Dear Colleagues:

We are at about the right time to have a break, aren't we? We have had a very busy semester! Since my last update to you, we have had a number of important and significant events on campus. Our faculty members continue to excel inside and outside the classroom. Take a look at the Faculty Showcase webpage to enjoy the fabulous accomplishments of our very special faculty. We are proud and grateful for being able to serve with such a talented group!

It is important to point out that at their October meeting the Board of Trustees approved the new mission, vision, values, and ends after a year of conversations and reflections about where the institution will direct its efforts in the near future. Our new mission states that "GRCC is an open access college that prepares individuals to attain their goals and contribute to the community." The vision declares that "As a college of distinction, GRCC inspires students to meet the needs of the community and the world." Our values include: Excellence, Diversity, Responsiveness, Innovation, Accountability, Sustainability, Respect, and Integrity and our new Ends are: Access, Academic Alignment, Student Success, Workforce Development, the GRCC Experience, and Community Outreach. At the Provost's office we are looking forward to helping create the conditions to meet the mission and the vision that we have crafted for ourselves, and we will need your continued help and the collaboration and commitment that you have demonstrated for so long.

Once again, I want to thank you for your commitment to serve our students. You are all about students' success!

Best regards,

Gilda Gely
Provost/Executive Vice President for Academic & Student Affairs

What's in this issue

- Showcase - Join me in congratulating your colleagues for all their accomplishments!
- Deans' Council - Be informed regarding the issues that the group addressed during this month
- Academic Governing Council - What is AGC up to these days?
- Strategic Leadership Team - This is a new, important and inclusive team that had its first meeting. Learn about its purpose and next action items.
- NCA/AQIP Update - North Central Association is our accrediting agency. Learn about the Academic Quality
- Improvement Process Projects that we have submitted as part of our accreditation.
- Student Code of Conduct - Concerned about any of your students? We can help with any student issue.

Showcase

Please, visit our Faculty showcase webpage [http://www.grcc.edu/FacultyShowcase](http://www.grcc.edu/FacultyShowcase) to view the faculty achievements of the following faculty members: Frank Conner, Paul Pfifer, Pam Laureto, Karen Walker, Keith St. Clair, Nick Antonakis, Ron Stein, Filippo Tagliati, Katie Budden, Robin VanRooyen, Jim Keating, Abigail Fitzpatrick, Sue Lockwood, Kristin Duimstra, Chuck Heiney, David Kohan, and Mary Lynn Rouleau-Belden, Bob Hendershot, Gordan Vurusic, Keith St. Clair, Mike Light, Social Science Department, Scott McNabb, Ken Taber, Melissa Boman, Matthew Douglas, Laurie Foster, and Maryann Lesert. Join me in congratulating your fellow faculty members on their achievements. We are proud of all of you!

Deans' Council

October 14

- Kevin O'Halla held a conversation as to how IT could align with the Business and Academic areas of the college.
- John Cowles, Amy Koning, and Mike Vargo updated the Council about Departmental advising: implementing student advising within programs and courses.
- Judy Stark led an update on Programs of Study ([www.grcc.edu/programsofstudy](http://www.grcc.edu/programsofstudy)). Faculty members, Chad Lodenstein and John Wittkowski discussed the need for curriculum alignment writing developmental courses since reading difficulties are barriers to student success in the Automotive and Criminal Justice courses. Laurie Foster shared information regarding curriculum alignment in relation to high schools.
- The following courses were approved to be developed online: BA 133-Business Word Processing 1, CO255--Oracle Database Administration, and AR106--Construction Materials

For more details visit [http://www.grcc.edu/deanscouncil](http://www.grcc.edu/deanscouncil)

Academic Governing Council (AGC)

October 12

- Liz McCormick explained the work of Innovation at GRCC with some background information and some of the events that had happened recently including the Innovation Challenge. Mike Light made a motion to endorse the Innovation work. The motion carried.
- Kevin O'Halla presented the main focus for IT: collaboration, communication, and commitment. He summarized some of the work performed during the summer (i.e. added multi media systems to classrooms for a total of 260 campus-wide) and previewed some of the work for the rest of the year (i.e. PeopleSoft upgrade). He also reviewed the organization of the area and shared the plans for life cycle replacement.
- Sara Dorer presented a student conduct update where she shared data on student conduct issues. She shared the link to the student conduct website ([www.grcc.edu/studentconduct](http://www.grcc.edu/studentconduct)). She continues to offer support to faculty as needed with any student issue.
- Dean Donna Kragt reported to the group that three projects from AQIP have been retired and that five new projects were started. The institution must submit yearly reports for each project. Donna also shared that the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) is becoming more demanding regarding the criteria for accreditation and that the institution is undergoing an audit against the most recent criteria to assess any possible areas needing improvement.
- Associate Dean Mike Vargo presented a summary of the work done in the Achieving the Dream Initiative (AtD). The summary included an introduction of AtD, the methodology used, and the first results from the analysis of the data. A number of teams are working on finding more information about specific achievement gaps so appropriate interventions can be designed.
- Provost Gilda Gely led a brainstorming session for events to celebrate the 100-year anniversary of GRCC. A lot of ideas were brought forward at the time and Gilda asked the members to encourage their departments and areas to present their ideas directly to the Provost's Office.

For more details visit [http://www.grcc.edu/agc](http://www.grcc.edu/agc)

Strategic Leadership Team

[http://www.grcc.edu/programsofstudy](http://www.grcc.edu/programsofstudy)
- Administrative Policy Process - Keep up to date with new policies at the College.
- Winter Course Packet Deadline - Mark your calendars!
- New Place to Eat - A space to promote interactions among colleagues and with your students.
- Upcoming Events - A sample of events that you might enjoy during the coming weeks.

## Approved Courses

CM 170 Energy Storage Technology

## Opportunities for Your Students

The Federal Career Day is scheduled for Wednesday, November 3 from 1pm to 5pm in the ATC. This is not a job fair but an opportunity for students (and all staff) to learn about and ask questions about working for many departments of the federal government. This event is being planned and organized by the U.S. Attorneys Office.

### Federal Career Day (pdf)

## Upcoming events

**One Book, One College**

Dr. P.M. Forni, Author of "Choosing Civility: The Twenty-Five Rules of Considerate Conduct"

**Thursday, October 28, 2010**

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm -- Spectrum Theater

In his keynote speech to GRCC and the Grand Rapids Community, Dr. Forni will discuss his book *Choosing Civility: The Twenty-Five Rules of Considerate Conduct* and his work as cofounder of the Johns Hopkins Civility Project. His goal is to "make a persuasive case for making civility a central concern in our lives, and to present and discuss the twenty-five basic rules of civility for our times." Faculty are invited to bring their classes, or to encourage student attendance and related assignments.

**Friday, October 29, 2010**

8:00 am to 9:15 am -- 205 Student Center

Enjoy a continental breakfast and informal conversation with Dr. Forni and your colleagues around your questions and experiences as inspired by the College's One Book, One College Project.

**Psychology Speaker Series**

Alzheimer's Disease - One of the Things I'd Like to Forget.

Tuesday, November 2, 2010

1:15 - 2:45 pm

Joy Spahn, MPA

Joy Spahn is Regional Director of the Alzheimer's Association - Greater West Michigan Chapter. Ms. Spahn has over 30 years of experience working with older adults with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia. This presentation will provide an overview of Alzheimer's disease and other conditions that cause dementia.

**GRCC International Guitar Series**

2009 GFA Winner, Florian Larousse

**Thursday, November 11, 2010**

7:30 pm

GRCC Recital Hall (200 Music Building)

Admission: $10 General -- $7 for students & seniors

The purpose of the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) is to provide a forum that will enable a wide variety of college constituency groups the opportunity to provide input into the present and future direction of the College. This team will guide the development and on-going implementation of our strategic plan, review benchmarking data, study budget realities, and offer recommendations to the President. The SLT is broadly representative of the college community. Membership is tied to positions held at the college as well as representatives from a wide variety of current campus teams. Other members are appointed by the President. Current membership stands at 71 members including three students.

At its initial meeting on October 15 SLT reviewed the purpose of the team and recommended bylaws. They also studied a number of data sets including West Michigan trends, GRCC budget data, student demographic trend data and student outcome data. The next meeting is scheduled for November 12 where they will begin the process of developing an a three-year Strategic Plan.

### NCA/AQIP Update

Below you will find a link to an updated Briefing Paper regarding GRCC's accreditation through the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association. GRCC currently has five Action Projects in process. They include:

1. College Success Program - Championed by Cindy Martin
2. Improve the Adjunct Experience - Championed by Laurie Chesley
3. Expanding the Distance Learning Program - Championed by Eric Kunnen
5. Pathways to Employment - Championed by Tina Hoxie

### Student Code of Conduct

The Student Conduct office now has a website! Follow this link to check it out [www.grcc.edu/studentconduct](http://www.grcc.edu/studentconduct). On the main page you will find a brief video that introduces our expectations to students. This video was shown to all students who came through Orientation this summer and was utilized by many faculty members at the start of the semester as well. If you have any questions or concerns about student conduct, please contact Sara Dorer at x3924 or sdorer@grcc.edu.

### Administrative Policy Formation

The College recently adopted a revised process for the formation of college administrative policies. As a part of this process, a college committee is responsible for reviewing all new administrative policies as well as revisions to existing administrative policies. The Faculty Association was asked to identify an Association representative to serve as a member of the Policy Committee. David Cope will serve as the Faculty Association representative.

You should be aware of these recent Policy changes:

- Revised Harassment Policy (6.3)
- New Sexual Harassment Policy (6.4)
- Revised Policy on Formation and Issuance of College Administrative Polices (4.1)

College Policies can be found at: [http://www.grcc.edu/policies](http://www.grcc.edu/policies)

### Winter Course Packs Due 11/12/10

Print Solutions would like to remind faculty that November 5 is the due date for winter course packs to be turned in for printing. With the amount of printing that comes with the start-up of each semester, any course packs turned in past November 12 will not be printed until after all the course packs that were turned in on time are done.

### Opportunities to Serve

**The Innovation Challenge**

Oct. 1 began the call for ideas - the challenge entry period will close on Nov. 1. Please consider joining a team - we need more faculty!

**Upward Bound**

Some of Upward Bound (UB) juniors and seniors will be conducting seminars for middle school students on youth leadership, positive decision making, and successful high school
| **Student Honors Recital**  
**Music Student Performances**  
**Thursday, November 11, 2010**  
2:00 pm  
GRCC Music Center Recital Hall (200 Music Building) |
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<td>transition. These seminars are being created from the ground up so we are currently looking to develop a training agenda to get our UB scholars prepared for the challenge. As such, any assistance available from others in the areas of Public Speaking and Group Facilitation techniques would be beneficial.</td>
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| • Regarding job shadowing opportunities, we have students who are interested in getting more insight in the work of attorneys, engineering, social workers, probation officers, and various fields of medicine including MD's, physical therapy, and athletic training.  

Contact Raynard Ross (ross@grcc.edu) if you are able to assist/serve. |
| **Do you know?**  
The first ever National Community College Summit was held on October 5. Beyond the grant announcements, this served to start a broader national dialogue about the vital role Community Colleges serve and how our work needs to be transformed to meet the needs of 21st century learners and whole communities (businesses and social sectors). The Center for Teaching Excellence is in the process of creating a number of formats for students, faculty, and community to engage, in dialogue about these topics. Ideas are welcome! |
| **A New Place to Meet and Eat: Student Center Room 205**  
A cross-college team of students, faculty, and staff have been working over the last year and have successfully implemented a plan to renovate and improve the rooms inside of the Raider Grille (cafeteria - rooms 205/207). The newly renovated space, Student Center Room 205, is now open as a new place to eat lunch on campus - and new venue to host meetings and events.  

Please note that this space will be used as a designated lunch meeting space Mondays - Thursdays from 11 am to 1:30 pm and cannot be reserved for meetings or events during this time frame. The intent of this space is to create a casual meeting space for the GRCC community to connect and share a meal. Please note that two of the days are reserved as a place for faculty and staff to meet. The lunch meeting schedule is as follows: Mondays & Thursdays (11:00 am - 1:30 pm) - Students, Faculty & Staff Lunch/Informal Meeting time  
Tuesdays & Wednesdays (11 am - 1:30 pm) - Faculty & Staff Lunch/Informal Meeting time  
If you are interested in reserving this space outside of these times please contact Aaron Chew at 234-4169 or achew@grcc.edu. |