

Chancellor's Memo

Eastern Iowa Community College District

October 15, 2005

EICCD Signs New Articulation Agreements with University of Northern Iowa

On September 26, 2005, **Dr. Robert Koob**, President of University of Northern Iowa, joined us in the EICCD Board Room for an official signing ceremony to new agreements which articulated a number of our career/technical programs for the first time.



Since **Rassoul Dastmozd** was instrumental in the creation of these agreements, I asked him to provide a description of them.

First, this was a renewal of articulation agreements for the following EICCD Vocational and Career Technical Education programs:

- *Automotive Technology*
- *Auto Collision Repair Technology*
- *Diesel Technology*
- *Electromechanical Systems*
- *Graphic Arts and Printing Technology-Graphic Design*
- *Graphic Arts and Printing Technology-Press Operations*
- *Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning*
- *Health, Safety and Environmental Technology*
- *Industrial Engineering Technology-CAD/PRO Engineer or Machining/CNC*
- *Manufacturing Maintenance*
- *Manufacturing Technology*

- *Microcomputer Information Technology-Software Development or Networking*
- *Technical Drafting and Computer Aided Design*
- *Technical Studies-Welding*

*Perhaps more important, this was a major step in explicitly articulating our courses to the Technology Management Major from Department of Industrial Technology at University of Northern Iowa. This agreement allows the articulation of 48 college credits to UNI's four-year Technology Management BA program, opening up a wonderful opportunity to our more technically oriented students. Thanks to **Rassoul Dastmozd**, **Ron Serpliss**, and **Jeff Armstrong** for their work on these agreements, which were processed and approved by the Instructional Council.*

Eastern Iowa Faculty Association Clowns Around

As you can see by the picture, a number of your colleagues were found "clowning around" at the third Annual ISEA Community College Faculty Conference, held in Dubuque, Iowa. I was honored to serve as the keynote speaker for the event, addressing the topic of how arts & science and technical faculty can work closer together to meet the overall learning needs of students.



Pictured at the dinner beforehand, obviously taking things very seriously, are **Lanell Mogab**, **Martha Bonte**, **Alan Shaw**, **John Bonte**, and me. Arriving the next morning, and providing support for my keynote speech, were **Tom Gibbons**, **Chris Eichmeier**, **Ann Mayes**, **Ruthann Gallagher**, **Jerry Wilkerson**, and **Dan Baldwin**.

Jerry Wilkerson asked me to share my PowerPoint for that speech with others, so if you'd like to have a look, just link on <http://www.eiccd.net/eiccd/eifa-meeting.htm>.



Thai Guests come to EICCD to Learn – October 16 - 24

Thanks to the efforts of **Jeff Armstrong**, our district will host a group of high-ranking dignitaries from Thailand who are coming here to learn more about the Iowa Community College system, in particular how the colleges interface with local and state government. We will be hosting the group at a dinner/reception just

before the October 17 Board meeting and they will then join us at the meeting, with an opportunity to ask questions.

Thailand has a brand-new community college system in place, and as it seeks to expand, wishes to better understand how various systems work. Here is a list of those who will be visiting:

1. Mr. Phiraphan Phalusuk Vice - Minister of Education
2. Mr. Udorn Tantisunthorn Senator
3. Mr. Nisit Sindhuprai Vice – Chairman, House Committee on Education
4. Mr. Prakob Rattanapan Member, House of Representatives
5. Mr. Narong Nunthong Senator
6. Mr. Woravat Auapinyakul Member, House of Representatives
7. Miss Tirada Sanitwongchai Member, House of Representatives
8. Mr. Chumpol Phornprapha College Administration. Advisor to Bureau of Community
9. Mr. Suchart Muangkaew Deputy Secretary-General of Commission on Higher Education
10. Mr. Somkit Lertpaithoon Deputy Rector of Thammasat University
11. Mr. Pongsak Payakvichien Executive Manager & Editor of *Matichon* Newspaper
12. Mr. Pitak Korkiatpitak College Trustees Chairman, Pattani Community
13. Mr. Pongsak Yingchoncharoen Chairman, Yala Community College Trustees
14. Miss Sunanta Sangthong Director of Bureau of Community College Administration
15. Mr. Pichai Nuanapasri Chairman, Phichit Community College Trustee
16. Mr. Phongsak Thamrongratanasilp Trustee, Sakaew Community College
17. Mr. Varaseit Kanjanasoot Law Official
18. Mr. Paibool Raipoo Legal Officer, Commission on Higher Education
19. Mr. Thannawat Natpakul Journalist of Thairat Newspaper
20. Mrs. Naovarat Vichienrat Journalist of Dailynew Newspaper

21. Miss Putthachad Wattanawimonkorn Saff, Bureau of Community College Administration

Our guests will be visiting a number of sites in our district. If you are interested in learning more about their itinerary, contact [Jeff Armstrong](#).

Diversity Committee Off to Great Start



I was delighted to attend the kick-off meeting of the newly-formed Diversity Committee on the afternoon of September 29, 2005, at the John Blong Technology Center. Aably chaired by **Jeanette Thomas** and **Alison Entler**, the team will formulate an action-agenda to promote an appreciation for diversity – in particular, guiding the implementation of the action items that emerged from the recent Diversity Think Tank at my home in mid-September.

I also want to thank everyone who took the time to read through the report of the “thinking of the group” from the Diversity Think Tank and who sent comments and ideas. I have shared those ideas with the Diversity Committee.

Lastly, I want to share the statement of philosophy which the think tank participants propose as the purpose of our diversity initiatives:

Diversity means the variety of cultural backgrounds, ethnicities, life experiences, ages, genders, learning styles, disability status, languages, nationalities, races, sexual orientations, socio-economic status, religions, learning styles, and academic preparedness in the people we live, work, learn with and serve. As a community college with an open door policy, we want to foster a climate which promotes an opportunity for everyone to achieve their goals.

Chancellor's Award Bestowed to Verl Carter Off-site!

I'm sure that some of you noted that there was one instructor missing when the Chancellor's Award was bestowed on the wonderful team of truck driving instructors in the district. **Verl**

Carter has been hospitalized and

was not able to be there. However, **Rassoul** and I wanted to honor him as he deserves so we took a trip over to Genesis to give him his award personally.



We can both testify that Verl is doing very well and is recovering at an exceptional rate!

Safety as the Season Changes

I hope that all of you enjoyed your preview of the new district website. **Bob Majchrzak**, SCC Faculty Member and District Safety Officer, sees the new website as a great place to disseminate safety advice to all of us, and we may see safety tips as a resident on the new website in the future. In the meantime, I thought I'd share his latest tip with you!

Our Safety Tip of the Week is courtesy of Underwriters Laboratories Inc. As fall approaches and the cooler weather prompts residents to fire up their furnaces, Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL), the not-for-profit product safety testing organization, is urging homeowners to purchase carbon monoxide (CO) alarms and replace the batteries in existing CO alarms.

Called the silent killer, CO is an odorless, colorless gas produced by incomplete burning of fuel, such as propane, kerosene, gasoline, oil, natural gas, wood and charcoal. Sources of CO in homes can include malfunctioning gas-fired appliances, space heaters and chimney flues. Each year, more than 450 people die from accidental carbon monoxide poisoning, most of them (64 percent) inside homes, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Symptoms of CO poisoning include nausea, fatigue, headaches, dizziness, breathing difficulty and confusion -- but they are general enough to be confused with the flu, according to Dr. Jerrold Leikin, director of Medical Toxicology for Evanston Northwestern Healthcare in Illinois. CO alarms are designed to alert residents before carbon monoxide concentrations grow to toxic levels, often giving homeowners hours of advance notice.

"A CO alarm should not be confused with a smoke alarm," said John Drengenberg, manager of Consumer Affairs for UL. "A smoke alarm tells you to get out immediately. A CO alarm warns of a potential poisoning risk, usually long before symptoms are apparent, which allows you time to get help. You need both life safety devices in your home."

For more information about CO alarms, smoke alarms and fire safety, go to <http://www.ul.com/consumers>

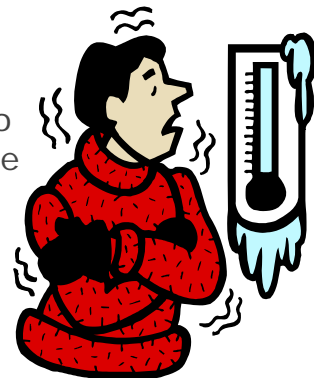
Source: <http://www.ohsonline.com/enews.html>

Please Save Energy!

I'm sure you know that fuel prices are expected to take a serious hike this winter . . . estimates are that heating bills could rise by 55%. For the district, where we pay almost \$900,000 a year for utilities, this could be catastrophic.

What can we all do to reduce our fuel costs this winter while still providing the kind of atmosphere conducive to good work and learning conditions?

Please take a minute to share some winter, work-place focused, energy savings techniques that I can share with everyone in my next memo. Please share them now!



[How EICCD Can Keep the Energy Bills Down this Year!](#)

Still Seeking Invitations to Visit Classrooms and Offices!

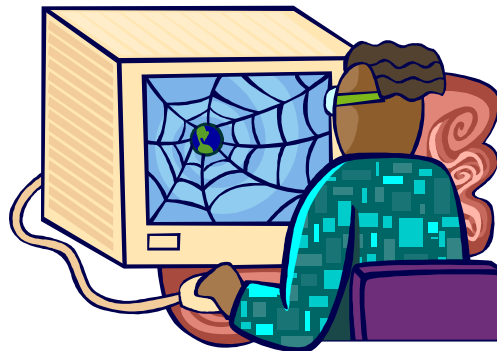


In my last memo of last spring semester, I provided a list of all the classes and offices I had visited in my first year as your Chancellor. I so much enjoyed the chance to really get to know my colleagues and their students at sites across the district.

I have only made a few visits thus far this year, (including a fantastic session with an evening economics class taught by [Paul Eglatian](#) at North High School and participation in a virtual chemistry lab experiment on gasses in [John Bonte's](#) chemistry class at CCC) so I'd love a few more invitations. If you are willing to have me spend some time with you in your class or office, please contact [Doris Swanson](#) to set up a time on my calendar. I'll look forward to it!

Technology in Learning

I like to think I've kept up with the potential of technology to change or enrich teaching and learning, but lately I've had a few additional tutorials. On Tuesday, October 12, I visited [John Bonte's](#) Chemistry class at Clinton, eagerly looking forward to the lab portion where I'd get to see the Bunsen burners burning and the chemicals gurgling, with the excitement of potential explosions throughout. Imagine how surprised I was to see that the experiments being done were within the virtual lab on the computer (and the look of the lab could be adjusted from dungeon to futuristic to tropical). The experiments still unfolded in real time and seemed very close to real life -- and then the students quickly transferred their data into an Excel spreadsheet to create the graphs that were the point of the assignment.



Even when I followed John over to the other room, the real lab, much of the hands-on experimentation was computerized -- with the computer actually hooked up to a vacuum tube and immediately responsive to the hands-on changes the students made.

Last week, I attended a very exciting seminar on the future of online learning and was truly amazed by what is in the near-future for web-based teaching and learning. Any where, any time, through any device seemed to be the order of the day. It was interesting to me to note, however, that the majority of the tekkies at the conference were found with their digitized, keyboarded, movie and music playing, text-messaging cell phones at their ears -- even when we were all out horseback riding in an orderly line through the brush of Arizona. I was literally the only one who endured the hour-long ride without taking or making a call.

My experience reinforces my understanding that we have to continue to gear ourselves up to employ the ever-changing communications technologies to keep our institution and our classrooms up-to-date. We have several merging projects that should assist us in this: a district-wide team, headed by **Karen Vickers**, seeking to provide us with a clear focus for our online education capacity and offerings in the future; a new district Technology Plan, under the leadership of Vice Chancellor for Technology, **Tom Coley**; a Chancellor's Initiative Team, led by **Gary Olson** and **Nancy Luikart** working on providing "help desk" services for our students as they use technology to learn and complete their assignments; our newly reconstructed Website, designed by a team under the leadership of **Alan Campbell**; and the entire crew of district staff and faculty stepping up to employ Datatel to streamline our processes and planning, under the direction of **Kirk Barkdahl**.

As I have visited so many classrooms and offices over the past year or so, I have always been impressed with the creative and up-to-date uses of technology to teach and support student learning. It is my fervent hope that as we move into the future we will continue to stay current -- and for every faculty member in the district to use E-companion and/or create a website in support of traditional classroom activities. If you know of any innovative uses of technology in the district that I haven't mentioned, please take a minute to send me a description.

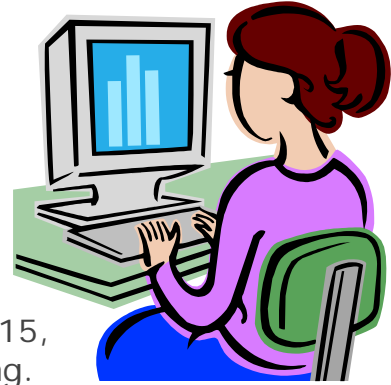
[Innovative Uses of Technology at EICCD](#)

Thanks to All Who Are Working (Still . . .) on our Datatel Conversion Project

Things have gone very well as we have converted our financial, HR, and student systems into Datatel, and we all have to be very grateful to the EICCD staff who have poured hours into the conversion process.

To show our gratitude, we have scheduled a **Thank You Celebration** for our Datatel Conversion stalwarts, to be held on November 15, 2005 from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. in the Kahl Building.

All who have been integrally involved in the Datatel Conversion are invited to this dessert party! The main agenda is to thank you!



Pat