TSA SELECTS DMACC TO PROVIDE EMPLOYEE TRAINING

Jay Brainard, (from left to right) Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Federal Security Director; Dr. Kim Linduska, DMACC Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs; and DMACC Electronic Crime Institute Director Bryan Burkhardt answer questions at a news conference to announce the partnership between the TSA, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and DMACC to start a specialized training program at DMACC for TSA officers.

DMACC Criminal Justice Program Chair Robert “Buzz” Hoffman makes a point during the announcement held at the Des Moines International Airport Jan. 6. Hoffman and DMACC Professor Mike Wyatt, a retired FBI agent, will teach the program. Classes began Jan. 11 at the DMACC Success Center in Des Moines.

The TSA and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security selected DMACC to provide federally-approved training to Transportation Security Officers (TSOs) working security at the Des Moines International Airport and in other Central Iowa locations.

DMACC also announced the start of a new Homeland Security emphasis in its Criminal Justice Program, which will start this fall. DMACC will offer three TSA-certified courses that focus on best practices and the latest techniques to deter terrorists.

These courses include:

- Introduction to Homeland Security, Intelligence Analysis
- Security Management
- Transportation and Border Security

The Criminal Justice program is DMACC’s third largest, with more than 900 students.
WIND TURBINE GOES UP AT ANKENY

A crane lifts the blades of a wind turbine onto its base during installation on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. The 100-kilowatt, 11-story wind turbine was installed by Energy Maintenance Service (EMS). The turbine will be used as a training tool by DMACC’s Wind Energy and Turbine Technician program and generate up to one-third of the energy consumed during off-peak hours on the Ankeny Campus.

DMACC President Rob Denson announces details of the College’s wind turbine and its importance in the Wind Energy and Turbine Technician program during a news conference at the Ankeny Campus.

DMACC ANKENY CAMPUS WINTER CONCERT

DMACC Ankeny Campus student Dihana Wilson of Des Moines sings Collide at the recent DMACC Ankeny Campus Winter Choral Concert. In addition to the potpourri section, the DMACC Chamber Ensemble, Ambassadors and Concert Choir performed under the direction of DMACC Instructor Aaron Powell.
DMACC Urban Campus student Carl Morton of Norwalk wraps a gift to be donated to the Children and Families of Iowa (CFI) organization for a family in need. Morton is chair of DMACC’s Urban Campus Accounting Professionalism class, which hosted several fundraising activities throughout the semester. Through various bake sales, selling of HyVee coupon booklets, a raffle of a 42-inch plasma flat screen HDTV, and other fundraisers, the students in DMACC Professor Brad Smith’s Accounting Professionalism class raised more than $7,000 in donations and prizes. The students donated $2,000 to the CFI organization and purchased gifts to make the holidays brighter for four families.

Perry High School automotive students Steven Jackson, left, and Kirk Jamison calculate transmission differential measurements during one of the eight hands-on tests at the recent DMACC Automotive Skills Contest on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. Jackson and Jamison took first place in the eight-team competition.

Charles Kniker (right) of Ames presents a check for $14,000 to Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) Foundation Executive Director Ganesh Ganpat to establish a scholarship in memory of Kniker’s wife, Eleanor, who was a registered nurse and taught nursing classes. The donation will establish an endowed Eleanor A. Kniker Scholarship Fund ("Eleanor’s Fund") for nursing students enrolled in the LPN or RN programs at any DMACC campus. The scholarships will go to students who are employees of the Green Hills Health Care Center in Ames to cover tuition and books. Kniker donated another $1,000 for an upcoming scholarship.
CHAR STEWART’S 80TH BIRTHDAY PARTY

Sally Schroeder, Dean of Health and Public Services, along with the help of her staff, put together a birthday celebration to honor faculty member Char Stewart. Char, an adjunct instructor for the Medical Laboratory Technician program, turned 80 years old and was accompanied by family and friends to the party held in the new Ankeny campus Health Sciences building. Pictured at the birthday table are, from left, Dr. Kim Linduska, Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs; Vern and Charlene Stewart, Sally Schroeder, and DMACC President Rob Denson.

ANKENY CAMPUS RETIREMENT PARTY

Five DMACC employees from the Ankeny Campus recently retired after many years of dedicated service to the DMACC community. Pictured from left are Larry Grubisich, Business and Industry Training Executive Director; Faye Johnson, Student Development Director; Carolyn Buehler, Purchasing Clerical Assistant; Pat Butin, Veteran Affairs/Scholarships Coordinator; and Lisa Ethington, Physical Sciences Instructor. Together these DMACC retirees gave more than 100 years of service to DMACC. Congratulations to all of them, and thanks for your dedication.

THANKS FOR CELL PHONE DONATIONS

Thanks to the leadership of (left to right) DMACC’s Laurie Wolf, Executive Dean of Student Services; Terry Harrison, DMACC Security Officer; and Dr. Kim Linduska, (right) Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs, 67 cell phones were donated to Leslee Cran, the domestic violence services outreach coordinator with Children & Families of Iowa. The cell phones will be used by domestic violence victims who need a phone to dial 9-1-1 in the event of an emergency.
DMACC AT PERRY

Bill Clark, (L to R) Vice President of the Perry Economic Development Corporation (PEDC); Jennifer Foster, the new Director of DMACC at Perry; and Rob Denson, President and CEO of DMACC, display the architectural drawing of DMACC’s new facility in downtown Perry. The $3.1 million, 15,000-square-foot education center called DMACC at Perry is a reality thanks to the PEDC’s efforts to secure funding, which included a $1.55 million grant from I-JOBS.

THANK YOU

To all of the DMACC friends and employees who have called, stopped by, sent cards and who came to my retirement party to say good-bye to wish me well in my retirement. I want to thank you so much. It has been my pleasure and privilege to work with all of you these many years and I will miss you all. DMACC has been my home away from home since I first came here as a student and I will always treasure the time I have spent here. I will be joining the Pioneers and am still an active member of the alumni, so I do hope to continue seeing many of you in the years to come. Good-bye and again, thanks for your friendships and help these many years.

—Pat Butin

THANK YOU

Thank you to the wonderful people at DMACC who knew Becky. All of you made a difference in Becky’s life. Becky always spoke very highly of the students and staff who came through her line and all of the people she worked with. It made her feel bad when her health prevented her from working. Thank you for the gifts, flowers and kind words. You have a special place in our hearts.

—Bubba and Tom McDonald

THANK YOU

I would like to thank all my DMACC friends and acquaintances for the gifts, cards and thoughts given to me upon my retirement from DMACC. I had fun talking and laughing with you during my 13 years. Thanks for everything.

—Marilyn O’Brien
PIONEERS CONNECTION

Over 225 DMACC faculty and staff attended the Pioneers annual Holiday Party on Dec. 10 in the Lakeview Inn in Bldg. #7. It was great seeing all of our former colleagues and the homemade goodies from the Pioneers were a huge hit as usual. Entertainment was provided by John Arbuckle and Verlyn Noring of the Pioneers. Everyone had a wonderful time and many stopped by to say they look forward to this annual Pioneer event. Thanks also to everyone who brought generous contributions for Pamela’s Pantry. Any non-perishable snack food items are always welcome in Mary Ocker’s office—Bldg. #6, room 10.

The Membership Committee, headed up by Carroll Bennett, met on Wed., Jan. 5 to set goals for the 2011 year. The committee will be concentrating on completing histories of the individual programs and campuses. The Deans will be informed and are a very important part of the information-gathering team. Committee members will be contacting key people on each campus and arranging for meetings to get the process rolling.

The Jan. 6 meeting was a lot of fun as everyone shared their collections, which were unique and plentiful. Among the shared collections were the Maynards’ hinged boxes from all over the world and Dorothy Howard’s amazing owls. Food preparation was by our hospitality chair, Carolyn Hildreth, who deserves a round of applause for all of her hard work and good meals for the meetings.

On Mon., Jan. 10 and Tues., Jan. 11, the Pioneers helped students find classes and answers to their many questions. “Where is room 12?” “Where is the restroom?” “When is the latest time to pay my tuition?” “Where is the Bookstore?” “I got locked out of my car! What do I do?” and more. Thanks to John Arbuckle for organizing this popular event called “ASK ME.” Thanks to everyone who worked in the inclement weather.

In February, the Pioneers will again meet for a purely social time. The next meeting is Thur., Feb. 10 at 11:30 a.m. in the Oak Room of Bldg. #7 on the Ankeny Campus. Please join us, keep warm, and drive safely. Happy New Year.

—Pioneer President, Dee Johnson