

Chancellor's Memo

Eastern Iowa Community College District

June 15, 2006

New EICCD Board Member Sworn In



I'm delighted to let you know that the Board of Directors position that was left empty when John Fagerland passed away recently was filled by **Kendra Beck** from Maquoketa, Iowa. Kendra is married with two children and is the Senior Vice President and Internal Auditor/Risk Manager for Ohnward Bancshares, Inc. Kendra is no stranger to our district. She has taken numerous computer courses from EICCD and is the daughter of John Fagerland. Kendra has already attended

one Board meeting and had a number of orientation meetings. We are very lucky to have someone with her expertise join our excellent Board. Over the next months, Kendra will be visiting our campuses and sites, so please step up to greet her when you get the chance.

Visit to Career Assistance Center ESL Class



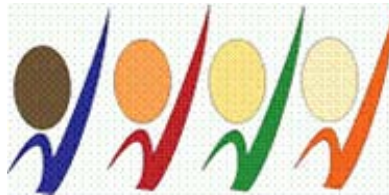
Here is a picture of teacher **Leslie Wilson** and some of her students taken during my visit to the lab segment of her ESL class on Thursday, May 18. I was really impressed with the creative use Leslie was making of *Rosetta Stone* software, and how much the students enjoyed using it to learn English. I think that sometimes not all of us are aware of the huge and positive impact the programs at the CAC have on the lives of many immigrants who live in our community. Visiting Leslie's class reinforced for me the value of these programs.

EICCD Diversity Committee Logo Contest Comes to Successful Conclusion



The EICCD Diversity Committee recently orchestrated a district-wide contest to choose a “diversity logo” that could be used in their materials and communications. Each submission was the original creation of a student or staff member and, after winnowing down the submissions somewhat, the committee provided opportunities throughout the district for students and staff to vote for their favorites.

Here are the three winners and a quote from a note Jeanette Thomas and Alison Entler (co-chairs of the committee) sent me about the process.



“The Diversity Committee would like to thank all of the participants who entered the contest. The college will have an official announcement and presentation of the awards within the next couple of weeks, and the winners will be notified with more details. We appreciate your patience throughout the voting process. There was a total of 16 entries for the contest that received 412 votes throughout the District.”

Special thanks to Gary Olson for developing the online voting ballot, to Tricia Sexton in recording all the votes, and to all of our campus representatives who helped with on-site voting at the different sites. Keep an eye out on your campus for pictures of ALL the logo entries as we plan to use them as artwork to celebrate diversity “in the halls and on the walls” throughout the District.

Congrats again to our winners!”

Hopefully, you’ll be seeing a lot of these logos “in the halls and on the walls” in the future. Thanks to the committee for conceptualizing and organizing this contest.

Kudos to Bob Allbee

Bob Allbee, Associate Director, Business and Industry Training, MCC, was recently honored as one of twenty *Movers and Shakers* in the June 2006 issue of the *Quad City Business Journal*. This was quite an honor, for Bob, MCC, Continuing Education, and the District. Each honoree provided a favorite quote to go along with their picture and bio. Here is Bob’s:

"It is common sense to take a method and try it. If it fails, admit it frankly and try another. But above all, try something." Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Congratulations Bob!

EICCD District-Wide Council Members Participate in "Clarification Retreat"

I'm very lucky that I have a large basement because when called to assemble, all of the members of our five district-wide advisory councils attended in large numbers. On June 13, 47 EICCD employees and students, all of whom are members of one or more of the five Councils which are evolving into a district-wide vehicle for input, recommendations, and communication on critical district-wide matters, met at my house for a retreat.

Because the Council system is somewhat new, there have been lots of questions about what its purpose is, how it works, and how the Councils can be clearly tied to the rest of the district. The goal of this retreat was to answer as many of those questions as we could -- clarifying the purpose of each council, how members could best communicate among themselves and with their constituencies, how agendas will be constructed, and how representatives can best hear the faculty, student, staff, and administrative "voices" to bring to discussion. Here is a list of all who attended the retreat. I am



very grateful to everyone for taking the time out of their busy early summer to participate and share their best thinking and to **Robin Blount** for the great work she did organizing the event.

CCC

Ann Eisenman – Professional Development

Ron Serpliss – Instructional Council

John Bonte – Instructional Council

Lanell Mogab – Student Development

Chris Eichmeier – Chancellor's Advisory

Mardell Mommsen – Chancellor's Advisory

Alicia Clark (student) – Chancellor's Advisory

Pam Teymer – Chancellor’s Advisory

Karen Vickers – Instructional Council; Chancellor’s Advisory

Lynn Chamberlin – Professional Development

DO

Honey – Instructional Council

Deb Goodall – Professional Development

Nancy Kothenbeutel – Chancellor’s Advisory

Lana Dettbarn – Chancellor’s Advisory; Professional Development

Laurie Hanson – Instructional Council

Angelique Kimble – Chancellor’s Advisory

Sue Zettel – Professional Development

George Varchola – Professional Development

Robin Blount – Professional Development; Chancellor’s Advisory

MCC

Jeff Armstrong – Instructional Council

Gail Spies – Student Development

Lisa Wiegel – Professional Development

Ellie Sweet – Professional Development

Billie Dekeyrel – Student Development

Vic McAvoy – Student Development; Chancellor’s Advisory

Katie Watson – Professional Development

Lori Welter – Student Development

SCC

Cindy Bottrell – Instructional Council

Kim Darling – Instructional Council

Eileen Shull – Chancellor’s Advisory

Jim Compton – Chancellor’s Advisory

Tom Coley – Technology Council; Chancellor’s Advisory

Doug Kutzli – Technology Council

Curt Putman – Technology Council

Teresa Muller – Instructional Council

MarySue Knoblauch – Professional Development

Linda Turner – Student Development

Glo Hanne – Chancellor’s Advisory

Kayla Holst – Chancellor’s Advisory

Lisa Miller – Student Development

Clara Littig – Professional Development

Kirk Barkdoll – Technology Council

Thomas Coley (student) – Chancellor’s Advisory

Mark Shaw – Chancellor’s Advisory

Kathleen Conway – Chancellor’s Advisory

Rassoul Dastmozd – Instructional Council

We will provide a summary of the conclusions and agreements this group came to within the next few weeks, and I’ll alert you to its location in my next memo. In the meantime, if you are curious about what we decided, just ask one of the people above!

What Does a Chancellor Do Out in the World?



In addition to the high priority I place on providing internal leadership to the wonderful programs and ventures EICCD provides for our students and region, I also consider it my responsibility to represent the district through volunteer service on numerous local, state, and national committees and task forces. Networking myself fully into the “external world” is an ideal way for me to learn about the communities we serve and to represent our interests when appropriate. You might be particularly interested to hear that I have just been elected to the national board of the American Association of Community Colleges, with a three-

year term beginning July 1.

Here is a list of my recent/current “external involvements,” just in case you are curious what I am doing when I’m not in the office or writing lengthy memos.

Local:

- Alcoa, Community Advisory Board;
- DavenportONE, Board;
- Recruit DavenportOne Sales Team, Member;
- Girl Scouts of the Mississippi Valley, Board;
- Eastern Iowa/Western Illinois Girl Scout Council Realignment Committee;
- Quad Cities Graduate Study Center, Board;
- Quad City Development Group, Board; 2005-2006, Member, QCDG Executive Committee
- Davenport Rotary, Member;
- Wells Fargo Bank, Advisory Board;
- Wells Fargo Bank/Quad City Development Group, TASK Force;
- Scott County Family YMCA, Board;
- Trinity Medical Center, Board;
- Putnam Museum, Board

State:

- Iowa State University Extension, Citizens’ Advisory Council and Community Advisory Committee;
- Institute for the Future Workforce, State of Iowa;
- IACCP By-Laws Committee, Post-Secondary Coordination Committee;
- Educational Policy and Practice Perspectives Series at Iowa State University, Advisory Board

National:

- ACCT Advisory Committee of Presidents;
- ACE Commission on International Affairs, Board of Directors;
- ACE Fellows Program, Council of Fellows, Past Chair.

Beginning July 1, 2006

- AACC Board of Directors
- Iowa Guaranteed Student Loan Board

Upcoming Visit to Thailand's Community Colleges

On July 14, a small group of EICCD representatives will be flying to Thailand with the purpose of further strengthening the strong partnership we've been forging with the leadership of Thailand's new community college systems. (I think you'll remember that we've had two extensive visits from legislators, board members, and presidents of Thailand community colleges since I've been at EICCD.) We have learned a great deal about their system during these visits and have been eager to move to another level of partnership. Jeff Armstrong, Mary Lou Engler, Joe D'Souza, and I were invited to return the visit when we had dinner with some Thai representatives at last year's American Council of Community College Trustee Conference in Seattle.

While in Thailand, the Board members, Jeff, and I will visit three different community colleges sprinkled throughout the nation and be the major presenters at an all-day conference on the American Community College (with a primary focus on Board responsibility, role, and Board/CEO relationships) held in Bangkok, a national conference projected to draw over 100 Thai officials from around the country.

Additionally, along with our Thai hosts, we hope to approach the American Embassy to see if there is any interest in supporting further partnerships between EICCD and Thailand's community colleges in the future.



We have been working hard to prepare our presentation and itinerary, getting the required shots, and learning about Thai customs from several of our faculty who have already been on exchanges to Thailand. You can be sure I'll provide you with a solid description of what we accomplish in my next memo -- if I am able to stay awake during the daylight hours, that is!

Week's Biking Adventure Very Restful

Many of you have asked me how my Elderhostel vacation the first week of June went -- it was fantastic. In addition to tremendous weather and an idyllic setting (we stayed in a hotel in downtown Lanesboro, Minnesota, which is located right on the Root River Bike path), I relished the chance to bike a substantial amount every day and to see several plays in the evening, along with lectures and "talk-backs" from theater actors and staff. On the last day, along with many others, some quite a bit older than I am, I biked 44 miles, with several miles of that substantially uphill. It was also a great thing to participate in an experience with someone else doing all the planning, logistics, and worrying.



Attendance at Field Day at the Sand Mounds.

When I lived in Illinois, I spent a year literally obsessed with learning about the prairie. One summer, I set myself the challenge of walking in every prairie in DuPage County and succeeded in doing that. So when I learned that there was a sand prairie south of Muscatine, and that Biology Professor Paul Mayes was integrally involved with its management and research there, I reached out to him for a chance to visit. Last Saturday was my opportunity,



as I participated in a three-hour, MCC sponsored Field Day at the prairie (on Monsanto property) and was a part of Paul's group. To be honest, I haven't enjoyed myself in nature that much in many years, and I thoroughly enjoyed learning about the flora and fauna of this special place under Paul's tutelage.

CQIN 2005 Summer Institute Task Force Completes Project

I am delighted to announce that an action team that formed at last summer's CQIN Summer Institute in Kansas City has completed its work, and that all of us will benefit from their accomplishments when we engage in interviewing job candidates in the future. The goal of the group was to transform our process of developing interview questions, providing all of us with the rationale, rubric, and sample questions consistent with the behavioral-based interviewing approach we learned about at the conference. **George Varchola** headed up the team, and he's provided a brief summary of their work.

*"Just a brief note to identify those who served on the "Behavioral-Based Interviewing Team"—**Mary Briones, DO, Donna Collentine, SCC, Kayla Holst, MCC, Deb Richter, CCC, Lana Dettbarn** and I. Just wanted to mention that the team was very enthusiastic and focused on the task. We approached the project by brainstorming a template (the major areas for the questions, for all staff), then we developed the questions for each major area. Lastly, we developed the four step process model to facilitate the use or development of Behavioral-Based questions by hiring teams. As I mentioned, we started this process improvement project in December and completed it in April, 2006—two months ahead of our target date—June 30th. I think that this small, but mighty team reinforced the fact that teamwork—works! Thanks for you encouragement and support of this project."*

The actual materials that will assist EICCD interview committees in this process will now be provided in the interview packets you receive from Human Resources at the start of the selection process.

Thanks to all who worked on this project. It's great to see ideas transformed into concrete results that will assist us all.



Even though we've had some wonderful weather lately, it's nice to know that there is a great deal of summer left. People all over the district are going to do some pretty exciting things . . . and I hope each of you finds some time to get some rest, get out and enjoy the outdoors, and eat some great barbeque. Now that I've survived my one-week biking adventure, I don't have any substantial vacation plans, but my weekends will be dotted with visits with friends and trips to see my daughters and, yes, my granddaughter Hailey.

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