT wind turbine provided by Cascade Engineering
Dr. Glenn Swartzlander Receives 2010 Distinguished Alumni Award

By Dan Rinsema-Sybenga

Recently retired pediatrician Glenn Swartzlander represents the best in an MCC alumnus. After graduating from MCC in 1963, Swartzlander went on to receive a D.O. from the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences. He began practicing pediatrics in Muskegon in 1975 and went on to help form Port City Pediatrics, also serving as the Chief of Staff at Mercy General Hospital and Hackley Hospital.

But what makes Swartzlander a particularly special alumnus is his continued involvement in MCC. He has always been supportive of MCC programs, in particular the MCC Nursing Program, taking students into his practice for clinical experience in pediatrics. While this commitment took extra effort, he firmly believes that the investment in future nurses was worth the effort. He is a long standing member of the MCC Nursing Program Advisory Board, generously giving of his time to provide insight into how MCC can better prepare nursing students for the challenges of their profession.

The Distinguished Alumni Award is presented annually to the alumnus who best combines an MCC career, professional achievement, service to the community, and advocacy of education and support of MCC. Nominations are accepted each year through January 31. Nomination information is available at www.muskegoncc.edu/alumni or by calling Julie Weller (231) 777-0461.

From the Editor

Reflections on What’s Important to Alumni... and the Community

By Tina Dee

Muskegon Community College entered a new era with the arrival of new President Dr. Dale Nesbary just over a year ago. Among the many initiatives he has championed is the development of an Alumni Relations Department with a renewed commitment to foster relationships with MCC’s over 85,000 alumni.

The Alumni Relations Department is part of the newly formed Office of Community Relations, which, in addition to Alumni Relations, is the home of institutional marketing (formerly public information), MCC TV, and the Foundation for MCC and all fundraising activities.

While the main purpose of the Office of Community Relations is to coordinate all of MCC’s communications and manage the brand (or image) of MCC, most of the efforts are about cultivating relationships. This includes relationships with the media, donors, MCC employees, community members, and alumni. Improving Reflections is just one of the things we can do to keep in touch with alumni.

Our focus on relationships is also helping advance our mission as we solicit input from our constituents. Over the summer we will offer a variety of ways that students, alumni, and community members can provide feedback as we conduct region-wide needs assessments and surveys to learn how we can better meet the evolving education needs of communities and individuals.

In addition to learning about education needs, we’d like your feedback on how we are communicating with you. Are you getting the information about MCC you want? What can we do to improve our communications to alumni and community? Please send your input to tina.dee@muskegoncc.edu or call me at (231) 777-0660. Let us know what you think–next issue we’d like your letter to be here, too!

We look forward to evolving Reflections magazine into a relevant and informative publication.
Muskegon Community College
2010 Commencement
MCC faculty and staff applaud
2010 graduates as they enter
the Frauenthal Center
on April 23, 2010
From the Desk of the President

Commencement, Accreditation, and Other Signs of Excellence at MCC

Spring is always a dynamic season as the College celebrates the end of the academic year and looks ahead to the next. This year was my first opportunity to participate in MCC’s commencement ceremony, in my role as president. It was inspiring to feel the excitement of a packed house at the Frauenthal Center, and to shake hands with the 160 students who walked across the stage, achieving their educational goal. Our speakers Mr. Jacob Smallegan (student), Mr. Andrew Levin, Chief Workforce Officer for the State of Michigan (commencement speaker), and Dr. Glenn Swartzlander (distinguished alumnus) all gave timely addresses to the graduating students, including excellent counsel as students move on from MCC.

State legislative bodies passed, and Governor Granholm signed, a bill incenting state employees to retire. As Reflections goes to print the effects of this bill on the College are still being determined, but as MCC staff and faculty are affected by this legislation, there will be a possibility for greater than normal staff turnover at MCC. It goes without saying that we are working diligently to work through this process to provide the best possible education for our students.

A second administrative process that greatly impacts the future of MCC is the Higher Learning Commission reaccreditation process. The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (HLC) will visit the College as part of our 10 year HLC reaccreditation process. During the last two years, an HLC committee has been meeting internally, with the intent of gathering input from all corners of the College. Over the next three months, the committee will complete its work by drafting a “self study” of the institution. The self study will be submitted to the HLC in midsummer and a site visit team from the HLC will visit the College in late October. The Committee, chaired by Richard Doctor (English Department) and Anne Meilof (Institutional Research and Development) will continue to solicit input and provide information to the college community.

Finally, the Strategic Planning Process, initiated when I came to MCC, is in its final stages. I want to thank committee members for participating and to welcome anyone interested in additional input to attend. The ideas coming from this process will drive the planning of our curriculum, student life, administrative activities, and community outreach/relations for the foreseeable future. In the near future the plan created through this process will be released and we hope you take note of how your community college is moving into the future.

I hope that you are enjoying the gorgeous spring days we are experiencing. Continue to strive for excellence and enjoy the summer.

Dale K. Nesbary, Ph.D., President
Muskegon Community College
MCC is maintaining its reputation as a center for workforce and economic development in West Michigan with its dynamic, timely program offerings preparing students for the jobs of tomorrow.

In late February MCC launched a Continuing Education class on the film industry, as job growth in this field continues, thanks to a State of Michigan tax credit program encouraging film makers to produce films in Michigan. Introduction to Film Production is being taught by Mitchell Nyberg, a Muskegon native with extensive experience in television, movie, and music video production.

The class attracted 18 students who graduated May 12, a number of whom were displaced workers participating in the State of Michigan’s No Worker Left Behind program administered by Michigan Works in Muskegon County.

The class featured hands-on experience, stimulating discussion, and guest instructors including Drew Pillsbury, Hollywood director. “I think it’s great that MCC prepares students to go out and get work in the film business, especially in light of the tax incentive that lures production to Michigan,” stated Pillsbury. “Seems like they are getting valuable, practical experience from a seasoned person like Nyberg.”

Calculus Comes to Life on Twitter

Technology is constantly providing opportunities for learning, and math professor Maria Andersen is on the cutting edge trying new mediums at Muskegon Community College. Recently, Andersen and three Honors Calculus II students used Twitter to tell the story of “The Calculus Wars,” an ongoing debate about whether Isaac Newton or Gottfried Leibniz developed the fundamental concepts of calculus.

MCC students Zach Bohley, Adam Pruim, and Lauren Josephson first read The Calculus Wars by Jason Socrates Bardi, then condensed the story down to a script of 140-character tweets. With a plan in place, the students recreated 65 years of history on Twitter in “The Calculus Tweetwars” between April 16 and May 2, 2010.

Due to the social nature of Twitter, the story quickly picked up followers, comments, and media attention, developing a richer story than anticipated by the script. For example, a follower pointed out some components of Calculus originated in India 200 years before Newton and Leibniz’s debate boiled over in Europe. This unplanned “detour” led the students to investigate this “lead” and respond. Interaction with the audience led to new learning, and sometimes a groan when the students realized they were going to need to look through some old manuscripts (available on the Internet) to answer a reader’s question.

“It was a lot of work, but I definitely feel the project gave us a deeper understanding of Calculus, than if we had just written a paper,” stated Bohley. To see an archive of the CalcWars visit http://teachingcollegemath.com/?p=2314.
Students Learn State-of-the-Art Skills in Interactive Media Design Class

By Dan Rinsema-Sybenga

Walk into Jim Landes’ Introduction to Gaming class, a part of the Interactive Media Program, in the MCC Technology Building and it’s literally another world. All 15 students are engaged with their computers, similar looking jungle scenes flashing across their screens. It soon becomes apparent they are all engaged in the same interactive game, as they shout out questions and exclamations geared at others, apparently both in the room and in the game. The students are playing a video game they all collaborated on to create, and after eight minutes of play Landes calls a halt to the game and asks for feedback about the game experience. The students point out areas of improvement and soon everyone is back quietly working on their computers, making the agreed upon changes.

Jim Landes, of MCC’s Interactive Media Program, knows this class is at the center of something big. The last five years have seen a convergence in the types of entertainment offerings that blend multiple disciplines into a single form of entertainment that has in the past been called “gaming.” Today leaders in this field recognize this entertainment convergence and have termed it “Interactive Media” encompassing film, literature, art, computer science, and theater. It is a blend of computer enhanced “interactive” entertainment. In the Interactive Media Program students experience not only the technical skills around game design and publication, but participate in a development environment that publishes a game offering that tens of thousands of gamers around the world will play.

The game being collaboratively produced is called “Senderfall - the Last Bastion,” and it takes a comprehensive approach to gaming. Multiple MCC departments have become involved, including the Creative and Performing Arts Department which organized auditions, which were open to the public, to compete for voice roles as part of the game. This type of development takes extreme amounts of time and creativity. Students from Landes’ Intro and Capstone classes all spent the better parts of their spring breaks immersed in the level of the game that Landes hopes to release to the public at the close of the semester. The plan is to make “Senderfall” a game that successive classes of MCC students add to each year, creating a gaming franchise.

Besides the mechanics of game design, Landes’ classes dig into all facets of the gaming world, to prepare students for the reality of a quickly changing and fickle industry. Collaborations, leases, licenses, and staffing all are explained so students get a clear picture of how they and their aspirations fit into the industry. “It’s a lot of work, but it’s rewarding to see your friends and classmates immediately put your work to fun,” stated Chris Bowering. ♦
Frank Lloyd Wright would be proud

Actually, he would have been proud all the way back to the 1960s, when Alden B. Dow designed the Muskegon Community College campus. Dow, who trained under Wright, incorporated Wright’s love of all things natural into the design by letting Four Mile Creek run under the building and wind its merry way out to Muskegon Lake. Nature, uninterrupted.

MCC has continued with these environmental initiatives on many fronts - in our buildings, in our community, in our classrooms, and even on our roof!

Twelve years ago, the Stevenson Center for Higher Education incorporated the latest in heating and cooling technology, and the Muskegon Area Career Tech Center was a showcase when it was constructed in 2005 and is still a leader in energy savings today. Most noticeable is the wind turbine, visible on US-31, but less noticeable and just as spectacular are the solar panels, geothermal heating and cooling systems, and lighting motion and brightness sensors.

The Hendrik Meijer Library Information Technology Center, completed in 2006, incorporated state-of-the-art technology like wireless Internet access, numerous computer labs, and a three-level view of the creek and woods. Main building renovations, including the new Student One-Stop, were given upgraded heating and cooling systems and cost-saving lighting treatments.

Saving on energy costs and reducing our environmental footprint are priorities for MCC administration. “Muskegon Community College has a deep and abiding commitment to sustainability,” said Dale Nesbary, MCC President. “This is evidenced by our longstanding work toward energy efficiency on campus, our expanding renewable energy programs on the academic side, and our reaching out to businesses and community groups interested in partnering with us in this endeavor.

“Whether it is our faculty leading the way on establishing a riparian border along Four Mile Creek on campus, our new outdoor learning laboratory focusing on wind, solar energy, and biofuels, or our partnership with Siemens Corporation to reduce the College’s carbon emissions by nearly ten million pounds,” said Nesbary, “MCC is a leader in sustainability.”

Late in 2009 MCC added the Outdoor Learning Center on the roof above the administration area (that’s the upper deck of the previous library area for those who attended MCC a few years ago). Technically a “Green Roof” system consisting of various plants and groundcovers, the system offers not only aesthetic beauty, but a savings of approximately 25 percent in cooling the room below in the summer. Designed by LiveRoof LLC, a division of Hortech in Spring Lake, Michigan, the roof will also lessen storm water runoff to Four Mile Creek. With one inch of rainfall, 99 percent of that water will be absorbed by the plants.

Although the Green Roof system was honored at a presentation for Earth Day 2010, MCC’s commitments to environmental issues are an ongoing concern. “Green initiatives and sustainability are nothing new for us at MCC,” said Diana Osborn, Executive Vice President of Administration. “We have been cognizant of respecting our environment in every project we have undertaken.”

MCC has also been on the forefront of the employment market by the early introduction of coursework for jobs required today or in the near future.
and Gold

Among those are the certificate in Alternative and Renewable Energy, and two new offerings: Wind and Solar Energy, and Biofuels.

“The focus of the (Wind & Solar Energy Certificate) program is to train individuals in the installation, maintenance, and repair of residential and light commercial wind and solar systems,” said Jeff Stipes, chair of the MCC Technology Department. “One of the components that makes MCC’s program unique is that students will actually install a SWIFT Wind Turbine and a 12-panel solar array.”

Critical to our eco-sustainability quest is the production and use of alternative fuels. “The Biofuels Certificate will train individuals in the technical monitoring and management of systems that create ethanol, biodiesel, and methane,” said Stipes. “Students will have the opportunity to be involved in the actual production of ethanol, biodiesel, and methane.”

MCC is collaborating with four-year universities, technology companies, and community leaders to bring about additional areas of study needed for the environmental careers of the future, and takes its role as a green leader in the community very seriously. Recently, MCC received a grant to create a DVD for high school students showing them the range of “green collar” jobs, and also to train faculty and staff in developing new certificate programs. On MCC-TV, stay tuned for an upcoming series of environmental initiatives called “Green Moment.”

Frank Lloyd Wright was a force to be reckoned with in his time. Now, MCC is positioned to lead its community to the greener side of the fence.

A recently installed SWIFT Wind Turbine, for use in student labs as part of MCC’s new Wind and Solar Certificate program, is a focal point of the new Outdoor Learning Center

Long-Term Energy Savings Realized with Siemens Partnership

After a lengthy analysis of the College’s heating, cooling, and lighting systems, Siemens Industry Inc. was contracted to reduce energy use and realize substantial savings for MCC:

- Total estimated savings: over $1.6 million
- An in-house energy savings campaign over the last year reduced costs by nearly $40,000

Environmental Impact: The proposed changes from Siemens will lighten MCC’s footprint considerably. Over the course of the contract, total carbon emissions will be reduced by nearly 20 million pounds. Annually, a reduction of over 657,000 kWh of generated electricity will:

- Prevent over one million pounds of carbon dioxide from being released into our atmosphere
- Save MCC over 20,000 thermal units of natural gas, with lowered emissions of over 234,000 pounds of carbon dioxide
- Lower nitrogen oxide emissions by 1,785 pounds
- Lower sulfur dioxide emissions by 4,673 pounds
Trustee Focus: Board of Trustees Chair Dorothy Lester

By Julie Weller

Dorothy Lester has what every community needs—a great sense of “giving back.” Dorothy has shared her time and talents with not only her family, but also in her career, with her church and congregation, and to Muskegon Community College.

Dorothy didn’t go to college right out of high school—she went to work, getting a job as a teller at what was then Teledyne Credit Union. She was encouraged to get her college education by her supervisor, and that she did: first, an Associate’s degree from MCC, and following that a Bachelor’s degree from Aquinas. All while being married, taking care of her husband John and daughter Michelle, and working full time, too.

A busy home life never made course work any easier, according to Lester. “I had to go to the basement to get my homework done,” she said.

After college, she applied for the position of CEO at First General Credit Union—and got it. In April 2009, she retired after a 30-year career there.

“It took me a few months to get the hang of retirement,” said Lester. “But it’s allowed me more time to spend on mission work with the congregation of my church, Bethesda Baptist, and of course to Muskegon Community College.”

According to Lester, she has always appreciated the great education she received at MCC, and was encouraged by family and friends to offer her time to the MCC Board of Trustees. She initially was an interim board member for eight months, and after a short hiatus, was elected to her first six-year term.

Focus on the Foundation: Foundation for MCC Board President John VanWyck

By Julie Weller

John VanWyck is a man of many talents, and giving back to his community has been a priority in nearly everything he does, whether it’s radio broadcasting, chairing boards, or just getting involved in area events and organizations.

John was appointed to the Muskegon Community College Foundation Board in June of 2002 by MCC President Frank Marczak. He became Chair of the Board in 2006. “I thought it would be a good opportunity to give a little time back to MCC,” he said, “and be able to use my experience I have gained by being the administrator of the Verizon Foundation for the past 20 years.”

He gives his time to MCC because as a graduate/alumnus, he has a lot of warm memories of the people he came to know while attending the College. “The best experience I had at MCC can be summed up by saying that I created ‘life-long friendships,’” he comments. “Not only with fellow students but with many instructors as well. A common bond that has lasted for over 40 years.”

John’s “real” job is Public Affairs Manager at Verizon, and as busy as that is, he still manages to expend a lot of energy with his other “gigs.” He has hosted a morning radio talk show, Talk’n Muskegon, on News Talk 1090 WKBZ for the past nine years, and prior to that was at WEGF 97.5 the Eagle for 10 years. John also owns a DJ /Karaoke business called Lakeshore Entertainment, and performs his DJ talents at class reunions, weddings, and also local bars and special events under the name of “Wolfman Wyck.”

He also makes time for his other passions, his 2007 Harley Davidson 1200-L Sportster, sailing on his boat “Lycaon,” golfing, going to hockey games, and most importantly spending time with his grandchildren Bailey, Dylan, Mason, and Emmi.

On the community side, John is the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Muskegon Bike Time Events Inc, Co-chair of the City of Muskegon’s Public Relations Committee, and a member (appointed by Gov. Granholm) of the Council of Labor and Economic Growth (CLEG), his second three-year term expiring in 2012.

John’s past involvements include Muskegon Summer Celebration, Shoreline Spectacular, Greater Muskegon Jaycees, Michigan JCI Senate, Muskegon BMX Association, Boy Scouts, Muskegon Area First, and Michigan’s West Coast Advisory Board.
Shoot for the Stars

Charity Golf Outing
benefiting the Carr-Fles Planetarium
at Muskegon Community College

Friday, July 30, 2010 • 8am-2pm

University Park Golf Course

$80 includes steak lunch and prizes

Register at muskegoncc.edu/golf2010

Want more information or interested in sponsoring? Call (231) 777-0569

July 30 Golf Outing Benefits Carr-Fles Planetarium

Foundation for MCC Presents Shoot for the Stars

By Dan Rinsema-Sybenga

The Shoot for the Stars Golf Outing will benefit MCC’s Carr-Fles Planetarium—the only free planetarium in West Michigan! Proceeds from the event will help fund upgrades needed for the planetarium, which will help support academic needs and continue the free shows offered to the community.

Alumni, donors, and other community members are invited to MCC’s University Park Golf Course on Friday, July 30, to participate in the outing. The complete golf package is $80 and includes 18 holes and cart, breakfast, lunch, and prizes. Registration begins at 8:00am. A tasty grilled steak lunch will be served at 1:30 pm. Not available for a morning of play? Join us just for lunch for $40.

With the event taking place at MCC’s University Park Golf Course, it is a great opportunity to relive MCC memories and catch up on recent campus changes. Participants will enjoy playing the nine-hole course twice, the second time with a twist to create 18 unique holes, and contests along the way will make for an enjoyable experience.

“So many people love the planetarium and really enjoy our golf course, so I expect this will be a great event,” stated Tina Dee, Executive Director of the Foundation for MCC/Director of Community Relations. “We’re confident that the support of foundation board members and our event committee will allow us to meet our goal of 60 golfers and 20 sponsors.” Businesses interested in sponsorship or providing door prizes are asked to call (231) 777-0569.

Easy and secure online registration for the event is available at www.muskegoncc.edu/golf2010.
Our alumni always impress us with their letters and warm memories—please keep them coming! Send in the Alumni Update Form on page 14 to keep your fellow alums updated.

1940s

Joyce (Kimball) Lemieux (1947) -- Majored in English at MCC, and went on to earn a Bachelors degree in English from the University of Michigan in 1949. She also earned a Masters degree in Library Science from UofM in 1968. Joyce also served previously on MCC’s Alumni Board. According to Joyce, all of her credits transferred, and her fond memories of MCC include making very good friends, having good teachers, and in general getting a great start on her college career. Both of her children followed suit!

Kenneth E. Spray (1948) -- Studied Spanish at MCC while majoring in pre-engineering. Ken went on to earn a Bachelors in Mechanical Engineering from Michigan State in 1951, and a Masters degree in Metallurgical Engineering and Material Science from the University of Notre Dame in 1974. Ken’s fond memories of MCC include Trigonometry from Dr. Teles, and Chemistry from Mr. Workman and Mr. Bolling. Ken credits his education at MCC for getting him well-prepared for his college career.

1950s

Robert Miner (1956) -- Studied history and political science at MCC.

Gerald Proctor (1951) -- Studied engineering at MCC, and also earned a Bachelors degree in 1954 from Michigan Tech, in Civil Engineering, and a Masters degree from Western Michigan University. Gerald credits MCC with having a big impact on his life, and has fond memories of instructors Dr. Keys and Mr. Rodee.

1960s

Cathy Chaffee (1969) -- Majored in Social Studies at MCC.

Thomas Eurich (1966) -- Studied pre-engineering at MCC, and then earned a Bachelors degree from Michigan State University in Chemical Engineering, and an MBA from Western Michigan University in 1971. Thomas credits MCC for a very positive educational experience, and especially fellow student and friend, Marshall Graves. Thomas has written two novels under pen name Richard Trevae: The Tarasov Solution and The Fusion Breakthrough, based on his extensive world-travel experiences and knowledge of business practices. He is currently working on his third novel, The Fusion Aftermath.

Tom Feldt (1966) -- Studied drafting technology at MCC, and then earned a Bachelors degree from Ferris State University in Graphics, and a Masters from Western Michigan University in Industrial Education in 1985. Tom was an instructor in Graphics at MCC for 30 years before retiring in 1975, and fondly recalls Jim Stevenson, MCC President in the 1980s and early 90s.

1970s


Jerry Conrad (1976) -- Studied biology and psychology at MCC, and earned a Bachelors degree in Psychology from Grand Valley State University in 1979. Jerry has fond memories of registering for classes “the 1970’s way;” taking parapsychology, and having MCC go to bat for him to make sure all of his classes transferred to GVSU. He credits MCC for showing him the path to a good education. “Without the solid start at MCC,” he writes, “instead of having an MA, I would probably be living in a dumpster somewhere.”

Dale Johnson (1973) -- Studied science at MCC, and went on to earn a Bachelors in Industrial Technology from Grand Valley State University in 1992, and a Masters in Management from Aquinas in 1995.

Miles J. Kusik (1973) -- Studied music, history, and English at MCC, and was an adjunct instructor from 1977-1982. “Without MCC,” he writes, “I would not have had a lifetime in music.”

Joan Leeds (1974) -- Majored in education at MCC, and earned her Bachelors degree from the University of Tennessee in English Education, and a Masters degree in Administration from Lincoln Memorial University. Joan fondly recalls MCC instructor Dr. Harry Robinson, and friend Pete Christianson.

John VanWyck (1971) -- Studied business at MCC, and earned a
Bachelors degree in Business from Baker College in 1995. John's fond memories of MCC include the Nature Trail, and friends Tim Hoeker and Karl Dorr. John is currently MCC’s Chairman of the Foundation Board of Directors.

**1980s**


Allan C. Lowe III (1984) -- Received his A.A.S. in Business and also earned a certificate from MCC in Import/Export. Allan is a small business owner, and has also been a councilman and mayor for the city of Roosevelt Park. Allen stays in contact with MCC by attending continuing education classes.

LuAnn Price Maisner (1980) -- Transferred from MCC to Grand Valley State University, where she earned a Bachelors degree in Parks and Recreation Administration in 1982. LuAnn was active at MCC, playing on the women's tennis and basketball teams, and credits MCC for providing a good foundation for her career pursuits. She is currently the Director of Parks and Recreation for Meridian Township.

Brian Obits (1982) -- Studied English at MCC, and then earned a Bachelors degree in Advertising from Michigan State University. Brian also completed a graduate certificate in non-profit leadership from Grand Valley State University. Brian fondly recalls the MCC Jazz Band, and credits MCC for a good educational foundation.

David (Horrisberger) Ross (1988) -- Majored in Business at MCC, and went on to earn dual Bachelors degrees in Finance and Communications from Western Michigan University in 1992, and an MBA from Michigan State University in 1997. David fondly recalls some great MCC instructors like Kent DeYoung, who inspired him to get a degree in communications, and appreciated the intimate setting and small classes offered at MCC. “MCC was a perfect launching pad for my college journey,” he writes. “I firmly believe that the success I enjoy now would not have been attained if I didn’t start at MCC. The small scholarship I got from high school was enough to pay for my two years at MCC...I wouldn’t have been able to do that at a larger school. And every one of my credits transferred! I am proud to have started at MCC and I never leave the school out of the conversation when trading ‘where did you go to school’ stories.”

Adam Sells (1983) -- Studied Music at MCC and attended Western Michigan University. Adam has fond memories of the entire MCC music department!

**1990s**

Janel Atwood Heird (1994) -- After MCC, Janel earned a Bachelors degree in Broadcasting Journalism from Central Michigan University in 1997. In December of 2009, Janel was sworn in as a U.S. Foreign Service Officer in the Diplomatic Core, and is currently serving in Cameroon, West Africa.

Sonya Hernandez (1997) -- Majored in Education at MCC, and earned her Bachelors degree in Spanish from Grand Valley State University in 2003, and a Masters degree in Educational Leadership from GVSU in 2008. Sonya has fond memories of instructor Ted Faber, and keeps up with new programs offered at MCC to give her current students more opportunities to be a part of the college.

Raené Kott (1994) -- Studied accounting and computer science at MCC, and has fond memories of working in the MCC computer lab.

J. Michael Morse (1990) -- Studied Respiratory Therapy at MCC, and then transferred to Texas A&M/San Antonio where he is currently pursuing a Bachelors degree in Interdisciplinary Studies to teach at the K-6 level. He credits MCC with giving him the heads up for the importance of education in the job market.

Madeline Powers (1995) -- Majored in Early Childhood Education at MCC, and has fond memories of instructor Barb Rees and the library.

Kelly R. Rasmussen (1996) -- Transferred from MCC to Grand Valley State University, earning Bachelors and Masters degrees in Communications. Kelly credits the late Judith Brooky Green (dance instructor at MCC) as a major influence in her life, and also credits MCC for helping her understand that “Learning is not about getting a degree, it is a journey in life that motivates and moves one to become more!”

**2000s**

Christopher Duram (2008) -- Majored in Computer Networking Technology at MCC, and is pursuing his Bachelors degree in Information Technology at Western Governors University. Christopher greatly enjoyed his time in the MCC IT department as a student worker, and credits MCC for opening doors for him to work in the IT department of a global company.
Alumni Update Form

Your friends and classmates from MCC would like to hear from you. Tell us about your experience at MCC and the milestones that you’ve reached since attending and we’ll share with our readers in the next issue of Reflections.

What years did you attend MCC?

Did you graduate from MCC? If yes, what year?

What was your major area of study?

Tell us about any degrees you earned after MCC:

What fond memories (events or people!) do you have of MCC?

What impact has MCC had on your life and/or career?

Where are you working now and what is your position?

Please note any other milestones you wish to share with fellow alums (promotions, marriages, awards, etc.):

Name:
Address:
Phone:
Email:

Send your updates to:
alumnirelations@muskegoncc.edu
Muskegon Community College Alumni Relations
Office of Community Relations
221 S Quarterline Road
Muskegon, MI 49442
Fax to (231) 777-0312

Campus Events

Through September 16, 2010
46th Annual MCC Student Art Exhibition - Overbrook Art Gallery

Wednesday, June 16, 2010 12:30pm
Board of Trustees Meeting

Wednesday, July 21, 2010 12:30pm
Board of Trustees Meeting

Friday, July 30, 2010 8am
University Park Golf Course

Friday, July 30, 2010 5pm
Alumni Relations gathering - all alums invited! Parties in the Park, Downtown Muskegon

Wednesday, August 18, 2010 12:30pm
Board of Trustees Meeting

Fall 2010
Jayhawk Fall Sports - Go to www.muskegoncc.edu/athletics for full schedules of volleyball, tennis, cross country, bowling, soccer, wrestling, basketball, baseball, softball, and golf!

Saturday, August 28, 2010
Fall Classes Begin

Wednesday, July 21, 2010 12:30pm
Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, September 28, 2010
You and Me Art Exhibit, Overbrook Art Gallery

Wednesday, October 13-17, 2010
Rosencrantz & Guildenstern are Dead, Overbrook Theater

Tuesday, November 9, 2010
The Art of Scott Rosema art exhibit, Overbrook Gallery

Wednesday, November 17, 2010 12:30pm
Board of Trustees Meeting

Wednesday, December 1-5, 2010
Story Theater, Overbrook Theater

Mid-January 2011
Look for the next issue of Reflections!

Keep up to date on all MCC events at www.muskegoncc.edu
Donor Profile: Thomas Olson and Olson’s Appliances
By Bill Loxterman

A longtime supporter of Muskegon Community College, Thomas W. Olson has served for many years on the board of directors for the MCC Alumni Association. He graduated from Muskegon Junior College in 1949, en route to transferring to Michigan State University where he earned his bachelor’s degree in business.

Fast forward to 2010 and Tom is now “semi” retired from the family business he owned and operated in Muskegon for over 40 years—Olson’s Appliances on Laketon Avenue. He has fond memories of his time at MJC and strong opinions regarding the value of Muskegon Community College to the greater community. “The College is a wonderful asset for the people of Greater Muskegon. High academic standards and low tuition have provided thousands of people, including myself, with a great start on their education,” Tom notes.

And with that positive attitude, it is no wonder that his support for MCC is of a financial nature as well.

“Today, I can’t think of a more important part of the College’s mission than to continue offering access to all who want a college education. That’s one reason I was happy to contribute to the new library.”

Muskegon Community College was recently accepted into the Achieving the Dream: Community Colleges Count program, thanks in part to support from Kresge Foundation. MCC’s participation in Achieving the Dream, established in 2004 by Lumina Foundation, will help us better focus on improving student success—particularly among low-income students and students of color.

You can help us achieve even more dreams. Every dollar you donate and every hour of time you contribute can help us make the dream of education come true.

If you would like to play a more active role in increasing access to higher education, consider joining a community relations committee or the Foundation for Muskegon Community College Board of Directors.

For more information on becoming one of our valued volunteers or increasing your support, visit www.muskegoncc.edu/support or call Tina Dee at (231) 777-0660.

MCC Retirements

Peggy Jacobs – Assistant Director of Financial Aid, over 22 years of service

Duane Schecter – Business Instructor, over 36 years of service

Larry McDaid – Computer Information Systems Instructor, over 26 years of service

Georganne Myers – Enrollment Services Coordinator, over 8 years of service
Jayhawk Softball Team Wins National Championship!

Ashley Melchert slides home in a regular season victory over Kellogg Community College. The team went on to win the NJCAA Division II Softball Championship Tournament in Normal, IL on May 22. This photo, taken by student Deanna Bradford, was selected for a first place award in the MCC in Action photo contest.