

Chancellor's Memo
Eastern Iowa Community College District
December 15, 2005



Happy Holidays!

Knowing how hard you all work, I can appreciate how much you must be looking forward to the upcoming holidays and week-long break between Christmas and New Year's. In the midst of all the preparations and hubbub, please take a little time for some well deserved rest and fun.

Outstanding Presentation to the Board of Directors Held at the CAC!

It has become a tradition to have students attend the Board meetings when various members of the staff provide updates on our programs, and the recent meeting at the Career Assistance Center was no exception. It was really meaningful for all of us to hear the success stories of students who had originally approached EICCD for a GED and who have moved on to pursue further education and good careers. **Bui Nguyen** (pictured here), left Vietnam to escape Communist rule, and received his GED recently, learning English under the nurturing teaching-learning environment of the CAC. In addition, **Felicia Burrell** demonstrated her commitment to higher education by entering the Nursing Program at SCC after completing her GED, and **Steve Cole** talked not only about how his GED prepared him for further top of his class success at the John Blong Technology Center but also propelled him to urge his friends and family to return to school for a GED. Thanks to all at the CAC who organized and facilitated such a meaningful presentation: **Jim Schneider, Sandy De Vine, Grace Pearl, Lee Martin, Leslie Wilson, Kevin Lucas, Wayne Cole, Peg Garrison, and Nancy Kothenbeutel**. They did a great job.



District Hosts Party to Thank Datatel “Survivors”



On Tuesday, November 22, 2005, a group of dedicated but happy EICCD staff who have been wrestling with our DATATEL conversion tirelessly for so long attended a dessert party in their honor on the tenth floor of the Kahl. The purpose of the event was to say Thanks, Thanks, Thanks to everyone who has worked so hard on the conversion. In addition to outstanding desserts provided by **Brad Scott**, culinary arts faculty member at SCC, and his students, participants also received memento t-shirts decorated with the survivor theme.

I was really gratified by how many staff made the trip to the party and to have the chance to thank so many of you personally for your sacrifices. I also want to thank those who assisted in planning and implementing the event: **Robin Blount**, **Kris Barkdoll**, Kirk Barkdoll, **Sue Zettel** (who designed the logo on the banner and the t-shirts, **Brad Scott**, **Ron Erickson**, and **Jane Voss**.

One thing we all agreed upon was that the Datatel conversion was not finished! Thanks to everyone, in advance, for all that has to be done to bring this process to a successful conclusion.



Want to go for a walk or run at the CCC B-rrry Scurry?

The other day I was thinking about Clinton Community College’s annual B--RRRY SCURRY race, which I ran last year. Admittedly the weather was a bit balmy for winter, but it was great fun. I did note, however, how few district employees actually walked or ran the race and, as I gasped my way across the finish line, I pledged to try to drum up some company for myself next year.

I’d like to put together a district team – all except those who already live in the Clinton area can carpool from Davenport. Everybody is invited to assemble at my house after the race for brunch!

Here’s some initial information about the race from **Anne Schmidt**:

February 4, 2006, will mark the 25th running of the Clinton Community College B-rrry Scurry 4-mile race. We start the race at noon in front of the college. The late start gives Mother Nature a chance to warm the pavement and melt the ice and/or snow! Seriously, we welcome a little cold weather to make it a really brrrry scurry, but the average temperature over the years has been well above freezing.

Register online at allsportcentral.com and check out the cool features there. You can also connect to the Barry Scurry website from there to get more information and a downloadable entry form. Register by January 26 to save \$4!

Come on out and join the fun! Hope to see you at the start line on February 4!

The race has gone high tech for 2006! We'll be timing all participants using computer chips! All Sport Central from Sioux Falls, SD, will be coming to town to do the timing.

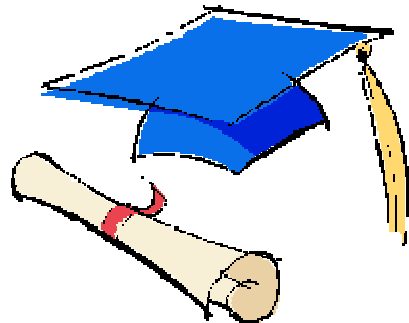
I'll send out a reminder in January and hope that we can assemble a district team! I hope I won't be running (ok, walking briskly . . .) alone.

Help Boost EICCD as a Learning Organization!

One of the Chancellor's OFI's (Opportunities For Improvement) that I discussed on Staff Development Day was for us to become more proactive and systematic about the provision of job-related learning opportunities for *ourselves*. To do this, we need to identify our own current and future learning needs, assess what is already offered within the district and available from other sources to meet these needs, explore what other colleges and districts do in this arena, and develop our own systems for faculty and staff development.

Because this is so important to me personally, I have decided to lead this process myself -- relying heavily on the help of others, of course. I'd like to create a small representative and expert team who would be willing to work closely with me, first over the "down time" between Christmas and the resumption of classes, and then rather intensely over the spring semester to come up with a concrete plan for our future in this area.

Interested in helping? If so, and if you have some concrete experience in staff development, human resource development, or faculty development, please volunteer using the link below. We will have a start-up retreat at my home on January 3, 2006, for about five hours, with lunch served. If you want to join the small team that will think this through, and can attend that meeting, please let me know immediately. (Faculty, full-time or adjunct, will receive compensation for this meeting and any other work over the break since it falls outside regular working hours.)



Please use the link below to join this team:

[Serve on Chancellor's EICCD Staff Development System Team](#)



EICCD Trio Attends 2005 Higher Education Law and Policy Institute

On December 4-6, 2005, [Lana Dettbarn](#), [Peg Garrison](#), and I attended an outstanding and informational conference in San Diego (ok, it's true that it was warm and sunny there just as the first frigid cold front hit Iowa) with the purpose of learning the latest information related to a wide variety of legal and policy issues. By sorting ourselves out to the various workshops, we were able to refresh our understandings of a wide variety of topics, including employment law, ADA issues, harassment guidelines, HIPPA, FERPA, fair use doctrine, etcetera. Through a variety of means, we'll be sharing some of the important things we learned at this conference, and we'll try to be low-key about the warm, balmy weather we experienced throughout.



To Turn Off or Not To Turn Off Computers and Energy

[Jim Liljequist](#) sent me the following memo regarding the relationship between your computer and energy use. I was particularly interested in some of the myths he shattered, since I have believed them for years.

*I have been asked about how to save energy on our pc's. This short (1 page) article explains options much better than I usually have time to do. The first paragraph and the "myths" parts are what most people are interested in. I will snip them below. However, here are some consumer "**myths**" that are worth addressing:*

- ❑ *Turning your PC off uses more energy than leaving it on. Not true. The small surge of power you use when turning it on -- which varies per PC make and model -- is still much smaller than the amount you use in keeping it on for lengthy periods.*
- ❑ *Turning your PC on and off wears it out. A decade ago, there was something to this, but not today, say Hershberg and others. It used to be that PC hard disks did not automatically park their heads when shut off, and that frequent on/off cycling could damage the hard disks. Today's PCs are designed to handle 40,000 on/off cycles before a failure, and that's a number you likely won't reach during the computer's five-to-seven-year life span.*
- ❑ *Screen savers save energy. Not true. Screen savers, at a minimum, can use 42 watts; those with 3D graphics can use as much as 114.5 watts, according to Don McCall, a Dell product marketing manager who does power measurement studies for the PC*

manufacturer. "It's absolutely wrong thinking that a screen saver will save energy," he says.

- *Your computer uses zero energy when "off." That's true only if it is unplugged. Otherwise, the PC utilizes "flea power," or about 2.3 watts, to maintain local-area network connectivity, among other things, McCall says. In "hibernate" mode, your PC uses the same 2.3 watts; in "sleep" mode, your PC uses about 3.1 watts. Monitors do use zero energy when turned off.*

How you CAN save energy:

- *If you're a Windows user (Windows XP, Windows 2000, Windows Me), just set up your PC to "hibernate" overnight. "Hibernate" powers down your monitor to about 5 watts of energy and your PC to 2.3 watts -- virtually the same as turning your PC off (your monitor uses zero watts when turned off; more on this below). Either way, you save as much as \$90 a year in power costs compared to a PC left on with a 3D screen saver running.*
- *Lab tests done by Dell show that a PC running Microsoft Office uses 42.7 watts, McCall says. If it runs continuously at that rate for 365 days, at 7 cents per kilowatt-hour, the power consumption costs would be \$26.18 for the PC and \$45.99 for a regular monitor, for a total of \$72.17 for the workstation.*

For more information and to view the source of Jim's snippets, visit the website http://www.Microsoft.com/smallbusiness/resources/technology/hardware/do_you_need_to_turn_off_your_pc_at_night.mspix

Jim, thanks for providing this information. I hope that all of us will help our desktop computers into hibernation every night!

Chancellor's Advisory Council Membership Firmed Up



As I mentioned in my last memo, starting in February 2006, we will have regular meetings of the Chancellor's Advisory Council, a group of leaders from district constituencies to strengthen and facilitate communication throughout the district and to provide input and feedback to the Chancellor and Cabinet about district-wide matters primarily related to the teaching, learning, and service of our students and the smooth, positive functioning of our district. (Some have asked how this Council will affect the meetings I hold regularly with Faculty Association leadership; those meetings will continue as they have been.)

I am happy to provide a list of the membership of this new Council here, with the caveat that as time passes, individuals will leave and others join based on their positions.

Robin Blount - *Special Assistant to the Chancellor*
Kathleen Conway - *Adjunct Faculty*
Tom Coley - *President, SCC*
Lana Dettbarn - *Executive Director, Administrative Services*
Chris Eichmeier - *President, Faculty Association*
Jim Compton - *President, MCC Faculty Senate*
Jeremy Holmes - *President, CCC Student Government Association*
Pat Keir - *Chancellor*
Nancy Kothenbeutel - *Executive Director, Continuing Education*
Amy Lofgren - *President, MCC Student Government Association*
Vic McAvoy - *President, MCC*
Eileen Shull - *President, SCC Faculty Senate*
Tom Sullivan - *President, SCC Student Government Association*
Pam Teymer - *President, CCC Faculty Senate*
Karen Vickers - *President, CCC*
MCC Kayla Holst - *Continuing Education Secretary*
CCC Mardell Mommsen - *Registrar*
SCC Mark Shaw, *SCC Mail Room and Print Center*
DO Angelique Kimble - *Half time Accounts Payable Clerk*
ATEEC Glo Hanne - *Project Coordinator, ATEEC*

After our first meeting in February, we will be able to give you a better idea of the sorts of matters we will discuss and work on in this group and to provide you with a description of how you can remain linked to this process.

In the meantime, I want to thank everyone involved, in advance, for taking the time in very busy lives to make this new council a reality.

Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow!

As storm after storm dumps the white stuff on the Quad Cities, quite a few people have asked about how we determine whether or not to close our campuses and how closing information is communicated. The decision to close or not close a campus rests with the college president or his/her designee and is based on a number of criteria including state of parking lots, road conditions, etc. It can and will happen that one college remains open while another closes since snow patterns are variable. If you work in any of our Scott County sites, including the Urban Center, your site is considered a part of Scott Community College for these purposes.



Each Cabinet member is responsible for seeing that we have an active “phone tree” to use to let people know if we will not be opening a campus or closing early. However, since it can take some time to move through all these calls, you might want to listen to the media for snow closing lists. In addition, if at all possible, we will post the information on our web site and send out a district-wide e-mail (harder to do from home, unfortunately.)

If you need to know more about how you can personally find out if a college is closing, contact your supervisor.

Have a Wonderful Break and Happy New Year!



Even if you aren't lucky enough to have pre-planned a trip to the beach to work on a tan, I am hopeful that you will do some things over the holiday break that are fun, restful, and rejuvenating. I plan to spend Christmas Eve and Day with my family, glorying in more time with my delightful granddaughter, and then engaging in some very serious vegetating for quite a few days in a row. If you have a minute, I'd love to hear what you have planned for some serious R&R over the break!

[How I Plan to Spend my Winter Vacation](#)

Thanks again for all your hard work and care for students. A good education is quite a Christmas present!

Pat