



2008-2009

Milestones



Submitted by Interim President
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College Yearly Milestones (Significant Achievements) September 2008 – May 2009

Community Outreach

- GRCC's Green Building Program students completed two *Habitat for Humanity* houses this year.
- In collaboration with the School of Workforce Development and the School of Academic Support, three major efforts are under development:
 - A collaborative effort with Grand Rapids Public Schools (GRPS), Spectrum Health, Grand Valley State University, Ferris State University, and Michigan State University to establish an innovative Health Sciences program at Central High School by fall, 2009.
 - A collaborative effort with Kent Intermediate School District (KISD) to establish a Culinary Arts program at KISD and an Early/Middle College at KISD.
 - The \$4.49 million Early Reading First Grant, (Child Development), is a partnership in which College faculty and staff work closely with teachers and professionals in the GRPS and the David D. Hunting YMCA to enhance early childhood literacy.
- The Deans Scholarship was awarded to 12 high-achieving KISD students who will be attending GRCC next fall.

Developmental Education

- The Learning Corners offered general education literacy instruction, English proficiency instruction, and GED & ESL preparation to over 400 central city residents.
- Wealthy Street Learning Corner offered six Academic Foundation Courses and serviced more than 144 students. This number is more than double the number served in 07/08.
- The Wealthy Street Learning Corner graduated 40 students with their GED certification.
- The Tassell MTEC/West Side Learning Corner held its first commencement ceremony – 25 students achieved state proficiency in ESL, and 26 students completed their GED certification.
- School of Arts and Sciences personnel have successfully led efforts to raise ACT cut scores to 18, using sub-scores instead of composite scores to trigger placement testing, to systematically phase in prerequisite enforcement, and to

institute the policy changes necessary to implement mandatory placement testing and placement.

- CLS100 – First Year College Experience offered beginning in fall 2008. 23 Sections offered this academic year.
- The Math Department dramatically reformatted the developmental mathematics offerings to more effectively meet the needs of our students.
- The TRIO Student Support Services Program (SSS) met their program objectives to assist program students overcome barriers to success. Evidence included higher GPA, graduation and retentions of their students.
- Implementation of the Academic Standing Policy change including Student Success Planning workshops and an intentional communication plan.
- Implementation of the new Accuplacer intake ACT cut score changes and process redesign.
- Added, staffed and improved the ESL advising and support services available for both prospective and returning students.
- Partner closely with AFP to develop and implement support programs to increase student success in developmental classes - specific programs and activities are currently being developed and will be implemented over the course of the next one to four years.
- Developed and added academic support options for students addressing faculty identified student need and program need. This included the Structured Learning Assistance model for 6 pilot classes for winter semester, Athletic Academic Support Program, and summer mathematics bridge program sessions added.

Diversity

- General Learner Outcome Committee has reconvened to generate additional ideas for classroom activities around interdisciplinary diversity curriculum.
- Increased community support and collaboration to financially sustain the Diversity Lecture Series, Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, Annual Giants Banquet and Latino Youth Conference for 2008-2009.
- Increased offerings in cultural competence training for GRCC faculty and staff.
- Increased faculty and staff participation in Institutes on Healing Racism by 800%.
- Completed Youth Diversity Trainings for over 4,400 9th grade students throughout the Kent Intermediate School District.
- Regional Diversity Training provided for more than 2,000 students beyond the Kent ISD boundaries (seven different counties).
- Increase faculty liaison positions to include Coordinator of Women's Studies and Coordinator of Diversity Studies in collaboration with Instructional Support and Interdisciplinary Studies.

Entrance and Transfer

- Revision of prospective and new student communications including parent resources and published quarterly newsletter for high school counselors.
- First year implementation of the new student activities & organization funding model. This has generated an increase in program, participation and student learning. Student Life has also developed a recruitment and training initiative

within the KISD high schools to attract and prepare new students to participate in student leadership roles and opportunities.

Flexible Learning

- Byron Center Public Schools – Regional Center Pilot Project servicing 350 students and offering day and evening classes.
- GRCC Mid-Town Campus opened.
- GRCC Lakeshore Campus created through a Partnership with GVSU.
- GRCC’s West-Side Learning Corner opened.
- Explore collaborative opportunities with the Michigan State University College of Medicine. A collaborative effort to conduct microbiology and cardiac laboratories at Calkins Science Center was implemented.
- Implement of co-curricular programs including the USA Today Collegiate Readership Program to allow free newspapers to student community, and provide resources for both faculty and students to use current events in learning and activities.
- Nursing Program offered year-round schedule.
- The School of Workforce Development completed its second successful year of programming with the Grand Rapids Community Foundation Summer Health Care Career Academy for sixty 9th and 10th grade students.
- Opportunities to study abroad were expanded for students.
- Innovation Curriculum completed.
- Established Distance Learning and Instructional Technology Area – Improved online development process; revised Online/Hybrid Certification course; transitioned to Bb8; designed and supported adjunct laptop loan program; supported Camtasia, Articulate, Video-streaming and Facebook pilot projects; worked with LRTS to coordinate efforts in this area; continued Bb and Instructional Technology training – both courses and individual.
- Established Curriculum Design area – improved Program Review Process and piloting the Program/Department Curriculum Development process; provided instructional design support for online courses and for new courses, including specific support on GLOs; each GLO has a team that is doing the groundwork for moving toward course-embedded assessment of GLOs; a team is working on defining a Community Engagement and Sustainability GLO.
- Expanded Adjunct Faculty learning opportunities – increased offerings of Adjunct Institute, held a Saturday adjunct learning session; launched the adjunct laptop loan program the purpose of which is to provide the means for adjuncts to experiment with using various technology tools in their teaching; most of the participants in the Online/Hybrid certification course were adjuncts this year; Melanie Forbes, an adjunct faculty member in Mathematics, is working in the DLIT area supporting her colleagues.
- Strengthened and expanded Academic Service Learning – Hired a new director, Mindy Firlin; got AGC approval of the ASL Course Designation policy and created processes necessary for implementation; improved processes and structure for supporting current ASL community partners and developing new partnerships; expanded and improved ongoing curriculum projects; working on Community Engagement and Sustainability GLO.

- Expanded Sustainability curriculum – Did a major revision of the core course, now SUS201 *Introduction to Sustainability*; working on Community Engagement and Sustainability GLO; AR 218 *Sustainable Residential Design* was approved this winter. The School of Workforce Development is working on new credit and non-credit courses related to Alternative Energy.
- Academic Service Learning, Sustainability and Innovation leaders have been working on the development team for the Institute for Sustainable Futures.
- New faculty members have been leading Honors, Women’s Studies and Diversity Studies – Kate Byerwalter has led the team to redesign the Honors program and recruitment is happening this spring for the Fall semester, Shavaal Fleming has met with most of the SAS programs to work with them on Diversity across the curriculum; Mary Lucas is researching Women’s Studies/Gender Studies programs and we are working on expanding the offerings of the Women’s Studies courses. The Women Studies Program supported the Women In STEM Fields symposium lead by Mary Ann Lessert this March.
- The Irish Studies program has joined the ISIS area and will be bringing in John Hume and several other leaders from Northern Ireland for a Peace and Reconciliation conference this May.
- Pat Ingersoll is the Interim Library Director and the library has continued to move to expanding electronic resources, increasing Information Literacy offerings, providing resource connections in Bb, and creating enhanced resources and processes for students and faculty, including those in off-campus sites.
- The findings from the Cook Hall research are being used for planning and resource development purposes. The findings from the First Year faculty research have been shared with CLC and AGC to inform practice and college decisions.
- With the help of LRTS and the input of the Curriculum Leadership Team, major improvements were made to the online CARP process, increasing its usability and functionality. We will evaluate the results of these improvements and continue to make improvements as needed.
- The faculty and staff in Instructional Support and Interdisciplinary Studies have worked together in a different way this year. In previous years, Instructional Support had worked as a team and Interdisciplinary Studies had been a separate team. The integration of the area has resulted in improved plans and more supportive processes.
- Increased relationships and partnerships with Holland Public Schools and West Ottawa School District.
- Leveraged relationships with Holland Mayor; Holland/Zeeland Community Foundation; Ottawa County MichWorks; Lakeshore Advantage; and Holland Chamber of Commerce.
- Developed partnership to reach returning adults with GVSU Meijer Campus. Began offering evening courses Fall semester.

- Received \$275,000 in commitment dollars as start up funds for the Midtown Center project from area business owners and individuals. Courses initiated Winter semester.
- Increased academic programming/support services: Tutors at Thompson M-TEC, Midtown Center, and GVSU Meijer Campus.

Life Long Learning

- Leadership Development Institute has been designed to develop potential leaders within GRCC.
- GRCC Foundation awarded \$60,000 in professional development grants for faculty and staff.

Workforce Development

- GRCC provided training for approximately 400 employees for Priceline.com.
- Opening of the Green Construction Remodeling program at the Tassell M-TEC and receipt of the LEED Gold Certification of the first remodel project.
- GRCC Construction Trade Programs have been approved by Green Advantage to deliver prep classes for Green Advantage Certification. We are the first in the state of Michigan to receive this certification.
- More than 25 employers attended a job fair hosted by Student Employment Services.
- Determined criteria for Rapid Response Teams.
- Developed new programs for dislocated workers.
- Developed new programs for developmental adults.
- Improved services for non-credit students.
- Upgraded internal systems to support rapid response.
- Re-organization of School of Workforce Development (SWD).
- Defined program revitalization and evaluation.
- Promotion of SWD programming internally and externally
- Developed new financial model for non-credit offerings.
- Upgraded technology systems and resources that apply to non-traditional offerings.
- First M-TEC to partner with a Sustainable Business Forum (the WMSBF) to deliver training, materials, and resources for completion of a remodeling project.
- The Career Advancement Center developed and opened at the Tassell M-TEC.
- Implemented JET Plus- New pilot program for 80 dislocated workers
- GRCC serving the needs of the dislocated worker through CAP, customized training broker grant, and the Michigan Works Service center in the M-TEC.
- GRCC using grant funds (Incumbent) to help healthcare employers train their staff.
- Since July 1, 2008, Kent County MW! has served 84,474 customers at the three sites. Of this, the Tassell M-TEC served 14,660 customers seeking employment. While our customers have increased 55% compared to last quarter, our expenditures to provide the services have not increased.

Employment Services was recognized and thanked multiple times at the 3/25/09 WDB Programs Committee meeting for increased performance while maintaining level expenditures.

- Career development services offered workshops, new partnerships with KISD, involvement in the Rapids Response for dislocated workers, training/in-services including enhancements of their web based resources and outreach activities.
- From 10/1/08 to 12/31/08, 1,687 Trade certified customers registered. Of these, 471 (28%) are participating in training; 302 are participating in remedial education. New companies certified are: Display Pack, TrimQuest, Steelcase, and Wolverine World Wide. Direct Tooling and Grand Rapids Controls have filed petitions.
- Two faculty members, David Dye, Architectural Technology, and Brian Shultz, Construction trades both passed their LEED certification exams in Green Building.
- 10% increase in Job Training enrollment.
- 10% increase in Job Training applications.

Other Milestones

BOT

- Anne E. Mulder, Ph.D. hired as Interim President.
- Successfully completed a two phase presidential search - Dr. Steven C. Ender named President of Grand Rapids Community College.
- Community Conversation held with students in the Raider Grill – 1/22/09
- Gary P. Schenk named as the GRCC Distinguished Alumnus for 2009.

Staff

- Fiona Hert named Dean of the School Workforce Development.
- Margaret Bowles named Director of the Nursing Program.
- Paula Sullivan named Associate Dean for Health, Criminal Justice, and the Secchia Institute for Culinary Education.
- Poet Professor's Mursalata Muhammad & David Cope featured in the Frederick Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park fall exhibition.
- Howard Shanken accepted the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO) Ockerman Award as President of the Michigan Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (MACRAO) for the development of the Michigan Transfer Network, a system that streamlines the exchange of class credit between colleges and universities. There are now over 750,000 course equivalences including entries from over 50 institutions.
- Shelly Urbane directed GRCC's student theatrical production, "Blue/Orange" was nominated for three Grand Awards, including, *Outstanding College Production*.

- Professor Mike Devivo successfully secured GRCC as a charter member of the International Geographical Honors Society. GRCC is the first community college to receive this honor.
- Professor David Cope serves as the program coordinator for the Dyer Ives Poetry Contest.
- The GRCC choir, under the direction of Professor Duane Davis, performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C.
- Biology Professor, Matt Douglas, authored a new book, Mary's Voyage.
- Tony Annesse hired as GRCC's Head Football Coach.
- Paul Phifer, Career Counseling Department, published the 6th Edition of his book, College Majors & Careers.
- Randy Sahajdack was named lead judge for the Michigan High School ProStart Culinary competition for the second year.
- Mansfield Matthewson served as the United Way Loaned Executive for 2008/09.
- Mansfield Matthewson was awarded Michigan Women's Business Council's, "Government Advocate of the Year."
- Eric Williams & Bob Partridge represented GRCC in the establishment of the Michigan New Jobs Training Program.
- Music Professor Duane Davis was named the Grand Rapids Symphony "Celebration of Soul" Legacy Award Winner.
- English Professor Maryann Lesert published her novel, Base Ten.
- Social Science Professor Bob Hendershot published his book, Family Spats: Perception, Illusion, and Sentimentality in the Anglo-American Special Relationship, 1950-1976.
- Biology Professor Paul Kreiger published a second edition of his book, A Visual Analogy Guide to Human Anatomy.
- English Professor Gail Brown published her book, Where are the Footnotes. A guide for the Non-traditional Female College Student.
- Lakeshore Campus Added Administrator (Lilly Anderson); full-time Counselor (Ron Ralya); and IT Tech (Antonio Aguillon).
- Professor Keith St. Clair was selected by the National Office of the World Affairs Councils of America to participate in a Leadership Mission trip to Oman.

OTHER

- Acquisition of Davenport Campus.
- Music Performance Hall partnership with St. Cecilia.
- Green Roof completed at the ATC thanks to donation from the Steelcase Foundation.
- Endowment of the Juan & Mary Olivarez Scholarship.
- Tobacco Free Campus Initiative implemented.
- Six candidates and two incumbents are running for two Board of Trustee seats at the May 5, 2009, biennial election.
- AGC adopted Faculty Code of Ethics.
- Dave Custer was named Chair of the GRCC Foundation Board.
- ATC renamed the Wisner-Bottrall Applied Technology Center.

- Grants Received:
 - US Department of Education: Early Reading First - \$4,494,866
 - MI Department of Adult Education School Section 107: Learning Corner West ESL/GED - \$188,183
 - ASCET Employment Services: Michigan Works! Employment Services: \$1,313,044
 - AT&T Education Technology: TRIO Students - \$25,000
 - State of Michigan Workforce Development Grant: Academic, Work, Social and Financial Readiness support for unemployed workers - \$871, 850
 - State of Michigan Workforce Development Grant: GED/ESL - \$200,000
 - MI Office of Corrections awarded the Wealthy Street Learning Corner a two-year \$12,000 grant.
- GRCC's Older Learner Center celebrated its 10th year anniversary.
- GRCC Student, Nicole Peter, named All-American in Volleyball.
- Establishment and endowment of Duane Davis Scholarship.
- GRCC Foundation hosted its First Annual Creating Connections Breakfast.
- GRCC Music Student, Rob Bliss, conducted his "urban experiment" in Grand Rapids which included, *The Guinness Book of World Record* breaking Zombie Walk, Santa's helpers candy cane give-away, a 1,000 person pillow fight, and a Grand Rapids downtown sidewalk chalk drawing event.
- GRCC's Media Technology Department was awarded three Telly awards.
- GRCC's Construction Trade Programs have been approved by Green Advantage to deliver prep classes for Green Advantage Certification. GRCC is the first in the state of Michigan to receive this certification.
- Tassell M-TEC is the first M-TEC to partner with the local chapter of the United States Green Building Council (USGBC).
- Tassell M-TEC is the first M-TEC to partner with a Sustainable Business Forum, the West Michigan Sustainable Business Forum, to deliver training, materials, and resources for completion of a remodeling project.
- JET Plus pilot program developed by the Career Advancement Center and opened at the Tassell M-TEC.
- Tassell M-TEC has had a 10% increase in Job Training enrollment.
- Tassell M-TEC registered 1,687 trade certified customers. Of this number, 471 are participating in training; 302 are participating in remedial education. New companies certified include: Display Pack, TrimQuest, Steelcase, and Wolverine World Wide.
- Winter 2009 highest student enrollment in GRCC history – 15,174.
- Launch of the new Web Calendar on the GRCC website.
- Emergency Crisis Mangement
 - 32 new emergency call boxes were installed in the Lyon St. & Bostwick parking ramps – replaced the old intercom system.
 - Five outdoor emergency pedestal units were added to provide outdoor public address capabilities.
 - New text message provider selected.

- The Emergency Phone Alert System is now automated through the use of School Messenger.
 - Video Surveillance Pilot is underway.
- Area Mayors were on campus for the first annual Mayors Breakfast Meeting.
- Community breakfast meetings were held in the City of Kentwood and the City of Walker.
- Continue to address deferred maintenance on campus using budget surplus dollars from 07/08.
- Hosted Legislative Breakfast on Campus – 9 legislators in attendance.
- Preparation for the Michigan New Jobs Training Program underway.
- Expanded involvement with Grand Rapids Public Schools – GRCC was the host site for the Kent County Classic Wrestling Tournament.
- LRTS replaced 300 hardware systems in classrooms & labs.
- Implementation of new Help Desk ticketing/tracking system.
- Selection of Web Content Management System for website improvements.
- Developed and Implemented online supplier application for purchasing.
- GRCC was awarded Michigan Minority Business Development Council's Corporate One Award for the fourth consecutive year.
- Discontinued participation in the Federal Family Education Loan Program (due to lack of lender participation) and implemented the Federal Direct Student Loan Program.
- Successfully reviewed and processed over 29,000 applications for financial aid.
- In- car cameras placed in three patrol cars.
- Ford Fieldhouse Natatorium Roof Replacement completed.
- Winchester Alley upgrade/renovations completed.
- Bostwick Parking structure and skywalks inspection and upgrade completed.
- GRCC ranked #4 in the newly released YouTube EDU (a site specifically created for higher education) for both uploaded content and numbers of views.
- GRCC is represented on state and regional committees including Council for Labor and Economic Development, Department of Labor, Energy, and Economic Development, and Michigan Economic Development Corporation subcommittees.
- Visual Arts Department awarded accreditation by National Association of Schools of Art and Design. Only 6 community colleges in the U.S. are accredited by NASAD.
- The GRCC Foundation held its first annual "Creating Connections" event – donors and scholarship recipients are brought together for this celebration.
- Retiree Relations Office created in the GRCC Foundation area.
- Child Development program awarded accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. GRCC is the first community college in Michigan to be accredited by NAEYC.
- Three Chemistry students received STEM awards resulting from our partnership with Hope College and are participating in collaborative research projects with Hope faculty.

- GRCC's Student Appreciation program was highlighted at the Midwest Association of Student Employment Administrators (MASEA) conference where staff presented best practices.
- Human Resources implemented a new Recruitment Solutions applicant tracking system for all GRCC positions. Implementation of this technology significantly improves the selection and hiring processes.
- Interest Based Bargaining principles were implemented to successfully and timely negotiate a new Collective Bargaining Agreement with Campus Police and the Educational Support Personnel.
- The English Department sponsored STEM Celebration for Women's History Month.
- The Social Science Department sponsored the 3rd annual African American History Symposium.
- The Social Science Department sponsored the 1st annual Women's History Symposium.
- The Social Science Department sponsored the Peace and Reconciliation Conference scheduled for May, 2009.
- Improvement in the parking communication processes and options. This includes on-line partnership with the greenride, added off campus parking lot and on-line sign-up for alternative parking options. Planning and approval for the upgrade the Universal System for the Raider card.
- Student orientation programs served record number of new students for fall and winter including the addition of on-line resources, improved parent session, early college on campus session and other semester start up program assist students during their transition to GRCC.
- Redesigned and implemented targeted recruitment strategies for summer sessions increasing enrollment 8.6% with new targets for summer of 09.
- The GRCC Enrollment Center is considered a best practice for other Community Colleges to model evident by the number of request to visit and learn about our center.
- The planning has continued on the design and implementation of a case management advising model for at-risk students with the target date of fall of 09. This included the hiring of the new counseling positions to meet the projected ratio of student to counselor/advisor proposed.
- Successfully increased the summer enrollment for 2008 by 8.6% with a targeted recruitment plan and course offering increases. A scholarship program was also proposed by the Associate Deans as part of the success of the success of this new initiative.
- Administered the national SENSE survey to first time students in September, 2008
- Accommodated IPEDS changes to race/ethnicity to meet new federal requirements
- Administered a new 3-year graduation follow-up survey
- Redoubled efforts to promote the use of college and department dashboards.
- Coordinate college-wide response to Baldrige Feedback report including the identification of 12 improvement projects

- Submitted the AQIP/NCA Systems Portfolio (100 page report) in November, 2008.
- Drafted an updated college-wide Strategic Plan in October, 2008.
- The Academic Governing Council adopted the Faculty Code of Ethics as policy.
- Developed and implemented a new Community Survey to assess perception of GRCC in the community.
- Developed a GRCC Fast Facts informational brochure.
- Lakeshore Campus reached the following enrollment goals: 1100 students and over 9000 contact hours.
- Increased classes sections and student enrollment in all of the off-campus centers.
- Designed a matrix in identifying and categorizing the various levels of campus sites, Level I, (pre college, GED, ESL, AFP), Level II (Regional Centers), and Level III (Campus).
- GRCC Foundation secured a planned gift from Rich and Julie Andre to create an Emergency Need (grant) Fund for women returning to college or other students with financial need.
- GRCC Foundation has successfully completed the programming necessary for online giving and will begin implementing the system this summer.
- GRCC's *Collegiate* won first place for "General Excellence for Print and Website" from the Michigan Community College Press Association.
- GRCC's *Collegiate* was awarded the best in show David L. Adams Apple Award at the College Media Advisors convention in New York City.
- GRCC's *Collegiate* was the winner of the 2008 Michigan Press Association "General Excellence for a Two-Year College" and was selected as a finalist in the Associated Collegiate Press Online Pacemaker category.
- The following GRCC students secured awards for their individual journalistic accomplishments:
 - Lonnie Allen, *Collegiate* Editor, won First Place for Staff Editorial and Critical Review and placed Second in the "Journalist of the Year" category among Michigan Community College Newspapers.
 - Eric Gray and Nicole Hoffman won First Place for their Photo Essay.
 - Sam King won First Place for his Graphic Illustration.
 - Christina Kim, Andy Dicks, and Matt Bultman won Honorable Mention in Sports Stories and Coverage.
 - Ryan Tyrell won Honorable Mention in Photos and Photo illustration.