



fall 2001

communityconnection

news from our community's college



Anniversary Issue
Not just one, but four!

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Hello Friends of GRCC,

There is nothing more exciting to all of us in education than the first day of a new academic year. The corridors fill with students, our Bostwick Commons comes alive with music and voices, the excitement of a new beginning is in the crisp Fall air.

However, this semester was marred by the news of terrorist attacks on our country. If we can say there is any good news out of all of this tragedy and uncertainty, it is that our campus has remained a solid community and that employees and students have acted swiftly to send money, supplies and prayers to the areas of need. **I am proud to be a part of this college community and I hope you are also.**

While, world news stays on our minds continuously these days, I would still like to pass along good news from our college with this issue of Community Connection which I hope will provide you with a few minutes of pleasant diversion.

Much preparation goes into the start of any new year and last summer was even busier than most. We undertook a **\$6 million renovation** to our flagship Main Building. The venerable building still has its historic character, but now it has a much-improved technological infrastructure. The **Art** students now have a small gallery where their works can constantly be on display, our **Fashion and Interiors** program has bright surroundings and our enormously popular **Photography** Department has state-of-the-art

equipment and facilities. Another exciting renovation: **A new recording studio in our historic Music Building.** (Watch for an article on that in our next issue of Community Connection.)

This fall also marks the **10th anniversary** of GRCC becoming a community college. Our lead story in this issue explains something you may already think you know about us: **What is a Community College?**

This year also marks **the 100th year** since the first community college in the U.S. was founded. It is also the **87th year** of our rich history as a vibrant institution of higher learning and the **25th year** that students, employees and the community-at-large have been able to enjoy the Ford Fieldhouse facilities.

While our excitement and ability to celebrate has been tempered by the shock and sorrow we all feel following the terrorist attacks on our country, we are still proud of our progress at GRCC and, moreso, of our people.

In peace,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Juan R. Olivarez". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a dark purple color that matches the page's header and image border.

Juan Olivarez, Ph.D.
President, GRCC

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Community Connection: News From Our Community's College
Volume ii, Number 2, Fall 2001

*Community Connection is a project of the Raider Communication Team,
which includes the GRCC Printing & Graphic Services and Public Relations departments.*

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The above measures, in conjunction with other related state laws and the College's policies and procedures, will assure all individuals opportunity for consideration or redress of complaints of illegal discrimination. Affirmative action, equal employment opportunity, and American Disabilities Act information may be obtained from the Director of Labor Relations, AA/EEO, 404B CPP, 143 Bostwick Avenue NE., Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503-3295. Telephone 616 234-GRCC.

What is a Community College?



Is it confusing to hear us say that this is our 10th Anniversary as a Community College and that this is our 87th year of existence? Both facts are very true — Here's the short story.

The concept of a junior college, where students could prepare for transfer to a degree-granting 4-year college, was being tried in some states as early as the mid-1800s. When University of Chicago President William Raney Harper, often called the father of the community college, first opened Joliet Junior College one hundred years ago this fall, it was the first 2-year college to actually grant associate degrees for successful completion of certain programs.

There it was: The first community college. A separate institution capable of helping people prepare for 4-year degrees, but also able to provide education to those who had other life goals requiring other levels of completion.

Because we provide preparation for both higher academic pursuits as well as workforce development skills it often appears that those of us who provide college-level *community* education are not clearly focused, or that we try to be “jack of all trades, master of none.”

Not true.

As Grand Rapids Community College, we occupy a clearly defined, brilliant band on the spectrum of higher education opportunities. We are neither half of a “real” university, nor grades 13 and 14 of high school. We are a two-year institution that can grant certificates, associate degrees and solid academic credits that transfer easily to 21 other Michigan colleges and universities and beyond.



We provide education that meets the needs of people within this community at a number of levels:

- College-level training for those in–or pursuing work in–local industry
- Courses or workshops to upgrade the credentials of individuals or teams from area businesses and schools

GRCC Responds and Reflects

- College-level training in vocational skills
- Associate degrees for students seeking careers in technical and training fields and, of course, the excellent 1st- and 2nd-year college academic courses that we have offered since our founding in 1914

Our door is open to all people who seek higher education. Harper gave this explanation of the purpose behind a community college over a century ago, but his remarks are still the cornerstone of GRCC's purpose today:

"No person with the desire and motivation to achieve an education should ever find an economic barrier to higher education."

Harper called the Community College movement the "great experiment in democracy and freedom." Our own President, Juan Olivarez, puts it very simply: "GRCC is this community's college."



President Olivarez and International Student Organization President Jonathan Howarth lead a parade of students and employees around campus as a demonstration of GRCC campus unity following the terrorist attacks.



The people of GRCC responded quickly in many ways to the September 11 tragedies, raising money, donating blood and, in this case, simply coming together for prayer and reflection on Bostwick Commons.

Who Ya Gonna Call?

GRCC Prepares Workers to Meet Area's Industrial and Emergency Needs

Occasionally the media will carry pictures of workers in bright inflatable suits moving in on a toxic waste spill or other environmental accident. Depending on whom you talk to, the suits are either described as "space-age" or they are likened to the Pillsbury Doughboy. Despite on-looker's fascination with the appearance of the gear, the workers inside those suits are well trained and serious-minded with an important job to do.

GRCC has been offering a Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response course — known as "Hazwoper" — for over six months. Attendees may be firefighters or other emergency personnel, industrial managers, metal platers, chemical engineers or waste treatment plant workers who need the latest training in how to deal with sudden threats to health, safety—even life. Many of these people are trained as chemists or geologists, but have never had the "hands-on" training of suiting up, entering and leaving a "hot" area without spreading contaminants or actually containing dangerous materials. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requires 40 hours of Hazwoper training, followed by 24 hours of training with an employer for certification.

Just suiting up takes careful preparation. And patience, lots of patience! The pictures tell the story.

If you'd like more information on the class or how to enroll, contact Linda Bramble in GRCC's Physical Sciences Department at (616) 234-3481.



Linda Bramble, Chemistry Instructor, helps student Jill Gale into her Level B suit during the certification test that is the culmination of the 40-hour Hazwoper course. The process can take 15-30 minutes. Done correctly, the suit protects the wearer from breathing or touching hazardous materials while cleanup work is performed.

The Not-So-Typical Student is Typical in Job Training Programs



Part of the reason the suit is so large is that the wearer has a self-contained air canister on their back.



Jill Gale successfully performed the tasks her test required after suiting up, but admitted that the size and warmth of the lightweight-but-cumbersome suit takes getting used to. Gale owns an environmental consulting, compliance and investigations business, AEG Environmental, Inc., with her husband.

The word “college” still brings to many minds a picture of students in a big lecture hall furiously taking notes. That is less and less the case in this new millennium – especially at GRCC.

Take one glance into GRCC’s AutoCAD class at the Applied Technology Center (ATC) and you’ll quickly see how the face of college is changing. The heads bowed over the computer screens in the cool, quiet lab are as likely to have grey-hair and bi-focals as cornrows and kinte cloth or kerchiefs and puka beads. And the students aren’t taking notes; they’re learning to design on-screen as the fast-paced world of mechanical engineering, architectural drawing and so many other designer positions demand of workers today.

In another lab at the ATC, a middle-aged African American woman fires up a welder’s torch; in another, a retired auto worker, aged 58, learns how to use new CNC equipment for his “second career.”

While there is no doubt that the study of liberal arts adds depth and breadth to an individual’s picture of the world, there are many students who need college-level, hands-on skills – and quickly. GRCC’s Job Training Programs help these learners achieve their life goals just as effectively as the College helps students on a 4-year degree path.

In Job Training, courses run from 2- to 36-weeks. The learning experience is tailored to coordinate the student’s needs with local employers’ needs. And, in keeping with GRCC’s strategic

focus on “flexibility” and “student need,” classes can be started any week of the year rather than just by semester.

Training areas include Automotive Mechanic Technology, Design Technology (CAD), Manufacturing Principles, Machine Tool/CNC Technology, Office Computer Technology, Welding Technology and Wood Manufacturing Technology. Open Houses are held often throughout the year. For dates and times, call 234-3800.

On the next two pages are the stories of two typical “not-so-typical” students. →

Russian Architect just needs Computer Skills to put her Talents to Work



GRCC student, Valentina Sadovskaya.

Valentina Sadovskaya is an architect. In Workuta — above the Arctic Circle in her homeland of Russia – she was the Director of City Construction and oversaw the construction of schools, hospitals and apartment buildings.

Talking quietly with a new acquaintance in her computer design course in one of the busy computer labs at GRCC's Applied Technology Center (ATC), Valentina talks knowledgeably in careful English about the difficulties an architect encounters working above the Arctic Circle. "The land is frozen," she says simply, smiling at the obviousness of the statement. "Well, it means we use special tools – and knowledge for laying the foundations. Of course, that is expensive."

It is clear that she knows more than she is saying. She says she reads English easily and apologizes for "not being very good" at speaking it. (In fact, she speaks English far better than most locals speak any Russian.)

Asked if language is a barrier to her working in the U.S., she says yes, but she can catch on fast. "Not difficult," she says. "It is easiest for me to understand other architects and technical terms, moreso than just conversation, because I already understand the concepts of construction and design."

Born in Germany and living in Hungary and Belarus before Russia, she had 6 years of education and 10 years of on-the-job training in mechanical engineering before she settled into her career. Here in the U.S., she says, she knows the math and the drawing skills needed on

the job. She says modestly that it helps that she is mechanical and artistic by nature. "But I need the computers. In Russia, we don't have many."

Marriage to a man who lives in Grand Rapids brought her here two years ago. Now 47, she wants to be an architect again. Her English teacher at Michigan Works referred her to GRCC's Job Training program to help her obtain the skills that would allow her to unleash her talents in this country.

Valentina likes the program at the state-of-the-art ATC. "It's excellent. I could stay here all day!" she says enthusiastically. "The teaching is good. Everyone tries to help," she says, looking around the room. "I hope I'll work with computers and design as soon as I am done here."



Job Training Program Instructor Mike Casey shows Valentina the keys to computer mastery in one of the Applied Technology Center's computer labs.

Young GRCC Apprentice: “High school alone wasn’t doing it for me.”



Landon on the job at Steelcase.

The purpose of some of his high school classes eluded Landon Mull. A smart student, he often found himself bored and stuck in the cool gaze of an exasperated teacher.

Landon’s story has a happy ending, however. He scored a coveted apprenticeship in the Steelcase Model Shop over the summer and is now returning to college for Fall semester. But, he is quick to tell you, the story could have ended differently.

Since he was very young, Landon had loved building and creating. Watching his own home being built and helping his dad with construction as much as possible whetted his appetite.

“All I ever really wanted to do was design things and build them,” says Landon. “I just wanted to *see* my work,” he explains. “I was thinking maybe high school wasn’t my thing.”

Fortunately, his mom, a high school career planner for Cedar Springs High School, had visited our Community College Occupational Training (CCOT) program. Usually, this type of job training program would attract students who want to advance in a job or find a new career after retirement or downsizing. But Landon needed it now. She encouraged her son to go and talk with Art Armijo, GRCC’s Career Pathways Director. Armijo and George Waite, Director of Community College’s Occupational Training (CCOT) programs formulated a plan just to suit Landon.

“I was a guinea pig,” says Landon.

He was dual-enrolled in high school and at GRCC, where he was in the Design Technology program daily from 7 – 11 AM and back at high school in the afternoon.

“High school was not too challenging,” he says, “but this was. And I wasn’t spoon-fed,” he adds, noting that he had to do a 36-week program instead of the usual 18-week certification program because he could only attend half days and still stay in high school. “But I liked it because I wasn’t just taking classes, I was getting certified,” he says with obvious satisfaction. Landon credits much of his success to the watchful guidance of his instructor Mike Casey. “He was right there for me,” says Landon.

On May 22, Landon graduated from high school. The following Monday, he reported to Steelcase for full-time work – and a trip to NeoCon, the world-class trade show of office furniture. On the job, Landon got to do some CAD and model building for the office furniture leader.

Now Landon says he doesn’t mind having been a guinea pig. “Now they can see what a success the idea was,” he says, adding matter-of-factly, “I’m satisfied with myself.”

Landon is off to Ferris State University this Fall with his sights set on their degree in Construction Management. He has an option to return to Steelcase next summer. That all suits him fine.

“If I hadn’t spent that one hour with Art Armijo...” he says and shrugs.

Diversity Lecture Series Underway Thought-provoking speakers scheduled

Admission is FREE.
All Lectures begin at 7:00 p.m.
Student Community Center,
Multi-Purpose Room.
Book signing will follow each lecture.
For tickets or information,
call (616) 234-4160.

DIVERSITY *Lecture Series* 2001 — 2002 VII

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2002



Rebecca Walker
*"Bi-Racial Children
and Families"*

AUTHOR— EDITOR— ACTIVIST

What would it be like to grow up bi-racial, torn between two wildly different backgrounds? Rebecca Walker was born in 1969 in Jackson, Mississippi, to an interracial "movement" couple who married in defiance of Mississippi's anti-miscegenation laws. She is the author of *"Black White and Jewish,"* her memoir, the story of a child's unique struggle for identity and home when nothing in her world tells her who she is or where she belongs.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2002



Dr. Kay Redfield Jamison
*"An Unquiet Mind: Personal &
Professional Reflections on
Mental Illness"*

AUTHOR— PROFESSOR— ADVOCATE

Kay Redfield Jamison is an international authority and researcher on mental illness, she has a unique insight into the world of depression, having been there herself. She is the author of *"Touched with Fire: Manic-Depressive Illness and the Artistic Temperament"* and her most recent book is *"Night Falls Fast: Understanding Suicide."* She is also co-author of five books and 100 scientific publications about mood disorders, suicide, psychotherapy and lithium.

Phil Phifer: GRCC "Hidden Jewel"

Helping
Students
and Business
Workers
find their
Education
Path

In the words of Student and Alumni Services Dean Eli Lumpkins, "GRCC has a hidden jewel in our midst." He's talking about popular workshop presenter and author Paul Phifer, Director of GRCC's Career Resource & Assessment Center. Last year over 4000 people sought information and counseling from the Center.

Phifer says he would not use the term "jewel" to describe himself, but he concedes that the rest of the "stuff" about being somewhat proficient in Career Planning a nationally published author and a sought-after speaker at the local, state and national level – "well, yes, that's all true."

Phifer has written:

- "Career Planning Q's and A's: A Handbook for Students, Parents and Professionals" (Garrett Park Press, 1990);
- "College Majors & Careers: A Resource Guide For Effective Life Planning" (Ferguson Publishing Co.) now entering its 5th edition (and also available in Braille);

- and he co-authored "Great Careers in Two Years: The Associate Degree Option" (Ferguson Publishing Co.) now entering its 2nd edition.

But Phifer isn't an author by trade; he's a National Certified Counselor, a Nationally Certified Career Counselor and a Licensed Professional Counselor who spends most of his days conducting workshops and providing career advice and counseling to individuals. And the advice he gives is often life-changing.

Seminar topics that are presented repeatedly throughout the school year include:

- How To Select a College Major
- College Majors and Career Workshop
- Career Planning Questions and Answers

He even offers a presentation on "How To Present a Career Direction Workshop" to others in his field, as well as a workshop on "How To Develop A Career Resource Center" like the one he

has helped build in his 18 years at Community College.

Audiences for these seminar are made up of new GRCC students, downsized middle and upper managers, homemakers reentering the workforce and people who just want to try a new career that uses their personal and professional talents better.

Phifer himself has had a direction shift in his own career, but he has never strayed from working in education. Formally a history and sociology teacher at Union High School, he was also a College Upward Bound Counselor and a Supervisor of Career Planning before coming to GRCC. He holds a Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling from Western Michigan University.

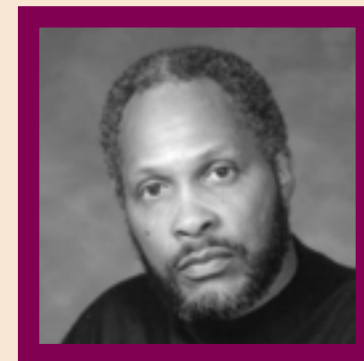
Phifer advocates finding out a little bit about yourself when trying to make a career choice. He says it is critical that people understand first how they establish direction in their lives – rather than basing important decisions on how many jobs a field has available or how much income you will receive. He

encourages people to find a path that corresponds with who they are and what they are living for. He can even help individuals answer those questions.

Obviously, Phifer practices what he preaches. His schedule is jam-packed with appointments, seminars, his writing, church career development activities, "Big Brother" activities and most importantly, his own family of six.

"I loved working at the high school level," says Phifer. "I didn't want to leave. Now I really enjoy it here at GRCC. I have always liked what I do."

For a schedule of seminars and workshops by Phifer, call GRCC's Career Planning & Assessment Center 234-3890. The center also provides career resources, including books, tapes, brochures and a virtual library, career assessment surveys and computerized career exploration. A variety of testing is performed there, also, including CLEP and ACCUPLACER.



Paul Phifer

Inside GRCC

“Inside GRCC,” a program produced monthly to showcase the people and events of GRCC, can be seen on “The College Channel” (AT&T Cable Channel 28). There just isn’t a more enjoyable way to catch up on news from on and around our campus than catching the latest lineup from your easy chair at home. Tune in Wednesdays at 7:00 PM, Thursdays at 9:00 AM or Saturdays at 5:00 PM.

October “Inside GRCC:”

- GRCC Student response to terrorist attacks
- GRCC's commitment to United Way
- International business experts from Japan visit management class
- Masters-level architect from Russia gets her job skills updated here
- GRCC Occupational Therapy students partner with GVSU students in field work
- Profile of Excellence in Education winner Sandy Andrews
- Profile of successful graduate, dentist Mark Posthumos
- GRCC's Job Placement office
- GRCC's Learn-to-Swim program
- Young Child seminars and Diversity Lecture series

Distance Learning lets Students Choose Where and When they 'Go To Class'

GRCC has long been known for giving top consideration to students’ varying styles and levels of learning and their need for flexible scheduling. Not everyone can sit in a classroom at a certain time every day or week. The College’s Distance Learning Program is a perfect example of how the college meets its mission of providing learning opportunities that help the busy people in this community achieve their personal and career goals.

“Distance Learning” is one of those terms that forward-thinking educators toss about easily and enthusiastically, but to the average taxpayer it may only produce a foggy mental picture of “satellite dishes – or something.”

It’s actually pretty simple: Distance Learning makes use of technology to make learning more available – and more attractive – to today’s busy learner.

At GRCC Distance Learning can come in one of four packages:

- *Telecourses*, one of the oldest of the distance learning methods, come in two forms. The videos can be viewed when broadcast on a cable channel or checked out from the College for home use. The student then watches the pre-produced programming on their home VCR at their own pace. In both cases the student comes to GRCC only for testing and optional instructor meetings.
- *Interactive TV (ITV)* makes use of closed circuit TV to allow people in two or more classrooms virtually anywhere to “attend” the same class at the same time through two-way video and audio hook-ups. Many high schools can offer college courses to advanced placement students this way without using valuable study time to transport students to the actual classroom. The camera follows an instructor through a class and can also be focused on students in the class when questions are asked.

- *Live Cable* classes are similar to ITV classes, except they are broadcast on a cable channel (GRCC's are on AT&T Cable Channel 28). By watching cable TV, a student hooks up to the classroom by making a phone call and can then participate in any discussion or ask questions. The video in this case is one-way. While anyone tuning in can see the broadcast, only a student who has registered at GRCC for the course has the ability to call into the class and have access to feedback from the instructor.

- *Online courses* allow students to view materials, take tests, work in study groups and ask instructors questions – all from their keyboards at work or home, day or night, good-hair or bad-hair day!

Patti Trepkowski, Dean of Instructional Design and Information Technology, says all methods of learning, new or old, can be categorized as “synchronistic,” that is, people learning together at one time, but not in one space, or “asynchronistic,” people learning the same information, but not together in time or space.

But how can a student learn without being in class with the instructor?

Trepkowski acknowledges that criticism about learning at home or off-site exists. But, she says, the critics are not aware that different people can learn different ways.

“Take the student that is quiet or under-confident,” she says. “In a typical classroom, that student may let his own questions go unanswered because he doesn’t want to ask a “dumb” question in front of others or she may not want to be seen as dragging out class time by her busy classmates. That student will probably benefit from a distance learning option, says Trepkowski. “Because they can call in questions or make their comments online.”

Garret Brand, Online Coordinator and Instructor at GRCC, says that there are two other often-overlooked advantages to taking online courses. “First, there can be a lot of interaction between students, as well as between students and faculty. Online students in one class can discuss topics with students from another class. Also, students are not confined to faculty office hours, so they can contact their instructor whenever it’s convenient for them.

“Second, when students are working online, they are learning about technology no matter what the class may be,” adds Brand. “Understanding how to use technology to collaborate is an important asset in the eyes of potential employers. Imagine learning how to use a computer, e-mail and the Internet, while taking a class on Human Growth and Development,” he adds. “That’s true multi-tasking!” Trepkowski also points out that a class roster might have students from Jenison, Allegan, Grand Rapids and Baldwin. If they can all study online according to their own schedules and then conduct a chat-style study group online, “it may enable them to study and interact more than if they all had to meet at school or a coffee shop. And it saves gas money.”

According to Eric Kunnen, Instructional Designer, it’s all good. “Distance learning allows students flexible access to course materials and the ability to learn at their own pace, in their own learning style. It also increases collaboration outside of the “traditional classroom,” provides more immediate feedback, provides access to relevant and current information, and maybe most importantly, builds a connected virtual learning community.”

“Distance learning really isn’t for everyone,” allows Trepkowski. “It requires self-discipline and independent work. Some can and some can’t learn this way. That’s why we offer it as an option.”

She sums it up this way: “Good teaching is good teaching. In any medium. The more options you have to get that teaching to students, the better.”



A distance learning experience comes very easily to most students and provides much-needed scheduling flexibility.

Alumni Trips Planned

Grand Rapids Community College Alumni Association members invite you to join them on one or more of their travel programs during 2001-2002. Each program is open to the public. Register early to guarantee yourself a space on the trip of your choice.

To receive brochures about trips outlined or to register for one or more of the travel programs, please call: Chris Arnold, Alumni and Diversity Coordinator, (616) 234-3925.

TORONTO WEEKEND GETAWAY

November 1-4, 2001
4 days/3 nights
\$295 per person, dbl. occ., plus \$39 taxes/fees
Spend three nights at the luxurious Royal York Hotel located in the heart of Toronto with easy access to superb restaurants, art galleries, museums, international shopping boutiques and a wide variety of entertainment.
Approximate Departure and Return Times (Round Trip Deluxe

Coach Service from Grand Rapids to Toronto):

Nov. 1: Grand Rapids – Toronto
7:00 AM–3:00 PM

Nov. 4: Toronto – Grand Rapids
12:30–8:30 PM

CHICAGO FOR THE HOLIDAYS

November 17, 2001
8:00 AM-11:00 PM

\$40 per person

Participants can disembark one block from the Water Tower shopping complex or choose to be dropped off at the museum area along Lake Shore Drive. Verhey motor coaches depart at 8:00 AM from GRCC's downtown campus and return around 11:00 PM that evening. Fee includes coffee and rolls on the way to Chicago. Door prizes! Make your reservations no later than Monday, November 6, 2001.

CHICAGO OVERNIGHT HOLIDAY SHOPPING TOUR

December 1-2, 2001
2 days/1 night

\$129 per person, dbl. occ.

Stay at the Schaumburg La Quinta

Inn next to Woodfield Mall with nearly 300 stores and restaurants and across the street from the "Streets of Woodfield" shopping area. Trolley available. Evening theatre or show options available. Sunday morning depart for a day of shopping or sight seeing in downtown Chicago.

Approximate Departure and Return Times:

Saturday, Dec. 1: Depart Grand Rapids 7:00 AM

Sunday, Dec. 2: Depart downtown Chicago 5:00 PM

BIRCH RUN OUTLET MALL

March 23, 2002

8:00 AM-8:00 PM

\$30 per person

Includes discount coupons for mall stores and free door prizes on the way.

LAS VEGAS

March 3-7, 2002

Itinerary TBA

GRCC Alums: Phone Home (or Log On)!

We invite you to join the GRCC/JC Alumni Association. Membership will reconnect you with our vital and exciting college and keep you updated on changes and new programs here at GRCC. Many of our alumni have returned to GRJC/GRCC to serve on various advisory boards and to assist with community activities.

You choose just the level of involvement you'd enjoy:

- Want to be involved in community service? There are many committees and advisory boards here at the college that could benefit from your wisdom and experience.
- Enjoy planning events? Come help us plan special occasions designed for you and your friends.
- Just want to kick back and travel – a little or a lot? We offer special travel packages that you can enjoy.
- Your family and friends are welcome too!

As an alumni member, you are entitled to many benefits such as Alumni Discount Card, Community Connections Newsletter, travel, educational opportunities and college events. *Remember, your membership is free!*

The Mission of the Grand Rapids Community College Alumni Association is to promote and maintain a lifelong relationship among its alumni, the College and community.

To become a member of the Grand Rapids Community College Alumni Association and receive a membership card entitling you to all benefits and privileges, please do one of the following: Apply on-line at the GRCC Alumni webpage at www.grcc.cc.mi.us or call Chris Arnold at the Alumni office at (616) 234-3925.

Over 3/4 of a Million Dollars Available in Scholarships at GRCC

The Grand Rapids Community College Foundation made scholarship awards totaling \$756,223 that will assist 911 students with tuition for Fall and Winter semesters.

GRCC Foundation:

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Juan R. Olivarez, Ph.D.
Vice President
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Board of Trustees Get Down to Business with Elections and Honors at Biennial Meeting



Ellen M. James takes up the gavel after Board of Trustees members unanimously elected her chairperson at the July 9 biennial board meeting. James has been a board member for 10 years.



During the meeting Terri A. Handlin, Janice L. Maggini and Ellen M. James received ruby 10-year service pins from President Olivarez.



New Trustee Olivia Margo Anderson (left) and returning Trustee Terri A. Handlin (center) receive congratulations from Judge Sara J. Smolenski after being sworn in for their 6-year terms that will expire June 30, 2007.

**GRCC
Board of Trustees:**

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Janice L. Maggini
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Trustees:

Olivia Margo Anderson

Terri A. Handlin

Michael A. Stearns

Juan R. Olivarez, Ph.D.
President of the College



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