

for alumni
and friends
of North
Iowa Area
Community
College



Continuing Education

Over 6,500 classes are offered yearly.

80,000 enrollments are recorded across the district.

24.5% of local residents registered for one or more continuing education classes during the year.

97.7% gave the course(s) an "excellent" rating or considered it "very beneficial."

95.3% of employers are satisfied overall with contract training through NIACC.

\$6,650,000 in training through the Iowa New Jobs Training (260E) Program has helped to create 1,594 new jobs at 36 North Iowa companies in the last 5 years.

4,053 employees at 121 North Iowa companies have been involved in training within the last 5 years through the Iowa Jobs Training (260F) Program.

NIACC Leads Iowa in Providing Lean Manufacturing Training

Manufacturing companies across North Iowa are leading the state in something called "Lean Manufacturing," and they're sold on it.

Winnebago Industries, headquartered in Forest City, IA, has taken advantage of the training through North Iowa Area Community College for the past year and a half. Their goal is to eventually involve all 3,767 Winnebago employees in Charles City, Hampton, Lorimor and Forest City.

"Lean Manufacturing is easy to understand, it excites all employees once they are exposed to it and it allows everyone to systematically improve processes while eliminating waste," said Bob Olson, vice president of manufacturing for Winnebago. "It fits perfectly when changing a corporate culture to put more emphasis on quality and customer expectations, and the real benefit is it's a return to good old-fashioned common sense used to run a business."

Lean Manufacturing includes several modules, such as "Lean Manufacturing 101" and "5S," developed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Its focus is teaching people to identify the waste or non-value added activities in the manufacturing process and eliminating them with the objective to increase profits and reduce manufacturing lead times.

The Community Colleges of Iowa offer Lean Manufacturing training through the Iowa Manufacturing Extension Partnership (IMEP). The level of activity in NIACC's service area has been significant, with major manufacturers like Advanced Component Technologies, CURRIES, Fleetguard, Graham, IMI Cornelius, Iowa Mold Tooling, Kiefer Built, Metalcraft, Stellar Industries, Sukup Manufacturing, Suntron, TOPS, Wallace Computer and Winnebago taking part in the training.

Of all the Lean Manufacturing events recorded at IMEP last fiscal year, NIACC conducted approximately 40 percent of them.

"The Lean training is valuable to both the employer and employee," said Jody East, NIACC's economic development training coordinator, who was recently recognized by IMEP for her Lean Manufacturing work. "The employees learn the Lean methods by hands-on training; an actual factory simulation is used to complement the materials. Ideas from the class are taken and applied to improve the 'factory' throughout the training."

East and Jerry Wells, president of Wells & Associates, travel to companies almost daily to teach the classes. "Lean Manufacturing offers a very practical set of learnings, and this is the first training I've seen that has been developed for total employee involvement," said Wells, who has worked with 30 companies involving nearly 5,000 people in the last two years.

"Lean Manufacturing will help companies compete in the very competitive manufacturing market that exists globally," Wells explained. "Manufacturers compete based on price, quality and delivery of their products. Lean Manufacturing principles and techniques, properly implemented, will help companies reduce their costs and shorten their lead times while improving quality. All of this helps to keep manufacturers in our area competitive and to maintain jobs and employment in Iowa."

East described the results from the training as "incredible."

When asked by a member of the media how he could afford this much training and have employees away from their jobs so much, Olson replied, "How can we afford not to do this much training?"

"Because our workforce in Iowa is not growing, we have to do more with less and eliminate all process and activities that do not add value to the product," he said. "If we don't, the competition will leave us wondering what happened when we are out of business."

Another well-established local company, Wallace Computer of Osage, which (including their TOPS facility) employs over 250 people, has taken advantage of the 5S module.

"The training has been well planned out and well received," said plant manager Mark Flatley. "We are far more organized and clean compared to where we were previously and our employees believe it makes a difference and support it."

The Osage plant is one of 45 facilities for Wallace in the United States. In November, Wallace representatives from Georgia, North Carolina, California, Nebraska, Texas, Virginia and Vermont came to NIACC for a full day of 5S training, which they plan to implement in their facilities.

Lean methodology is not brand new. Olson said Winnebago Industries had been "dabbling" in it for some time. "When Jody (East) and Jerry (Wells) gave their

presentation on Lean Manufacturing, just about everything they presented we had either talked about or experimented with," he said. "Once I personally went through the Lean 101 training session, we knew this was the direction we wanted to go."

"Jody and Jerry both have a good understanding of our culture, have an open relationship with Winnebago employees and management and have earned the respect of all our employees."

Lean training is now an international event, according to Wells, with thousands of manufacturing companies all over the world learning and embracing Lean principles and techniques.

It is also moving into the service industries and office environments, so NIACC is looking into the Lean Office module. "The hospital and insurance industries are very interested in having modules developed for their use," said Wells.

It seems likely that Lean techniques will be around forever, especially since one of the guiding principles is continuous improvement and "there are always opportunities to improve!" Wells said.

Manufacturing representatives agree that they are in the "infancy" stages yet when it comes to Lean Manufacturing.

"I feel Winnebago has started a long journey that will never really be finished," said Olson. "It is more of a culture change that keeps challenging every employee to improve."

For more information about Lean Manufacturing, call Jody at 422-4218 or 1-888-GO NIACC, ext. 4218.

NIACC offers many Lean Manufacturing modules, including:

- Lean Manufacturing 101
- 5S (Sort, Set, Shine, Standardize, Sustain)
- Value Stream Mapping
- Setup Reduction/Single Minute Exchange of Dies (SMED) System
- Cellular Flow Manufacturing
- Pull Systems/Kanban
- Total Productive Maintenance (TPM)



Training Day - Trainees learn the principles of Lean Manufacturing through a factory simulation.

Photos courtesy of Winnebago Industries, Inc.



Time Saving Skills - Winnebago employees work on one of the many Lean Manufacturing training modules.

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Heilskov Joins NIACC Board

John Heilskov, of Hampton, has been elected to the NIACC Board of Directors. He replaces Maury Gulbranson, who recently completed his three-year term. As the District 9 Director, Heilskov represents the CAL, Belmont-Klemme and Hampton-Dumont community school districts.

Heilskov opened his own accounting office in Hampton about two years ago. He is a sole practitioner concentrating in tax work and small business consulting. Previously, he spent more than 20 years with Mosebach, Griffith and Company in Muscatine and Des

Moines and completed a brief stint with Krause Gentle Corporation in Des Moines.

A graduate of Hampton-Dumont High School and the University of Iowa, he also serves on the Hampton Area Chamber of Commerce Board and the R.A.C.E. Committee. He is a member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church and is the treasurer for both the Hampton Kiwanis Club and the Hampton Main Street Program.

His wife, Barb, is a nurse at Mercy Medical Center. They have two children, Soren and Selina, who are both completing their education at Southwest Missouri State University.

"Beyond their traditional roles for associate degrees, the Community Colleges

of Iowa have become key centers for technical training and lifelong learning. They are also key players in economic development," Heilskov said. "NIACC is very progressive in economic development and I want to help the College continue to make a difference in life in North Iowa."



John Heilskov

NIACC Alumni Advisory Board

Beth Bilyeu-Hesse '89
Debbie Cahalan '72
John Cork '94
Ann Fisher '93
Michael Grandon '64
Joel Hanes '49
Cheryl Jahnel '75
Barbara Kellogg '70
Jerold Magnuson '96
Duane Meyer '85
Gail Meyer '77
Terry Schumaker '94
Debbie Sedars '71
Joan Snell '65
Arlen Throne '75
Jay Urdahl '73
David Wempen '89
Mary Zishka '88

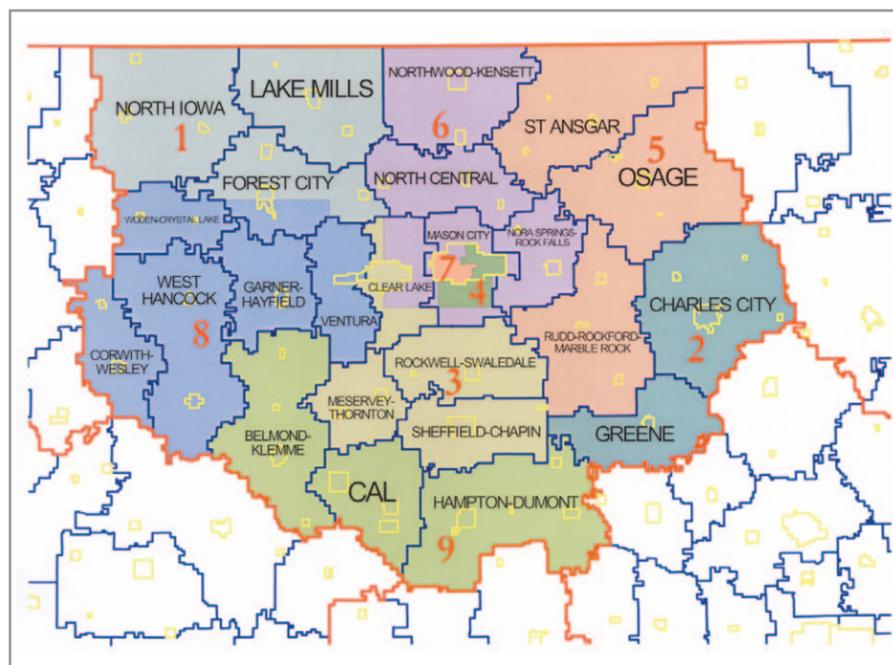
NIACC Foundation Board of Directors

Gordon Anderson '62
Jim Benjegerdes
Patricia Galasso
Maurice Gulbranson
Robert Halford '48
J. R. Herbrechtsmeyer
John Hitzhusen '34
Richard Hynes '60
Richard Long
Charles MacNider
Joyce Nielsen
Tel Pappajohn '49
Howard Query
Colin Robinson
Linda Schaefer '70
Russell Schurtz '61
David Steffens, Sr.
Vicki Sukup
Harriet Thompson
Jean Torgeson '76
Linda Upmeyer '88

New Director Districts

North Iowa Area Community College is governed by a locally-elected, nine member board of directors. The State of Iowa recently mapped new director districts for the Community Colleges of Iowa, including NIACC, in order to re-balance the population distribution represented by each director. The directors and the number of their districts remained the same, but the "footprints" of the districts have changed as indicated by the map.

District 1 - **David A. Steffens, Jr.**, Lake Mills
District 2 - **Colin Robinson**, Charles City
District 3 - **Terry Cobb**, Clear Lake
District 4 - **Rosie Hussey**, Mason City
District 5 - **Kevin Kolbet**, Osage
District 6 - **Jean Torgeson**, Manly
District 7 - **Karen Knudtson**, Mason City
District 8 - To Be Announced
District 9 - **John Heilskov**, Hampton



Garrett Boyd, a freshman in NIACC's Machine Tool & Die Program, was instrumental in the creation of an extreme sport park in his hometown of Belmont.

Richard Dedor, a NIACC freshman, is running for mayor of Mason City.

Two NIACC student athletes were named All-Americans recently by the National Junior College Athletic Association. Running back **Robert Anderson**, who led the Trojan football team to a second place conference finish and a 7-3 record, was named to the first team. NIACC soccer player **Angie Rockney**, who led the Lady Trojans to a second consecutive second-place conference finish and a 5-5-2 overall record, received honorable mention. Both intend to play for Division I schools after NIACC.

Linda Upmeyer, member of the NIACC Board of Directors from 1990 to 2002, was elected to the Iowa House of Representatives.

Laura Schurtz, NIACC agriculture instructor, and **Jennifer Kammeyer**, former

NIACC Alumni Board president, were featured among the Globe Gazette's "30 Under 40" honorees.

Jody East, NIACC economic development training coordinator, was recognized by the Iowa Manufacturing Extension Partnership (IMEP) for her outstanding contributions related to Lean Manufacturing training.

Kim Caponi, director of NIACC's North Iowa Career Center, received the Certified Workforce Development Professional credential by the National Association of Workforce Development Professionals.

Peggy Bang, visual arts instructor at NIACC, won first place in the 22nd Cerro Gordo Photo Show at the MacNider Art Museum for a black and white photograph she took in Greece entitled "Late Afternoon Santorini."

Several NIACC employees received honors from the Iowa Association for Lifelong Learning (IALL). **Bill Burdick**, management and professional development coordinator, was elected to the IALL Board. **Connie**

Gladon, Hampton/Charles City/Osage community education coordinator, was elected IALL Secretary-Elect and received the "Rookie of the Year" award. **Barb Eisenmenger**, Garner area community education coordinator, received the Missouri Valley Adult Education Association Achievement award. **Rita Foley**, continuing education office manager, will serve her second year of a two-year term on the IALL Board. **Karmen Shriver**, NIACC interim director of developmental education and adult basic education, completed her service as an IALL Board director. **Jennifer Prescott**, of the Regional Health Education Center, was awarded the Outstanding Support Personnel award.

NIACC earned three Medallion Awards during the District V Conference of the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations, the largest affiliate council of the American Association of Community Colleges. The NIACC student housing brochure won a gold award, the NIACC Performing Arts and Leadership Series brochure won a silver award and NIACC's Frame Your Future poster won a bronze award.

NIACC Faces

The following people are new to NIACC or have new roles at the College.

Carol Kelly, Associate Degree Nursing Instructor

Tina Kunzman, North Iowa Career Center Secretary

Diane Greimann, Administrative Secretary for Tech Prep and Post Secondary Education Programs

Beth Maness, North Iowa Career Center Staffing Specialist

Steven Miller, E-Commerce, Web Design and Development Instructor

Tim Putnam, Interim Director, Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center

Jack Rohde, Automotive Services Technology Instructor (Clear Lake)

Merlin Schafer, Auditorium Technician

Gary Show, Assessment/GED Records Specialist

NIACC Students Transfer With Ease Due to Numerous Articulation Agreements

North Iowa Area Community College and Iowa State University recently announced two new partnerships, which will benefit students pursuing careers in sport management and web development.

The latest articulations between the two institutions permit graduates of NIACC's Sport and Fitness Management program and NIACC's E-Commerce, Web Design and Development program to transfer up to 65 credits towards a Bachelor of Science degree.

"These articulation agreements provide students with another great opportunity for a seamless transfer of credits to Iowa State University," Michael Morrison, NIACC president, said. "Students, taxpayers and our entire region are the beneficiaries of these articulation agreements. We are proud of our strong and enduring partnership with Iowa State University."

Sport and Fitness Management graduates completing their studies at ISU will earn a B.S. degree in Exercise and Sport Science with an emphasis in Sport Management.

E-Commerce, Web Design and Development NIACC graduates completing their studies at ISU can earn a B.S. degree in Accounting, Finance, MIS, Management, Marketing, Production and Operations Management or Transportation and Logistics.

"Students earning degrees from NIACC in the technology areas of E-Commerce, Web Design and Development can easily transfer these highly marketable skills to ISU's College of Business and complete their four-year degrees," Dr. Labh Hira, ISU College of Business Dean, said. "As an area of strength for NIACC and the College of Business, we are pleased to educate tomorrow's Iowa business leaders."

Articulation agreements are not a new concept at NIACC; the College has articulated over 50 agreements with secondary and higher education institutions. Strengthened transfer relationships enhance the benefit of attending NIACC. Students are able to acquire knowledge of specific transfer requirements for selected majors prior to enrolling at NIACC and are then assured a spot at one of the partner transfer institutions upon graduation from NIACC.

NIACC articulation agreements cover a wide array of majors. NIACC students earning an Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Science (AS) degree may easily apply their NIACC credits toward a bachelor's degree in virtually any field at four-year colleges and universities in Iowa and beyond. In addition, transfer agreements pertaining to other NIACC associate degrees (Associate in Applied Science, Associate in Science-Business, Associate Degree in Nursing, etc.) cover a range of career areas from industrial technology, health and agriculture, to Sport Management and Web development most recently. Partner transfer institutions include (but are not limited to): the University of Northern Iowa; Iowa State University; University of Iowa; Drake University; Upper Iowa University; Palmer College of Chiropractic; Mt. Mercy College; Morningside College; Graceland College; Coe College; Clarke College; Briar Cliff College; Bellevue University; Northwest Missouri State University; Winona State University; Minnesota State University, Mankato; Simpson College; Mt. St. Clare College; and Buena Vista University.

In a report released by the Iowa Board of Regents on retention and six-year graduation rates at the three regents institutions, one section looks at Iowa Community College transfer graduation rates. This data shows that NIACC transfer students have a consistently higher graduation rate within six years at UNI and ISU than the institutions' native students. NIACC students' graduation rates within six years at the U of I are slightly under their native students.

Articulation agreements that NIACC has cultivated with four-year institutions provide students with the advantage of a seamless transfer opportunity after receiving a quality education at NIACC.



Articulating the Future - NIACC sport and fitness management instructor and athletic director Ryan McGuire presents the Sport and Fitness Management articulation agreement between NIACC and ISU.



Everyone's a Winner - Dr. Michael Morrison and Dr. Labh Hira celebrate the new E-Commerce, Web Design and Development NIACC-ISU articulation agreement.

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Credit Student Body

Nearly 2,800 students are enrolled in classes for college credit.

65% are full-time

96% are Iowans
(80% North Iowans)

55% are women

63% are enrolled in Transfer (Arts & Science) Programs
37% are enrolled in Career (Vocational) Programs

The faculty-student ratio is 13:1, and classes average 20-30 students

25-35% of area high school graduates enroll at NIACC the following fall. Within five years, 59% of them attend NIACC.

23 clubs and organizations contribute to a complete college experience

Approximately 200 students are involved in intercollegiate athletics.

77% are employed while attending college (average hours per week is 18)

Approximately 350 students live on campus.

80% of students receive financial assistance (includes \$5.7 million a year in grants/loans and over \$500,000 a year in scholarships)

Job fair 2003

Job Fair 2003 will be held Wednesday, March 26 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the NIACC Gymnasium. This annual event attracts an average of 80 businesses from around Iowa and the Midwest. In addition, many companies take advantage of NIACC's Virtual Job Fair that will be online at www.niacc.edu from March 3 to April 11, 2003. Whether seeking employees or seeking employment, Job Fair 2003 is a great place to make that connection.

Job Fair 2003 is organized by the North Iowa Career Center on the NIACC campus and is sponsored by NIACC, Iowa Workforce Development and the Globe Gazette. Participation is free of charge and open to the general public. For more information, visit our web site at www.niacc.edu/career_center or contact Kim Caponi, North Iowa Career Center director, at 641-422-4353 or kim.caponi@iwd.state.ia.us.



More than 60 local dancers had the opportunity to perform with the Moscow Ballet during the December production of the "Great Russian Nutcracker" held at the North Iowa Community Auditorium as part of NIACC's Performing Arts Series.

(For upcoming events, see page 9.)

Photo courtesy of the Globe Gazette

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Academic Excellence

152 students from the Class of 2002 graduated with honors, including 89 with highest honors.

23 student athletes earned Academic All-Region honors last year; 2 were named Academic All-Americans.

Over 400 students have been inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa international honor society in the past 10 years.

Nearly 150 high school valedictorians/salutatorians have attended NIACC in the past 10 years.

72 students have been involved in the Honors Program since its inception.

2,668 scholarships have been awarded to students through the NIACC Foundation in the last 5 years.

150 graduates have earned straight A's qualifying them for membership in the NIACC Hall of Fame.

300+ students have been honored over the past 11 years through the NIACC Alumni Association's Pathways to Success program.



Area high school seniors got the chance to "Explore NIACC – The Place to Be in 2003!" with North Iowa Area Community College faculty and staff in the fall.

The "Explore NIACC" first-time career exploration program, sponsored jointly by NIACC Student Services and the College Tech Prep Department, gave participants the opportunity to explore their options for the fall of 2003 and beyond. Ninety-nine students and 109 parents attended the event and enjoyed the informative, fun evening along with a free dinner from NIACC.

Students had the opportunity to attend sessions with their parents or had the chance to split up from their parents and learn more about NIACC.

Multiple career exploration sessions were offered, including "Interested in health care?," "Computers your specialty?," "Have a

scientific mind?," "Want to teach?," "Considering industrial tech?," "Exploring a business major?" and "Are agriculture opportunities in your future?."

Planning sessions, such as "Can our family afford college?," "Concerned about college?" and "Planning for a professional degree?" were available for students and parents as well.

Many students experienced hands-on activities in their area of interest. According to Rachel McGuire, NIACC director of admissions and chairperson of "Explore NIACC," participants gave this first-time event high marks.

"This will definitely become a yearly event at NIACC," McGuire said. "Students from 24 high schools in North Iowa attended, and almost all brought at least one parent. The comments from parents and students were overwhelmingly positive. I am pleased we could meet their needs."

NIACC plans to host the next "Explore NIACC" college visit in October.

DID YOU KNOW

59% of area high school graduates attend NIACC within five years of graduation.

Community Colleges of Iowa Ask for Fair and Equitable Treatment

It's easy to recognize the impact of NIACC and the community colleges of Iowa. The system of 15 schools enroll the majority of Iowa college students, provide critical ongoing training to Iowa businesses and industries, are major partners with regional economic development groups and produce graduates who choose to live and work in Iowa.

The numbers speak for themselves. The 15 community colleges of Iowa enrolled 64,404 Iowans in the fall of 2001, compared to 51,517 for Iowa's three public universities, and 14,765 for the 30+ private colleges and universities in the state.

An impressive 63 percent of Iowans entering their freshman year of college in the state enroll at an Iowa community college. Including non-credit students, more than 400,000 Iowans are served annually by the community colleges of Iowa.

Unfortunately, the dollars haven't followed the students. According to the Legislative Fiscal Bureau (Dec.01), the community colleges received \$2,136 in state support per Iowa pupil, while the private institutions received \$3,194 per pupil and the public universities received \$11,237 per pupil.

"We understand there is a greater cost for universities, but nevertheless that gap is huge," said NIACC president Michael Morrison. "Fair and equitable treatment, that's all we're asking for."

Over the past two years, state funding for the community colleges has been cut by over \$25 million, or 15 percent, as the state grappled with declining revenues. The colleges – and the students – are feeling the impact. At NIACC, for instance, the budget has had to be tightened considerably, and 15 staff and faculty positions have been lost

following early retirements or normal resignations.

And while tuition at the community colleges of Iowa is still very affordable (NIACC's is about \$2,600 a year), there is concern about pricing people out of the market. "What community colleges stand for is access," Morrison said. "With these funding gaps and decreased state support, we may soon be denying that access."

NIACC has been forced to increase tuition 35 percent over the last five years, which is only helping to ensure that Iowa community colleges tuition will remain among the highest in the nation. Last year marked the first time in history that Iowa community colleges tuition and fees surpassed state general aid.

NIACC and the community colleges are working hard to make sure Iowans know the facts so they can do something to help. The statewide grassroots advocacy campaign led by community college friends has grown over the past year and a half to include letter-writing campaigns, legislative forums, personal visits with legislators and presentations to service clubs and community groups.

"People need to understand what's at risk," said Morrison during a presentation to Charles City community and economic development leaders. "NIACC has been very progressive over the years and has made a difference in the lives of North Iowans. NIACC's ability to make a difference is now at risk."

As a friend of North Iowa Area Community College, we invite you to become an advocate for the community colleges of Iowa by joining our Advocacy Team. To submit your name for electronic updates, please e-mail hovetamm@niacc.edu.



Congratulations MCJC/NIACC!

This year marks the 85th anniversary of the College, which began in 1918 as Mason City Junior College (the first public two-year college in Iowa) and became North Iowa Area Community College in 1966. The College has been accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association since 1919.

NIACC Credit Enrollment Up 2%

The number of students enrolled in credit programs at North Iowa Area Community College reached 2,777 in the fall, an increase of 55 students, or approximately two percent, compared to a year ago.

Dr. Michael Morrison, NIACC president, describes enrollment as a moving target. "Besides the traditional 16-week face-to-face classes on the NIACC campus, we have classes in communities throughout the district, open entry/open exit classes, 8-week classes, classes in partnership with high schools and the hospital, classes over the Iowa Communications Network and classes online," he said. "It's more complex than counting heads in classrooms."

Of the 2,777 students, 96 percent are Iowans, including over 80 percent from North Iowa. Sixty-three percent are taking general arts and science classes and 37 percent are enrolled in career programs. The programs experiencing the largest enrollment growth were Automotive Service Technology, Medical Assistant and Associate Degree Nursing (ADN).



Apply for Scholarships Online

Thinking of attending NIACC in the fall of 2003? You can apply online for NIACC Foundation Scholarships at www.niacc.edu! Paper applications are also available from local high school counselors and the NIACC Financial Aid Office. The deadline for the second round of scholarships is April 1, 2003.

College Tech Prep Students Explore Career Options

This fall, 11 Information Systems Technology students from Garner, along with NIACC instructor Craig Callahan, and seven Networking I students from North Iowa High School, with teacher Brian Blodgett, visited the North Iowa Area Community College campus.

While on the NIACC campus, students explored networking closets with Jim Degen, NIACC network manager. The students also received a hands-on networking class instruction with Mike Dirksen, NIACC information technologies instructor.

Visiting NIACC gave the students the opportunity to see how networking layout diagrams (topologies), associates cabling and hardware devices they are learning about in their Networking I classes are utilized in an actual setting. It also exposed the students to an on-campus IST classroom environment.

The Garner IST group also visited River City Internet to see an example of an

Internet service provider. The students learned that River City Internet, an area provider to Mason City and surrounding communities, has a dedicated T-1 line for the banking industry and is a web host. Students were able to observe River City Internet's impressive equipment.

The College Tech Prep Program is an exciting educational opportunity that prepares students for a fast-growing technical career. Upon graduation from high school, students will have not only a high school diploma, but also have their first year of college completed at no cost to the student.

After high school graduation, students can choose to start their careers or continue their college education. Many students complete their Associate Degree with only one additional year of classes. Others

choose to pursue a four-year degree.

College Tech Prep opens the door to exciting career opportunities, while allowing students to get a head start on their college education and future.



Wired Differently - College Tech Prep students work in a NIACC IST classroom.

for alumni and friends of North Iowa Area Community College



Employees

250 full-time employees, including 92 faculty

NIACC faculty credentials: 67% have master's degrees; 7% have doctorate degrees; veteran faculty have up to 35 years teaching experience; full-time faculty instruct 70% of the courses

An additional 1,000+ people across the region help provide the programs and services available from the College.

Employees Recognized for Years of Service

Numerous members of the staff and faculty were recently honored for their years of service to the College.



35 Years of Service

Communication Instructors **Mariestelle Brown** and **Arlo Stoltenberg**



25 Years of Service

Donna Orton, Health Division Chairperson and Instructor; **Kathy Grove**, Business Office Manager/Accountant; **Mary Wendt**, Assistant Registrar/Records Office Supervisor; **Margaret Dunbar**, Associate Degree Nursing Instructor; and **Cindy Abben**, MIS Specialist with the Workforce Development Partnership. Not pictured: **Al Reiter**, Student Housing Custodian



30 Years of Service

Alice Schamber, Business Instructor; **Sandra Gobeli**, Vice President for Administrative Services; and **Paul Nagy**, Communication Skills Instructor

20 Years of Service: Larry Eichmeier,

Agriculture Division Chairperson and Instructor

15 Years of Service: Duane Meyer,

Workforce Advisor with the Workforce Development Partnership;

Lana Miller, Charles City Center Secretary;

Carol Schutte, Biological Science Instructor; and

Dennis Vrba, Natural Sciences Chairperson and Instructor

10 Years of Service: Mary Pat Cole,

Business Instructor; **Rita Foley**,

Continuing Education Office Manager; **Kris Mandsager**,

Physics/Physical Science Instructor; **Bruce McKee**,

Instructional Technology Coordinator; **Tim Slaven**,

Theatre Instructor; **Craig Zoellner**,

Biological Science Instructor

5 Years of Service: Diana Cameron,

Communication Skills Instructor; **Mitzi DeGroote**,

Student Housing Security; **Gary Eckholt**,

Manufacturing Technology Instructor; **Gary Forbess**,

Manufacturing Technology Instructor; **Phyllis Lauer**,

Custodian; **Michelle Petznick**,

Associate Director of Financial Aid/Work Study Coordinator; **Karen Pierson**,

Vice President for Student Services; **Jeff Platt**,

Psychology Instructor; **Laura Schurtz**,

Agriculture Instructor; **Deb Stockberger**,

Medical Assistant Program Leader and Instructor; **Lee Weber**,

Student Learning Center Instructor

TRAVEL AND ADVENTURE SERIES

Many Visual Trips Lie Ahead For the Travel and Adventure Series This Year

Some North Iowans have already been on a visual trip to the Great Wall in China or to the Atlantic Maritimes in Nova Scotia and look forward to their next exciting and beautiful excursion without having to leave the state. These individuals are taking advantage of the fifth annual Travel and Adventure Series sponsored by North Iowa Area Community College and the Mason City Noon Kiwanis. There are still some presentations to come if you want to embark on a new experience.

Each film is presented in the North Iowa Community Auditorium on the NIACC campus by world travelers and



Caribbean
March 26, 2003 7 p.m.

lecturers. It runs approximately 90 minutes in length with a 15-minute intermission during which time door prizes are given away.

Tickets are available at the door for \$5 (adults) or \$3 (students) and from Mason City Noon Kiwanis members.



Scandinavia Holiday (Denmark, Norway & Sweden)
March 16, 2003 2 p.m.

Alaska

February 10, 2003

7 p.m.

for alumni
and friends
of North
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NIACC Pays Tribute to Former Leaders by Naming Campus Buildings in Their Honor

Leadership List

The leadership at NIACC (and predecessor Mason City Junior College) has changed hands relatively few times in the College's 85-year history. Though their titles have changed from Dean to Superintendent to President, the chief administrators have included:

James Rae
(beginning in 1918)

Jay B. MacGregor
(1925-1926 and 1928-1929)

R. R. Fahrney
(1926-1927)

S. L. Rugland
(1929-1943)

Lueda F. Carlton
(1943-1947)

Clifford H. Beem
(1947-1966)

William F. Berner
(1966-1970)

David R. Pierce
(1971-1981)

David L. Buettner
(1981-2001)

North Iowa Area Community College has had relatively few leaders in the College's 85-year history (NIACC began in 1918 as Mason City Junior College), and the leadership has been nothing short of exceptional. The College paid tribute to its two most recent presidents – Dr. David R. Pierce and Dr. David L. Buettner – by naming significant campus buildings in their honor at the end of 2002.

"We celebrate three decades of progressive leadership which have shaped North Iowa Area Community College, the North Iowa region and all who live here."

- Kevin Kolbet

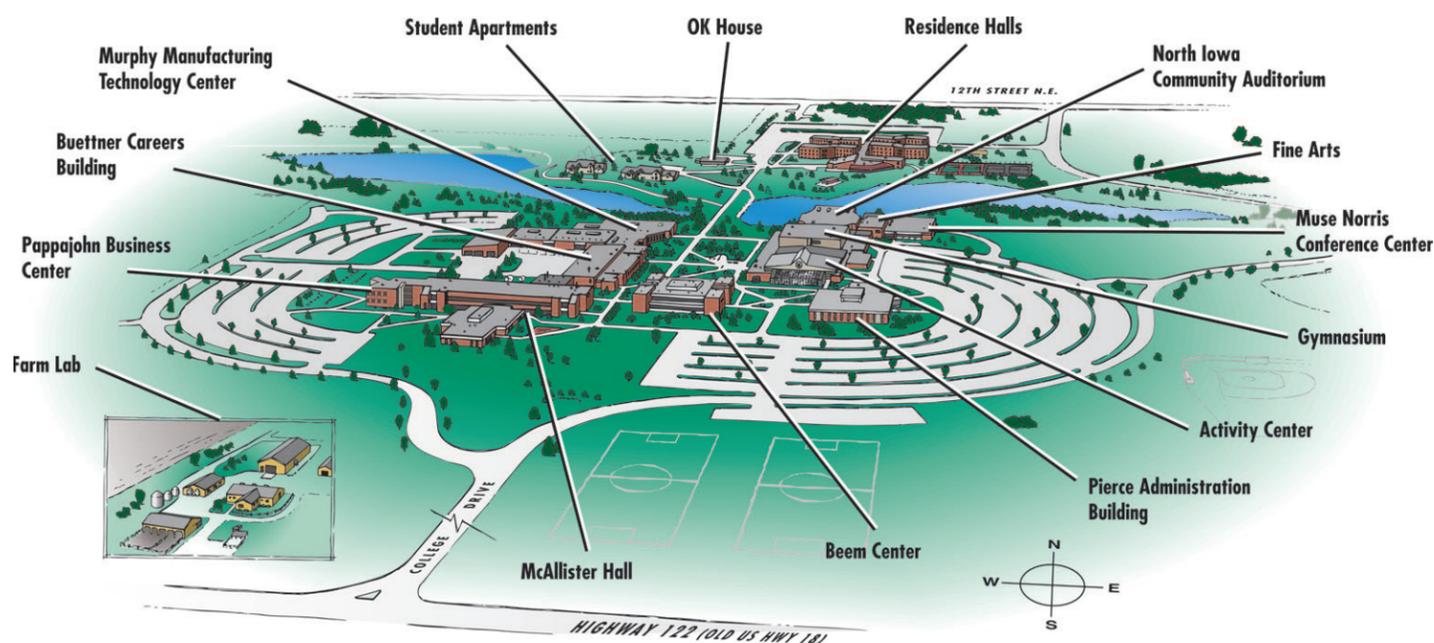
Pierce, recent president of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) who has been teaching and consulting since his retirement, led North Iowa Area Community College between 1971 and 1981. His successor, Buettner,

served as NIACC's president for the next 20 years. He currently serves as president at Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton, WI, and recently completed a term on the AACC Board of Directors.

Both men and their families returned to the NIACC campus recently to participate in an official renaming ceremony during a reception in their honor. Hundreds turned out to celebrate the newly renamed Pierce Administration Building and Buettner Careers Building.

Dr. Michael Morrison, current NIACC president, said during the ceremony, "There are three kinds of people in this world: people who make things happen, people who watch things happen and people who wonder what happened. David Buettner and David Pierce are exemplary leaders who made things happen. Our former presidents lit a bright path for the future of NIACC. Today, we take a bit of their light and rightly reflect it on them."

Jim Benjegerdes, former NIACC Board president and current NIACC Foundation Board member, said it is fitting



Celebrating Three Decades of Progress

Dr. Pierce and Dr. Buettner guided North Iowa Area Community College through tremendous growth and change over the last three decades, building NIACC into an important resource for the entire North Iowa region.



A Top-Notch Administrator - Dr. David Pierce stands in front of the newly renamed Pierce Administration Building on the NIACC campus.

In the early 1970s, the College moved to its present location on the east edge of Mason City, which unified the campus for the very first time. Two permanent buildings were constructed right away, and temporary buildings, known as Buildings A through G, popped up all over campus to accommodate the growing staff, faculty and students. Gradually, the alphabet of buildings would be replaced by permanent structures, with the lone "Building C" demolished just a few years ago to make way for the Pappajohn Business Center. The College continued to emphasize a complete college experience by building on the strong athletic tradition and adding to the variety of clubs, organizations and other social opportunities. Students could consider living on campus once the NIACC dormitories were envisioned and built and contemporary apartments would later give students another choice for campus housing. With advancing technology, NIACC became technologically savvy, working diligently to stay on the cutting edge. New program development would ensure that students were well-prepared for emerging careers and workforce skills and NIACC graduates continued to be highly sought after by employers and four-year colleges and universities. Articulation agreements with transfer schools and the strong academic performance of NIACC transfer

for alumni
and friends
of North
Iowa Area
Community
College

Presidents Pierce and Buettner Their Honor



Two Legendary Leaders - Dr. David Pierce and Dr. David Buettner celebrate the presentation of the new dedication plaques.

to celebrate our past as we look to the future. "These gentlemen have guided the College through incredible changes and growth, and we're proud that NIACC has become a tremendous asset to North Iowa."

Kevin Kolbet, president of the NIACC Board of Directors, said the College is fortunate to have had leaders who are capable,

"There are three kinds of people in this world: people who make things happen, people who watch things happen and people who wonder what happened. David Buettner and David Pierce are exemplary leaders who made things happen."

- Michael Morrison

dedicated and visionary. "We're excited to celebrate three decades of progressive leadership which have shaped North Iowa Area Community College, the North Iowa region and all who live here."



Three Wise Men - Dr. David Buettner, Dr. Michael Morrison and Dr. David Pierce have provided incredible guidance to the College.

Progressive Leadership



Quite a Career - Dr. David Buettner stands by the newly renamed Buettner Careers Building on the NIACC campus.

students, in fact, would help to build the College's reputation as a premier community college. High school students were given the opportunity to get a head start on college and their careers through NIACC, and a growing number of recent high school graduates would choose NIACC First. The student body continued to evolve as people of all ages and backgrounds took advantage of lifelong learning opportunities through NIACC. Access was enhanced with the addition of community education centers across the district and the introduction of a new way to take classes – online! With its ambitious agenda, NIACC increasingly relied on private support to reach its goals. The NIACC Foundation, which was originally established to raise money for gymnasium bleachers, would grow significantly with the support of NIACC friends...providing a valuable resource for new construction and program development, greatly expanding scholarship opportunities for students and making possible new endeavors like the popular NIACC Performing Arts and Leadership Series. Business and industry training grew in scope and magnitude, with the College becoming a valuable playing card during local communities' efforts to attract new companies to the area. NIACC's economic development and workforce development efforts would involve many strategic partners and take many shapes, including the Regional Health Education Center, the Murphy Manufacturing Technology Center, the Workforce Development Center and the Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center.

As the College celebrates its 85th anniversary, we salute our past and look forward to an exciting future!

for alumni
and friends
of North
Iowa Area
Community
College



Financial Information

Resident tuition is \$78 per credit hour; non-resident tuition is \$117 per credit hour.

Average tuition & fees for residents runs about \$1,300 per semester or \$2,600 per year.

Room & board is \$1,780 per semester.

The College operating budget is \$17.9 million.

Tuition & fees represent 37% of the operating budget.

NIACC's tax rate is 59 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation; local property taxes represent just 5% of the operating budget.

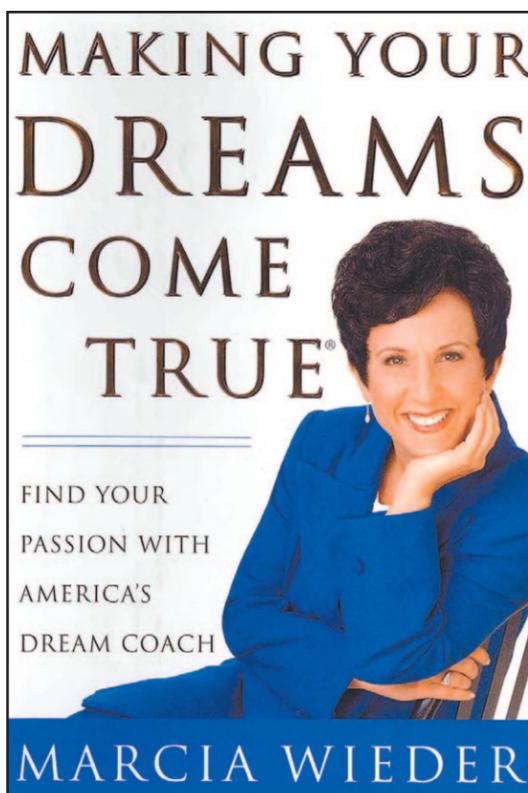
NIACC Provides Conference Opportunities for Women

North Iowa Area Community College brings numerous opportunities for women to the area through daylong Continuing Education conferences.

NIACC was host recently to Marcia Wieder, who was coined "America's Dream Coach" by Oprah Winfrey. Wieder taught North Iowa women to create a formula to overcome whatever is in the way of their dreams at her keynote address during the "On Your Way In Just One Day: A Woman's Conference" held last October.

Wieder travels the world helping people discover and achieve their dreams and conducts lectures for companies such as AT&T, American Express and The Gap as well as for groups such as the Young President's Organization and the Girl Scouts. She is the founder of Dream University and the author of two books, *Life is But a Dream* and *Doing Less and Having More*. She has appeared on national television, including *Oprah* and the *Today* show, and is featured in a national PBS television special, *Making Your Dreams Come True*. Her work has appeared in numerous print publications, including *USA Today*, the *Washington Post*, and the *New York Daily News*.

Other topics covered by "On Your Way In Just One Day: A Woman's Conference" included: Present Yourself As a Woman On



the Way Up, Investments for Women, Managing Wellness In the Workplace, Yoga, Resolving Conflict, Feng Shui, Humor In the Workplace, The Love Connection and Your Health, Personal Styles and Essential Oils and Herbs.

Women will have another chance to enhance their lives by attending "Rhythms of Life: A Day For Women" on Saturday, March 8, 2003, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at NIACC's Muse Norris Conference Center.

During the conference, Sally Allen will present the workshop "Shooting The Rapids: Applying Creativity In Your Life" which encourages women to apply creative strategies to life situations.

Keynote speaker Deadra Stanton will share stories and humor to help participants slow down and keep life in perspective when she presents "Fines Double in Road Construction." Stanton is a presenter for Creative Communications and has been a teacher for over 25 years. An honor graduate and speech scholar from Minnesota State University, Mankato, she was a three-year national speech champion.

This event promises to bring out participants' passion for life. It will indulge a need for tranquility, inner vision and creativity. The workshop will provide a chance for women to stretch their talents, minds and circle of friends.

To register for "Rhythms of Life: A Day For Women" call 422-4358 or 1-888-GO NIACC, ext. 4358. The cost is \$29.

NIACC Online Classes Boom with Interest

Story courtesy of the Globe Gazette

Tracee Sprau of Clear Lake hopes to be an elementary teacher one day – but raising a family and working a regular job makes taking college courses tough. So when North Iowa Area Community College began offering classes via the Internet, Sprau jumped at the chance to take classes from home.

"It really makes my life easier," she said.

She is not alone. Flexibility and travel cost savings have kept NIACC's online classes an increasingly popular way to take courses, officials reported. Enrollments have more than doubled each year since the 1999-2000 school year, said Tammy Hove, director of institutional advancement for NIACC.

Five classes came online in 1997. That number jumped to eight courses the next year when 258 students were taking courses. Then, word really got around.

Today, 1,649 students have taken at least one of about 40 courses now offered online at NIACC, totaling 6,200 credit hours. NIACC was the first of Iowa's community colleges to offer a complete associate of arts degree online. Tuition rates remain the same as those charged in the classroom.

Sprau, 33, has taken Composition I, Biological Principles, Art History and Chemistry, among others, via the Internet.

"When you have to travel from Clear Lake, and you have children, it just frees up time," Sprau said. "I can work at my own pace."

A mix of traditional and non-traditional students are enrolled in the courses, some from as far away as France, said instructional technology coordinator Bruce McKee.

The flexibility was the goal of the program. McKee said 80 percent of the students enrolled are from North Iowa, but the remainder reflects a mix of people.

"I have high school students from Osceola,

people who work night shifts and people in the military. I know of some in the military that moved to three different bases during the course of one course. And they kept up," McKee said.

Accounting instructor Greg Lauer said he has students enrolled from as far away as New Hampshire and Tennessee.

Courses seem limitless. Students can choose from classes ranging from microeconomics to public speaking. Those enrolled in public speaking use video equipment or CD movie media to give speeches and send them to the instructor.

There are some challenges to teaching online, both for the student and teacher, said Brent Hamilton, a career math instructor.

Teaching methods shift when they are delivered over the Internet and some minor irritations may result. In Hamilton's case, he has to hand-fashion math symbols, many of which are absent from keyboards, and then go through several software "jumps" to present them online.

Some tests need to be given under physical supervision. Hamilton's courses require that students take their test at a proctored site – with the cooperation of a local school or public library.

McKee, a key person in the establishment of online courses, is the "online teacher" for faculty. He trains and assists staff in preparing coursework for the Internet, showing them how to best utilize the program.

"If a student is having a problem accessing the course, or some other problem, they can e-mail or phone me, and I can help them, too," he said. "The College wants to make sure all our students have a high degree of

success."

Instructors must also keep on top of e-mail messages, Hamilton said. "That takes some getting used to – you don't want to have a student wait for an answer," he said. "You have to be diligent. But all of that is pretty minor," he said, adding that McKee "works with us and does an excellent job to make it all happen."

Student self-discipline is another online issue.

Online courses are not "for everyone," said office technology instructor Jeanne McCurnin. "You have to meet your own deadlines, you have to have good problem-

solving skills. What happens if you don't understand something and it's 3 a.m.?"

"Students in my class have 15 weeks to complete the work; they don't have to submit anything in-between. But it takes a particular kind of student to study in this fashion."

Lauer said most of his students enrolled in the online courses "are pretty committed to the course, and usually can get the work done in a timely way."

McCurnin agreed that the program is a good one. "It gives us more students from different areas, who have family situations that might prevent them from attending classes," McCurnin said.

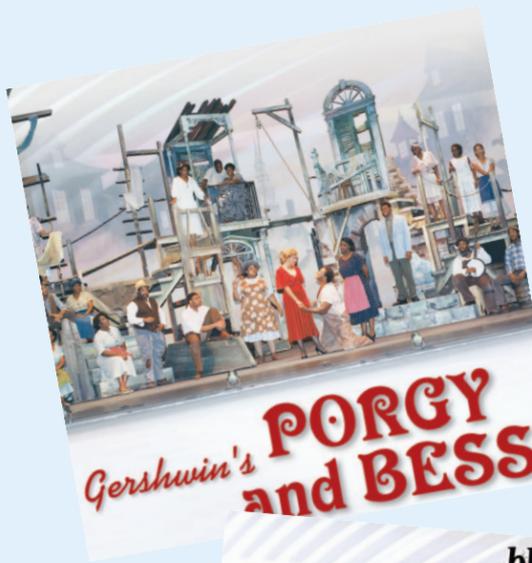
Lauer agreed. "It's a challenge at first, for the staff. You have to learn a different way of teaching," Lauer said. "But it's exciting as well. It provides access to courses to students who might not have been able to get them done otherwise."

For more information, go to:
www.niacc.edu/online

PERFORMING ARTS SERIES EVENTS

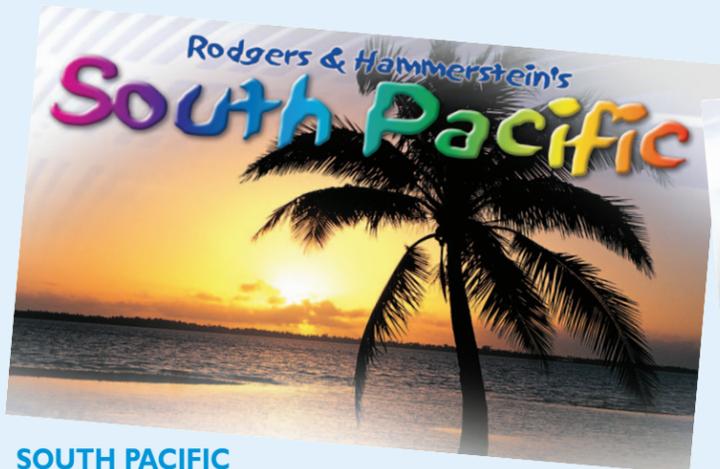
Many from around the North Iowa area have already visited the North Iowa Community Auditorium for some of the outstanding events in the 2002-2003 Performing Arts and Leadership Series. If you haven't been to an event yet this year, you're in luck, the great line-up continues! Performances still to come are: *Porgy and Bess*, February 20; *BLAST! II Shockwave*, March 4; *South Pacific*, April 15; and *The Miracle Worker*, May 4. The Leadership Series will feature Frank Abagnale on April 3.

All events will be held at the North Iowa Community Auditorium on the NIACC campus. Sponsors for the 2002-2003 series include NIACC, the Elizabeth Muse Norris Charitable Fund, the Globe Gazette, Alliant Energy, First Citizens National Bank, Hanford Inn, Henkel Construction, Mercy Medical Center – North Iowa, OmniTel Communications, Pepsi Cola General Bottlers of Mason City, the Principal Financial Group, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Heartland Arts Fund and the Iowa Arts Council. For tickets, call the NIACC Box Office at 422-4188 or 1-888-GO NIACC, ext. 4188.

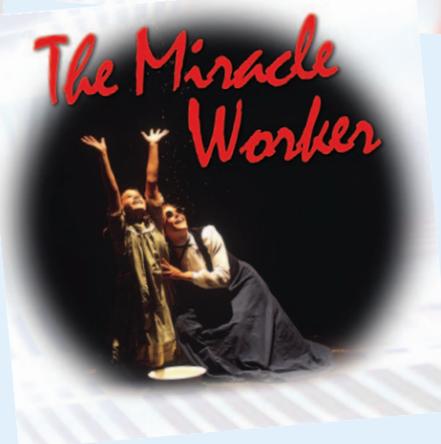


PORGY AND BESS
February 20, 2003

**SHOCKWAVE
– BLAST!**
March 4, 2003



SOUTH PACIFIC
April 15, 2003



**THE MIRACLE
WORKER**
May 4, 2003

LEADERSHIP SERIES SPEAKER

FRANK ABAGNALE
April 3, 2003

Frank Abagnale didn't use a gun or force in his now legendary life of crime. His weapon was his wit. With an I.Q. of 136, he successfully, and for extended periods of time, impersonated a doctor, attorney, professor, FBI agent and a pilot for a major airline. After serving time and repaying the \$2.5 million, he is now one of the world's most respected authorities on the subjects of forgery, embezzlement and secure documents. Abagnale's incredible story has a moral. In an emotional roller coaster ride, he takes the audience from laughter to tears and shows that family is the most important thing. His story is depicted in the best-selling book *Catch Me If You Can*, also a motion picture by Steven Spielberg's company, DreamWorks.



WELLMARK INVESTMENT CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

development," he said. "It also represents another strong vote of confidence in NIACC. We are very pleased to be recognized through this partnership for our leadership in entrepreneurial education and development."

The Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Centers provide a range of innovative education, programs and support services designed for entrepreneurs and existing business owners. They provide expertise in all stages of business planning and development, and serve as vehicles to bring new products and technologies to market. The Centers collaborate with other organizations as necessary to stimulate Iowa's entrepreneurial environment. Their work has led to hundreds

of new businesses and improved operations for small-business owners across the state.

NIACC held a news conference to announce what impact the Wellmark Community Venture Fund investment monies will have on North Iowa and where they will be invested in the area. On hand were David Keck, chief financial officer of Equity Dynamics; Tim Putnam, interim director of the NIACC Pappajohn Center; President Morrison, and North Iowa stakeholders – including entrepreneurs, small business owners, angel investors and community leaders.

"Adequate capital better assures that a business can reach its break-even point and become self-sustaining," said Richard Petersen, director of the Small Business

Development Center. "The Wellmark investment can help more North Iowa businesses begin on solid footing."

Putnam explained that the Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center will consider all types of projects, and businesses with the following characteristics will be given higher priority: value-added agriculture, advanced manufacturing, new innovation and technology-based; potential to show significant growth or become regional; and ability to attract equity capital and/or debt financing.

For more information, contact the NIACC Pappajohn Center at 422-4111 or 1-888-GO NIACC, ext. 4111.

for alumni
and friends
of North
Iowa Area
Community
College



Facilities

- 500-acre countryside campus
- state-of-the-art classrooms and laboratories
- 1,150-seat performance auditorium
- 150-seat classroom auditorium
- 3,600 sq. ft. conference center
- multi-purpose seminar rooms
- contemporary student activity center
- Writer's Workbench
- library with complete services and resources
- nearly 500 computers available for student use
- networked faculty and staff offices and work stations
- 4 Iowa Communications Network (ICN) classrooms
- advanced manufacturing technology center
- athletic facilities - gymnasium, soccer fields, softball/baseball/football practice fields
- fitness center
- residence halls and student apartments
- OK House
- free parking

for alumni
and friends
of North
Iowa Area
Community
College



NIACC Service Area

The North Iowa Area Community College service area (Area Two) encompasses all of Cerro Gordo, Floyd, Franklin, Hancock, Mitchell, Winnebago and Worth counties and parts of Butler, Chickasaw, Kossuth and Wright counties.

3,621 square miles

\$4,687,505,531 assessed valuation

121,074 citizens among nearly 60,000 households

Hollywood Writer-Producer to Speak at Pathways to Success

Dave Alan Johnson, a Hollywood writer-producer, will be the honored guest and speaker for this year's Pathways to Success event to be held in April on the NIACC campus.

The NIACC Alumni Association hosts this annual event to honor a select group of students for their scholarship, leadership and character. An accomplished NIACC graduate is invited back each year to share his or her "pathway to success" with the students and general audience.

The son of Roy and Bonnie Johnson of Buffalo Center, Dave Johnson is a 1976 graduate of North Iowa Area Community College. He has been a successful member of the Hollywood community for more than a decade, showing his creative talents for such leading entertainment companies as Warner Bros., DreamWorks, Disney, Paramount, Sony, MGM, FOX, ABC, NBC and CBS.

This season, he serves double duty as the creator of PAX TV's "Sue Thomas: F. B. Eye" in its first season and "Doc" now in its third season. He works on both series with his

brother, Gary, and sister-in-law, Joan.

Johnson has created and produced such celebrated television series as ABC's "Jack's Place" starring Hal Linden, the critically acclaimed NBC series "Against the Grain" starring Ben Affleck, and CBS's "The Client" with JoBeth Williams. He co-created and produced "High Incident" with Steven Spielberg and is currently developing "Just A Few Savages," an upcoming movie from Impact Films.

Tony Jonas, former President of Warner Bros. TV said, "Dave's prolific ability to create and write quality scripts, coupled with his show-running talent, places him among the best writer/producers in the industry."

Despite his celebrity status, Johnson still feels his greatest assets were acquired while growing up in his native Iowa. "My roots and faith have given me an ability to touch the hearts and minds of everyday folks across the country because I'm one of them. It's something I'm proud of -- it's who I am."

Johnson and his wife, Diane, live in Moorpark, CA, with their daughter, Alex, and son, Matt.



Pathways to Success Speaker -
Dave Johnson (right), a 1976 NIACC graduate, shares a laugh with Billy Ray Cyrus, who stars in the hit drama series "Doc" which Johnson created and writes for PAX TV. Johnson will be the guest speaker for the NIACC Alumni Association's 2003 Pathways to Success event in April.

Donations Come in Many Forms



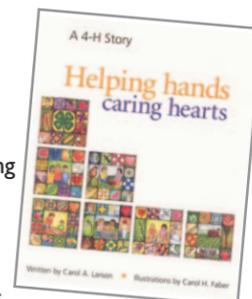
Automotive instructors Greg Arrowood and Rob Heimbuch stand next to the new 2001 Chrysler Sebring LXI, one of two vehicles donated by Daimler Chrysler. The vehicles will be used to help NIACC automotive students develop their troubleshooting skills on these vehicles and become exposed to the new automotive technology that Chrysler has to offer.

Photo courtesy of Chris Wright, Logos Student Newspaper



Recently retired NIACC instructors, Mary and Mike Thede, display some of the beautiful wildlife prints they have donated to the NIACC Foundation. The majority of the artwork is by Robert Bateman.

Carol Faber, NIACC visual arts instructor and gallery director, illustrated the book "A 4-H Story: Helping Hands and Caring Hearts." This children's history book commemorates the 100th anniversary of 4-H.



Faber grew up in Woodbury County and was a member of the Leeds Leaders and 4-Leaf Falcons 4-H clubs. She still works in 4-H as a volunteer and judge for the visual arts.

Her drawings, made for the 56-page, full color book, help present the history of 4-H through the alphabet. The book is meant for children of all ages.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Our Recent Retirees!

The following people retired from NIACC in December 2002.



Bill Baylor
Custodial Maintenance
8 Years



Dennis Brunsvold
Mechanical Design
Technology Instructor
37 Years



Mary Pat Cole
Human Relations
Instructor
11 Years



Margaret Dunbar
Associate Degree
Nursing Instructor
26 Years



Kay Haugen
Assessment/GED
Records Specialist
24 Years



Mary Miller
Student Learning
Center Associate
17 Years



Tom Oswald
Education/Psychology
Instructor
10 Years



Mary Thede
Mathematics Instructor
10 Years



Mike Thede
Geography/Western
Civilization Instructor
15 Years



Dennis Vrba
Natural Sciences
Chairperson/Instructor
16 Years



Jim Zirnhelt
Humanities and
Social Science
Chairperson/Instructor
34 Years

A L U M N I A L M A N A C

1980s
Sharon (Edwards) Carberry '60 is presently teaching second grade in Rosebud, TX.

Dr. Robert Keith '60 of Cincinnati, OH, is a professor of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Cincinnati, College of Medicine.

Barr Connelly '61, an All-American basketball player at MCJC, has retired after 30 years in public education. He was a teacher, counselor and administrator with the Jefferson County Public School system in Golden, CO.

Ronald D. Minert, who attended MCJC in the early '60s, is the president of Harley-Davidson, Inc. of Mason City, the largest Harley dealership in Iowa. He and his brother recently opened Cedar River Harley-Davidson in Charles City, IA.

David Rinden '62 is the Reverend/Clergy at the Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Rochester, MN.

Phillip J. Haddy '67 is the Sports Information Director for the University of Iowa. He and his wife, **Elaine (Altmaier) Haddy**, live in Iowa City, IA.

Robert L. Moeller '68 is a teacher at Kern High School in Bakersfield, CA. He retired from the Army in 1991.

Kathleen M. (Frank) Jones '69 of Huxley, IA, is a registrar at Iowa State University.

1970s
Stephen M. Anderson '72 of Houston, TX, is a logistics systems manager and world wide customer operator for Hewlett-Packard. He has worked there 13 years.

Tim Leibrand '72 is the Pharmacy Manager at Drug Town in Mason City. He has worked there 25 years.

Craig Hoskinson '74 of Bellevue, NE, is employed by Claas Omaha LLC as a product support manager for North America.

Susan D. Janka '76 is an RN at the Albert Lea Medical Center-Mayo Health System.

Angela Webb '77 of Algona, IA, is a rural outreach victim advocate for the Family Crisis Center of North Iowa.

John A. DiMarco '79 of Mason City, IA, is a personal banking officer at Wells Fargo Bank.

1980s
Mark E. Mullins '81 of Clear Lake, IA, has returned to North Iowa after living in Arizona for 20 years. He is the general sales manager for Stellar Industries in Garner.

Julie A. Reese '82 of Clear Lake, IA, is a personal banking officer at Wells Fargo Bank.

Dawn Collins '83 earned her general securities license two years ago and is a registered sales assistant with U.S. Bancorp Piper Jaffray in Mason City, IA.

Dennis Malecek '88 is the director of operations at BMC Industries in St. Paul, MN. His wife, **Rhonda (Reising) Malecek** '89 teaches at South Washington Community School District in Cottage Grove. They make their home in Hammond, WI.

Beth Bilyeu-Hesse '89 of Clear Lake, IA, is the executive director for Forest City Economic Development, Inc.

Stacy Brocka '89 is a geotechnical engineer and special projects engineer for Allender Butzke Engineers in Urbandale, IA.

Rene Marie Duregger '89 has been accepted at St. George's University School of Medicine in Grenada, West Indies.

Scott Gratias '89 is a private investigator with Gratias Investigations, Inc. He and his wife, **Laura (Muehlstedt) Gratias** '89, live in Waukee, IA, with their three children.

Paula (Thome) Huemann '89 of Waterloo, IA, teaches at Central Middle School.

Tammy (Steinwandt) Bryant '90 of Mason City, IA, is the health promotion and education service manager for the Cerro Gordo County Department of Public Health.

1990s
Chad Kickbush '90 of Broken Arrow, OK, is a supervisor with Williams Communications. His wife, **Angela (Cooley) Kickbush** '89, teaches kindergarten and runs her own costume jewelry and accessories business, Cool ThANG's. They have three young children.

Dale Nicholson '90 of Marion, IA, is a programmer analyst with APAC. He and some other Northwood-Kensett HS graduates started a new website: www.northiowasports.com.

Merlin Schafer '91 and '93 of Mason City, IA is the new Auditorium Technician at North Iowa Area Community College.

Kevin Sullivan '91 of Farmington, MN, was recently married and is employed at Cross Telecom in Eden Prairie, MN.

Neishaun Butrick '92 is a member of the Fire and Rescue Squad in Cedarburg, WI. She also works for a major law firm in the area.

Wilma T. Evans '92 is the community organizer for the Social Development Commission in Milwaukee, WI.

Jason A. Miller '92 of Mason City, IA, is the parts manager for Cedar River Harley-Davidson of Charles City.

Kraig Kessler '93 is an IT systems analyst with the Social Security Administration headquartered in Baltimore, MD.

Robert Parker '93 is an account executive for KIMT Television. He and his wife, **Penni (Krueger) Parker** '98, live in Mason City, IA.

Susan Boekelman '94 is a registered nurse at United Hospital in St. Paul, MN.

Jason Chose '95 of Ventura, IA, is an associate engineer for Fleetguard in Lake Mills, IA.

Amy Fessler '95 is the new guidance counselor for Rudd-Rockford-Marble Rock school district. Previously, she worked at the North Iowa Transition Center.

Lisa (Downing) Stahl '95, of Wausau, WI, is the director of sales and marketing for Figi's in Marshfield, WI.

Sherry L. (Flugge) Carolan '96 was recently married and is employed at Tom's Family Pharmacy in New Hampton, IA.

Andrew Klemesrud '96 is the athletic director at Rockford Senior High in Rockford, IA.

Patty (Palenyk) Paul '97 completed the Upper Midwest Sales Leadership and Management School program and is the Heritage Club Coordinator at First Citizens National Bank in Mason City, IA.

Kim Price '97 of Forest City, IA, has accepted a new position with Mercy Medical Center-North Iowa in Mason City. He was previously the administrator at Belmont Community Hospital.

Bridget (Siemons) Schultz '97 is the program coordinator for the National Coalition for Campus Children's Centers at the University of Northern Iowa where she is working on her master's degree. She and her husband, **Chet Schultz** '93, live in Greene, IA.

Katy Thorn DeKoter '97 of Spirit Lake, IA, is a registered nurse with the WIC program.

Allison (Van Zante) Dhablat '98 of Mason City, IA, was recently married and is employed by Mercy Medical Center-North Iowa.

Dr. Scott W. Nelson '98 and his wife, **Jessica (Schreiber) Nelson**, returned to North Iowa to open Mason City Chiropractic in August of 2002. They have a daughter and are expecting their second child in the spring.

Aaron Pearson '98 was recently married and is a physical education teacher and coach in Rockford, IA.

Jesse Reimer '98 of Davenport, IA, was recently married and is a personal banker with Wells Fargo Bank.

Addie (Harmon) Rugland '98 has been named public relations and membership specialist at the Mason City YMCA. She and her husband, **Kristoffer Rugland** '99, live in Northwood, IA.

Natalie A. Tierney '98 is a vet assistant at City Cat Clinic in Minneapolis, MN.

Cally (Orluske) Peterson '99 is manager of The Buckle at Southbridge Mall in Mason City, IA.

2000s
Michael French '00 is one of the 170 paramedics in the Greenville, SC, area.

Jamie Jennings '00 is a recreation specialist at Tanager Place in Iowa City, IA.

Jana (McBride) Staudt '00 and **Troy Staudt** '00 were recently married. She is working at Kendell Hunt in Dubuque, IA, and he is a history teacher at Marquette High School in Bellevue, IA, where they reside.

Rachel Sheriff '01 is the new director of nursing for Village Oaks, an 80-unit assisted living facility in Farmers Branch, TX.

for alumni
and friends
of North
Iowa Area
Community
College



NIACC Graduates

The Class of 2002 represents 9 states and 108 communities across Iowa.

NIACC awarded 585 degrees and diplomas to 549 students during the 2001-2002 school year.

99% of students completing Career Programs in 2002 are employed; 92% in Iowa.

32 Career Programs experienced 100% placement.

Over 700 former NIACC students are currently completing their bachelor's degrees at the three state universities.

More than 25,000 people have graduated from NIACC (or predecessor Mason City Junior College) since the College was established 85 years ago.

IN MEMORY

1950
Gerald E. Herbener, 72
 August 12, 2002

1966
Cletus P. Staudt, 55
 July 4, 2002

1974
Dennis J. Gilbert, 47
 September 10, 2002

1978
Loren J. Hofler, 47
 July 24, 2002

1993
Karen R. Plagge, 59
 October 27, 2002

1996
Carmen D. Schrader, 41
 December 28, 2002

1997
Connie D. Adams, 39
 August 22, 2002

Alumni

ASSOCIATION



Greetings to all Mason City Junior College and North Iowa Area Community College alumni! You're in good company... 25,000 people have graduated from the College during our 85-year history. Wow!

If you haven't heard from the College in awhile (or at all) since you graduated, welcome to the Intouch newsletter! This publication is produced

by NIACC's Institutional Advancement Office and mailed twice a year to alumni and friends of the College. It is designed to provide you with news about NIACC and keep you aware of opportunities. To stay closely connected with the College, we invite you to join the NIACC Alumni Association. Look inside for the postage paid envelope with all the details!

NIACC

500 College Drive
Mason City, IA 50401

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INTOUCH

Pappajohn Announces Wellmark's Plan to Invest \$5 Million in Start-Ups of New Iowa Businesses

Encouraging entrepreneurial thinking is still an important focus of the Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Centers at NIACC and the state universities, but the Centers recently moved into new territory – providing new businesses with direct access to venture capital.

John Pappajohn, founder of the Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Centers, announced Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield's plan to invest \$5 million in venture funding to help launch Iowa business start-ups through the Centers at Iowa State University in Ames, the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls, the University of Iowa in Iowa City and North Iowa Area Community College in Mason City. Each Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center will award \$250,000 each year for five years.

This investment in loans for new, viable start-up businesses that will create well-paying jobs, moves the Pappajohn Centers into a new area of promoting entrepreneurship. Through a rigorous

process of approval, new start-up businesses with a well-documented business plan will be able to apply for funding. Locally, the loans will first be approved by NIACC's Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center and Small Business Development Center and will gain final approval from Equity Dynamics, Pappajohn's venture capital firm in Des Moines.

"We're pleased to move the Pappajohn Centers from the original intent of cultivating entrepreneurial ideas to providing entrepreneurial training and now helping with opportunities of seed capital to move businesses forward," Pappajohn said. "Now, the Pappajohn Centers will close the gap on funding that is so desperately needed in Iowa." NIACC president Michael Morrison said this initiative is vital for our communities. "Very few issues are more important for the North Iowa region than entrepreneurial and economic

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A Wise Investment - NIACC president Dr. Michael Morrison addresses area business and political leaders and media representatives at a news conference.

*for alumni
and friends
of North
Iowa Area
Community
College*

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