Siemens Corp. recently announced a $55.8 million in-kind software grant to Mott Community College to train students on how to use its product lifecycle management (PLM) software in careers like robotics design and computer-aided design and engineering.

Thanks to this massive gift, students will now have access to the same Siemens PLM software used in nearly every manufacturing environment in the world – and by more than 80% of automakers – to improve productivity and efficiency in the manufacturing process. The announcement was made during the 2014 Automotive Summit in March at the Manufacturing in America Symposium at Ford Field in Detroit, with U.S. Senator Carl Levin, Congressman Sander Levin and a host of dignitaries, civic and educational leaders in attendance.

Siemens Corp. has enjoyed a longstanding relationship with MCC's Computer Aided Drafting & Design (CADD) program, specifically. As software plays an increasing role in the next era of manufacturing, students will now have access to training on Siemens PLM data management programs utilizing collaboration tools.

"MCC has a long and productive history working with Siemens and is honored to be selected for this software grant," said MCC President M. Richard Shaink. "We believe that partnerships like this will allow the college to better understand and update programs that prepare the future workforce for success."

Consideration for this grant was due in large part to the great work MCC's CADD program has been known for since its start as a Drafting Program in the 1950s. The announcement caught the attention of national, state and local media, including The Wall Street Journal, Forbes and The Detroit Free Press.

MCC’s Longest Serving President to Retire

M. Richard Shaink, Ph.D., who has served as MCC’s president for a longer period of time than any other (14 years since MCC became a community college in the 60s), has announced his retirement. Dr. Shaink began his tenure as president on March 31, 2000. Often described as an outstanding, highly-respected and compassionate leader in the academic arena as well as in the community, he was recognized as the best community college president/CEO in North America by the Washington-based Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT), receiving the 2010 Marie Y. Martin Chief Executive Award at the ACCT Annual Community College Leadership Congress held in Toronto, Ontario in 2010. The MCC Board of Trustees has hired the academic search firm Pauly Group, Inc. to find the college’s next president.

Details about the process can be accessed visiting www.mcc.edu and clicking on the "Presidential Search" icon.
November 12, 2013

Dear Trisha Nelson and Women in Education,

I want you all to know how truly blessed I am to have received your help through your kindness and encouraging words, beneficial workshops, and the generous financial gift assisting me with my rent! The financial stressors are lessening so that I can really give my all to my studies and embrace the success of walking on the stage in May 2014 to receive my Diploma as a Graduate Nurse.

I also wanted to share with you that last August I applied for about six scholarships and to my joyful surprise I was awarded the Margaret E. English Memorial Scholarship! I hadn’t received any information about this award so I thought I wasn’t selected, but was I wrong because on November 4th I was selected and felt like I was given an enormous booster shot to carry on.

Please never forget what an impact you have on women’s lives and again I thank you for blessing me and showing me that when we ask for help, amazing people step forward to lead us in the right direction.

Sincerely yours,
Lisa Grain
WIE Fellow

Established in 1999, Women In Education addresses the non-academic needs of women students at MCC, helping them overcome barriers to their education. Today, it offers non-traditional financial support, personal and professional guidance and mentoring, professional enrichment, gently-used professional clothing through Ellen’s Closet, and a Fellowship program designed to develop leaders for success in the 21st century.
Justin Klimek, 21, admits he was a "little shy" when he first started working as a student aide in MCC's FABLAB. But he now has one year of experience under his belt working at the FABLAB, and it has certainly brought him out of his shell.

MCC is home to the region's only FABLAB, or Digital Fabrication Laboratory, a facility where people can literally turn their ideas into products. It's billed as a place at MCC where anyone can make just about anything – with a little creativity and a lot of imagination.

"My confidence has grown since I started working here," said Klimek, who holds an Associate in Applied Science degree from MCC in Computer Aided Drafting & Design (CADD). He's working on a bachelor's degree in product design at Ferris State University now.

The FABLAB is a Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) initiative focused on digital fabrication and a dream-come true for inventors, budding entrepreneurs, small and large business owners, yourselves, crafters, hobbyists, stay-at-home moms and dads, or that high school freshman working on a simple creation like ornaments for the Christmas tree. The FABLAB is specifically designed to support creativity and innovation, providing access to high-tech equipment -- at a very reasonable cost -- and a network of services that help people take their products to market.

A new joint program between the FABLAB and The Foundation for Mott Community College helps entrepreneurs by providing financial support through microloans. MCC's Regional Technology Initiatives division is now partnering with the Foundation for MCC to offer these microloans that get entrepreneurs off to a running start, before a bank or other financial institution would normally get involved.

Klimek credits the FABLAB and MCC for his development. "I've really grown as a business person," he added. "I've worked ever since I was 16, but never in a real business environment. It taught me how to work with people. I was really shy, but this has really opened up my perspective." He has worked directly with a FABLAB customer, Sue Kellogg, President of Mello & Company of Traverse City, Michigan, assisting her with the development of her product. A self-described "one woman-mom-wife show who decided to take her imagination and a clump of clay, and make it real," Kellogg was pleased with the resources offered by the FABLAB.

"Mello & Co. was able to afford 3D CAD drawings and prototypes," she wrote in an email. "The quality, professionalism of the students, and the impressive lab are tools my company continues to use today. I can proudly say I've successfully used my CAD drawings and prototype with big manufacturing companies." The FABLAB was one of the first steps needed in helping Mello & Co. celebrate its first toy launch:

"Nawgum, the All-in-One Teething Toy."

With his educational background and high end skill-set already in place, Klimek could have his pick of great jobs. But his experience at the FABLAB has given him another option to consider: entrepreneurship as a future career choice.

"The entire experience has been amazing, and I'm very grateful to have this opportunity given to me," Klimek said. "It has opened so many doors for me that I can use throughout my whole life. It's been wonderful."
Alumni Receive Prestigious Award

On April 24, four MCC alumni were honored with the prestigious Distinguished Alumni Award for their contributions to the college and the community. “Their sphere of influence and the contributions they’ve made to our community have been significant,” commented Lennetta Coney, President of The Foundation for MCC. “It was truly a privilege for Mott to be able to recognize them for their years of distinction and service.”

Awarded that evening were:

**DANIEL M. BEREZNY** (70s), retired as principal of Durant-Tuuri-Mott (DTM) Community Elementary School in 2013; with 37 years at the Flint Community Schools previously;

**GREGORY C. GAINES** (76), Program Director for the Mr. Rogers Garden Program (mentoring young men and women); retired GM supervisor with 38 years of service;

**EDWIN W. JAKEWAY, ESQ.** (57), founder of The Law Firm of Jakeway, Jakeway & Jakeway, P.C., and Trustee Emeritus of the Michigan State University College of Law where he served as a Trustee and as a Vice President until 1995;

**BEVERLY J. JONES, PH.D.** (70), one of the first of six women to serve as pioneers in the management field at AC Spark Plugs in 1972; GM retiree after 32 years of supervisory service; past Dean of Continuing Education at MCC and presently a tenured Associate Professor at Kettering University’s Business Department.

The honorees join 45 past Distinguished Alumni on the Alumni Wall of Fame in the College Center’s Alumni Room.

Also honored as MCC’s 2014 Outstanding Retiree was **STEPHANY DIANA**. She retired as Professor of Economics in 2010 after 40 years of college and community service with a commitment to demonstrating excellence, standards, and caring in the classroom.