Mott Community College welcomes new President

Dr. Beverly Walker-Griffea joined Mott Community College as our new president on August 27, 2014. Dr. Walker-Griffea served as the Senior Vice President for Student Services at Montgomery College in Rockville, Maryland before accepting the MCC president position. She has also worked as vice president for student affairs at Thomas Nelson Community College in Hampton, Virginia and prior to that as dean of student development at Houston Community College System – Central College in Houston. Her achievements include increasing student enrollment and enhancing retention and graduate rates. She is also committed to supporting the revitalization of the community.

“With 19 years of experience working in a community college environment, Dr. Walker-Griffea possesses the skills needed to build on Mott Community College’s standing as one of the top 10 community colleges in the United States,” said Lenore Croudy, Chair of the MCC Board of Trustees. “Her understanding of workforce and economic development, commitment to community engagement and her ability to work closely with faculty, staff and students to achieve Mott College’s goals will help our college continue its 90-plus year tradition of excellence.”

Dr. Walker-Griffea holds a Ph.D. in Child Development from Texas Woman’s University, a Master’s degree in guidance and counseling from Virginia State University and a Bachelor’s degree in journalism and broadcasting from Oklahoma State University.

As the seventh president since MCC became a county-wide community college in 1969, she is making history as MCC’s first woman to serve as president, as well as the institution’s first African American president.

In addition, Dr. Walker-Griffea was recently elected president-elect for the American Association for Women in Community Colleges National Board. She will serve a one-year term as president-elect followed by a two-year term as president from 2015 to 2017.

MCC Student Life Center naming ceremony

On Sept. 25, the MCC campus community gathered to honor the generous support of The Foundation for Mott Community College board member Raja-gopal Shantararam, and the naming of the college’s Student Life Center in honor of his parents.

The new name for the facility is: the G. Radhabai (pronounced RA-da-boy) and A.V. Rajagopal (pronounced RAJ-a-go-pal) Student Life Center.

Shantararam was joined by a host of family and friends, MCC President Dr. Beverly Walker-Griffea, MCC Board of Trustees Chair Lenore Croudy, The Foundation for Mott Community College President Lennetta Coney, FMCC Board members, MCC administrators, faculty, staff and students for a ribbon-cutting at the naming ceremony.

“Their parents inspired them to look at education as a pathway to success and the pathway to a new future,” Lennetta Coney said. “That is what we’re doing here at Mott Community College.”

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The mission of the G. Radhabai and A.V. Rajagopal Student Life Center at MCC is to complement and enhance the academic programs of the College and to contribute to the growth of the individual student. MCC strives to provide an excellent opportunity for students to make the most of their college experience by encouraging involvement in a variety of activities, student clubs and organizations, associations and events – both on and off campus.

Dr. Shantaram and wife, Chandrika are joined by MCC President Dr. Walker-Griffea and their daughter Anoopa Todd near the plaque bearing the likeness of Dr. Shantaram’s parents.

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FMCC supports new projects, great ideas with Innovation Award grants

Whether it’s an idea to develop an online study tool featuring photos of the skeleton, or gathering information to teach the basics of the African American English (AAE) verb and tense system, The Foundation for Mott Community College has been there to help.

The Faculty/Staff Innovation & Student Success Awards, coordinated by MCC’s Office of Professional Development & Experiential Learning with funding provided by The Foundation for MCC, support faculty and staff with innovative projects and programs, specifically designed to enhance student success at MCC. The projects submitted for consideration tend to involve novel ways of approaching or conveying academic subject matter, combining the elements of ingenuity and new ideas, keeping with the ever-important goal of increasing successful outcomes for MCC students.

This Fall, Jennifer Fillion, Coordinator/Professor of Anthropology at MCC, led a team of faculty members that included Bob Rentschler, Photography Program Coordinator/Photography Instructor and Robert Benard, Coordinator/Instructor of Information Technology, in developing a study website -- accessible to both computer and mobile devices – that allows students to quiz themselves on the placement of bone elements and anatomical structures they are required to learn in the Anthropology 210 and Biology 151 courses at MCC. Fillion believes the new website will go a long way toward improving students’ grades in those courses.

“Students using this tool will be able to improve their grades in ANTH 210 and BIOL 151 in a positive way,” she stated. “This will translate into better success in the class. It will also help students stay engaged in their learning materials outside of class which will encourage them to stick to a learning strategy.”

English Professor Laura Tobias became interested in African American English (AAE) after reading “The Logic of Non-Standard English” by William Labov when she was in graduate school. She has a deep respect for AAE -- a dialect of American English characterized by pronunciations, syntactic structures, and vocabulary primarily used by some North American black people.

In an effort to reach students in Developmental English courses at MCC, she sought to do a study of literature available on the teach-
2014-15 Calendar of Events

Medical Alumni Connection
For MCC alumni working at Genesys or Hurley
Genesys – 12/4/14 7-8:30am; 11:30-1pm; 5-6:30pm
Hurley – 12/8/14 7-8:30am; 11:30-1pm; 5-6:30pm

Alumni Reception & Concert
Featuring the MCC Jazz Band & Combos
6pm Dec. 9, 2014 Free Concert • 7pm Alumni Reception
in the MMB Auditorium

Martin Luther King Jr. Tribute Dinner
Featuring Rabbi Karen Companez
6pm Jan. 15, 2015 • Riverfront Banquet Center • $50 / $500

MLK Jr. “Moving Beyond Prejudice” Movie Night
6pm Jan. 19, 2015 at Davenport University-Room #103 (4318 Miller Rd.)
Movie: “The Last White Knight” • No RSVP required

MCC Night at The Palace of Auburn Hills
Jan. 27, 2015 / All welcome – Alumni, Donors, Friends, Students!
Pistons vs. Cleveland Cavaliers! Tickets $60 with own transportation, $70 for bus.

Concert and Alumni Reception
Feb. 23, 2015, 6pm Concert, 7pm Reception

MCC Night at The Palace
Feb. 27, 2015 / All welcome – Alumni, Donors, Friends, Students!
Pistons vs. The New York Knicks! Tickets $60 with own transportation, $70 for bus.

Black History Month
Feb. 19, 2015, 11:30am-12:30pm at Applewood Café
Alumni & Donors Welcome! Cost $25 • RSVP to (810) 762-0534

Women’s History Month
March 19, 2015 11:30am-12:30pm at Applewood Café
Alumni & Donors Welcome! Cost $25 • RSVP to (810) 762-0534

Arizona Alumni Chapter Event
Noon to 3pm on Thurs., April 16, 2015 • Free
Tempe Center for the Arts featuring Lunch and Gallery tour

Distinguished Alumni Award Ceremony
5:30-8:30pm, April 23, 2015 • Event Center • $50

Concert and Alumni Reception
April 27, 2015, 6pm Concert, 7pm Reception

Breakfast with the Graduates
Coming in early April

Unless noted otherwise, RSVP to mcceventsonline.com
or call (810) 762-0425.
MCC Night at The Palace of Auburn Hills

January 27, 2015

All welcome – Alumni, Donors, Friends, Students!

Pistons vs. Cleveland Cavaliers!

Thanks to the huge success of the inaugural Mott Community College Night at The Palace of Auburn Hills events held during the 2013-14 season, The Foundation for MCC and the MCC Alumni Association invite you to enjoy a Detroit Pistons basketball game from the luxurious suite level at The Palace. This exciting event is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 27 inside the exclusive Club 300, an upscale sports bar located on The Palace’s suite level. Club 300 opens at 6 p.m. and the game starts at 7:30 p.m. with the Pistons taking on the Cleveland Cavaliers. Tickets are $60 providing your own transportation or $70, which includes bus transportation from the MCC main campus to The Palace.

Amenities featured at Club 300 include private game seating, multiple flat screen TVs, two bars, private restrooms and much more. Your ticket will also include a dinner buffet, craft beer tastings and cash bar. A portion of the proceeds from ticket sales benefit MCC Alumni Association programs. RSVPs are requested no later than Jan. 13, 2015 as seating is limited. Please contact Whitney Henry at The Palace of Auburn Hills at whenry@palacenet.com to reserve tickets, or for more information, call Anoop Todd at The Foundation for MCC at (810) 762-0326. Checks should be made payable to Detroit Pistons and can be mailed to: The Palace of Auburn Hills, Attn. Whitney Henry, 6 Championship Drive, Auburn Hills, MI 48326.