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DMACC/SIMPSON ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

Simpson College President Dr. Jay Simmons (left) and DMACC President Rob Denson cut a ribbon at the grand opening celebration of the Simpson College newly relocated Ankeny Campus at Prairie Trail location. The Simpson location is at 1450 SW Vintage Parkway in Ankeny.

DMACC President Rob Denson (left) and Simpson College President Dr. Jay Simmons display an articulation agreement the two college presidents had just signed. The signing occurred at the grand opening of the new Simpson College location in Ankeny. Some of the programs directly transferring from DMACC to Simpson include: Criminal Justice, Management, Marketing, Business Administration and Psychology.

DMACC President Rob Denson (left) and Simpson College President Dr. Jay Simmons hold birthday cakes decorated in their colleges respective colors at the ribbon cutting ceremony. Denson is celebrating his 67th birthday while Simmons was a few days shy of his 52nd birthday.
SCULPTURE UNVEILED AT SOUTHRIDGE CENTER

DMACC Southridge Center student Jess Galvin (left to right) of Des Moines, Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) President Rob Denson, Macerich Project Manager Scott McMurray and Southridge Property Manager Norm Forget (For-zhay) stand near the new sculpture built primarily by Galvin under the direction of his instructor, Dennis Piotraschke. Welding student Galvin talked about the project prior to unveiling the 600-pound artwork, which is now standing in Center Court outside of the Southridge Mall. The project required more than 120 hours to complete.

ENGINEERING TRANSFER CONFERENCE

DMACC student Samuel Titus (right) of Roland speaks with Devna Popejoy-Sheriff, Academic Advisor in the Iowa State University Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Systems Engineering, at a recent Engineering Transfer Student Conference held in the FFA Enrichment Center on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. Titus is enrolled in the Civil Engineering Technology program on the Boone Campus.
ARMBRECHT NAMED TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR

DMACC Ankeny Campus Automotive Professor Mark Armbrecht (third from left) of State Center receives a plaque from Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Board Chairman Glenn Dahl, Motor Age Training Brand Manager James Hwang and ASE President Tim Zilke for being named the Motor Age Training/ASE Master L1 Technician of the Year. Armbrecht received the award Nov. 19 in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

MORRIS NAMED POSTSECONDARY EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

DMACC Urban Campus Professor Carrie Morris of Norwalk recently received the Iowa World Language Association's (IWLA) Postsecondary Educator of the Year Award. This award is given to those who bring exceptional teaching and service to the state of Iowa and the Iowa World Language Association. The IWLA is a non-profit organization made up of foreign language educators ranging from elementary to college and university level. Carrie, originally from Albia, was recognized by the IWLA for her stellar teaching capabilities, her involvement in professional organizations such as the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP), her professional leadership capabilities, and her emphasis on the importance of learning language and culture.
MIKE RAHN RETIREMENT PARTY

Welding Professor Mike Rahn makes a few brief remarks after receiving a clock at his retirement party recently held in the Bistro on the Ankeny Campus. Mike has been at DMACC for the past 13 years and has overseen the tremendous growth in the DMACC welding programs during his tenure.

WONDER OF WORDS AUTHOR SPEAKS AT DMACC

Author and poet Gary Soto speaks to DMACC Ankeny Campus students during a meet-and-greet prior to a more formal presentation in the Bldg. #6 Auditorium. Soto, who was in the Des Moines area for the Wonder of Words Festival, has also written a musical. The Fresno, CA, native says he now publishes something every year or two. Soto says he wrote 28 drafts for one of his latest plays.
DMACC students make presentations at Argonne National Laboratory

DMACC Boone Campus student Myra James of Ames stands next to a poster of her research that she recently presented at the Argonne National Laboratory. The title of James' research is “Microfluidics for Organ-on-Chip Applications.” She conducted her research at Iowa State University during the summer of 2014 as a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) in the MoSAIc program.

DMACC Boone Campus student Ashley Johnson, also of Ames, presented at the Argonne National Laboratory. Her presentation was on the “Statistical Analyses of Molecular Dynamics Simulations of Nucleic Acids.” Her REU started in the summer of 2014 at Iowa State University in the BioMaP program and it continues today.

DMACC Boone Campus student Boqian Shen of Boone gave a poster presentation on “Visual Perception and Gestalt Principle” at the Argonne National Laboratory. Shen did his research as part of the Honors program at DMACC under the direction of Professor Sean Taylor.
MUSIC AT NOON AT THE URBAN CAMPUS

DMACC Urban Campus student Devon Holmes of Des Moines sings “Di Provenza Il Mar” during the Music at Noon concert recently held on the DMACC Urban Campus. The students were under the direction of Urban Campus Instructor Alayna Perry.

DMACC Urban Campus student Matt Becke of Des Moines plays the guitar and sings “Flowers in Your Hair” at the Music at Noon concert.

DMACC Urban Campus student Matthew Jenkins of Des Moines sings “His Eye is on the Sparrow” at the Music at Noon concert.

LUNCH AND LEARN STEM SEMINAR

Science Center of Iowa Elementary Science Consultant Kay Murphy (left) and DMACC Education Professor Patsy Steffen speak to DMACC’s Pre-Education Department students during a Lunch and Learn STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Seminar. Murphy said Iowa is light years ahead of most states in STEM education.
FREE SOUP

DMACC first-year Automotive Technology student Joshua Arroyo (right) of Des Moines receives a bowl of free potato soup from DMACC First Lady Pat Denson, wife of DMACC President Rob Denson, as Student Activities Coordinator Erin Smith prepares to serve chili. The Ankeny Campus Student Activities Council sponsored the annual free chili and potato soup lunch.

FESTIVAL OF TREES

DMACC’s Marketing and Public Relations Office created a decorated tree and fire-place display at the annual Blank Children’s Hospital Festival of Trees and Lights held Nov. 26-30 in Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center. If you look closely you can see the bear tracks on the freshly fallen snow and the DMACC bears on the tree. The holiday items were donated to Youth Emergency Services and Shelter.
JOB OPENINGS

Student Development Director
Ankeny Campus
Application Deadline: Jan. 4, 2015

Financial Aid Specialist
Ankeny Campus
Application Deadline: Dec. 7, 2014

If interested in the above positions, please visit the DMACC website at http://jobs.dmacc.edu.

DMACC EMPLOYEE AWARD

Congratulations to the following employee who has received a DMACC Employee Award:

Dave Hansen - Adjunct Instructor Business and Management – Ankeny Campus. Dave is a team player who finds the time to say “yes” whenever asked to lend a hand. He has been especially helpful pitching in to help develop materials for a class. Thanks, Dave, for your contributions to DMACC.

THANK YOU

This is just a quick note of appreciation for all the kindnesses extended to me following the death of my husband, Jack. “Thank you,” DMACC friends, for all of the flowers, cards, memorials and hugs. Thoughtfulness like that gets you through the stunning event. Shirley Petersen, Library, Bldg. #6 (Ankeny)

PIioneer Connection

Carroll Bennett and I were privileged to interview a long-time former employee of DMACC Charlie Pardekooper. Charlie (91 years old) was with DMACC for 24 years and retired from the Printing Program after having been an important part of the Skill Center on Bell Avenue which was taken over by DMACC. He and his now deceased wife of 69 years were married three times. After a church wedding, and later on in their marriage, they renewed their vows at the Little Brown church and again on their 50th Wedding Anniversary. He now resides at Trinity Center in the Gardens building in Room 115. Charlie speaks highly of his many years at DMACC. Would love to have visitors. He served in the Navy as an Engineer and was part of a mine clean-up crew in Rio De Janerio. Charlie was a kind and caring instructor and a valued employee of DMACC. As we approach our 50th Anniversary it is important to remember those people who were there in the early years and who made a real difference. He did!
You Are Invited!

Once again, the Pioneers will team up with the DMACC Board of Directors to celebrate at our Annual Holiday Party!

Mark your calendars and make plans to join us for treats and fun on Monday, December 8 in the Lakeview - Building 7, Ankeny campus from 11:00am to 1:00pm.

To all Pioneers: Start Baking & Creating your Holiday Favorites. We will meet at the Lakeview in Building 7 at 9:30 to set up. Bring your treats! AND wear your Holiday Sweaters!

As usual, non-perishable food items will be appreciated for Pamela’s Pantry.

See You At The Party!

Dee

Dee Johnson
Past President & Communication Director - Pioneers