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NEWS FROM

APRIL 2008

jackson community college

www.jccmi.edu

College celebrates 80 years of educating community

Since 2008 marks the 80th anniversary of JCC, I thought it might be of interest to you to take a brief stroll through time looking at our growth from the College's early days.

It was in 1928 that Jackson Junior College was founded and operated as a division of the Jackson Union School District, sharing lab and library facilities with the high school. Then, like now, the country faced challenges from global economic competition and needed to develop a more highly skilled workforce. From the beginnings of the junior college movement through today,



Things have definitely changed since the days of manual typewriters in John George Hall.

institutions like JCC have provided quality educational opportunities and training that is accessible and convenient for all.

The College's first class in September 1928 welcomed just 115 students, and two years later, 1930's first graduating class saw 34 students transfer to a baccalaureate-granting institution. Since these early beginnings, the College has offered education to tens of thousands of Jackson County residents. Perhaps you are one!

Community colleges are committed to being responsive to local workforce needs and demands, and JCC has worked diligently to that end. Our faculty and administration works with advisory councils from numerous career fields to ensure that our students are learning what they need to be successful in the workplace and in any further education they seek. We have made several improvements to our campus, with two new buildings and improvements to existing buildings, including the new

Rawal Center for Health Professions in Justin Whiting Hall, to provide students with the classroom and learning resources they need to be successful.

Today, JCC enrolls 9,448 students from a variety of backgrounds, from first-time, traditional-aged college students to adults returning to college after working a number of years. Stop by our Potter Center cafeteria throughout the day, or the McDivitt Hall Commons bistro in the evenings, and you'll see a variety of students studying and catching up with friends and classmates. Students have the opportunity to broaden their learning through a variety of Student Life activities, from student leadership to various clubs, from athletics to the arts.

Indeed, JCC today is quite literally and figuratively very different from those early junior college days. We are constantly working to improve our campus and other instructional sites, our services, and our academics to prepare students for their goals, whether that is a great career



The new Rawal Center for Health Professions in Justin Whiting Hall provides students with the classroom and learning resources they need to be successful.

in a high-demand field, transferring on to a baccalaureate-granting institution, or taking a class or two to improve their current position. We look forward to the next 80 years to come and seek to be to be a vital community partner for higher education for the Jackson County and South Central Michigan area.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Phelan
President/CEO



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ALUMNI PROFILE**Anthony Layton**

JCC alumnus Anthony Layton is looking forward to not only completing his bachelor's degree at Siena Heights University but also continuing on to complete his master's degree. He's gotten some help along the way.

Layton, who received his Associate in General Studies degree from JCC in 2007, transferred to Siena Heights to pursue a bachelor's degree in computer information systems. He was already in his first semester at SHU when he learned about the McNair Scholars, a federally funded program designed to encourage eligible undergraduates to pursue graduate studies leading to the completion of a doctoral degree. He was admitted to the program later after a professor took notice of one of his papers and, while he wasn't sure he would qualify for the program's requirements, he decided to apply.



McNair Scholars must be low-income or first-generation college students, or be a member of an under-represented group in graduate education with good grades and a desire to further their education.

Among the program's many benefits are stipends for students during college, guidance in researching and selecting a graduate school, development of a research project in one's field, and academic assistance if needed. Layton participates in special activities geared for McNair Scholars, and is looking forward to his research project and what is coming down the road in graduate school.

A graduate of Western High School, Layton was a recipient of JCC's College Incentive Program scholarship, which provides two years of free tuition to students who are inducted in their sixth-grade year, provided they successfully graduate high school. "I wanted to go to Florida to become a motorcycle mechanic, but my mom strongly urged me to use the scholarship I had to JCC," Layton said. "After my first class here, I knew this was what I wanted to do."

Layton said he had an excellent time at JCC, and it's important to his whole family: his mother and a younger brother are taking classes at the College. He's also happy at Siena Heights and encourages others to think about SHU.

Forensics team prepares students in public speaking

Jackson Community College's forensics team students are speaking up to enhance their education!

JCC forensics and debate has a small but committed group of students who have traveled across the country this academic year participating in forensics and debate events. Students work on presentation skills in numerous public speaking and debate categories, all designed to help them improve their speaking skills, sharpen their organizational methods, develop research techniques, and attain self-assurance.

Student Monica Rasmussen joined the forensics team in September and has participated in several events. She is studying English and hopes to someday be a college professor, a career where her speaking and presentation skills will be vital. She is currently a tutor in JCC's Center for Student Success.

"Forensics helps me to frame my ideas to help larger groups understand what I mean," Rasmussen said. "It also helps when trying to persuade others to get something going, important when you have to move others to want to do something."

Rasmussen's favorite category is prose, in which she delivers an interpretation of a literary work. Forensics and debate features several categories, including:

- Dramatic interpretation
- Poetry interpretation
- Prose interpretation

- Program oral interpretation
- Extemporaneous speaking
- Impromptu speaking
- Informative speaking
- Persuasive speaking
- After dinner speaking
- Rhetorical criticism
- Parliamentary debate
- Lincoln-Douglas debate

"You are no longer afraid of the same things," Rasmussen said. "I'd recommend this for anyone who has to communicate and interact with people regularly, like lawyers, teachers or social workers."



Monica Rasmussen rehearses with Paige Beauchene.

Practices are flexible to fit students' busy schedules. Students are often videotaped so they can see areas they need to improve.

"Forensics is a great activity for someone who can manage time well and is interested in improving their oral communication skills," said Paige Beauchene, director of forensics and speech instructor at JCC. "We

compete against other two-year and four-year schools, and many of the kids get recruited by four-year schools." Rasmussen has had a four-year school offer her a scholarship if she transfers there, and another requested an interview.

The JCC team will finish the season by attending the Phi Rho Pi National tournament and convention in April in Chicago. The Speech Club is open to all students upon registration in LTL 301 or SPH 101. For more information about speech activities at JCC, please contact the director of forensics, Paige Beauchene.

Congratulations to the following winners from the Community Day Open House Prize Drawing held in February:

- Kathy Kennel - tuition voucher
- Za Thao - water bottle
- Jacea Smith - thumb drive
- Adam Tropiano - thumb drive
- Virginia McCourtie - clock
- Lance Hines - sweatshirt
- Samantha Ritter - sweatshirt
- Roger Reed - water bottle
- Amanda Yee - water bottle
- Alex Dymno - thumb drive
- Sabrina Heydlauff - thumb drive
- Rachel Doering - sweatshirt
- D. Pomeroy - sweatshirt

Dean Ann Green honored with Susan B. Anthony Award

JCC is pleased to congratulate Ann Green, dean of arts and sciences, on being named a 2008 recipient of the Susan B. Anthony Award.

Presented by the Jackson Women's History Council in March, Women's History Month, the award honors members of the community who promote awareness of women's issues. Green has been with JCC for 32 years, 28 as a professor and the last four as dean. Active in her work and the community, Green is not only an educator and dean but also an author and playwright who is concerned about women's issues. "I was very surprised to get the award," she said. "It is a great honor."

Green was nominated by her friend, Ann Holt, past president of the Center Stage Jackson community theater group. Both have been active in theater around Jackson. Green was asked to write the history of the Aware Shelter in Jackson, a home and refuge for women who are victims of domestic violence and their families. She wrote it as a theater piece for two voices, one voice for the women who started Aware and another for women who have been abused, and she and Holt performed it together.

Interested in the lives of women, particularly those close to home, Green also wrote the play "Ella," based on the life of Ella Merriman Sharp, a member of the Michigan

Women's Hall of Fame. The play was performed at JCC in 2001. She also serves as vice chair of the Arts and Cultural Alliance of Jackson County, and previously served 10 years on the board of the Michigan Shakespeare Festival.

As an educator, Green hopes she can serve as a role model for young women. She interacts with several not only through her role at the College but also through her coordination of the Women's History Council's essay contest, which invites high school students to write about women's history.

"Some are very interested in the lives of women. I think what really happens is they begin to realize that history is the story of a person, a real person like themselves," Green said. "I know that telling the story of a person's life is something that fascinates me. That helped me with both 'Ella' and the Aware piece."

Green holds bachelor's and master's degrees from San Francisco State University in English literature, and a doctoral degree from the University of Michigan in the teaching of English at the community college. She and husband, Elmer Sbach, have two adult sons, Rob and William.



PROFILE: JCC WOMEN'S SOFTBALL COACH

Jamie Gove

Jamie Gove, new head coach for JCC Jets women's softball, wants to see her players succeed, and she is looking forward to a great season.

"I want to give the women that play here an opportunity that they will never forget," Gove said. "I want to give them the means to succeed, and be a part of something as great as the Jets softball team. To be a part of this team, the women must be skilled, hard workers, and passionate about the sport. My expectations of my players are extremely high because the caliber of women that play here are capable of winning."



Gove graduated from Clarkston High School in 2003 after playing varsity softball for four years and volleyball for two. From 2004-'07 she was a part of the softball team at Albion College, where she was named an honorable mention for the league and also the team's Most Valuable Player in 2006. In 2007, after completing her student teaching at Concord Middle School, Gove graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in physical education and also a Bachelor of Arts in English with a concentration in education.

Gove is currently going back to school to get her master's degree in special education, emotional impairment from Western Michigan University. She is also a substitute teacher at Tekonsha Community Schools, teaching first through 12th grades in both English and physical education.

PROFILE: JCC ASSISTANT BASEBALL COACH

Scott Chase

Scott Chase is serving as the new assistant coach with the JCC Jets men's baseball team.

Chase comes to JCC from Hillsdale High School where he served as an associate head coach. The past year at Hillsdale was the best in school history and they recorded not only the most wins ever but finished off the season with a Division 3 state championship.

Chase started his collegiate career at Glen Oaks Community College as a pitcher. He then transferred to Michigan State University for one year before signing as a free agent contract with the New York Yankees' organization. Chase pitched a couple of years in Yankee pinstripes and had a short stint with Baltimore before arm trouble ended his pitching career.

Chase is very excited about being a part of the Jets baseball team and learning from longtime successful head coach Rick Smith. He will be assisting Coach Smith in various ways, but his main focus will be on the pitching staff and scouting. He has also taken on the responsibility of being an instructor at Mid Michigan Baseball Academy in Adrian along with his many other coaching obligations.

He resides in Hillsdale with his wife, Nicole, and three kids, Derek, Lauren and James.



Theatre students help with phone recording

Students Jessica Alcenius of Pleasant Lake and Luke Stanaway-Neblo of Jackson put their voice skills to work recently recording several telephone messages for JCC's financial aid office. Both are students in JCC's Voice for the Actor class and were asked to record several various messages that callers may receive. Alcenius is in her second year at JCC and is studying communications and plans to transfer to Eastern Michigan University. Stanaway-Neblo is in his second year and is studying theatre and is thinking about transferring to a university.



College plans more student housing



With the College's first student housing full, the Board of Trustees has authorized design work for a second Campus View unit.

Campus View is a 24-unit housing facility with space for 96 residents and one resident manager. Plans are for the unit to be similar in design to the current building, with the addition of a half basement for student activities. Construction cost is \$8 million and will be paid for by revenue bonds whose debt will be retired through student lease payments. Anticipated completion of the new project will be July 2009.

JCC Jets players soar to conference, league honors



SIERMINSKI

Several JCC Jets student athletes have recently earned honors in their respective sports.

In men's basketball, forward **Andy Sierminski** has been named to the men's basketball Second Team All-Western Conference in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association for the 2007-08 season. Sierminski, a sophomore at JCC, averaged 22.3 points and 8.6 rebounds per game. Sierminski played in the MCCA All-Star Game held at Lansing Community College. JCC men's basketball coach Steve Finamore coached the Western Conference team for the MCCA All-Star Game.

Several women's basketball players received honors:

- Freshman **Barbara Clayborn** was voted third team All Western Conference in the MCCA, averaging



CLAYBORN



BUDD

16.5 point per game and 10.5 rebounds per game. Clayborn represented JCC at the women's Western Conference All-Star game at LCC.

- Freshman **Samantha Budd** was voted Honorable Mention All Western Conference in the MCCA, averaging over 13.5 points, 6.5 rebounds and 2.5 assists per game.
- Sophomore **Courtney Lusk** was also voted Honorable Mention All Western Conference in the MCCA, averaging 11.5 points, 5.5 rebounds and nearly 3 assists per game.

In Jets hockey, sophomore **Ben Patch** has received Second Team All North Region honors as a defenseman in the American Collegiate Hockey Association. Patch, assistant captain for the Jets hockey team, finished the season with a record of 26 goals and 15 assists.



LUSK



PATCH

'Lord of the Dance' taps its way to JCC for May 12 performance

JCC will present "Lord of the Dance," the international favorite Irish step dancing phenomenon, at 7:30 p.m. Monday, May 12 in the Harold Sheffer Music Hall, Potter Center.

More than 100 million people worldwide have seen "Lord of the Dance" – the Irish dancing extravaganza that has performed sold out shows at theaters, arenas and stadiums in more than 67 countries. Now in its 11th year of touring, "Lord of the Dance" continues to have audiences dancing in their seats!

The story is based upon mythical Irish folklore as Don Dorcha, Lord of Darkness, challenges the ethereal lord of light, the Lord of the Dance. Creator Michael Flatley, who originated the role of the Lord, is the company's artistic director, and his influence continues to resonate throughout every aspect of the production. Irish dance lovers and music fans alike will get a chance to experience the engaging, rhythmic adventure that has helped catapult Celtic dance mania and Irish dancing into the global spotlight.

Tickets are \$45, \$42 and \$39 and may be purchased by calling the Potter Center Box Office at 517.796.8600, or online at www.jccmi.edu, under "Visitors" and "Events."



Comments or questions about the publication can be directed to the Marketing Department at 517.796.8416.

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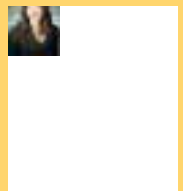
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