WE ARE

Jackson

COLLEGE

Changing Times
Finding our Future
In today’s higher education environment, change is constant. Deciding new directions necessary to achieve the mission of Jackson College is important to President Dan Phelan.

Jackson College is no stranger to change and innovation. Over the last 11 years, the College has built or renovated nine buildings, introduced many new academic programs including a new bachelor’s degree, instituted campus housing, launched both middle college and early college schools with JC/LISD Academy and Jackson Preparatory and Early College, introduced an academic honors initiative, is currently developing a competency-based education approach toward its educational program, and changed its very name. While economic shifts have brought highs and lows in enrollment, progress continues with a third campus housing unit currently under construction, and plans to renovate Bert Walker Hall in 2015.

How does a local community college plan for the future?

“Change is unrelenting in approach and its demand upon organizations and people. To completely ignore it is to reduce our relevancy to the consumer. The more crucial focus for us is to determine, how do we position our organization to respond to change? We must be open to new possibilities and consider opportunities for innovation in the way we do our work. The larger question is, how do we prepare for and facilitate change in our College?” Phelan said. “I think in large measure, the College enjoys a reputation of being innovative and change-oriented, that as new things come along, we have the ability to respond.”

The emphasis is not so much on long-range or 10-year plans as in the past, Phelan said, but in facilitating how our employees respond to change, adapt to, and to offer their own brand of innovation as we collectively look to how the College can better fulfill its role. With a strong focus on the College’s mission, vision, values, and beliefs, Phelan, the Board of Trustees and College employees gauge new ideas and initiatives in today’s competitive, increasingly global environment. College students come with a different set of expectations than in years past. Phelan stresses that those who approach the College are in fact “customers” up until the point they are in the classroom, wherein they are students. They expect, and the College delivers, quality instruction from top faculty who will help them reach their goals, which data confirm.

“We need to have the programs and services that people are looking for, and the support to help them succeed, and we will continue to work to that end.” Phelan said.

The College continues to evaluate an uncertain future will mean a continued focus on the “why.”

“I often ask myself, ‘Why are we here?’ ‘What do we have that would make people want to drive here, to participate in our programs and services?’” Phelan said. “We keep focusing on our mission, on community, state, and national need, what is mission critical? We can’t respond to everything, so we have to be ‘sifters’ of new ideas that come along, do we have the competency to develop this and will it add to our core mission?”

Some key points for the future:

- Competency-based education, education for those competencies necessary in one’s field, continues to grow. Students come with experience from past jobs, life experience or the military, and don’t want to sit through a 15-week class on topics they already know.
- International study will continue to increase in importance, creating new markets for students studying at JC, and local college students studying abroad.
- Students need to be educated both for careers and for the future, nurturing them to be lifelong learners equipped to continue to grow and change after college.
Local educator, community leader to be honored with MLK Medal of Service

Jackson College is pleased to announce that the 2015 recipient of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Medal of Service Award is Farris Coppage, retired administrator for Jackson Public Schools and active community member.

“Mr. Coppage is extremely deserving of this award. For the last 30plus years, he has personified the values of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in our Jackson community,” said Lee Hampton, JC’s director of multicultural affairs. “He has distinguished himself as a prolific educator and man of courage and distinction. Mr. Coppage is extremely deserving of this award. "Mr. Coppage is a lifetime member of the Educational Service Association of Jackson. He has served for 27 years before retiring. He is thankful for his wife’s continued support. When he was 20, he wrote in his college, for two years he lived on campus at Eastern, while his wife was home in Jackson with five children. He came home on Wednesdays and Fridays. "That was an important time in our lives. She should be credited with getting this award," he said.

Active in the community, Coppage has worked with the Jackson Civil Rights Commission and the Jackson Area Civil Rights Awareness Association, and served on the boards of directors of the Irish Hills Girl Scouts and Love In The Name of Christ. He is currently involved as a mediator with the Southeastern Dispute Resolution Center. In 2013, he was honored with a proclamation from the mayor of Jackson, who recognized his contributions to the community. Bledsoe founded the first chapter of PTK in 1996, and today it has chapters across the nation.

Each year, Jackson College awards the King Medal of Service to local community members who are committed to carrying out the dream and vision of the slain civil rights leader at the annual King Celebration dinner. Individuals are recognized for several areas, including diversity, community service and volunteerism, support for educational promotion of financial opportunities for poorer individuals, support for youth and prevention of crime.

As a boy, he marched alongside Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. As an adult, Dr. Tyrone Bledsoe is an educator, leader, speaker, author and founder of the Student African American Brotherhood Organization (SAAB).

Bledsoe is the keynote speaker at the 2015 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration at Jackson College on Jan. 17, 2015. The evening keynote will be entitled “Embracing the Past: From Dream to Reality, the Boy Who Marched with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.”

The celebration will start at 5:30 p.m. in the Robert Snyder Dining Commons, Potter Center. It will also include presentation of the 2015 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Medal of Service Award to Farris Coppage, retired educator and active community member. Tickets will be $20 for adults, $18 for students; call 517.796.8600 for more information.

About Dr. Tyrone Bledsoe

Tyrone Bledsoe was born and raised in Grenada, Mississippi, and today resides in Toledo, Ohio. He is active in the arena of higher education, and served as vice president for student life and special services, assistant professor at the University of Toledo, before transitioning to SAAB. SAAB is a national organization to enhance the experiences of and instill a spirit of care in African American males in high schools, colleges and universities around the country.

It assists participants to excel academically, socially, culturally, professionally and in the community. Bledsoe founded the first chapter in 1996, and today it has chapters across the nation.

Bledsoe is a contributing author of the recently released book “African American Men in College.”

Jossey-Bass Publisher. In 1999, he was invited to Oxford, England to serve as a guest lecturer to discuss his work with African Americans at the Oxford University Roundtable Institute, which is sponsored by the British Council. Recently, he was invited to join an international research team to address issues among men of color in Europe, Trinidad, Barbados and the Bahamas.

Bledsoe received his Bachelor of Arts and Master of Education degrees from Mississippi State University, and completed his doctorate in counseling and student affairs administration from the University of Georgia. He was chosen as the Outstanding Doctoral Student in the State of Georgia, and recognized as the Outstanding Doctoral Alumnus by the University of Georgia.

King Celebration welcomes man who marched with MLK as child

Jackson College Phi Theta Kappa Advisor, Professor Martha Petry, received a big surprise at the November membership induction.

Student Scott Barger, president of the PTK Alpha Rho Lambda chapter at JC, said officers learned at a recent leadership meeting at Leesville Outdoor Center, near Traverse City, that Petry had never been a member of PTK because she had never attended a two-year college, one of the criteria for eligibility in the two-year college honor society. The leadership team went to work, and during the induction ceremony for new members, Petry was inducted as an honorary member.

"This was such a touching experience for the officer team, because we finally found a way to give back to our spectacular mentor," Barger said. “Martha works tirelessly to support the Alpha Rho Lambda officer team on our campus adventures, in addition to engaging and encouraging all of her Jackson College students. Thank you, Martha, for your unwavering commitment!"

Petry, who teaches English, humanities and dance at Jackson College, has been advisor to the PTK Alpha Rho Lambda chapter since fall 2011. Under her guidance, the chapter has achieved Five-Star Status, and in 2013 she was selected as a Faculty Scholar for PTK and earned the Paragon Award for New Advisors.

"What I enjoy about teaching at Jackson College and serving as the PTK Theta Kappa chapter advisor here is watching my students and helping them to grow in their own love for learning,” said Petry, who was surprised by the recognition from the officer team leadership.

PTK members surprise advisor with honorary membership

Jackson College Phi Theta Kappa advisor, Professor Martha Petry, received a big surprise at the November membership induction! Student Scott Barger, president of the PTK Alpha Rho Lambda chapter at JC, said officers learned at a recent leadership meeting at Leesville Outdoor Center, near Traverse City, that Petry had never been a member of PTK because she had never attended a two-year college, one of the criteria for eligibility in the two-year college honor society. The leadership team went to work, and during the induction ceremony for new members, Petry was inducted as an honorary member.

"This was such a touching experience for the officer team, because we finally found a way to give back to our spectacular mentor," Barger said. “Martha works tirelessly to support the Alpha Rho Lambda officer team on our campus adventures, in addition to engaging and encouraging all of her Jackson College students. Thank you, Martha, for your unwavering commitment!"

Petry, who teaches English, humanities and dance at Jackson College, has been advisor to the PTK Alpha Rho Lambda chapter since fall 2011. Under her guidance, the chapter has achieved Five-Star Status, and in 2013 she was selected as a Faculty Scholar for PTK and earned the Paragon Award for New Advisors.

"What I enjoy about teaching at Jackson College and serving as the PTK Theta Kappa chapter advisor here is watching my students and helping them to grow in their own love for learning,” said Petry, who was surprised by the recognition from the officer team leadership.
Starry, Starry Night raises funds for students

Guests enjoyed the tastes of Italy when the Jackson College Foundation hosted the 18th annual Feast for Knowledge event, "Starry, Starry Night in Venice," in October.

Proceeds from the gala support Jackson College students, and this year's event raised just shy of $28,000. The College welcomed 140 guests to an evening with Venetian fare and decor. Individuals had the opportunity to participate in bidding on a number of private dinners held throughout the year, hosted by College friends and supporters. Guests enjoyed the musical serenade of strolling musicians, Jerry & Michelle Jacoby, while sampling decadent desserts prepared by Jackson College culinary students.

Please enjoy viewing additional photographs from the evening at: http://www.jccmi.edu/feastphotos.

Nominations sought for Jackson College Crockett Award

Do you know of an outstanding college alumna that deserves to be recognized? The Jackson College Foundation is accepting nominations for the annual Dr. Ethelene Jones-Crockett Distinguished Alumni Award, with nominations due Jan. 14, 2015.

Dr. Crockett attended Jackson High School and graduated from Jackson Junior College in 1934. She was director of the Crittenton Hospital clinic, headquartered the health care committee of New Detroit, Inc. and organized neighborhood health programs. As Michigan’s first female African-American obstetrician/gynecologist, she received the Detroit Medical Society’s “Physician of the Year” award. Dr. Crockett was the first woman in the 74-year history of the Christmas Seal Campaign to be president. She passed away in 1979.

To nominate someone for this honor, visit www.jccmi.edu/alumni/crockett_award.htm.

Nominations for the outstanding alumni award will be judged by the following criteria:

• The recipient shall be a woman who has attended Jackson Junior College, Jackson Community College or Jackson College, preferably having received a degree from the College.

• The individual shall display positive personal involvement in the betterment of mankind with his or her community, state, nation or world.

• The individual should have ongoing contact with the College, but particularly have shown professional or a vocational growth that exhibits values and standards in their community, state, nation or world.

• The individual shall display positive personal relations for Jackson College.

• The individual should have maintained contact with the College, but particularly have shown vocational or academic growth that exhibits values and standards in their community, state, nation or world.

• The individual shall display positive personal relations for Jackson College.

Deadline for nominations is Jan. 16, 2015. For more information, contact the Jackson College Foundation at 517.787.0144.

Spring break trip to Ireland added to international experience!

Jackson College students will have a new opportunity this spring when Dr. Becky Roberts leads a study abroad trip to Ireland.

Roberts will teach a new communications class, Intercultural Communications (COM 202), this winter semester, examining how different cultures communicate and how to better communicate across groups. The highlight will be a nine-day trip abroad.

"I would like for these students to come back with an appreciation for travel in general, and for the experience of being immersed in another culture," Roberts said. "It’s one thing to read a book or go to the museum, but it’s another thing when you are surrounded by it, its sites or smells, everything is just different. It’s the best learning experience of all."

Students will start in Dublin, and then travel northwest to Donegal. The trip is presented in conjunction with the Institute of Study Abroad Ireland, which is based in Donegal. While abroad, each participant will visit historic sites including St. Patrick’s Well, Glencar Waterfall, Parks Castle and Donegal Castle. They will then travel to Derry City, Northern Ireland, and in Dublin, visit the National Museum, Oscar Wilde Home and Trinity College.

Roberts enjoys travel herself, and has visited Canada, Brazil, Ireland, England, Ireland, and in Africa, Malawi and Zambia. "I love the adventure, I love meeting other people. When I go to a different place, I always come back a different person. People are so similar; when you talk to the average person on the street, their values are similar to my values."

Jackson College welcomes Brazilian delegation, partnership signed

Jackson College officials finalized a partnership plan in December with the Federal Technical Institutes of Brazil (Seteja and Alagoas).

Representatives from Brazil visited JC and spent a week learning about the College’s curriculum, particularly STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematical) fields, meeting college faculty and students, and visiting the greater Jackson community. Officials signed a partnership agreement which allows for exchange opportunities for faculty and staff between the two Brazilian institutions and Jackson College.

In 2015, plans are for two faculty members from Brazilian and Jackson College to meet the month of July for possible participation in an Institutional Skills Workshop, internship opportunities with local industry, co-teaching opportunities in JC courses, and additional faculty development. In fall 2015, Brazilian students will have an opportunity to study at JC for one semester, which may include technical instruction, internship opportunities, and English language instruction. The partnership agreement will be in effect for five years, with more plans to come.
Instructor helps JC students find their personal success

With successful careers in both law enforcement and business, John Knevel says his current job as an instructor at Jackson College doesn’t feel like work at all!

Knevel is an adjunct instructor and lead faculty of the College’s Freshman Year Seminar (FYS) program. He was born and raised in Minnesota, and worked 21 years in law enforcement, first as a patrolman and retiring as a police chief. He then worked in the insurance industry in a variety of capacities, and was semi-retiring from his career as a non-degreed engineer. With about 30 years of school from the early 1970s, Bartus earned his, and completed an Associate in Applied Science in alternative energy. He transferred to Siena Heights University to complete his Bachelor of Applied Science degree in power technology. He is now working toward his Master of Arts degree in higher education leadership through SHU, which he should complete in March 2015.

So, in just under four years, Bartus has gone from no college degree to master’s in four years!

Financial aid director enjoys helping students meet goals

Financial aid provides a critical need for most college students. Jackson College’s new director of financial aid, Kimberly Cvitkovic, is busy keeping up with new developments in financial aid to help students’ educational goals become reality.

Currently, 87.6 percent of Jackson College students receive some form of financial aid, with a total of $12.5 million awarded in fall 2014 semester. About 55 percent of JC students qualify for the Pell Grant, grants awarded to students who show a demonstrated need. Aid may include grants or scholarships, federal work study or student loans. Financial aid may come from the federal government, the state government, or local sources like the College and the Jackson College Foundation.

Cvitkovic has worked for Jackson College for about eight months, but has worked in the financial aid field at various institutions for 25 years, most recently at Miller College in Battle Creek. She enjoys staying ahead of the ever-changing changes in the financial aid field, with the reward being when she sees students complete college and reach their goals thanks, in part, to the financial assistance they receive.

“Financial aid is critical for students, she said. Students must apply for financial aid each year they are attending college, and are selected for a process called verification, in which documentation is requested to confirm information.

Instructor goes from no degree to master’s in four years

Jackson College instructor George Bartus has much in common with his students. The instructor of several technical trades has himself been a student for the past three years.

Bartus has taught at JC since the fall of 2013, when he began teaching the College in 2011 after semi-retiring from his career as a non-degreed engineer. With about 30 years of school from the early 1970s, Bartus enrolled at JC and completed an Associate in Applied Science in alternative energy. He transferred to Siena Heights University to complete his Bachelor of Applied Science degree in power technology. He is now working toward his Master of Arts degree in更高 education leadership through SHU, which he should complete in March 2015.

So, in just under four years, Bartus has gone from no college degree to master’s in four years!
The first semester of the LeTarte Center’s Welding and Manufacturing Program (WAMP) has been a great success!

This program, offered in partnership with the Hillsdale County Community Foundation is geared toward local high school juniors. Students are able to dual enroll in welding and advanced manufacturing classes at Jackson College while completing their regular high school classes.

The current cohort of WAMP students recently had the chance to explore the Digital Fabrication Lab at the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning at the University of Michigan. This wonderful experience allowed the students to see cutting edge technology up-close and personal! Students toured the architecture design lab. They also got to see a 3D printer, CNC router, CNC waterjet, a CNC knitting machine and 7-axis robot. Students met faculty from U of M who went on related fields and presented to students in manufacturing and design programs at University of Michigan. This was a great experience for students to see the many opportunities available to them after they complete WAMP.

In their first year students are taking classes in general manufacturing and energy, including Blueprint Reading, Electrical System, and Energy Systems. In the second year of the program students will take welding classes, including MIG/TIG welding and welding of aluminum. Students will be eligible to sit for their welding certification after completing the cohort of courses. The LeTarte Center will be partnering with the Litchfield High School Koch Center to provide students with an up-to-date welding lab.

Current high school students who are interested in taking part in the program are encouraged to speak with their high school counselor for more information. In addition to high school students in the Welding and Manufacturing Program, these classes are also open to other JC students. Students can complete the program with college Skill Sets in welding and industrial systems and be eligible to sit for an accredited Federal Energy Industry Fundamentals certification, in addition to their high school diploma. If you are interested in completing any of these classes, please contact the LeTarte Center for more information.

HCk WENDT RAFFLE BENEFITS STUDENT EMERGENCY FUND

Each year, Jackson College employees and students pitch in at holiday time to present the annual Dick Wendt Charities Raffle. This event raises money for the Harriet Myer Student Emergency Fund at the College, maintained by the JC Foundation to provide assistance to students when an unexpected emergency arises. JC employees, vendors and friends donate gift baskets valued to be worth at least $100 to the raffle. Participants buy raffle tickets to put in for the baskets of their choice, with winners drawn during a luncheon event. This year’s raffle featured 28 baskets, and raised a total of $2,314, nearly double last year’s total.

HILLSDALE LETARTE CENTER

Financial aid workshop planned

Financial aid workshops will be held Feb. 9-5 p.m., and Feb. 23, 6-8 p.m. at the LeTarte Center, 3120 W. Carters, Hillsdale.

Staff will walk you through the process of filing your online Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the 2014-2015 and/or 2015-2016 school year. Please bring: 2013 and 2014 federal tax returns, driver’s license, Social Security number, records of unearned income, recent bank statements and investment registration and Department of Education PIN number. You can also apply for a FAFSA at www.jccmi.edu.gov for information.

Phlebotomy credential available in Hillsdale

The LeTarte Center now offers the new phlebotomy skill set as an educational option to students in the Hillsdale area. To be able to complete the phlebotomy skill set as a little as one semester.

JC @ Lisd TECH

Interested in learning more about the offerings at the JC @ Lisd TECH campus? Attend an open house, 1376 N. Main Street, Adrian, from 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 10. Visitors may tour the facility and speak with staff about course offerings, enrollment, dual enrollment options for high schools and more. The open house is presented in conjunction with the Lisd TECH Center. JC @ Lisd TECH offers a range of academic programs and services. Call or stop in during the open house or throughout the week to learn more about how the College can help you achieve your educational goals.

Dick Wendt Raffle benefits Student Emergency Fund

Each year, Jackson College employees and students pitch in at holiday time to present the annual Dick Wendt Charities Raffle. This event raises money for the Harriet Myer Student Emergency Fund at the College, maintained by the JC Foundation to provide assistance to students when an unexpected emergency arises. JC employees, vendors and friends donate gift baskets valued to be worth at least $100 to the raffle. Participants buy raffle tickets to put in for the baskets of their choice, with winners drawn during a luncheon event. This year’s raffle featured 28 baskets, and raised a total of $2,314, nearly double last year’s total.

Dick Wendt Raffle benefits Student Emergency Fund

Each year, Jackson College employees and students pitch in at holiday time to present the annual Dick Wendt Charities Raffle. This event raises money for the Harriet Myer Student Emergency Fund at the College, maintained by the JC Foundation to provide assistance to students when an unexpected emergency arises. JC employees, vendors and friends donate gift baskets valued to be worth at least $100 to the raffle. Participants buy raffle tickets to put in for the baskets of their choice, with winners drawn during a luncheon event. This year’s raffle featured 28 baskets, and raised a total of $2,314, nearly double last year’s total.

Dick Wendt Raffle benefits Student Emergency Fund

Each year, Jackson College employees and students pitch in at holiday time to present the annual Dick Wendt Charities Raffle. This event raises money for the Harriet Myer Student Emergency Fund at the College, maintained by the JC Foundation to provide assistance to students when an unexpected emergency arises. JC employees, vendors and friends donate gift baskets valued to be worth at least $100 to the raffle. Participants buy raffle tickets to put in for the baskets of their choice, with winners drawn during a luncheon event. This year’s raffle featured 28 baskets, and raised a total of $2,314, nearly double last year’s total.

Dick Wendt Raffle benefits Student Emergency Fund

Each year, Jackson College employees and students pitch in at holiday time to present the annual Dick Wendt Charities Raffle. This event raises money for the Harriet Myer Student Emergency Fund at the College, maintained by the JC Foundation to provide assistance to students when an unexpected emergency arises. JC employees, vendors and friends donate gift baskets valued to be worth at least $100 to the raffle. Participants buy raffle tickets to put in for the baskets of their choice, with winners drawn during a luncheon event. This year’s raffle featured 28 baskets, and raised a total of $2,314, nearly double last year’s total.
Questions about JC programs and services described in this publication should be directed to Student Services at 517.796.8425. Comments or questions about the publication can be directed to the Marketing Department at 517.796.8416.

Publisher: Cynthia S. Allen
Editor: Dotty Karkheck
Writer: Marilynn Fryer
Graphic Design: Ashley Banks
Photography: JC Marketing Staff

Board of Trustees
Samuel R. Barnes, Chairman • John M. Crist, Vice Chairman
Sheila A. Patterson, Secretary • Donna L. Lake, Treasurer
Matthew R. Heins, Trustee • Philip E. Hoffman, Trustee
Dr. Edward A. Mathein, Trustee • Dr. Daniel J. Phelan, President

Winter Classes Begin Jan. 19
Registration for winter semester classes at Jackson College is underway! Register early for the best selection.

Log on to Jackson College’s web site at www.jccmi.edu and click on e-Services to search the class schedule and register. Winter semester classes begin Monday, Jan. 19, 2015.

A new payment policy is in place for winter 2015. Payment in full or acceptable payment arrangements must be in place by 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 23, 2015. Acceptable payment arrangements are cash, check, credit card, financial aid, sponsor authorization or FACTS Payment Plan. Sign up for FACTS early to spread the payment over a longer period of time. Students without payment arrangements risk being dropped from their courses.

The College is closed for the holidays through Jan. 4, reopening Jan. 5.

Winter semester begins Jan. 19, 2015. Call your preferred location for registration hours or visit online at www.jccmi.edu. A complete course schedule is available on the JC website under e-Services.

Girls 9-18 Invited to Maroon Softball Camp
Maroon Softball Camp 2015 is set for Sunday, Jan. 25 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Victor Cuiss Fieldhouse, Central Campus for girls 9-18

Players will receive quality instruction from JC softball players and coaches focusing on hitting fundamentals, infield/outfield technique, and pitcher/catcher mechanics. Bring a glove, bat, helmet, practice attire, gym shoes and a positive attitude! Cost is $50 per camper; contact Jeff Hankins at 517.990.1234, or HankinsJeffreyM@jccmi.edu.

Sportsman Banquet to Benefit Baseball, Volleyball
Jackson College will host a sportsman’s banquet on Saturday, Feb. 7 in the Community Events Center, Central Campus. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. for a social hour; event is from 6:30 - 11 p.m.

Community members are invited to this evening dedicated to outdoor enthusiasts. There will be a dinner with live auction and raffle for a variety of prizes, including:

- Turkey hunt in Delton
- Five-day bear hunt in Ontario, Canada
- Deer hunt in southern Ohio
- Duck hunt
- Wildlife portraits
- Guns, hunting equipment
- And much more!

Banquet dinner tickets are $40; contact Rick Smith at 517.796.8592, or visit www.JacksonCollegeJets.com. Sponsorships and Table Captains are also available; contact Smith for information. Proceeds from this event will benefit JC baseball and volleyball.

Jackson College is pleased to share our 2014 Annual Report with the community.

Available online at www.jccmi.edu/annualreport14