

QUARTERLY update

To the Board of Trustees, Faculty and Staff



WINTER 2018

From the Office of the President

1555 South Raisinville Road, Monroe, Michigan 48161

Student Services Area

Data Processing Services Department

- **The Data Processing Services Department** – working in conjunction with the Business Office, installed, tested and configured a **major new release of Nelnet payment software** – Nelnet Enterprise – during spring and summer of 2016. The system came online for the Fall 2017 semester and offers benefits such as streamlined maintenance for college staff and a much easier experience for students who wish to secure short-term financing for their tuition and fees.
- After nearly 33 years of dedicated service to the college community, **Dan Hamman**, computer systems analyst, decided to retire in August, leaving behind a legacy of efficient programming that has enhanced the operations of many departments on campus.
- In December, the Data Processing Services Department staff welcomed **Chris Gossett** on board as the department's new computer systems analyst.
- Following the SQL database migration project for the Colleague system, the entire suite of **Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System and Perkins report programs** were re-written to work with the new database. This work was completed between July and November, and comprises nearly 65 new processes that generate, consolidate and report on occupational enrollment for the **Department of Education** and the **National Center of Educational Statistics**.

Admissions and Guidance Services

- During the Fall Semester, **MCCC Admissions counselors visited every public high school in Monroe County as well St. Mary Catholic Central and the following out-of-county high schools:** Whitmer (Toledo), Grosse Ile, Flat Rock, Tecumseh, New Boston Huron, Woodhaven, Riverview, Trenton, Gibraltar-Carlson and Britton-Deerfield. On-site college placement testing was conducted at Monroe, Ida, Jefferson, Carlson, Bedford and Orchard Center high schools, as well as Monroe County Middle College.

- The Office of Admissions and Guidance Services recruited at educational fairs at the Monroe County Courthouse, Orchard Center High School, Brooklyn Central High School and Lenawee County Vocational Center. Advisors have continued to service the Michigan Works Office and the Learning Bank in Monroe.
- The office conducted a **Dual Enrollment Night** for **Monroe County Middle College** students and parents. **MCCC's fall dual enrollment was the highest ever for fall at 812.**
- **Onsite advising** was conducted for **Ida Middle College** students. Admissions also put on **onsite orientations for all Direct College** classes at Monroe, Mason, Jefferson, Whiteford, Carlson and Britton-Deerfield high schools.
- Both **Upward Bound programs at Monroe and Airport high schools** had productive starts to the school year with a wide variety of academic and cultural activities. Both programs are at capacity. MCCC added a **third program at Jefferson High School**. A coordinator was hired, and the program is proceeding with recruiting students.
- MCCC is currently hosting **three International students**. They are from Pakistan, Czechoslovakia and Canada.

Office of Financial Aid

- The **Financial Aid Office**, with the assistance of the Data Processing Services Department, worked through the implementation process of the **Ellucian Colleague Financial Aid Self-Service module** in 2017. The Financial Aid Self-Service product provides students with greater access to review and monitor their financial aid status and award offers at MCCC, compared to the limited access they previously had in WebPal. In the new Financial Aid Self Service module, students can:
 - Review the status of required financial aid documents
 - Accept or decline student loan offers
 - Review and print financial aid award letters
 - Review and print the Financial Aid Shopping Sheet

- Monitor academic progress standards for financial aid eligibility
- The college was able to complete the implementation of the Financial Aid Self-Service module without hiring Ellucian consultants. Completing the project without hiring consultants was a **significant cost savings** for MCCC.
- The **2018-2019 Free Application for Federal Student Aid** became available for students to complete on October 1. Most of the high schools in the county had counselors who invited MCCC Financial Aid staff to give presentations to graduating high school seniors and their parents regarding completing the financial aid process. During the month of October, **MCCC financial aid representatives visited the following high schools:** Airport, Bedford, Ida, Jefferson, Monroe, Summerfield and Whiteford. The office also gave a financial aid presentation to the students in the Monroe County Middle College in October.
- The Library is developing a **Request for Proposal for a new integrated library system**; all staff members were invited to participate in the process. Staff feedback has been incorporated into the RFP and a second draft is in process.

Office of the Registrar

- MCCC recently contracted with Parchment and has completed the implementation of Parchment Award-Digital Credentials. Graduates will now receive a **digital diploma** upon graduation. The digital diploma will be blue ribbon sealed and can be easily uploaded to social media sites, as well as downloaded as a PDF to allow graduates to attach their diploma to online applications.
- The Registrar's Office is in the final phases of testing the **Ellucian Colleague Student Planning** module with a "go-live" date of April 2018 for Fall Semester registration. Student Planning is designed to accelerate time-to-degree by offering effective communications, appropriate engagement and intervention, and strategic planning solutions that can help the college **make measurable progress toward better student outcomes.**

Library

- The following is a snapshot of **Library statistics** during the Fall Semester:
 - Reference questions: 38
 - Information Literacy Instruction Sessions: 16 classes/291 students
 - Gate count: 16,387
- During Fall Semester, the Library began circulating designated DVDs to library patrons for a two-day circulation period.
- In September, the Library received the go-ahead to allow **community borrowing**. Residents of Monroe County are now able to get a Monroe County Community College library card that allows library borrowing privileges.
- The library also added these **new items available for check out:**
 - Headphones
 - Cell phone chargers
 - Portable DVD players
- In August, the Library collaborated with the Learning Assistance Lab to present **First Steps programming for first-time college students**. The purpose of First Steps is to share tips and tools on how to be a successful college student. Sessions were held at the Main Campus and the Whitman Center. Each student received an MCCC Library tote bag, ink pen and USB drive, as well as a First Steps binder, informational Library brochure and bookmark.

Professional Development

- In December, **Director of Financial Aid Valerie Culler** attended the **2017 Federal Student Aid Conference**. The FSA conference is hosted by the U.S. Department of Education and all sessions are presented by U.S. Department of Education officials. The conference sessions focused on topics related to changes in Title IV regulations and legislation, such as cash management, Return to Title IV funds, and institutional data security. During the conference, the U.S. Department of Education also demonstrated the mobile FAFSA app, which is a significant step the department is taking to improve the experience of completing the FAFSA. The training Culler received at this conference was very beneficial for MCCC's continued effort to improve processes and maintain compliance in administering Title IV federal student aid funds at MCCC.
- **Laura Manley, director of the Library**, currently serves on the **Board of Southeastern Michigan League of Libraries** in the capacity of a member at large. In the spring, the board will vote her in as **chair elect**. Her responsibility as the chair elect is to shadow the chair so that she may assume the position of chair in the following year.

Instructional Area

E-Learning and Instructional Support

- MCCC will switch from Blackboard to **Brightspace by D2L for its Learning Management System** by the Spring/Summer Semester. Brightspace was ranked the No. 1 Learning Management System for Next-Gen Online Teaching and Learning by international industry analyst Ovum. It offers a flexible learning environment and is easy to use on every device. There are 15 million users at 11,000 colleges and universities; Michigan State University, Western Michigan University, Lansing Community College and Oakland Community College use Brightspace. **Jeff Peters**, coordinator of e-learning and instructional support, is leading the transition.

Applied Science and Engineering Technology Division

- In October, 325 participants from Dundee, Jefferson, Mason, Summerfield, Whiteford and Bedford high schools, as well as Riverside Academy, the Monroe Youth Opportunity Program and the Monroe County Intermediate School District attended the annual **X-Tech** open house event. Topics included a STEM session on “Women Who Weld” by Samantha Farr, a welder who holds a master’s degree in urban planning from the University of Michigan and a planning and economic development firm in Detroit.
- In November, the Applied Science and Engineering Technology Division sponsored a **day trip to FABTECH, North America’s largest metal forming, fabricating, welding and finishing event**, which was held at Chicago’s McCormick Place. The trip was made possible with funding from MCCC’s Foundation Enhancement Grant Program. Nearly 40 students and community members participated in the trip, which was led by Marty Dubois, assistant professor of mechanical engineering technology, Stephen Hasselbach, instructor of welding, and Mike Reaume, CAD Technician/Perkins specialist.
- Monroe County Community College’s **welding technology program** donated a fire pit in October to the Frenchtown Fire Department that was designed and fabricated by students in the program.
- In October, the ASET Division hosted more than **100 SOLIDWORKS users** at the eighth-annual Southeast Michigan and Northwest Ohio SOLIDWORKS User Group meeting. SOLIDWORKS is three-dimensional, parametric modeling software that is widely used in mechanical design and engineering applications. There are more than 28,000 educational institutions teaching the software in 80 countries and more than 260 SolidWorks user groups worldwide. **Dr. Dean Kerste**, professor of mechanical design technology, is the leader of the Southeast Michigan and Northwest Ohio user group and coordinated the event.
- In October, 21 participants from all the state-approved programs at MCCC attended a **Trends in Occupation Studies Conference in Detroit**. Trends is a conference designed by faculty for faculty and staff who are passionate about career and technical community college education. Many sessions were held on best practices, including programmatic round table discussions. Stephen Hasselbach, welding instructor, presented “Welding SENSE Articulation” for both secondary and post-secondary instructors.
- The Applied Science and Engineering Technology Division hosted an **American Nuclear Society meeting**. The event was organized by **ASET alumnus Julie Beste-Waltz**. The ANS group also toured the Career Technology Building and viewed the extensive exhibit housed in the building that details the history and importance of the Enrico Fermi Atomic Power Plant (Fermi 1). At the time it began operation in the mid-1960s, Fermi 1 was the world’s largest liquid-metal cooled, fast breeder reactor.
- **Roop Chandel**, professor of materials technology, achieved recertification as an **American Welding Society Certified Welding Inspector** for the ninth consecutive year.
- **Jennifer Wells**, client relations consultant at **DTE Energy**, presented to students in **MCCC’s Circuit Analysis course** about employment opportunities at the company, which is looking to hire 300 electrician and maintenance technicians in the next 5 years. Students learned about the history of DTE Energy, as well positions that are presently available and those coming up in the near future. Like a lot of companies, DTE Energy has an aging workforce that is approaching retirement age.

Business Division

- Eastern Michigan University sponsored the attendance of five outstanding MCCC business management students to attend the **2017 Digital Marketing Workshop** in November. The students – **Anna Winkelmann, Rebecca Segart, Nathan Grodi, Rachel Sortor and Autumn Hensley** – were invited to attend

based on their GPAs, the amount of course work completed in the business management program, evidence of leadership promise and writing skills. Dean **Paul Knollman** and faculty members **Dr. Patrick Nedry**, **Wendy Wysocki** and **David Reiman** accompanied the students to the workshop.

- The accounting program hosted the inaugural **accounting competition** among area high schools. Students who excel in the competition earn a \$500 tuition voucher for enrollment at MCCC. The competition introduces high school students to the college and helps to excite and incentivize them to consider pursuing a post-secondary education. The competition will be held on an annual basis.
- Since January 2015, applicants to the MCCC nursing program, as well as nursing program applicants from other colleges may take the **ATI TEAS test at the Regional Computer Technology Center**. Students have traveled up to four hours to take the TEAS at MCCC. Testing fees have amounted to approximately \$24,000 in revenue to the College. Most colleges do not open TEAS testing to outside students.
- Will Hilliker, associate professor of computer information systems, actively stays on top of the rapidly changing world of **Cyber Security**. Recently he:
 - Coached a CyberPatriot team
 - Attended the Community College Cyber Summit in Washington, D.C.
 - Attended Secure World Detroit
 - Attended Gov. Snyder’s International Cyber Summit
 - Assisted with local high school strategic planning and participated in the Bedford Cyber Center planning processes
- The **Agriculture program** was launched in the fall with seven enrolled students. Five more students entered the program in winter 2018. Under the guidance of Andy McCain, program coordinator, students have been busy with classes in entomology and farm management and are looking forward to covering crop science and water resource management next semester. A new collegiate **Ag Club** was recently formed at MCCC, with two of its members taking part in the finals of the Farm Bureau Collegiate Discussion Meet in Grand Rapids. The students will also be part of an exciting opportunity with an **Urban Farm Grant** that was awarded to MCCC and the addition of **agricultural test plots** next spring.

Lifelong Learning

Lifelong Learning Enrollments *(includes Customized Training)*

Fall 2017	Total Enrollment	Contact Hours	# Of Sections
Main Campus – Lifelong Learning	696	15,243	84
Customized Training (On/Off Campus)	711	5,548	37
Business & Industry Training	76	555	9
Online	23	2,487.6	24
Off Campus	5	54	2
Whitman Center	39	717.6	4
Totals	1,550	24,605.2	160
Total Unduplicated Headcount	1,112		

- For the Fall Semester, the **Office of Lifelong Learning** worked with the **Office of Marketing and Communications** to re-institute an **all-county mailing of the Lifelong Learning schedule**. The department has since seen **overall growth in enrollment and a surge in enrollment in classes that have had low or minimum enrollment or were canceled in recent semesters**. The college is reaching more households with this method and expects to see continued growth in the coming semesters.
- The **Vex Robotics** group on campus has grown significantly since its inception, with enrollment reaching 76 students this semester. These students are in the 3rd grade and up. While membership is free, registrations are processed through the Office of Lifelong Learning. As an extension of the Vex program, the department offered a **Robotics Summer Camp**, bringing in close to 70 students over three sections.
- The **Destination Dance** program continues to grow. Enrollment reached 141 students in the Fall Semester with classes representing a variety of topics for ages 4 and up. The program’s success is owed to its manager, **Kellie Lajiness**, whose caring nature and commitment to excellence draws students from all around Monroe County.
- Non-credit, short-term certificate courses now include an **externship** that enables students to take advantage of hands-on experience with local employers. Not only will the externship enhance learning and skills, it provides students with potential job opportunities. Externships are offered in the pharmacy technician, clinical medical assistant and dental assisting.
- MCCC’s Office of Lifelong Learning has partnered with Huron Valley Ambulance to offer **emergency medical technician training** on campus. Training will be offered year-round. The hope is to eventually expand beyond

Basic EMT to advanced-level paramedic training. The class is unique in that it is a blended online course. Coursework is done online, and practical labs are performed on campus weekly.

Workforce Development

- The Office of Workforce Development had an extremely busy fall with **corporate training registrations rising rapidly**. Since September, there were 725 contracted training registrations with 13 companies, encompassing 41 different training sessions. The office expects an additional 70 training registrations in 7 new training sessions and one additional company. The office also conducted 10 business and industry public training sessions with 76 trainees.
- The office is continuing to complete training with **Roush Industries through the Michigan New Jobs Training Partnership agreement**. The total value of this agreement is more than \$140,000 to train 43 Roush employees.
- The 3rd annual **Safety Day** has been scheduled for March 15. This year's speaker is Jenelle K. Thelen, senior industrial hygienist, MIOSHA Consultation Education and Training. She will be providing an update on OSHA's Proposed Crystalline Silica Rule: General Industry.
- In November, MCCC participated in the **Operation Serve Job Fair** at Siena Heights University in Adrian and the **Collegiate Employ-Net Corporate Conversations** held at Lourdes University in Sylvania, Ohio.
- The Workforce Development Office continues to work closely with the Applied Science and Engineering Technology Division on **apprenticeships for regional businesses**.
- **Barry Kinsey**, director of workforce development, continues to present free Resume and Interviewing workshops for students, alumni and the public. In addition, he presents to credit classes when requested by instructors. This quarter he has reviewed 86 resumes, bringing the yearly total to 281.
- Since September, 271 open job positions were posted on the Central College Network website, bringing the total for the year to 1,047. The website currently has 4,913 job seekers and 1,684 employers registered to utilize **college employment services**. MCCC students and alumni and community members may register to utilize CCN employment services.
- **Kinsey** is representing the office on several college and community committees including MCCC's Innovation and Entrepreneurship Committee, President's Advisory

Group, Manufacturing Bootcamp Grant, MCCC Community Service Club (co-advisor), Workforce Intelligence Network Board, Greater Southeast Michigan Society for Human Resource Management, Bedford Advanced Cybersecurity Development Center, Monroe County Economic Development Streamlining Group and Allies In Monroe AIM – Monroe Public Schools.

Health Sciences Division

- A new **cohort of traditional registered nursing students** started in the Fall 2017 semester. The program continues to monitor attrition closely, and faculty continue to discuss and implement ways to support student success.
- The second cohort of **12 PN to RN students** began coursework in May. Ten students remain active in the program, while the two remaining verbalized their intention to return when able. Of the eight original PN to RN students, six have obtained their license, one is completing this semester, leaving only one that did not return to the program. The program plans on accepting eight more PN to RN students during the next application deadline. The program would like to accept more; however, seats not taken by repeat students and instructional space are limited.
- **Twenty students graduated** from the RN program in December. A pinning ceremony was held on Tuesday, December 12. Many graduates reported receiving complements from their preceptors on their preparation, and many indicated they had already received offers of employment.
- First-time **NCLEX pass rates for the RN program** remain favorable and well above the national average. The most recent annual pass rate (2016) was 97 percent, while the national average was 81 percent.
- RN program faculty and administration continue to **explore opportunities for concurrent enrollment with four-year university partners**. Academic progression remains a hot topic in nursing education. There is a considerable push toward a bachelor of science degree in nursing as the entry credential. Pursuing concurrent enrollment opportunities ensures that MCCC's program remains in a suitable position to persist as a viable option for students in regards to obtaining the RN credential.
- **Nicole Garner**, associate professor of nursing in the RN program, will be on sabbatical for the winter 2018 semester to complete her doctorate in nursing. Her research surrounds academic predictors of success for nursing students, a very timely topic in nursing research and education. In her absence, **Christy Taylor**, adjunct faculty member in the RN program and skills lab, will be covering NURS 103, Fundamentals of Nursing. Adjunct

faculty member Charles Washington will be filling in for her for NURS 110, Mental Health in Nursing.

- Twenty-one new students started the **practical nursing program** in January 2017. Twelve graduated on December 7. Attrition continues to be a concern for the program and, according to data analysis, is attributed to a variety of issues, including academic failure, disinterest in nursing as profession, competing social and work obligations, and competition from surrounding schools' nursing/RN programs. Nursing faculty met during December Work Days to discuss curriculum options, including a ladder program, to increase opportunities for students and address issues related to competition from other nursing schools in the area.
- The PN faculty are working diligently on instructional materials for the **new curriculum planned for the 2018 class**. A new curriculum was approved by the MCCC Curriculum Committee and the Michigan Board of Nursing during 2017. The curriculum is modeled after the PN standards and framework outlined by the National League for Nursing. The faculty have worked very hard on making this timely and relevant curriculum revision a reality.
- **PN program outcomes continue to be favorable**. As of the last reporting, the PN class of 2016 (testing in 2017) has earned a 100 percent first-time pass rate on the NCLEX-PN exam. Students are reporting 100 percent job placement. Graduates and the program continue to enjoy a favorable reputation in the community.
- **Marianne Molner** has completed her third semester as **certified nursing assistant program** coordinator/primary instructor. She has done a tremendous job of navigating the multiple moving parts associated with the state-mandated CNA curriculum. Molner is advocating for MCCC to become a site for CNA state testing and has offered her support to explore a partnership between ProMedica Monroe Regional Hospital and MCCC on CNA training designed specifically to meet the hospital's needs.
- The respiratory therapy program welcomed three new full-time employees in January: Director **Dr. Ijaz Ahmed**, Director of Clinical Education **Angela Miller Prush** and faculty member **Helen Stripling**. **Bonnie Boggs**, former program director, served as temporary program director to assist with the transition and is staying on in a reduced capacity during Winter Semester. Former RT faculty member **Shane Spaulding** will be one of the adjunct faculty members for lab instruction to assist with the transition this winter.

- The respiratory therapy program was recognized by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care for being an outstanding program because 90 percent or more of the graduates earn a registered respiratory therapist credential. The award was given to former director **Nicholas Prush** at the annual scientific meeting of the American Association for Respiratory Care in October.
- Several respiratory therapy students attended the **2017 American Association for Respiratory Care National Congress** in Indianapolis this year. The students reported that the Congress was very informative and a great opportunity to network with others in the field.

Humanities and Social Sciences Division

- **Dr. Derek Roberts**, associate professor of sociology, published an article on ethnic voting patterns among Zambian youth in *Contemporary Social Science*.
- **Dan Shaw**, assistant professor of journalism, reported that three current members of The Agora staff are now free-lancing for the Monroe News. **Vanessa Ray**, **Leah Thomas** and **Miranda Gardner** all have had stories or photos published in the newspaper.
- Numerous students have enrolled already for the **2019 Study Abroad trip to the British Isles**. The program will include classes from both the Humanities and Social Sciences and Business divisions.
- Seven more **Global Studies Degree Designations** were completed with more than 20 others pending. At least a dozen students will complete the designation by the end of winter 2018 semester.
- **Dr. Carrie Nartker**, professor of English, attended informational meetings about accelerated learning models. She is piloting a combined developmental English (ENGL 090) with English Composition I (ENGL 151) course during the Winter 2018 Semester. Students who would otherwise be required to enroll in ENGL 090 prior to enrolling in ENGL 151 are enrolling in both courses concurrently alongside non-developmental students. These students will be required to spend additional time in class and lab with the goal of completing ENGL 151.

Science and Math Division

- **Dr. Melissa Grey**, professor of psychology, participated in the American Psychological Association's Annual Convention in Washington D.C. as the Division 44 first-year member at large in August. She co-facilitated an open meeting for the working group on sexual orientation and gender identity change efforts. She also served as an external member for an Eastern Michigan University student's proposed doctoral dissertation

about consensual non-monogamy. Grey participated in a two-day workshop on ACT by the Michigan Psychological Association and in a symposium on sexual health by Great Lakes Sexual Health Alliance. She facilitated a community education workshop to build support for social justice for the Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice. She co-authored a recently released text book chapter, "LGBT Psychology and Mental Health: Emerging Research and Advances," as well as the paper "Sex Doesn't Always Sell: The Effects of Objectifying Images on the Perceived Competence of a Spokeswoman," which appeared in *Psychology of Popular Media Culture*.

- **Felice Moorman**, assistant professor of early childhood education, hosted a productive National Association for the Education of Young Children site visit this fall semester and helped to conduct a successful search for a full-time early childhood education faculty member.
- **Dr. Mark Naber**, professor of mathematics, reviewed three chapters of a college algebra text for XYZ textbooks.
- **Dr. Kevin Cooper**, dean of science and mathematics, attended an education pathways event hosted by Eastern Michigan University and spoke with interested parties regarding potential articulations.

Administrative Area

Business Office

- The **2016 Annual Financial Report for the College and The Foundation at MCCC** was completed and presented to the Board. The auditors issued an unqualified opinion with no significant deficiencies or material weaknesses cited.
- A new Nelnet platform was successfully implemented for the **college's tuition payment plan**. The updated system adds flexible payment options to allow students to pay for tuition and fees over time each semester. The program is interest free with easy online enrollment.
- To offset the increasing cost of accepting credit and debit cards for payment, the college implemented a **credit card processing fee** beginning on November 1, 2017. A 2 percent convenience fee is now being added to all credit and debit card transactions.
- The Business Office completed annual issuance of W2, 1099 and 1098T forms. This year, the college offered employees the opportunity to receive their **W2 electronically** rather than via a paper copy.

Bookstore

- The Bookstore sponsored another very successful **National Student Day** in October. This was the college's 7th-annual event designed to celebrate our students' accomplishments and promote volunteerism. The event featured local vendors, volunteer groups, student groups, free food and entertainment. This day was an opportunity for the Bookstore to give back while promoting a sense of community on campus.

Campus Facilities and Planning

- In November, the MCCC received the **Leaders in Energy Efficiency Award** from the Energy Services Coalition-Michigan Chapter in recognition of the college's significant energy efficiency and renewable energy investment in its geothermal HVAC system. Director of Campus Facilities and Planning **Jack Burns** and maintenance chiefs **Jeff Harbaugh** and **Tom Kleman** accepted the award on behalf of the college. Given the progressive system installed on MCCC's campus, Jack Burns has been a sought-after speaker at events and conferences to detail how the geothermal system works and the anticipated benefits.
- Work continues on completing the **HVAC project** on campus. Ameresco and its sub-contractors are working to resolve any issues that have been identified as the system has come online and to finalize the project. It is anticipated that all work will be completed in February.
- In December, the Joint Capital Outlay Committee approved the college's planning documents and program statement for the **renovation of the East and West Technology buildings**. The project now moves to the Legislature for construction authorization and inclusion in an appropriations act. The final step in this part of the process is approval by the Governor. Once these two steps are completed, the college will move into the design/development phase with our architects. If all goes as planned, construction should begin in August 2018.
- Work on the **Life Sciences Building** is progressing nicely. Despite cold temperatures, the façade work is moving on schedule with installation of the new corrugated metal panels over existing precast metal panels and final work on the installation of the support steel for the new shade systems taking place. The current stage is the installation of the sun shade system. Work on the addition is progressing on many fronts with installation of the new brick veneer, roof and mechanical systems, and interior framing beginning.

- Winners of the Student Window Design Competition were announced in early December. Working with faculty members **Bradley Hesser** and **Therese O'Halloran**, students submitted designs that will be etched into the windows that will be installed in the Life Sciences Building corridor where the addition and existing building join together.

Office of Marketing and Communications

- The Office of Marketing and Communications is completely **redeveloping the entire MCCC website** with a target completion date of June 30. The new website will be built on a **content management system**, which will allow for editing by those with permissions who do not possess programming knowledge. The site will be **device-responsive**, meaning that the user experience will be optimized based on the device being used for viewing. The primary navigation will be audience-specific so that the many audiences MCCC serves will easily find the information they need with the fewest amount of clicks. In addition, the site will be built to **Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 Level AA standards**. WCAG covers a wide range of recommendations for making Web content more accessible. Following these guidelines will make content accessible to a wider range of people with disabilities, including blindness and low vision, deafness and hearing loss, learning disabilities, cognitive limitations, limited movement, speech disabilities, photosensitivity and combinations of these. Concentrek Group of Toledo is assisting in the website redevelopment.
- The Office of Marketing and Communications is leading the process to review the **college's mission, vision and values ahead of the development of the next strategic plan**. Six sessions were held over the last 10 months to gather input on the mission, vision and values from faculty, support staff/maintenance employees, administrators, students, the Board of Trustees and community members. The Mission, Vision and Values Task Force will review the data from all of the planning sessions this winter. Ultimately, the task force will present any proposed changes to the current Mission/Vision/Values to all three councils. Once any changes are approved through Shared Governance, the **updated Mission Documents will go to the Board of Trustees for approval and will drive a new strategic plan that will be in place until 2021**. (The 2014-17 Strategic Plan was extended by the Board in November to accommodate the completion of the comprehensive review of the mission, vision and values.)
- The Office of Marketing and Communications won three **District 3 Medallion Awards for excellence in community college communications** in October at the joint District 3 and District 5 Conference of the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations in Davenport, Iowa. MCCC's awards included a Gold for the electronic version of "Adapting to Changing Needs: 2015-16 MCCC Annual Report to the Community," a Bronze for The Foundation at MCCC's "Dinner and a Show in the Meyer Invitation" and a Bronze for the "We are MCCC/Viewbook." Graphic designer **Doug Richter** designed and art directed all three winners. **Joe Verkennes**, director of marketing and communications, served as writer and creative director. **Josh Myers**, executive director of The Foundation at MCCC, wrote The Foundation's piece. NCMPR is the only organization of its kind that connects marketing and public relations professionals at community and technical colleges, and its Medallion Awards recognize outstanding achievement in communication, honoring excellence exclusively at two-year colleges. District 3 includes Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and the Canadian province of Ontario.
- In August, **Joe Verkennes**, director of marketing and communications, earned his master's degree in media and communication with specialization in strategic communication from Bowling Green State University. He utilized his master's project, "Creating a Crisis Communication Plan for a Small or Mid-sized Community College with Monroe County Community College as the Model," as an opportunity to combine theoretical knowledge with the reality of the workplace. Verkennes is working with Vice President of Student and Information Services Randy Daniels to incorporate his research into MCCC's current emergency management planning efforts to enhance the college's procedures for crisis response.