

Chancellor's Memo

Eastern Iowa Community College District

September 15, 2007

Are You Up for a Change?



Are you a futurist? Do you often wonder how the beginnings of trends spotted today will affect how we live and work in the future? Would you like to spend some time thinking through the possible impact of societal changes on our students' manners of learning, our manner of teaching and marketing, and the content of what we teach in the future?

On Friday, November 2, we will host a district-wide think tank on change, and I'd like to invite everyone who can break away to attend. You won't need to bring anything along but your ideas, and do a little preliminary reading.

More details will come, but if you'd like to reserve a spot, just click on this link:

[Sign Me Up for the EICCD Think Tank on the Future on November 2, 2007](#)

“Planning is bringing the future into the present so that you can do something about it now.” (Alan Lakein)

EICCD Students and Staff Enjoy New Computers



Here is a picture sent to me by Nancy Luikart at the MCC Library showing two students, Andrea Adams in the Nursing Program, and Justin Bertrand, Senior, who just completed our Truck Driving Program enjoying some brand new computers recently installed there. Thanks to our IT staff who managed to install so many computers in such a short time just before classes began.

SCC Honors Student Presents at Regional Conference



It is an unusual thing for a community college student to make a major presentation at the Upper Midwest Regional Honors Conference, but one of SCC's Honors students, **Jennifer Nesahkluah** did just that at the Upper Mid-west Regional Honors Conference (UMHC) at Dickinson State University in Dickinson, North Dakota, Thursday, April 19 to Saturday April 21, 2007.

Jennifer's honors project was entitled "**Community Leadership: Personalities and Strategies,**" and was developed during the Honors Seminar offered by **Ruthann Gallagher** during winterim session of 2007. **Dr. Nnachi Umennachi** (SCC Honors Coordinator) told me that Jennifer's presentation explored the benefits of offering Honors Seminar classes to inspire students to be future leaders of the community. "Jennifer did an excellent job with her presentation. I was very proud of her," Nnachi said. Here is a picture of Jennifer presenting at the Conference and with Nnachi.



Nnachi also mentioned that the SCC Honors Program is celebrating its tenth birthday during the month of October, 2007. Congratulations to the program, and thanks to the faculty advisors who have made it a reality at SCC for so many years.

EICCD Welcomes New Staff

In a recent issue, I listed all of the people who left our district through retirement or relocation. In this issue, I'd like to provide a list of staff who have joined our ranks:

<u>CAMPUS</u>	<u>EMPLOYEE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>START DATE</u>
Kahl	Adams, Heather A.	Microcomputer Support Specialist II	6/19/07
low@work	Anderson, Erin	Intake worker, Records Clrk, FIP Tech	1/22/07
SCC	Anderson, Heather	Child Care/Early Childhood Instructor	8/22/07
Kahl	Anderson, Mark	Special Needs Specialist	11/6/06
low@work	Arends, Paula	Employment & Training Specialist; however 08/30/07 Special Needs Specialist at SCC	12/4/06
SCC	Ballentine, Tatiana	CASS Housing Specialist	8/27/07
MCC	Barb, David	College Assistant	12/5/06
CCC	Clark, Alicia M.	Evening College Assistant	8/6/07
SCC	Crane, Carol	Library Technician	7/30/07
DO	Dugan, Nancy J.	Research Analyst	4/17/07

Kahl	Eis, Jenny A.	Microcomputer Support Specialist II	6/25/07
CCC	Feller, Jody K.	Custodian I	6/11/07
Kahl	Gekas, H. James	Assistant Director of Web Services	5/29/07
DO	Goderis, Sheila R.	Accounts Payable Clerk	5/29/07
CCC	Green, Jenifer Lou	Resource Development Assistant	8/27/07
CCC	Guemmer, Lauren L.	Admin.& Office Support Instructor	8/22/07
MCC	Hadley, Lesa J.	English Instructor	8/22/07
Kahl	Hall, Carol	Dir. of Information & Tech. Serv.	12/4/06
SCC	Hanson, Kari	Campus Activities Specialist	10/9/06
Kahl	Harris, Tan	Evening College Assistant	2/19/07
SCC	Jacobs, Jan M.	Rad. Tech. Instructor	8/22/07
SCC	Jennings, Robin A.	Secretary II	5/9/07
Kahl	Jones, Cheryl L.	Assistant Director of Server Services	6/25/07
KAHL/DO	Larson, Jeffrey	Dean of EICCD Online Learning Enterprise	10/15/07
SCC	Matter, Jeanne	Instructor/Clin. Coord. Of Rad.Tech.Prgm	8/22/07
SCC	Mercedes Luna-Rivero	Instructional Designer	6/6/07
SCC	Murray, Nathan P.	Evening College Assistant (30-35 hr/wk)	6/1/07
MCC	Parli, William C.	Agriculture Instructor	1/10/07
DO	Pologruto, Cathi Marie	Institutional Research Specialist	7/30/07
MCC	Powell Cler, Lisa	English Instructor	8/22/07
MCC	Rada, Robert A.	Auto Mechanic Instructor	8/22/07
SCC	Ritter, Brian	Facilitator Nahunt Marsh/ECC Educ.	7/17/07
CE	Roebuck, Karen	Nontraditional Careers/Prevocat'l Trng. Facilitator	4/23/07
BTC	Schnoor, Dennis	Ass't Director for Industrial Technologies Con't. Educ.	8/1/07
Kahl	Seederquist, Gail	Web-Based Programmer/Data Analyst	2/12/07
CCC	Stone, Dean B.	Educat/Social Science Instruct.	8/22/07
CCC/DO	Tack, Cheryl	Admissions Officer	6/1/07
DO	Tandon, Suteesh	Director of Business Services	2/12/07
SCC	Trammell, Todd D.	ATEEC Director	9/24/07
Kahl	Vesselovskaia, Tamara M.	Adm & Office Support Instructor	8/22/07
Kahl	Warner, Chris C.	Microcomputer Support Specialist II	7/2/07
CE	Wearth, Steve	Assistant Director Health, CE (Fire Science, Rescue)	2/20/07

EICCD Passes \$33,000,000 Facilities Bond Referendum



I am very excited and grateful to announce that our district's voters passed our facilities bond referendum on Tuesday, September 11, 2007, with a district-wide percentage of 63%. This substantial investment in our district's existing and planned facilities will better equip us to provide our students with the best possible learning experiences and our community with a better prepared workforce in the years to come. To refresh your memory, here is a list of the projects that this \$33,000,000 will allow us to complete:

Executive Summary of Eastern Iowa Community College District Proposed Projects

Clinton Community College

- Science / Technology Facilities – new addition to the college to include lecture and lab rooms for such areas as Chemistry, Physics, Microbiology and Engineering
- Maquoketa Center – create a physical site in the community for delivery of both credit and non-credit instruction
- Upgrading of technology labs – upgrading labs at all college facilities, including software, fiber optics and wireless capabilities
- Updating and renovation of current buildings, renovation of areas vacated by new construction and project contingency.

Muscatine Community College

- Science / Technology Facilities – new addition to the college to include lecture and lab rooms for such areas as Chemistry, Physics, Microbiology and Engineering
- Renovation of current Columbus Junction Center – addition of computer lab and two classrooms, HVAC upgrade and ADA compliance
- West Liberty Center /Wilton Center – create a physical site in each of these communities
- Upgrading of technology labs – upgrading labs at all college facilities, including software, fiber optics and wireless capabilities
- Updating and renovation of current buildings, renovation of areas vacated by new construction and project contingency.

Scott Community College

- Science / Technology Facilities – new addition to the college to include lecture and lab rooms for such areas as Chemistry, Physics, Microbiology and Engineering
- Applied Technology Renovation – Renovation of existing Applied Technology Building located on the campus to allow for more accessible and flexible use of lab simulations, performance demonstrations and web-based assisted instruction
- Upgrading of technology labs – upgrading labs at all college facilities, including software, fiber optics and wireless capabilities
- Scott Community College road project – addition of a second entrance/exit to the college
- West Davenport Center – create a physical site in the western area of Davenport for delivery of both credit and non-credit instruction.
- Updating and renovation of current buildings, renovation of areas vacated by new construction and project contingency.

EICC District Projects

- Advanced Manufacturing Lab Expansion/Blong Technology Center – renovate facility for advanced manufacturing, logistics and alternative energy programs
- Career Assistance Center – renovation or possible relocation of the center

So many people have made contributions to our efforts to describe our needs to our local community that it would be impossible to thank them all here. So many people will now have to plunge in to make our new buildings and renovations a reality that I will thank them in advance. How exciting that our voters have expressed such confidence in us to meet the needs of our future students!

Staff Development Day

“LEARN,” “REVITALIZE,” “NETWORK,” “COMMUNICATE,” and “CELEBRATE!”

Each year I look forward to the exciting day that **George Varchola** (Director of Human Resources Development), **John Baker** and the Professional Development Council put together that allows us to enrich our personal experiences and renew our motivation to provide quality service to our patrons. This year, as always, Staff Development Day promises to be quite entertaining and George and John (Master of Ceremonies for the Day) have been kind enough to provide me with the following overview of what to expect:

Staff Development Day 2007 will offer you a variety of learning experiences that will “Fuel Your Mind!”

- Deadra Stanton, from Creative Communications, Mason City, Iowa, will share her keynote presentation – “Don’t Shoot Skinny Rabbits!” Ms. Stanton believes that “before we can grow professionally, we need to learn to survive personally!” Her message will help us all to find ways to “stop chasing those skinny rabbits, revitalize and focus on what’s really important!”
- Twenty of EICCD’s Faculty and Staff as well Seven Guest Speakers will present many interesting and informative Concurrent Sessions. A sample of titles to chose from include: “Sloodle Your Noodle in Second Life,” “Balancing Work and Home,” “Best Teaching Practices,” “Managing your Email,” “The Top 10 Superfoods,” and “Learn the CPR Dance!”
- Recognition and Celebration of Years of Service – “Thirty-Seven” faculty and staff who have collectively given 750 Years of Service to the EICCD will be recognized and honored for their commitment and service to our students and community.

So plan on attending a day full of opportunities to “LEARN,” “REVITALIZE,” “NETWORK,” “COMMUNICATE,” and “CELEBRATE!”

Up for a Little Exercise?



I'm pretty well known for setting myself goals and then striving to meet them, and I've been working very hard on my latest exploit-to-be – walking/jogging the upcoming Quad Cities Half-Marathon on Sunday, September 23, 2007. The course is an interesting one, spanning both sides of the river and crossing the I-74 and Government Bridges, and there will be bands playing along the way. I will be joined in the event by my daughter and son-in-law, both half my age and far more fit. I've been practicing on weekends, and I've come to the conclusion that while the mind is strong, the body insists on aching and whining around mile ten.

If you want to join me on that day, it's not too late to sign up, for the entire marathon, a half marathon, or a shorter distance.

[Quad Cities Marathon Registration Form](#)

District Think Tank on Scheduling Practices Draws Internal Expertise



To what extent does the way in which we schedule our courses meet the needs of our wide variety of students? That was the central question at a “Scheduling Think Tank” held at my home on Friday, September 7. After a brief case study exercise, where EICCD teams pretended that they were students with diverse life styles and demands and sought to build their fall schedule, we brainstormed what an ideal schedule would be from the point of view of a student, teachers, and management. The

Deans of the Colleges from MCC, SCC, and CCC described the processes they used to create a schedule each semester. Lastly, we generated a list of possible innovations or changes we could establish to do an even better job of scheduling to meet our students' needs, including exploring more late-start and shorter courses, creating weekend and weekly cohort-structured programs that accelerated adults' progress to a degree, and coordinating the offering of courses district-wide so that if a student couldn't find the course at the time needed at one college he or she would be likely to find it at one of the other EICCD colleges.

I want to thank the participants who attended this brief retreat:

Erin Snyder - Asst. Director for Enrollment Management
Honey Bedell - Assoc. Director of Marketing
Lisa Miller - Supv. of Academic Advising and Testing, SCC
Vic McAvoy - President, MCC
Gail Spies - Dean of Students, MCC
Karen Vickers - President, CCC
Ron Serpliss - Dean of the College, CCC
Jeff Armstrong - Dean of the College, MCC
Tom Coley - President, SCC
Teresa Paper - Dean of the College, SCC
Janet Coogan - Dean of Applied Technology, SCC
Andrew Burt - Dean of Arts and Sciences, SCC
Peggy Garrison - Dean of the Career Assistance Center, SCC
Robin Blount - Special Assistant to the Chancellor
Pat Keir - Chancellor

Do you have any suggestions on how we could improve our scheduling practices? If so, please take a minute to share your idea with me.

Ideas for Scheduling Courses

Jeanette Thomas Secures New State-Wide Position

Jeanette Thomas, who has served as our EEO/Affirmative Action Officer and co-chair of our Diversity Committee, recently informed me that she will have a new job, with the State Department of Education. Jeanette's contributions to our district and, in particular, to the ATEEC program and some of our more recent diversity initiatives.

Here is Jeanette's description of her new position:

My new position is at the Iowa Department of Education's Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation Office as an Education Program Consultant (Equity/ESL/Perkins Monitoring). Overall duties include serving as the department's liaison to the community colleges and education agencies for the administration of federal assistance Carl D. Perkins basic grants; working with secondary and post secondary institutions on information solutions; serving on accreditation teams at the community colleges; providing leadership and technical assistance for workplace readiness and preparation in career and technical education programs; and to facilitate special task forces.

With Jeanette's departure, the half-time position of Diversity and AA/EEO Officer is vacant and posted for applications. If you are interested, or know someone who would be interested and qualified, please check with our Human Resources Office or website.

I know we all wish Jeanette well in her new job, and we know we'll be seeing her often in the years to come.

Autumn Arriving



Doesn't it seem that summer flies by faster every year? It's hard to believe that Fall has arrived and that I will soon be deluged by leaves dropping from the trees I adore in the summer and deplore in the autumn. Several people have asked how my Mississippi River Cruise from LeClaire to Dubuque went . . . it was fantastic. You learn a great deal about the beauty and economic value of the river as you cruise up and back on it. And, like all cruises, there was a lot of eating! For anyone looking for a short break, I would heartily recommend this cruise.

Have a great fall!

Pat