A New Year; New Beginnings

The new semester brings about several new titles and responsibilities for MCC’s Leadership. Listed below are some of the changes for the 2008-09 school year.

Office of the President, Shouan Pan

* Jim Mabry began as the new Vice President of Academic Affairs on July 31, 2008.
* Jared Langkilde, Executive Assistant, will serve as MCC’s loaned executive for the Mesa United Way Campaign through December.

Office of the Vice President, Academic Affairs, James Mabry:

* Jim Mancuso retired on June 30, 2008 after two years of stalwart service as the VPAA. He will be back on campus this fall serving students.
* Shereen Lerner is an Acting Dean of Instruction for Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, Business, and Music for the 2008-09 academic year
* Larry Thacker has assumed responsibility for all Career and Technical programs except nursing.
* Donna Adams has returned to her position as the administrative assistant to the VPAA.
* The search for Dean of Research & Planning is nearing completion.
* Lorna Peralta was elected the Library Chair.
* Mona Scott was elected to serve as the Acting Chair of the Cultural Science Department.
* Maria Chavira is the Chair of the Psychology Department for the current academic year.
* Department Chair election in the Applied Science department is in progress.
* View a complete listing of Academic Department Chairs and Directors.

Office of the Vice President, Student Affairs, Patricia Cardenas-Adame:

* Jacqueline Gill is the new Director for Career and Educational Planning Services
* Jeff Fore was hired in June to replace Dan Dunn as the Director of Athletics
* Jennifer Edwards completed her temporary assignment supporting the new Student Information System and has returned to Class Scheduling
* Steve Gerlock remains as a One-Year-Only Coordinator for Technology Development and Training for the New Student Information System
* Charles “Bo” Colbert, Director of the American Indian Center, is on a special assignment at the District Office as Coordinator of American Indian Programs
* M. “Boots” Hunt, Director of Advising, Testing, and Special Student Services, retired in July.
* Louise Udall, Coordinator of Transfer Services, retired in May.
* Kathleen Perales, Dean of Student Affairs, is currently providing oversight for the daily operations of Recruitment and Advising /Transfer Services due to vacancies in the director positions for these areas.
* Barbara Boros, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, is currently providing direct oversight for Admissions due to a vacancy in the Directors position.

Office of the Vice President, Administrative Services, Jerry Davis:

* No changes to report.
Fall 2008 Convocation
Embracing Change, Positioning for the Future

Mesa Mayor Scott Smith joined Dr. Shouan Pan and Mesa Community College’s new vice president of Academic Affairs, James Mabry, to encourage faculty and staff to “embrace change” at MCC’s Fall 2008 Convocation.

Smith told the crowd that in this era of education, instructors are invaluable in instilling a love of learning and inspiring confidence in students. Smith said he believes Mesa has great potential as a community and regardless of the economy, Mesa will not shirk education.

Visit the President’s Corner for a copy of Dr. Pan’s remarks.

Mesa Community College, under the direction of Dr. Pan, has designed an outreach plan to work together with the East Valley educational community. The plan is based on the belief that although we serve different student populations, ultimately all educators share the same grand mission – to prepare students for informed and productive lives in a global, knowledge-based economy.

To support this plan, MCC is working with our service area’s middle, junior high and high schools. MCC leadership recently held a breakfast meeting with area high school administrators and discussed possible ways to work together. On the middle and junior high school level, MCC is currently providing each school with one designated contact person from MCC leadership who will be available to work with that school to welcome younger students to a variety of enrichment activities on campus. The designated MCC contact person will be calling upon the schools this month to discuss possible ways to work together.

The goal of the program is to touch the life of each student in MCC’s service area so that the idea of attending college is an exciting and attainable reality for their future.

MCC enrolls students from Mesa, Tempe, Kyrene, and parts of Chandler and Gilbert. Pictured here are just a few of the many junior high schools in Mesa.
Security Plan Update

Door locks:

We are still in the process of changing all the door hardware to push button locks at the Southern and Dobson campus. We had hoped to be done by now, but some of the hardware had to be returned to the vendors. The Red Mountain campus has significantly more electronic locks than Southern and Dobson.

All door locks are being rekeyed department by department and we will reissue keys to every department. We’ll have a record of every person who has a key, which puts more responsibility on the employee and they will be responsible for returning the key when they leave employment at MCC.

Alertus, the all-hazards campus emergency alert system:

We have 20 of the 60 Alertus systems installed at the Southern and Dobson campus. We have tested them and they are working well. We plan to install the peripheral equipment such as the scrolling marquees in the coming month. There are no systems at the Red Mountain campus because it is not as spread out as the Southern and Dobson campus.

Educational Video and email updates:

MCC’s Public Safety website will soon have a video with instructions for a lockdown scenario. We will provide the link when it is available and send periodic updates on lockdown procedures by email. MCC has a partially functional lockdown now and we hope to have a fully functional lockdown institution-wide within a month or so.

Department training and drills:

In addition to the lockdown video, we offer individual department training. Please contact the Public Safety Department at 461-7046 to schedule training for your department. Ongoing large-scale training for employees is also taking place. So far we have had two drills, with two or three more drills scheduled for the fall semester. During the last two drills, we identified several issues with the equipment and are working on improving efficiency.

Crisis Management:

Ongoing crisis management meetings are taking place with the leadership from administrative areas, public safety, institutional advancement, maintenance and operations, and occupational health and safety working together to make MCC a secure campus.

Downtown and Williams Campuses

College Safety will be hiring an officer for the Downtown campus this fall. Security for MCC programs located at the Williams campus is handled by Chandler-Gilbert Community College.
Triage and Welcome/Concierge Programs

A new energy of helpfulness is visible on campus with the rollout of the new Triage and Welcome/Concierge Programs.

More than 20 volunteers from all areas of MCC assisted—and continue to assist—students as they enroll in classes and tackle the first few weeks of fall semester. Volunteers help the students cope with long wait times, hot weather and questions galore.

“We’ve been really happy with the turnout,” said Greg Reentz, director of Student Life and Leadership. “On behalf of the participants, I think they’ve really enjoyed it and we want to thank them for helping the students as they embark on their educational journey.” The Triage Program is comprised of staff and faculty volunteers who walk waiting lines in the Enrollment Services areas and provide general information for students who are enrolling. Volunteers are needed throughout the year for peak times such as enrollment, drop/add, early registration, etc.

The Welcome/Concierge Program is comprised of federal work study students and MCC staff who work the welcome booths, helping students find classrooms and campus resources.

Please call Student Life and Leadership at 461-7285 to volunteer or for more information on either program.

Employee Group Leaders for 2008-09

Nyla Crocket, Professional Staff Association (PSA) President
Administrative Secretary, Office of Dean of Math, Sciences, PE
480-461-7145, nylac@mail.mc.maricopa.edu
Goal:

“As the PSA leader at MCC this year my goal is to maintain and establish effective interdepartmental working relationships – UNITY.

Jonathan Baney, Management, Administrative, Technical (MAT) President
Manager of Enterprise Web Services, 480-461-7283, jebaney@mail.mc.maricopa.edu
Goal:

“My goal this year as MAT president is to help open the lines of communication between employee groups to foster collaboration and openness. I would also like to work with the administration on the concept of a non-faculty staffing committee model.”

MCC Employee Marcy Snitzer helps MCC student Mandilyn Tollison enroll in classes.
Bruce Peterson, Faculty Senate President
Faculty, Department of Speech Communication, Red Mountain,
480-654-7722, vocewld@mail.mc.maricopa.edu

Goal:
* Update and rewrite the College Plan. (This is the document that describes how Department Chairs are elected, Program Directors are appointed and defines their roles and responsibilities.)
* Establish a student-focused culture of cooperation between the Faculty and the new President and VPAA.
* Support and enhance the culture and tradition of innovation and excellence the MCC Faculty are famous for as the leaders in the community college movement.

Anthony Kneale, Maintenance and Operations Policy Representative
Custodian, 480-461-7096, Anthony.kneale@mcmail.maricopa.edu

Goal:
“As a Policy Representative, my objective is to ensure that we receive equal representation, appropriate compensation, and reasonable regulation as employees of the Maricopa Community Colleges.”

Roque Garcia, Crafts Representative
HVAC Technician
480-461-7096, rgarcia@mail.mc.maricopa.edu

JoRita DeFrancesco, Adjunct Faculty Developer
Educational Development, Center for Teaching and Learning
480-461-7997, joritad@mail.mc.maricopa.edu

Goal:
“My goal for the 2008-09 academic year is to assist MCC’s community of adjuncts by providing information, giving support, and seeking resources to enable each of us to function more effectively as teaching professionals. Additionally, my aim is to create more professional development opportunities for MCC adjuncts.”