DRIVES TO SUCCESS SUMMIT

DMACC President Rob Denson delivers the welcoming address at the recent Bridges to Success Summit held in the FFA Enrichment Center on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. Nearly 200 people attended the day-long event sponsored by the United Way of Central Iowa. The United Way of Central Iowa has embarked on a ten-year plan to help students from central Iowa graduate on time. Research has shown that young people who do not complete high school on time earn $707,400 less over their working lifetime.

Dr. Brenda Dann-Messier, former Assistant Secretary of Career, Technical and Adult Education for the U.S. Department of Education, said we need an educated and skilled workforce for companies to grow.

Denson moderated a panel of young adults who talked about their struggles in high school and the steps they’ve taken to improve their lives. The panelists included (left to right) Crystal Smith of Indianola, who dropped out of school in the eighth grade and was once homeless; Matt Gogerty of Des Moines, who spent time in jail but has completed DMACC’s Youthbuild program and is now enrolled at Drake University; Steven Petty of Windsor Heights, who is overcoming alcoholism and a stabbing and is now a Dean’s List recipient in DMACC’s Diesel Technology program; and Jerrae Lindsey of Des Moines, who has also completed the Youthbuild program and is active in musical ministry at his church.
Pioneers Garage Sale

The DMACC Ankeny Campus will be hosting the Pioneers Garage Sale for student scholarships and assistance on Fri., Aug. 14 from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sat., Aug. 15 from 7 to 11 a.m. This event will be held on the DMACC Ankeny Campus in Bldg. #13 in the Automotive Lab.

Items at the event will include, appliances, arts and crafts, books, collectibles, computers, DVD’s, electronics, furniture, glassware household and kitchen items, records, tools, toys and games, TVs and more.

Mid American Wine Competition

Mid-American Wine Competition (MAWC) Judge Stephen Volkmer-Jones, a Certified Specialist of Wine, samples a wine during the ninth annual MAWC event held at the DMACC Ankeny Campus. The competition was held July 10-12 and included wines from 12 Midwestern states. Professional wine judges from throughout the United States awarded 95 Gold medals, 167 Silver medals and 167 Bronze medals.

Judge Dr. Valerie Uhl apparently enjoys this wine during the MAWC. Dr. Uhl is the Chief Judge and Director of the “North of the Gate” Wine Competition for the Sonoma-Marin Fair in Petaluma, California. She has a degree in Viticulture Management and graduated Cum Laude from University California, Davis, where she was a Taster for the Enology and Food Science Departments.
MID AMERICAN WINE COMPETITION (CONT)

MAWC Judge Dick Peterson holds a nearly empty bottle of Cedar Ridge Vineyards Blanc de Blanc, which was named a Gold Medal winner, a Sweepstakes winner and the recipient of the Dick Peterson Award which is bestowed on the “best Iowa wine” as determined by the MAWC panel of judges. Peterson, formerly of Des Moines, is a professional wine maker who has worked at such wineries such as Gallo, Beaulieu, Monterey Vineyard, Atlas Pak Vineyard and Folie a Deux Winery, among others.

ASIA AND PACIFIC ISLANDER NIGHT

Thirty-one-year-old Mawi Zuali, left, formerly of Vietnam and now a resident of Des Moines, listens intently to DMACC ESL instructor Katherine Menec at the Asian and Pacific Islander Night held at the DMACC Urban Campus. Attendees got the opportunity to hear from Asian and Pacific Islander students and their experience at DMACC.

Twenty-eight-year-old My Tran, formerly of Vietnam and now a resident of Des Moines, smiles as she introduces DMACC President Rob Denson at the very first Asian and Pacific Islander Night on the DMACC Urban Campus. Attendees received information about DMACC, including what resources DMACC has to offer and how to enroll.
ASIA AND PACIFIC ISLANDER NIGHT (CONT)

Sanjita Pradhan, Executive Officer of the Office of Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs at the Iowa Department of Human Rights, welcomes Asian and Pacific Islander Night attendees to DMACC Urban Campus. This first-year event brought in more than 50 people interested in learning more about attending DMACC.

A panel of DMACC students consisting of, (left to right) Tu Nguyen, Bal Budathoki, Xue Hu and Nam Nguyen, answer questions and discuss their experience at DMACC at the Asian and Pacific Islander Night on the DMACC Urban Campus.

Meredith Nelson, left, Coordinator of the DMACC Urban Campus Academic Achievement Center, and Britta Solan, a Sociology Professor, are ready to hand out information to potential DMACC students and their family members.
WIND ENERGY REPORT

DMACC President Rob Denson (left) holds up a copy of a new report on wind energy in Iowa titled, “A Wind Vision for New Growth in Iowa.” The report was released during a panel discussion held July 16 on the DMACC Ankeny Campus. Iowa Wind Energy Association Executive Director and panel chair Mike Prior listens.

The report revealed the following statistics:

• Wind energy could provide about 40 percent of Iowa’s electricity needs within five years. Iowans could save $3.68 billion in total electricity savings through 2050 by exporting wind power to other states.

• New wind farm development could increase annual property tax revenues to $49 million by 2020 and $136 million by 2030.

• Farmers currently receive about $17.1 million in annual land lease payments for hosting wind turbines on their land. This figure could rise to $19 million by 2020 and could top $55 million by 2030.

• Growing wind power in Iowa could result in more than 3.7 billion gallons a year in water savings by 2020 and over 4.2 billion gallons a year by 2030.

• Iowa has enough electricity to power 6.3 million homes by wind by 2030.

Today wind energy supplies about 28 percent of the electricity generated in Iowa, but a U.S. Department of Energy report finds that this figure could reach 40 percent by 2020. The DOE’s Wind Vision report also finds that wind power could supply 10 percent of the entire U.S. electricity mix by 2020, 20 percent by 2030, and 35 percent by 2050.

Joining Denson and Prior on the panel were Steve Bisenius, Director of Business Development at Lee County Economic Development; Kirk Kraft, project developer with RPM Access LLC; Beth Conley, manager with Clean Line Energy Partners; and Tom Wind, president of Wind Utility Consulting.

JOB OPENINGS

Student Services Specialist, Urban Campus
Application Deadline: July 28, 2015

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

July Meeting:
On Thursday, July 9 we met for lunch and a presentation by Bonnie Slykhuis and Emily Betz on the DMACC LEAN program. They provided an interesting and informative session on how to save time and money by trimming the fat out of your life. They have made it possible to make individual improvements and changed the entire way that corporations conduct business on a day-to-day basis.

IMPORTANT PIONEER EVENT IN AUGUST:
The Pioneers will be holding one last Garage Sale on Friday, August 14 from 7 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Saturday, August 15 from 7 a.m. – noon in the building 13 automotive lab. We will be setting up starting on Monday, August 10 and your help will be deeply appreciated. A sign-up sheet was circulated at the July meeting but you can call Shirley Muelenthaler at 964-3540h or 321-9762c to let her know you can help and when. At our August meeting, we'll finalize things for the sale.

EVERYONE WHO WORKS WILL RECEIVE A DMACC 50TH ANNIVERSARY tee shirt and the privilege of purchasing merchandise before the sale begins.

PLEASE SAY YOU WILL BE ABLE TO HELP!

NOTICE: By now you should have received a letter asking for your donation to the Student Assistance program. With the ending of the Garage Sale, this will be our ONLY source of income for the Pioneer group. Your participation in sending whatever you can will be gratefully received. We plan to ask for your help only ONCE.

ANY AND ALL DONATIONS WILL ASSIST OUR STUDENTS & BE APPRECIATED!

If you haven’t liked the “DMACC Pioneers” on Facebook yet, please do so!

Thank you!
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