STATE OF THE COLLEGE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

STATE OF THE COLLEGE .............................................2-3

URBAN AND CAMPUS GROWTH ....................................4-5

COMMUNITY .......................................................6-7

CHAMPIONS ..........................................................8-9

EXCELLENCE ........................................................10-11

SCHOLARSHIPS .....................................................12-13

SUPPORTERS ..........................................................14-15

STATEMENT OF THE COLLEGE

At Muskegon Community College, we measure our successes through a myriad of accomplishments. Snapshots of our 2014-15 academic year highlights appear on the pages that follow.

One common thread unites each achievement, namely, our unwavering commitment to support student excellence and to meet the educational and economic needs of our communities.

For example, we are re-energizing and transforming Muskegon’s historic central district with our Downtown Center and our Rooks | Sarnicola Institute for Entrepreneurial Studies, while at the same time addressing the area’s industrial and technological needs with the academic programs housed within. We designed and opened our Science Center and renovated our STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) classrooms and laboratories to provide our students with state-of-the-art facilities that target our nation’s most pressing academic concerns.

We cannot achieve our goals without support:

• the county taxpayers passing the transformative millage;

• our faculty and staff winning competitive grants that benefit students;

• legislators believing in our mission and providing much-needed additional monies; and

• the many individuals and corporations donating last year to MCC and whose names are listed in this publication.

On behalf of our entire campus community, I thank you for your continued support. As we “Build for the Future” together, you are making a difference in the lives of those who choose to start, stay and succeed at Muskegon Community College.
With an eye focused both on its master plan and what’s best for the City of Muskegon, the college will begin classes in 2017 at its new downtown location - the former Muskegon Chronicle building. According to MCC President Dale Nesbary, “Our students, faculty, and staff will move from a 47-year old building into a state-of-the-art technology center fully capable of serving our community and region.”

Citing the College’s growth in enrollment from 2,000 students in the mid-1960s to approximately 5,000 students today, President Nesbary commented that the “technology building has experienced much of this growth.”

“Our mission is to ensure that our students get the services, resources and support they need to succeed,” explained Nesbary. “We know that facilities equipped with state-of-the-art technology are vital for our graduates to compete in today’s market. At MCC, ‘Building for the Future’ means preparing our students for the jobs of the future.”

STATE GRANTS $4.1 MILLION FOR SKILLED TRADES EQUIPMENT PROGRAM

The timing could not be better for Muskegon Community College to receive $4.1 million as part of the statewide $50 million Community College Skilled Trades Equipment Program. It coincides, as if on cue, with the opening of the College’s downtown campus and its focus on applied technology and entrepreneurial programming.

Announced by Gov. Rick Snyder in October, the grant program provides funding for Michigan community colleges to purchase equipment required for educational programs in high-wage, high-skill, and high-demand occupations.

“We are ecstatic about how this award is going to impact our programs,” stated MCC President Dale Nesbary. Citing Newaygo County as a target in addition to Muskegon, Nesbary said, “These funds will allow us to improve programs that directly lead to jobs in these communities.” Learn more at .

MCC SUPPORTERS DONATE HISTORIC DOWNTOWN BUILDING + $200,000 FOR ENTREPRENEURIAL STUDIES

Local developer Jonathan Rooks donated the former Masonic Temple in downtown Muskegon to the College as the new home for its Entrepreneurial Studies program. Rooks then took his contribution to MCC a step further by encouraging his friend, Nick Sarnicola, a West Michigan native and successful entrepreneur, to join him in significantly supporting the College’s Entrepreneurial Studies Program.

Nick and his wife, Ashley, generously responded through their NextGen Foundation with a $200,000 permanent endowment to the Foundation for Muskegon Community College. The fund will support an annual $10,000 cash award - the Rooks | Sarnicola Entrepreneurial Award - for the best business idea generated by an MCC entrepreneurial program graduate. The Masonic Temple will become the Rooks | Sarnicola Institute for Entrepreneurial Studies and after renovations will reopen in Fall 2017. Sarnicola chose Muskegon Community College as the recipient of their generous gifts,” said MCC President Dale K. Nesbary. “The building and scholarship fund will serve the dual purpose of catalyzing our regional economy and providing much-needed entrepreneurial training for our students and residents.”

“Jon and Nick are making history at MCC with these incredibly generous gifts,” explained Tina Dee, Director of Strategic Initiatives. “The total value of $550,000 is larger than any other single past contribution and will have an enduring and positive impact on our students and the greater community we serve.”

“I am very passionate about two things – entrepreneurship and Muskegon,” said Rooks, the owner of Parkland Properties of Michigan. “This gift promotes both.”

Sarnicola echoes his friend’s sentiments. “It is my hope that through the Entrepreneur School and the scholarships, students will invest their future in creating a better, stronger and more vibrant Muskegon.”

Left to right: Ashley Sarnicola, Diana Osborn, Nick Sarnicola, Jon Rooks, Tina Dee and Patricia DuBois.

MUSKEGON COMMUNITY COLLEGE
TRIO UPWARD BOUND PROMOTES BOTH COLLEGE AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

TRIO Upward Bound is a federally-funded program that promotes post-secondary education to high school students who never thought college education was an option for them. Primarily due to financial status, Muskegon Community College has supported this program since 2007 with only one participating school at that time – Muskegon High. In 2012, Muskegon Heights High School Academy was added. MCC’s Upward Bound Project served 60 students during the 2014-2015 project year. Since its inception at the College, 177 students have participated and received services from TRIO Upward Bound. Of those who completed the project, 95% have successfully graduated on time from high school and 88% have enrolled in post-secondary education. In addition to encouraging and preparing students to enroll and succeed in college, a second goal of TRIO Upward Bound is to instill in them a sense of community and the desire to develop into contributing members of society through their involvement in community service projects and volunteer work. In the program, students work with a number of local non-profit agencies. Students sometimes participate as a team with staff, other times they volunteer on their own at churches, schools and other non-profit organizations. During the 2014-2015 project year, the students logged over 1,065 hours of volunteer service.

MCC REMEMBERS THE HOLOCAUST: ITS EFFECT ON THREE LOCAL GENERATIONS

The World War II atrocities of the Nazi regime are still fresh in the mind of local World War II veteran James Zuidema. He and other members of the Muskegon community took a stand against anti-Semitism by remembering and honoring the 70th Anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. MCC hosted “Holocaust, Liberation, and Local Impact,” a free program that was open to the public, in January 2015. The event featured an evening of discussion with three generations of Muskegon residents. They either personally witnessed or were affected by the Holocaust, lived with its legacy, and are inspired to teach the next generation about it.

JAMES ZUIDEMA

Zuidema shared his eyewitness account of the liberation of the Ohrdruf Concentration Camp. Like so many young Americans of that era, Zuidema went from high school graduation to basic training in less than a week. He served in the U.S. Army’s 65th division, which put him on an eyewitness path to the indescribable horrors inflicted by the Nazis. Ohrdruf was the first concentration camp liberated by the U.S. Army. Two weeks after its liberation, Generals Dwight D. Eisenhower, George S. Patton and Omar Bradley visited the camp. Eisenhower quickly requested that Congressmen and journalists be allowed to see Ohrdruf and tell the world about the atrocities committed there.

SUSAN HARRISON WOLFFIS

Retired MLive/Muskegon Chronicle reporter and columnist, Susan Harrison Wolffis, represents a “second generation” of people whose lives were impacted by the mid-20th century Holocaust and events of Liberation in Europe through the experience of her parents. Harrison Wolffis has interviewed numerous individuals from the WWII era and has also written about her father’s experience at the concentration camp at Buchenwald.

SARAH WOYCIECHOSKI

Footprint High School Teacher, Sarah Woyciechowski, serves on the Board of the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies and teaches students about the Holocaust and other examples of genocide. She represents the “third generation” and spoke about how students react to these lessons, why it is important, and what challenges and unanswered questions are involved in these studies. Approximately six million Jewish and five million non-Jewish victims were killed by the Nazi regime and its collaborators during the Genocide. According to U.S. Census data, there are approximately 6.5 million Jewish Americans, the largest Jewish community outside of Israel.

COLLEGE OFFERS GLIMPSE OF POSSIBILITIES IN EDUCATION AND CAREERS

High school students contemplating college, plus adults seeking possible career moves, investigated opportunities on Saturday, March 21 at Muskegon Community College’s Taste of Tomorrow. The event offered information about multiple careers and academic programs in a trade show-like setting. College faculty and staff were on hand to explain 80 different college degree and certificate programs while attendees participated in hands-on activities to help them further explore educational and career opportunities.

A highlight of the event was the college awarding a two-year scholarship in a drawing among all those who attended and entered the raffle. Jacob Cloutier, a senior at Muskegon Catholic Central, won a scholarship in a drawing among all those who attended and entered the raffle. Jacob Cloutier, a senior at Muskegon Catholic Central, won the scholarship and plans to pursue theater studies at MCC.

According to Jacob’s mom, Sue Cloutier, “It’s like a dream come true.”
Teaching is my passion and it is wonderful to balance home, work, and school. Who developed many CIS courses into an online format to assist working adult students? Parker has been featured in national publications for her innovative teaching style and her work in helping MCC students improve their skills. Parker has been honored with COMMON, the world's largest organization of IBM technology users, representing 20,000 IT professionals.

This was the last year Kathy Tosa hosted the Global Awareness Festival as MCC’s Director of International Programs in February of 2015. Each year, the Global Awareness Festival highlights a different geographic area of the world. The College hosts a series of activities, lectures and other events to raise awareness of that region’s culture, cuisine, and political issues. All Global Awareness Festival events are free.

This year the focus was on the Pacific Rim – a vibrant and dynamic geographic area comprising over 48 percent of the world’s population. The Pacific Rim region includes 44 independent nations along with Hong Kong, New Caledonia, and French Polynesia. Tosa offered “A Taste of Culture – Sample the South Pacific,” where attendees could nibble on delicacies from the region. MCC adjunct instructor of Geology, Tami Enberg, gave a talk titled “Living with Volcanoes and Earthquakes in Indonesia.” Speaking of the importance of global awareness, Tosa said, “In today’s ever-shrinking global society, understanding our international neighbors has never been more important.” In May, 2015, friends and colleagues gathered to celebrate Tosa’s retirement after 26 years at MCC.

CHAR PARKER NAMED 2014 OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR

Longtime MCC faculty member, Char Parker, was named the 2014 Outstanding Educator from the Michigan Occupational Deans Administrative Council. The annual award honors Michigan community college educators for excellence in the classroom, professional achievements, and service to their respective colleges.

“Teaching is my passion and it is wonderful to receive this prestigious award honoring my efforts to promote student success in the area of computer programming,” said Parker, who developed many CIS courses into an online format to assist working adult students.

KATHY TOSA BIDS FAREWELL TO MCC AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

The State Academic Teams are a division of the All-USA Community College Academic Team sponsored annually by Phi Theta Kappa, USA. Students were selected on the basis of academic achievement, community service involvement, and leadership accomplishments. The State Academic Teams are a division of the All-USA Community College Academic Team sponsored annually by Phi Theta Kappa, USA and the American Association of Community Colleges.

MCC STUDENTS NAMED TO 2015 ALL-MICHIGAN ACADEMIC TEAM

MCC students Kaylee Austin and Aliyah Mitchell were named to the 2015 All-Michigan Academic Team and honored at a reception sponsored by the Michigan Community College Association. Students were selected on the basis of academic achievement, community service involvement, and leadership accomplishments. The State Academic Teams are a division of the All-USA Community College Academic Team sponsored annually by Phi Theta Kappa, USA and the American Association of Community Colleges.

KAYLEE AUSTIN

A native of Ravenna, MI, Austin has earned a 3.92 GPA in her studies at MCC. The President’s List and Dean’s List student will transfer to South University in Virginia Beach, VA after the winter 2015 semester to pursue a nursing degree. Working part-time as a childcare specialist and with youth groups has reinforced Austin’s career path decision.

ALIYAH MITCHELL

Interested in languages and breaking down communication barriers since watching Japanese anime as a five-year-old, Mitchell plans to pursue a degree in applied linguistics after earning her associate’s degree at MCC. “My goal was to use fun methods to become multilingual,” explained the Muskegon, MI native, who has an overall 3.6 GPA in her MCC courses.

ALUMNUS

Muskegon native Darnell Earley, current emergency manager of Detroit Public Schools and former city manager in Flint and Saginaw, was named the 2015 Muskegon Community College Distinguished Alumni Award recipient. His extensive 35-year career in public administration includes positions as deputy county controller in Ingham County and director of research/public policy staff for the Michigan House of Representatives.

Globally, he was president of the International City Manager’s Association and former city manager in Flint and Saginaw. Darnell Earley, current emergency manager of Detroit Public Schools and former city manager in Flint and Saginaw, was named the 2015 Muskegon Community College Distinguished Alumni Award recipient.

DAVID STRADAL RECOGNIZED TWICE FOR ENTREPRENEURIAL PROGRAMS AT MCC

David Stradal joined two Muskegon Area Career Tech Center (MCTC) Instructors to receive a 2015 College & Career Readiness Initiative Excellence in Practice Award. Stradal, who chairs the MCC Business Department and Entrepreneurial Studies Program, piloted the BUS131 Entrepreneurship class one day per week at the MCTC. The program helped 77 high school students start more than 20 businesses while generating 39 dual enrollment credit hours in entrepreneurship education. The following year, 70 students participated in the program.

Stradal was also recognized, with Linda Meyers of Baker College, as a Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce 2014 Agent of Change, for a regional project called Emerge – an entrepreneur support network. “MCC is continually seeking to build cooperative pathways with other career tech centers and area high schools,” said Stradal.

DARNELL EARLEY NAMED 2015 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS

His extensive 35-year career in public administration includes positions as deputy county controller in Ingham County and director of research/public policy staff for the Michigan House of Representatives.

Globally, he was president of the International City/County Management Association, with almost 9,000 members in 30 countries around the world. Earley earned an associate’s degree from MCC, a bachelor’s degree from Grand Valley State University and a master’s degree from Western Michigan University.

Established in 1998, this is the highest honor that MCC bestows upon an alum who possesses professional achievements, community service, and advocacy of higher education exemplify the standards of MCC.
MCC embarks on a $9.6 million expansion and renovation of its science facilities with a new 19,192 sq. ft. structure and updating 16,780 sq. ft. in the current building. The combined facilities serve 18 academic programs and provide much-needed science-related academic space at the college.

The LEED-Certified Science Center houses six laboratories, herbarium, grow room, cadaver room, undergraduate research areas, student resource room, and prep areas.

The Science Center represents the first of four major construction/renovation projects at MCC over the next two years. The college has started planning for a new Health Center, an Arts Center and plans to open a site in downtown Muskegon.

MCC STUDENTS PLACE SECOND AT AFS COMPETITION
Vying against major universities, MCC captured second place for $1,000 at the 77th Annual Wisconsin Regional Foundry Conference and Exposition casting competition.

Three applied technology students – Caleb Schuitema, Tony Wortelboer and Bob Phleeger – represented the MCC American Foundry Society Student Chapter along with Instructor Mark Houston, who teaches the basic cast metals course.

The students designed and produced a sand-casted tow block for MCC’s 192-volt, world record-setting electric dragster, Short Circuit.

MCC NURSING GRADS EXCEED STATE, NATIONAL AVERAGES
MCC nursing graduates again exceeded both Michigan and national averages for their first time pass rates on the National Council Licensing Examination for RNs and LPNs. LPN graduates posted a perfect 100% first time pass rate, while RN grads pass rate was 93.51%.

MCC awarded 76 Associate Degrees in Nursing and 63 Practical Nurse Diplomas in 2014.

MCC CELEBRATES 50th ANNIVERSARY OF STUDENT ART AND DESIGN EXHIBITION
A high point of the year for the MCC Arts and Humanities Department, the Student Art and Design Exhibition, celebrated its golden anniversary this year by once again highlighting exceptional artwork created by the college’s art and graphic design students.

The artwork, which was on display in Overbrook Art Gallery, was selected for the exhibition by art and design faculty who reviewed several thousand pieces produced by more than 500 students. Only a small portion of this total amount comprises the annual exhibit.

FIVE MCC TEAMS IN TOP 30 NATIONALLY
- Wrestling placed 6th nationally with five All-Americans among 10 national qualifiers
- Men’s bowling placed 9th nationally at the NJCAA Bowling Championships
- Women’s bowling placed 12th
- Women’s cross country placed 14th in the nation, their highest-ever finish
- Men’s cross country placed 27th

MCC WOMEN CROSS-COUNTRY SECOND IN NATION ACADEMICALLY
Not only a power on the cross country trails – 14th in the nation – the women’s team also ranks among the country’s elite in the classroom.

Of the 92 women’s cross country teams who competed in the National Junior College Athletic Association, MCC posted the second highest combined grade point average (GPA) this season. Their 3.711 GPA was a fraction (0.045) behind Spartanburg (S.C.) Methodist College as the best in the U.S.

MCC CELEBRATES 50th ANNIVERSARY OF STUDENT ART AND DESIGN EXHIBITION
A high point of the year for the MCC Arts and Humanities Department, the Student Art and Design Exhibition, celebrated its golden anniversary this year by once again highlighting exceptional artwork created by the college’s art and graphic design students.

The artwork, which was on display in Overbrook Art Gallery, was selected for the exhibition by art and design faculty who reviewed several thousand pieces produced by more than 500 students. Only a small portion of this total amount comprises the annual exhibit.

MCC’s sustainability efforts
In our recycling effort with Waste Management for 2014 we saved:
- 74,759 kWh of electricity
- 1,849 gallons of oil
- 430 gallons of gasoline
- 221 mature trees
- 125,518 gallons of water
- 64 cubic yards of landfill airspace

We recycled:
- Paper 0.6 tons
- Plastic 0.1 tons
- Aluminum 0.1 tons
- Glass 0.2 tons
- Cardboard 19.0 tons
With a lot of help from our friends, the Foundation for Muskegon Community College raised over $300,000 for Fiscal Year 2014-15. The majority of funds were allocated to scholarships, which provide support, hope, and opportunity for many students who may not have otherwise had access to higher education. Our students are very grateful to their donors, and they don’t hesitate to express their appreciation.

“It’s like a weight being lifted off my back to get a scholarship.”

“If not for this scholarship, I would have had to take a year off and work two jobs.”

“Thank you for helping me pursue my dream. This helped me re-enter school after being a stay-at-home mom of eight children.”

“This scholarship means I can afford to spend more time focusing on my grades.”

The Foundation for Muskegon Community College would like to thank you for your contributions. Your support helps create strong minds and strong communities. For more information on how you can support the Foundation, please visit muskegoncc.edu/foundation.
The Foundation for Muskegon Community College Legacy Society is comprised of individuals who have included MCC in their estate planning through gifts such as bequests, trusts, annuities, or by designating MCC as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy. These thoughtful contributions will enable MCC to help students and communities for generations to come. Visit muskegoncc.edu/legacy for more information.