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History and Description of Mesa Community College

Mesa Community College is the largest of ten colleges that make up the Maricopa Community Colleges in the metropolitan Phoenix, Arizona area. The roots of the Maricopa Community Colleges originate with the opening of Phoenix Junior College in 1920 with an enrollment of 15 students. Phoenix Junior College was part of the Phoenix Union High School District. In 1960, the Arizona legislature passed laws that established county-wide junior college districts to be administered by the Arizona State Board of Directors for Junior Colleges and by governing boards elected by the public. Two years later, Arizona voters enthusiastically created the Maricopa County Junior College District to expand affordable college education throughout the 9200-square-mile district. To achieve this mission, the Maricopa governing board created three extensions of Phoenix College – one in northeast Phoenix, one in northwest Phoenix, and one in Mesa in an old church building at the corner of Main Street and Extension Road. In 1963, students began attending classes in the cramped quarters of the leased church building. Two years later, the Maricopa governing board transformed the Mesa extension of Phoenix College into Mesa Community College.

The change from “junior” college to “community” college is significant because it recognizes the growing and changing nature of our community’s educational needs. The junior college model had focused on providing general education courses that students could transfer to universities and apply toward a baccalaureate degree. The broader community college model recognizes that citizens have a wide range of educational needs. While many do look to community colleges for general education courses, others seek career and technical training to improve their employment prospects or update skills they need in their current positions. Still other students come to the community college to seek lifelong learning opportunities for their own edification.

In the fall of 1966, Mesa Community College opened its 160-acre campus at the corner of Southern and Dobson Roads with four permanent buildings. As enrollment increased, temporary buildings housed classrooms and faculty offices and were eventually replaced by permanent buildings. Construction continues as MCC works to meet the needs of its growing community.

Our expansion has also taken us to different locations, including Downtown Center/Centennial Way, Downtown Center/Country Club and Brown, and Williams Field. MCC has opened a second full-service campus – MCC at Red Mountain – in northeast Mesa at Power and McKellips Roads. This campus began at a site that formerly housed an extension of Rio Salado Community College, another of the Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD) colleges. Three new buildings opened in fall 2001 at the MCC at Red Mountain campus. Designed to fit into their

beautiful desert surroundings near Red Mountain, these buildings reflect a commitment to environmental issues at the MCC at Red Mountain campus. From those original 15 students enrolled at Phoenix Junior College, Maricopa Community Colleges now serve more than 250,000 students annually. Approximately 40% of all residents of Maricopa County have attended one or more of the Maricopa colleges. As the largest of those colleges, MCC remains dedicated to providing education of the highest quality at the most affordable cost and in the most convenient locations to the members of our community.

MCC Vision, Mission, and Values

VISION

Mesa Community College (MCC) will be a leader among community colleges, providing an innovative and intellectual learning-centered environment that is responsive, adaptable, and inclusive.

MISSION

The mission of Mesa Community College is to promote excellence in teaching and learning, preparing individuals for active citizenship in a diverse global society. The college is a community resource for transfer education, career preparation, developmental education, economic development, and continuous learning. Our ultimate purpose is to improve the quality of life in the community we serve.

VALUES

Our values are the principles, standards, and ideals that form the foundation for our actions. They are the things to which we, as a community of educators, ascribe worth – the things we treasure. Our values reveal what we strive for and give us our identity as a college.

Learning

Mesa Community College values learning and scholarship for our students, our employees, and the community. We value personal growth and provide access to diverse learning experiences in a supportive environment. We seek to continuously learn as an organization and to be responsive to our changing environment.

Excellence

Mesa Community College strives for excellence in all we do. We are committed to upholding high academic standards, to providing a quality educational environment, and to maintaining quality in all aspects of our work. We continuously seek avenues for improvement.

Inclusiveness

Mesa Community College values inclusiveness of people and ideas. We respect the dignity of each individual, expressed through fairness and just treatment for all. We value individual diversity and recognize the unique contributions of all individuals. We promote open communication and the free exchange of thoughts and ideas.

Community

Mesa Community College values a sense of community – both the community we serve and the community we create within. As students, faculty and staff, we have a civic responsibility to our community that is expressed through community involvement and volunteerism. We actively pursue collaborative partnerships with the community. We value our college community and encourage the engagement of all through participation, collaboration, and communication.

Accreditation

Mesa Community College is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association. Website: www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org
Telephone: 312-263-0456

The Nursing Program is accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, 61 Broadway, 33rd Floor, New York, NY, 10006, and approved by the Arizona State Board of Nursing.

The MCC Evelyn H. Warren Child Development Lab and the MCC Children's Center are accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

The Mortuary Science Program is accredited by the American Board of Funeral Service Education, 38 Florida Avenue, Portland, ME, 04103, 207-878-6530, or online at www.abfse.org.

The Veterinary Technology/Animal Health Program is provisionally accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (all initial accreditations are provisional for five years).

The Interior Design Program (advanced certificate) is accredited by the Accreditation Commission of the Council for Interior Design Accreditation.

The Dental Hygiene and Dental Assisting Programs have Initial Accreditation through the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA).

Assessment of Student Outcomes

Student outcomes assessment is a term used to describe the measurement and documentation of what MCC students are achieving in their studies at the college. Faculty members define the outcomes of college programs and develop measures to assess them. The program includes three primary assessment areas: general education, career and technical education, and developmental education. For students pursuing their general education studies at the college, seven areas are assessed: Written and Oral Communication, Arts and Humanities, Cultural Diversity, Information Literacy, Scientific Inquiry, Numeracy, and Problem Solving/Critical Thinking. The general education outcomes are assessed according to the following criteria:

Communication

1. Write a clear, well-organized paper using documentation and quantitative tools when appropriate.
2. Construct and deliver a clear, well-organized, verbal presentation.
3. Interact in a collaborative, synergistic manner within a small group.
4. Maintain an interpersonally effective climate within a one-to-one interchange.

Numeracy

1. Identify and extract relevant data from given mathematical situations.
2. Select known models or develop appropriate models that organize data into tables or spreadsheets, graphical representations, or symbolic/equation format.
3. Obtain correct mathematical results, and state those results with the qualifiers.
4. Use the results.

Problem Solving/Critical Thinking

1. Identify a problem or argument.
2. Isolate facts related to the problem.
3. Differentiate facts from opinions or emotional responses.
4. Ascertain the author's conclusion.
5. Generate multiple solutions to the problem.
6. Predict consequences.
7. Use evidence or sound reasoning to justify a position.

Scientific Inquiry

Demonstrate scientific inquiry skills related to:

1. Hypothesis: Distinguish between possible and improbable or impossible reasons for a problem.
2. Prediction: Distinguish between predictions that are logical or not logical based upon a problem presented.
3. Assumption: Recognize justifiable and necessary assumptions based on information presented.
4. Interpretation: Weigh evidence and decide if generalizations or conclusions based upon given data are warranted.
5. Evaluation: Distinguish between probable and improbable causes, possible and impossible reasons, and effective and ineffective action based on information presented.

Arts and Humanities

1. Demonstrate knowledge of human creations.
2. Demonstrate an awareness that different contexts and/or worldviews produce different human creations.
3. Demonstrate an understanding and awareness of the impact that a piece (artifact) has on the relationship and perspective of the audience.
4. Demonstrate an ability to evaluate human creations.

Information Literacy

1. Given a problem, define specific information needed to solve the problem or answer the question.
2. Locate appropriate and relevant information to match informational needs.
3. Identify and use appropriate print and/or electronic information sources.
4. Evaluate information for currency, relevancy, and reliability.
5. Use information effectively.

Cultural Diversity

1. Identify and explain diverse cultural customs, beliefs, traditions, and lifestyles.
2. Identify and explain major cultural, historical, and geographical issues that shape our perceptions.
3. Identify and explain social forces that can effect cultural change.
4. Identify biases, assumptions, and prejudices in multicultural interactions.
5. Identify ideologies, practices, and contributions that persons of diverse backgrounds bring to our multicultural world.

For students enrolled in a career or technical program, seven workplace skills are assessed: Ethics, Interpersonal Communication, Critical Thinking, Organization, Team Work, Technology Literacy, Personal and Professional Responsibilities. (See Career and Technical Programs for more information.)

Students enrolled in developmental education classes, which are designed to prepare students for college-level work, are assessed at the completion of the appropriate course sequence in English, mathematics, and reading. (See Academic Departments, Programs, and Services for more information)

For general education, the performance of groups of students who are beginning their general education program of studies is compared to that of groups who are completing general education. For career and technical programs, students who are beginning and completing specific programs leading to AAS degrees or certificates are assessed on their workplace skills. Assessments are conducted in selected classrooms during an annual spring Assessment Week. Students participating in below-100-level courses are assessed in the last of the course sequence.

Using a statistical sampling method, approximately 200 class sections are selected to participate in the assessments each spring during Assessment Week. Students enrolled in these classes are asked to take one of the assessments during one class period. Individual student scores are not reported, and a student's grade or class standing is not affected by his

or her performance. It is important for students to make an honest effort to complete the assessments to the best of their ability so that the information collected is meaningful.

The Mesa Community College Student Outcomes Assessment Program provides clear evidence of student learning at the college. The assessment program has been in place for nine years.

Overall results show that completing students consistently have performed significantly better than beginning students in both general education and career and technical program assessments. When examining results across measures, students have the most difficulty with skills involving application and/or evaluation of knowledge or information.

Student participation in follow-up studies after graduation or transfer from MCC may also be requested. Students selected to participate should take seriously their participation in these assessments. The only cost to students is a small amount of time, and the benefits are improved programs and instruction. Any information obtained will be used solely in determining the effectiveness of programs and student learning and in ways that do not reflect personally on individual students.

The findings are published in an annual report each fall and are used by MCC faculty to document student success and to determine how programs can be improved. Summaries of results are posted on the assessment website:

www.mc.maricopa.edu/orp/assessment

Community Partnerships with Mesa Community College

Mesa Community College values a sense of community – both the community we serve and the community we create within. As students, faculty and staff, we have a civic responsibility to our community that is expressed through community involvement and volunteerism. We actively pursue collaborative partnerships with the community. We value our college community and encourage the engagement of all through participation, collaboration, and communication.

ALUMNI

The MCC Alumni Association (MCCAA) is committed to serving and uniting alumni to promote the interests of MCC, its alumni, current and future students, and the community. The Office of Alumni Relations collaborates with members of the Association's board and other MCC departments to keep alumni apprised of campus and association news, provide fellowship and networking opportunities, recognize the accomplishments of MCC's alumni, and identify opportunities for alumni to reconnect with the college and get involved.

All students who earn an associate degree, certificate of completion, or complete 48 credit hours or more at MCC are considered alumni and members in the MCCA.

Contact Alumni Relations at 480-461-7792 for additional information or visit www.mc.maricopa.edu/alumni

BUSINESS & INDUSTRY INSTITUTE

Mesa Community College's Business and Industry Institute (B&I) is located at the Downtown Center/145 N. Centennial Way, Fourth Floor, Mesa, 85201 (just east of the Mesa Public Library). Class offerings include training in network administration, database technologies, programming, fiber optic technologies, and organization and workplace skills. B&I programs are offered six days a week on a year-round basis.

The B&I offers degree and certificate programs for college credit through the Network Academy (NA). See Academic Departments, Programs, and Services for more information on these programs. B&I serves a diverse population of students by delivering courses that enable students to:

- Earn traditional college credit (offered as 16-week and short-term courses) through the Network Academy.
- Complete non-credit certification training in intensive one-week formats.
- Enjoy Internet-based delivery of credit and non-credit classes.

As MCC interfaces with the corporate community, B&I maintains the highest standards of education and certification preparation. With a track record of 15 years, B&I leads the way in creating world-class training solutions for individuals and corporations alike. This brings state-of-the-art technologies and current business models to B&I curricular offerings.

The B&I offers programs under the following major industry partnerships:

- Sun Microsystems Authorized Sun Education Center: Offering technology courses specific to Sun Microsystems products and services
- Cisco Networking Academy Teacher Training Center – Mountain States: Provides teacher training for Cisco Networking academies in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah
- Oracle Workforce Development Partner: Providing workforce training in Oracle products and services
- Sair Linux and GNU Systems
- Ascendant Systems – Security Certified Professional Training Center: Providing training and workshops in Network Security

Please call B&I Customer Service at 480-461-6100 or 1-866-886-6872, or visit www.bii.mc.maricopa.edu

CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY

Mesa Community College established the Center for Public Policy in 1992 to coordinate service-learning opportunities for students. Based on the efforts of the Center, MCC created the Center for Service-Learning in 2000 as an instructional department, and restructured the Center for Public Policy (CPP) to focus on community and governmental relations for the college, and to assist the college in building new community partnerships. Mesa Community Roundtable brings the City of Mesa, Mesa Public Schools, Mesa Chamber of Commerce, Mesa Community College, Mesa United Way, and ASU East together to discuss common concerns and potential collaboration.

East Valley Think Tank is a consortium of elementary, secondary, and post-secondary public educational institutions in eastern Maricopa County, which consult and collaborate on projects of mutual interest and concern.

The Center for Civic Participation is an effort of the Maricopa Colleges to enhance civic involvement through voter registration, discussion of issues, and civic education.

The Center for Public Policy is a community resource to address policy issues of concern to the college and its constituencies through forums, programs, and publications, and to interact on public issues on behalf of the college.

www.mc.maricopa.edu/organizations/community/cpp/

Community partnerships with the Center for Public Policy include:

- Dwight Patterson Sports Academy to promote community, career, and economic development programs focusing on youth, education, and sports
- Changing Demographics Project to explore the implications for college programs and services of the dramatic increase in Latino population in the MCC service area
- Downtown Campus Initiative to assist a broad-based community coalition in exploring the feasibility of creating a new campus in downtown Mesa to serve the educational needs of Mesa's urban core

CHAIR ACADEMY

The mission of the Chair Academy is to promote and implement leading-edge leadership training programs to post-secondary leaders worldwide in order to advance academic and administrative leadership in an era of change.

Our mission is accomplished through the following research-based programs:

- Implementing an Annual International Leadership Conference.
- Offering year-long local, statewide, national, and international Academy for Leadership Training and Development programs. Foundation and Advanced programs are available to post-secondary leaders worldwide.
- Customizing leadership training and development programs for post-secondary institutions worldwide.
- Offering membership to the Chair Academy which includes the benefits of receiving our juried journal, *Leadership*, as well as our bi-monthly electronic Leadership Tips and Tools Bulletin.

For additional information about the Chair Academy programs and offerings, please visit www.mc.maricopa.edu/other/chair

COMMUNITY COLLEGE NATIONAL CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Community College National Center for Community Engagement (CCNCCE) is a leader in advancing programs and innovations that stimulate active participation of institutions in community engagement for the attainment of a vital citizenry. The Center serves community colleges and others in promoting and implementing service-learning and civic engagement as a means to improve teaching and learning to the ultimate benefit of students and the communities in which they live.

CCNCCE offers a complete battery of programs that provide human, financial, and academic resources primarily to community colleges that are endeavoring to develop, sustain, or improve service-learning and civic engagement programs on campuses throughout the US and its territories. Through on-site, statewide, regional, and national training and technical assistance offerings, and through direct grants to community colleges and their community partners, CCNCCE works with thousands of community college administrators, students, and faculty to develop partnerships, service-learning courses, and many other activities to improve service-learning and civic engagement to create better communities and educational opportunities across the country. www.mc.maricopa.edu/other/engagement

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

A wide array of non-credit classes, workshops, seminars, and employment preparation courses are offered through MCC's Center for Community Education. Classes are held at Mesa Community College campuses and on-line. The diverse curriculum is available to those who seek

opportunities for cultural enrichment, intellectual growth, career and professional development, as well as hobbies and other special interests. These courses provide access to MCC's resources and facilities for those not enrolled in traditional credit carrying classes. Instructors are drawn throughout the East Valley, and provide contemporary content in an adult learning environment.

There are no entry requirements for Community Education classes beyond an individual's interest in a subject. There is no limit to the number of classes in which a person may enroll. Classes are published in the MCC non-credit schedule three times a year.

To receive a current schedule of non-credit classes, please call the Center for Community Education at 480-461-7493 or visit

www.mc.maricopa.edu/organizations/community/comm_ed/

CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR PRACTICING PROFESSIONALS

MCC provides continuing education opportunities to practicing professionals in a series of non-credit seminars available at the college. Opportunities to attain Continuing Education Units (CEU's) are currently available for practicing morticians and funeral personnel. Additional professional seminars are added to MCC's Continuing Education schedule as developed. Please call Continuing Education at 480-461-7493 for seminar availability.

DEVELOPMENT

Gifts to the college through cash, credit card, pledge, or bequests can be established for different types of scholarships or program support to benefit MCC students. Donors can designate specific criteria for scholarships, such as financial need, grade point average, academic performance, or area of interest.

Unrestricted gifts (no criteria attached) can be made to the Annual Gift Fund, which financially assists the college through scholarships for students demonstrating financial need or funding college initiatives outlined by the President and Development Advisory Council.

Gifts administered by the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation, the College's 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law. The Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation receives and manages gifts from private donors for all of the Maricopa colleges.

For more information, contact the MCC Development Office at 480-461-7356 or visit

www.mc.maricopa.edu/development

For more information on the Maricopa Community Colleges Foundation, please visit

www.dist.maricopa.edu/foundation/

NEW FRONTIERS – SENIOR ADULT PROGRAM

Mesa Community College provides the opportunity for intellectual and cultural stimulation for people of retirement age through the college's lifelong learning programs.

New Frontiers for Lifelong Learning is a membership organization sponsored by MCC and affiliated with the EIN (Elderhostel Institute Network) and ALIROW (the Association of Learning in Retirement Organizations of the West). A wide selection of study groups, facilitated by New Frontier members, provides a limitless array of topics. The learning environment is lively and full of diversity, insight and wisdom.

Participants have the chance to explore new ideas and meet new people in a pleasant and informal atmosphere. Interactive study groups are held at Mesa Community College at Southern & Dobson, MCC at Red Mountain campus (Power and McKellips Roads), MCC at Country Club and Brown, and other community locations.

In the fall and spring semesters, free lectures are offered on various afternoons at the college by MCC faculty and other speakers on a wide variety of topics. Please call 480-461-6251 for information about Senior Adult Programs at MCC. www.newfrontiers-mesa.org

SERVICE-LEARNING

The mission of the Center for Service-Learning is to promote excellence in teaching and learning through the integration of academic study with an active service. We collaborate with the community, encourage civic engagement, promote personal growth and foster social responsibility.

The goals of The Center for Service-Learning are:

- To assist faculty with incorporating service-learning into their classes.
- To help students find appropriate placement sites for service-learning assignments or as a volunteer.
- To build working relationships with our community partners in developing reciprocal service opportunities for our students, faculty and staff.

Service-Learning opportunities are incorporated into many classes throughout the college. Interested students can also enroll in 1, 2, or 3-credit service-learning classes in any one of 25 or more academic disciplines and serve at their choice of over 300 community agencies. We also administer some special programs: AmeriCorps, America Reads and America Counts, and The Women of Courage program. See the Center for Service-Learning for more information regarding these special programs. For more information, please call 480-461-7393 or visit our webpage at www.mc.maricopa.edu/servicelearning

