

## Highlights from the October 23, 2008 Board Meeting

The topics listed below essentially follow the agenda for the meeting which is available at <http://www.mchenry.edu/administration/102308.asp>

### **President's Report**

October has been an eventful month for the College. In addition to our Promise launch (more information is available at our Promise website at <http://www.mchenry.edu/promise/>), I have a number of exciting updates regarding our students, employees, and programs.

### **Nursing**

You may have seen on the front page of the Northwest Herald this morning that Sarah Caruso, first semester nursing student, delivered a baby outside the front entrance of Centegra Hospital – McHenry early yesterday morning! A couple drove up to the front entrance of the hospital and got out of the car. The father ran into the lobby, saw Sarah, and told her she had to help him. The mother was standing outside the car and Sarah, realizing that the baby was about to be born in that instant, reached down and took the baby, stimulated her to begin breathing and assisted the mother until the code team arrived. We're pleased to report that the mother and baby girl are doing fine.

### **Athletics**

In other exciting student news, our Lady Scots volleyball team completed a second consecutive, undefeated (7–0) Illinois Skyway Collegiate Conference Championship season and the team is currently ranked #20 in the NJCAA national poll. Four Lady Scots are nationally ranked in individual statistics categories.

### **Horticulture**

Over 85 people attended the second annual MCC Floral Design Show on October 21. This year's theme was "Home for the Holidays," focusing on ways to decorate homes for fall and winter events. Our floral design instructors, current students, and alumni worked together to organize this popular and successful event.

### **Multicultural Programs**

Sonia Reising, Luisa Lauf, and students from one of our student organizations, Latinos Unidos, recently visited McHenry West High School to present to 30 bilingual students about what they should be doing in high school to prepare for college, about opportunities available to them at MCC, and about potential career opportunities. While these bilingual presentations were specifically requested by teachers at McHenry West, this has been a great opportunity to outreach to a local high school, and we're exploring offering these workshops at other high schools as well.

### **Dr. Jan Van Gils**

Dr. Jan Van Gils from the Netherlands has been visiting MCC as part of an exchange through the Illinois Consortium for International Studies and Programs. Dr. Van Gils is an instructor at the Zadkine School in Rotterdam. While his school is not called a community college, it is similar in that it prepares students who were not on a university track in high school for future study at a university, and they also work with adult and vocational students. Dr. Van Gils is staying with one of our history instructors, Dave White, and Dave will be visiting his college in Rotterdam for the last 2 weeks of May. Dave reports that Dr. Van Gils has fully explored nearly every aspect of MCC's operations, has sat in on numerous classes, and has spoken with many instructors, administrators, and staff.

### **Professional Development**

MCC held its annual Professional Development Day for employees on Tuesday, October 14. On this day, all classes are cancelled and offices are closed to allow all of our employees to participate in important professional development activities – you have a program of the day's events at your places this evening. The day started off with a lively "State of the College" session for all employees in the conference center that featured presentations to highlight current initiatives and recognize and celebrate the teams that are making them possible. We then moved into department specific trainings and meetings and had a very successful fire drill before lunch. An afternoon session for all employees on "Campus Crisis: Prevention & Preparation" shared important and timely information regarding our emergency response planning efforts, and lead into our annual MCC mini-conference. MCC employees presented a total of 25 different workshops for their colleagues to choose from that ran the gamut from CPR Certification, to Exploring the Universe in our planetarium, to touring our Fire Tower, to learning about emerging educational technologies.

### **Professional Publication**

Kathleen Plinske co-authored an article with Mark Milliron titled "The New Generation of Learning" that was published as the feature article in Planning for Higher Education, a well-respected peer-reviewed journal from the Society of College and University Planners.

### **Presentation**

- **Student Senate's "I Vote" Campaign** – Talia Koronkiewicz introduced members of the Student Senate who presented on their efforts to organize a successful voter registration drive and increase awareness of the importance of voting. As a way of connecting with their peers, all student senators specified a reason they are voting in this election and developed an "I vote" t-shirt which has their specific reason for voting on the back. Student Senators have worn these t-shirts at "Meet & Greet" events and on Tuesdays to promote the importance of voting.

### **Consent Agenda**

All items listed on the Consent Agenda were approved, including:

- **Board Report #08-230 – Resolution for Estimated Tax Levy and Notice of Public Hearing** - This is an annual item providing notification of the required tax levy hearing in November, and the dollar amounts in the tax levy. The dollar amounts in the estimated tax levy are consistent with the College's FY 2009 Budget, which was approved by the Board at the August 28, 2008 Budget Hearing.  
  
Given our current economic circumstances, you might be interested to know that at the time of this writing, MCC has collected 96.2% of the 2007 tax levy, which occurs during the 2008 calendar year. Based upon the activity of recent prior years, it appears that total collections on a percentage basis should remain on target with prior years.
- **Board Report #08-234 – Request to Purchase Exchange Server Upgrade** - This purchase is part of our ongoing effort to upgrade our technology infrastructure, and will allow us to update our Exchange email system to the latest version to improve reliability and performance.

## **Personnel**

- **Appointments** – The Board approved the following appointments:
  - **Rachel Najdzin** has been appointed to the position of Student Development Advisor, effective October 27, 2008. This position was formerly held by Liz Sherwood.
  - **Joseph Wickham** has been appointed to the position of Coordinator of Custodial and Security/Nights, effective November 3, 2008.
  - **Amy Carzoli** has been appointed to the position of Coordinator of Campus Facilities and Conference Center, effective November 1, 2008. This is a new position incorporating the former duties of the Coordinator of Conference Center position formerly held by Molly Walsh, who retired.

## **Information Reports**

This month a number of information reports were included in the Board packet. I encourage you to review them in the online Board packet available at <http://www.mchenry.edu/administration/102308packet.pdf>

The information reports are found near the end of the packet. Highlights include:

- **ERP Update** - The following milestones have been achieved with regard to our ERP conversion project:
  - Completed Business Requirements Review (BRR) sessions for CampusVue and CampusVantage
  - Business Requirements Document drafted for CampusVue
  - Completed Data Conversion and Integration Strategy session
  - First test of data conversion process in progress

The ERP Project Managers are considering adjusting the implementation timeline for CampusVue and CampusPortal, two components most directly related to student services and student records, while maintaining the original July 1 target go-live date for CampusVantage, the component related to Financials and Human Resources. While the original planned go-live of July 1 still makes good sense for CampusVantage as it marks the start of a new fiscal year, July is a peak time for Fall registration, student orientation, and student advising. Accordingly, a go-live date for CampusVue and CampusPortal in September, 2009 would reduce the likelihood of a disruption in services to our students.