HONORING THE PAST.
GENERATING THE FUTURE.

FY13 PRESIDENT’S ANNUAL REPORT
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October 13 V7
OUR GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY IS A MILESTONE THAT WE JOYOUSLY CELEBRATE with the generations of area residents who have shared in the journey. Appropriately, the theme of our year-long celebration throughout 2013 is “Honoring the past. Generating the future.”

It would be difficult to find an individual in North Central Massachusetts who doesn’t have a connection to MWCC in some way, whether they have taken classes, attended theatre productions, visited the fitness center, or participated in community events on campus. Mount Wachusett Community College is truly part of the fabric of our community.

While the college has grown exponentially since its founding, the core mission has remained the same: to provide convenient access to quality, affordable higher education and lifelong learning opportunities for students of all ages and to help build up the region’s workforce.

Over the years we’ve expanded our academic offerings, our campus locations, our technology and our student support services to help area residents fulfill their dreams, be they teenagers, young adults, mid-life career changers, veterans transitioning to college, senior citizens, lifelong residents of the area or newcomers to our country.

We are grateful to our students, alumni, faculty and staff members both past and present, our community partners, as well as the many volunteers who have served as trustees, on our foundation, on academic advisory boards and in numerous other capacities.

We hold a special appreciation for those who contributed to the development of our college: founding President Arthur Haley, former state Representative Raymond LaFontaine, Frank Hirons and the college’s early administrators, as well as our trustees over the years and the five board chairs over the decades, James Murphy, Ellen Daly, Jay Davis Drake, James Garrison and Tina Sbrega.

We thank our many friends and supporters and we look forward to sharing in the college’s success and advancement with you in the decades to come.

Daniel M. Asquino, Ph.D.
President
CHRISTOPHER P. BROWN, A PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT who was recognized by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Westminster public safety officials earlier this year for his heroic actions at the scene of an accident, was named MWCC’s 2013 Alumnus of the Year. The Westminster resident and Persian Gulf War veteran was honored during the college’s 48th Commencement in May.

“Like many of our students, Christopher discovered his vocation while attending Mount Wachusett Community College, and then followed that path to achieve success both academically and professionally,” said President Daniel M. Asquino. “Moreover, he has consistently demonstrated his commitment to serving others, first in the military, then as a student at Mount, in his career, and in his personal life.”

A former firefighter with the U.S. Air Force, Brown experienced post-traumatic stress from a military injury and subsequent homelessness before finding assistance through the local nonprofit Veteran Homestead, Inc., which steered him in the direction of MWCC. At the Mount, Brown excelled through the support of the college’s Visions Program, became a recognized student leader, and founded the Veterans Group in 2009 to assist and support fellow veterans on campus. The club has since grown into a vibrant student organization serving the college and greater community.

He graduated in 2010 with an associate degree in Physical Therapist Assistant and immediately began his career at Genesis Rehab Services in Westford. There, he carved out a niche as a veterans’ services specialist in the national company of more than 7,000. He recently accepted a new position as a PTA at the Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital in Bedford.

In March, Brown was hailed a hero when he rushed to rescue a young woman who was trapped in a burning car following an accident in Westminster. In addition, he was recognized by the Massachusetts Department of Veterans’ Services in November 2011 for his support of veterans and their families in the state.

This past September, he received a Silver Medal award from the Humane Society of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for his act of bravery. Established in 1786, the society recognizes those who selflessly rescue others in emergency situations. He continues to actively volunteer, including with the Massachusetts chapter of the American Physical Therapy Association.

Brown said he was humbled to receive MWCC’s annual alumni award. “It’s an extraordinary honor to return to your college to receive an award when you believe the college has already given you more than enough to succeed in your career and to pursue your passion and goals in life.”
MWCC 2013 Alumnus of the Year Christopher Brown with Alexis Maillet, the young woman he helped rescue from a fiery car accident.
MWCC IS STRATEGICALLY ALIGNED WITH THE MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION'S VISION PROJECT and its six outcomes: College Participation; College Completion; Student Learning; Workforce Alignment; Preparing Citizens; and Closing Achievement Gaps.

Alignment of the college’s strategic focus with the six Vision Project outcomes is critical to the success of our students and the economic health of our region and the commonwealth. The college is working with our K-12 partners to improve college readiness; with our faculty and staff to ensure that students are academically successful and completing their degree and certificate programs more quickly; with our business and nonprofit partners to ensure that our students and graduates are better prepared for the workforce; and with our community partners, students, nonprofits, and K-12 partners to ensure that our students and graduates are better prepared citizens and poised to achieve both college and career success.

Last fall, MWCC was awarded a $272,000 Performance Incentive Fund (PIF) grant to increase college readiness and attendance rates, enhance student success and expand civic engagement initiatives, as well as create the Center for Alternative Studies and Educational Certification. The center provides students with opportunities to earn credit for life experience as well as take national certification tests through Pearson VUE. The community college grant delivers on Governor Deval Patrick’s pledge to invest further in the state’s community college system, and will give campuses the additional capacity they need to promote higher completion rates of degrees and certificates, be more responsive to the needs of local economies as well as of the state’s fastest growing sectors, and adopt a system-wide standard core of course offerings.

MWCC is also working to focus greater attention on workforce alignment by providing degrees, certificates, and credentials that employers value. This academic year, MWCC added two new certificate programs: Patient Care Certificate and Personal Training Certificate. Both are designed to lead into associate degree programs. In May, the first class of students graduated from the college’s new Dental Assisting program.

ASSESSMENT INITIATIVES

In December 2012, the Massachusetts Legislature reaffirmed its historical commitment to civic engagement and learning with a report titled Renewing the Social Compact. Written by the commonwealth’s newly formed Special Commission on Civic Engagement and Learning, the report supported the recent actions of the state Board of Higher Education, which in September 2012 named civic education and engagement as the sixth goal of the state’s Vision Project—an effort to improve student learning and achievement, college participation, degree production, and workforce development, with a special focus on college completion for low-income and racial and ethnic minority groups. The renewed emphasis on civic learning validated long-standing efforts already in progress at MWCC. Most recently, MWCC and
Fitchburg State University have been collaborating through the Association of American Colleges and Universities’ (AAC&U’s) Quality Collaboratives (QC), a three-year project supported by the Lumina Foundation and the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. The QC project pairs dyads of two- and four-year institutions in nine states to develop recommended policies for assessing and reporting student achievement and related transfer designs, using both Lumina Foundation’s Degree Qualifications Profile (DQP) and AAC&U’s Liberal Education and America’s Promise (LEAP) Essential Learning Outcomes as guides.

The Fitchburg State–MWCC dyad has developed teams around four competencies: civic engagement; written communication; information literacy; and quantitative reasoning.

NEW TRANSFER AGREEMENTS

Beginning an academic career at a community college and then transferring to a public or private four-year college or university is a popular strategy for students interested in earning a bachelor’s degree. From teens to adult learners and career changers, more students are taking this route for its many advantages, including low tuition, online courses, transfer agreements with public and private colleges and universities and the opportunity to explore a variety of fields while determining a major.

New agreements forged this year include: University of Massachusetts Lowell; Elms College; Cambridge College; Becker College; and Rivier University.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION GRANTS

This summer, MWCC was awarded two multi-year grants from the National Science Foundation totaling over $1.1 million to bolster training and the economy. A five-year, $640,000 grant will assist students pursuing academic degrees in the STEM fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The grant will provide scholarships and support services to 150 full-time students. Recipients have the potential to receive up to $3,300 as they complete their associate degrees in four majors: biotechnology; computer information systems; pre-engineering; and natural resources.

A three-year NSF grant totaling $779,716 will support a new Advanced Technological Education program. The project, administered through the college’s Division of Lifelong Learning and Workforce Development, will develop four competency-based stackable credentials that lead to a new associate degree in Analytical and Quality Technology. The modular curriculum will be incorporated into credit-bearing courses as well as non-credit workforce training courses to meet specific industry needs.
MOUNT WACHUSETT’S MISSION GOES BEYOND THE TRADITIONAL CLASSROOM to provide lifelong learning and training opportunities for businesses in North Central Massachusetts, as well as unique college-industry partnerships benefiting students and the regional economy.

Among its varied activities, the Division of Lifelong Learning and Workforce Development helps eligible businesses access training grants through the state Workforce Training Fund, covering topics such as advanced manufacturing, Lean, Six Sigma, project management, leadership, and sales. Businesses pay into this fund each year through their unemployment contributions, and it exists solely to help Massachusetts companies of all sizes become more productive, competitive, and profitable through the available grants.

$15.9 MILLION DEPARTMENT OF LABOR GRANT
MWCC and three partnering community colleges were awarded a $15.9 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to provide accelerated training and credentials to students pursuing careers or job advancement in the advanced manufacturing field. MWCC, the lead institution, joined Southwest Tennessee Community College, North Central State College in Ohio, and Bossier Parish Community College in Louisiana to create the Advanced Manufacturing, Mechatronics, and Quality Consortium to help job seekers quickly obtain training and credentials in the advanced manufacturing fields of Mechatronics and Quality career pathways.

MWCC, which partnered with the three institutions based upon similar economic development goals and interests in their regions, was awarded $6,450,356 to provide accelerated training and credentialing programs in North Central Massachusetts that build upon manufacturing training initiatives implemented by MWCC through Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) funding received in 2011.

Together all four colleges will implement an entry level program that will include a common process for assessing students’ advanced manufacturing aptitude using Standard Timing Model technology and Work Keys enabled tools and will align with the National Career Readiness Certificate that will be regionally adaptable to meet the unique needs of each region.

Key partners in the MWCC effort include Nypro, Inc., SMC, Ltd., Celltreat Scientific Products, Operon Resource Management, the North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce, the North Central Massachusetts Development Corporation, the Greater Gardner Chamber of Commerce, the Nashoba Valley Chamber of Commerce and the North Central Massachusetts Workforce Investment Board. Leominster Center for Technical Education Innovation, and Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School also will be involved in the partnership.

DELIVERING SKILLS FOR INDUSTRY
MWCC is partnering with the North Central Massachusetts Economic Development Council, the North Central Career Center, and area manufacturers to deliver customized industrial skills training designed to solve the industrial skills shortage affecting local industry. The program has been developed in cooperation with Scientific Management Techniques (SMT), Inc., the global leader in performance-based skill assessments for industry.

During the past year, MWCC helped companies secure $433,789 in training grants, adding to a five-year combined total of $3.6 million to the region’s business,
health and nonprofit organizations. Recent recipients include Ranor, Lancaster Packaging, Nypro, Operon Resource Management, Heywood Hospital, Leominster Credit Union, TerraTherm and Clinton Savings Bank.

**WORKING PARTNERSHIPS**

College and industry partnerships are key to our region’s economic growth. MWCC teams up with corporations as large as Nypro, Bristol-Myers Squibb, and SimplexGrinnell to the small businesses that represent an integral part of the Massachusetts economy.

One such partnership is Celltreat Scientific Products of Shirley, a manufacturer of cell cultures and liquid handling products, which provides employment opportunities to our Biotechnology/Biomanufacturing program graduates.

“The opportunity to hire MWCC graduates has fulfilled our demand for skilled labor in the field of biotechnology and for a small company of our size, the partnership has been extremely beneficial to us,” said Celltreat’s Director of Operations Rich Happell.

**COLLEGE/INDUSTRY COLLABORATION**

Mount Wachusett Community College, Quinsigamond Community College, and Fitchburg State University signed articulation agreements in October 2012 that are providing seamless training and educational opportunities for members of the state’s advanced manufacturing workforce.

The articulation agreements are indicators of strategic partnerships between the private and public sectors, said Congressman James McGovern, who joined state officials, state legislators, college presidents and representatives from the Massachusetts Manufacturing Extension Partnership in announcing the new agreements.

“**Collaboration is very, very important. The private sector needs the assistance of the public sector.**”

- Congressman James McGovern
OUR FACULTY EMBODIES THE CORE VALUES OF MOUNT WACHUSETT COMMUNITY COLLEGE and exhibits an unwavering commitment to excellence in teaching and learning. English Professor Michelle Valois, chair of the department of Liberal Arts and Sciences and General Studies, is one such educator.

Valois demonstrates these characteristics in her dedication to students, scholarship, and the humanities and in her innovative, cross-disciplinary approach to teaching that has enriched the lives and educational futures of MWCC students for over 10 years. She continues this powerful approach with a new chapter, the MWCC Humanities Initiative.

This past academic year, Valois led a team of 30 faculty, staff, and community members to successfully secure a highly competitive, five-year, $500,000 matching grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to endow this new initiative, which is aimed at deepening and sustaining quality humanities programming and curriculum in North Central Massachusetts.

In the coming years, the endowment will support collaborative and interdisciplinary teaching and research in the humanities and engage MWCC students and area residents in studies and discussions of enduring themes and ideas from the world’s rich cultural and intellectual traditions. The endowment will fund common annual themes to be integrated across campus curricula and woven into campus and community humanities programming. MWCC’s Center for Civic Learning and Community Engagement will play a significant role in the initiative, as it directly connects with community needs and stimulating civic vitality.

The MWCC Humanities Initiative will open up incredible learning opportunities for MWCC students in the classroom and beyond. Lectures, readings, performances, book discussion groups, independent film showings, and “lifelong learning” will create excitement and energy. Faculty will work together in a cross-discipline model that builds collegiality, already a key strength at the college, with the common goal of positioning MWCC as a regional center for arts and culture.

The theme for the first year of programming will focus on American author, poet, philosopher, abolitionist, environmentalist and transcendentalist Henry David Thoreau, a native of Concord, Mass., and noted author of Civil Disobedience and Walden; or, Life in the Woods.

“Strengthening the humanities at MWCC can create ongoing dialogue between the college and the community on issues that are really relevant in our lives,” said Valois, an accomplished writer who has been published in professional, academic and literary journals for over a decade. A book of her prose and poetry, Lost Gods and Hungry Sailors, will be published by Boston-based Big Table Publishing in 2014.
Associate Professor Reed Hillman, chair of the Criminal Justice program, received the Massachusetts Colleges Online Course of Distinction award in May for his course “Massachusetts and the Federal System.” Hillman’s experience as an attorney, state legislator, former head of the Massachusetts State Police, and 2006 GOP candidate for Lieutenant Governor, helped him design a course that engages students in practical assignments based upon issues facing the state and federal government.

Dr. Vincent Iaenti, Dean of Academic and Institutional Technology; Associate Professor Joel Anderson, Chair of Broadcasting and Electronic Media program; and Arthur Collins, Director of Media Services and Chief Engineer of Broadcasting and Electronic Media, were presented with the Rotary International’s prestigious Paul Harris Fellow Recognition in April for their annual support of the Rotary Club of Gardner’s televised charitable auction. They accepted the award on behalf of MWCC Broadcasting & Electronic Media students, who also volunteer each year to televise the two-day event.

In March, Vice President of Marketing and Communications Robin A. Duncan received the 2013 Communicator of the Year Award from the National Council for Marketing & Public Relations, an affiliate of the American Association of Community Colleges. The award honors a two-year college marketing professional who has demonstrated leadership and ability in college communications.

Senior Vice President Sharyn Rice was a recipient of the Worcester Business Journal’s Outstanding Women in Business Award in October 2012. Rice, who retired in July after 25 years of service at MWCC, was recognized for her leadership in the field of education.

Gregory Clement, Assistant Dean of Student Services, was recognized with the Community College Student Life Association’s 2012 Founder’s Award. The award is presented annually to a Massachusetts student affairs professional whose dedication and hard work advances the goals of the student-centered organization.
**1960s**
MWCC was established by the MA Legislature in 1963, with Dr. Arthur F. Haley serving as director and first president. Classes began in September 1964. In 1966, the first graduating class of 71 students received associate degrees. The 300-acre Heywood Farm on Green Street was purchased for $1 from Gardner for a new, permanent campus. Classes were first offered at Fort Devens.

**1970s**

**1980s**
During President Haley’s tenure, programs grew from six options to 23, and enrollment expanded from 247 students to over 4,950 credit and noncredit students. Following his retirement in 1986, President Asquino was appointed MWCC’s second president. Under his leadership, the college has expanded to offer over 45 programs, and enrollment has grown to over 13,000 credit and noncredit students. MWCC’s Honors Program was created in 1990. The college’s gymnasium reopened as a community Fitness and Wellness Center in 1995. In 1999, the Leominster Campus opened and the first online courses were offered.

**1990s**
MWCC began its first Decade of Civic Engagement in 2001. The all-electric main campus was converted to biomass heating in 2002. The Robert D. Wetmore wing opened in 2004. The Dental Hygiene program was launched in Fitchburg in 2005. The Garrison Center for Early Childhood Education opened in 2006. The new Devens Campus opened in 2008. Construction of the Northeast Veteran Training & Rehabilitation Center began on the Gardner Campus. Two Vestas 1.65 KW wind turbines were installed and activated between 2010 to 2011 and are now generating 100 percent of the college’s electricity. In 2011, a second Decade of Civic Engagement was declared and a $2 million anonymous donation endowed the Center for Civic Learning and Community Engagement. In 2012, Governor Patrick announced funding to construct a new science and technology building at the Gardner Campus.
Much has transpired over the past five decades as Mount Wachusett Community College grew from a fledgling college into a multi-campus institution providing academic, workforce development, and personal enrichment programs to approximately 13,000 credit and noncredit students each year.

We’ve progressed from the days of mimeograph machines to online learning. We’ve established Mount Wachusett as a national leader in the areas of access and transition, dual enrollment, workforce development, civic engagement, renewable energy and transfer partnerships with private and public colleges and universities.

As in the early years, our work today is not accomplished alone. Through our many corporate and community partnerships, the opportunities that exist for the citizens and organizations of our region are endless.

When Arthur F. Haley first visited Gardner in November 1963 as the newly appointed director of the new community college in North Central Massachusetts, he had a mission, but not much of a roadmap. Massachusetts District Court Judge Arthur F. Haley III recently reminisced that his father often spoke of the challenges he faced setting up what would become Mount Wachusett Community College.

"On his first day in Gardner, Frank Hirons helped my father find office space in Room 229 in Gardner City Hall. The college did not have a name, there was no staff, faculty, campus or curricula, but the Massachusetts Regional Board of Community Colleges told Dad that he had nine months to accomplish these tasks because classes had to begin in fall '64."

President Haley met the deadline, and as soon as classes began, MWCC quickly outgrew its old Gardner High School campus and had to find additional space in a former supermarket and church building. Judge Haley recalled his father’s amazement that there were 30 proposed locations for the new campus and that he had to quickly appoint an advisory committee to help select the new location. Frank Hirons and State Representative Raymond LaFontaine were among members of the committee that sifted through the proposed locations. Haley knew that Gardner was fortunate in having LaFontaine’s political clout in the legislature, particularly when it came time to fund the construction of an arts wing and a fitness complex.

“When Dad retired in 1987, MWCC was a thriving institution of higher learning. He believed that it served the community well. Dad was pleased and proud that the college recognized his contributions by the dedication of the main campus as the Arthur F. Haley Academic Center,” said Judge Haley.

"He’s proud of his role in building the Mount and would be most pleased to hear of its continued excellence as it begins its second half century."
Leaving the way, MWCC prepares teens and adolescents for academic success.

Mount Wachusett Community College has been recognized as a national leader and model for its robust K-12 partnerships. Deep and meaningful collaboration with our K-12 partners is essential to student and economic success. The college serves nearly 4,000 middle and high school students annually through 15 different K-12 partnership programs with a $2.75 million budget. These partnerships have been growing for the past 22 years as part of the college’s Division of Access & Transition.

The division provides a host of academic, college and career awareness services to a large population of students who economically and socially might not otherwise access post-secondary education. These programs are designed to help students - especially low-income, first-generation college going students - overcome environmental, social, cultural and academic barriers to higher education and ultimately advance successfully into the workforce. The division also offers a variety of summer programs to help curb the “summer slide” and provide desperately needed employment and educational opportunities for teens.

Access & Transition programs include the pioneering dual-enrollment programs of the nationally recognized Gateway to College and most recently, the Pathways Early College Innovation School. Pathways, which opened in September 2010, has earned the Division of Access & Transition a place in history for housing one of the first two Innovation Schools created in Massachusetts. The Pathways program provides an alternative route to higher education for motivated high school juniors to simultaneously earn a high school diploma and associate degree.

“The relationship between the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Division of Access & Transition at MWCC is longstanding and highly productive. Through its successful partnerships with local middle and high schools, the division has become a regionally and nationally recognized resource for many in education.”

- Commissioner Mitchell D. Chester

The array of educational and enrichment opportunities available to students through the division’s various programs represent everything from academic tutoring, interactive workshops, MCAS remediation, service learning events, credit-bearing dual enrollment courses and hands-on college and career counseling. For instance, Upward Bound Math and Science students learn about ecology while canoeing down the Nashua River; Educational Talent Search and GEAR UP students have slept on a ship for a science and engineering program offered through the Massachusetts Maritime Academy; STEM students study solar power by making solar panels out of pizza boxes and using the panels to toast marshmallows for s’mores; forensics and robotics programs, annual STEM fairs, career fairs, Women in Leadership forums, and TRIO Days leadership camps, as well as visits to over 50 public and private colleges and universities throughout New England.
Gardner siblings Claudia and Thomas Elbourn, back-to-back valedictorians for the first two Pathways Early College Innovation School graduating classes.

HOMESCHOOLED SINCE EARLY CHILDHOOD, Thomas Elbourn and his sister, Claudia, enrolled at MWCC as high school juniors, earned their associate degrees before they were old enough to vote and graduated as back-to-back valedictorians of the first two graduating classes of the pioneering Pathways Early College Innovation School. Thomas, who graduated in 2012 with an associate degree in Human Services, will graduate at age 20 in May 2014 with a bachelor’s degree in Psychology and Counseling from Assumption College. After that, he’ll begin pursuing a master’s degree in Theology.

“After being home schooled, I expected the transition to a public college to be difficult,” Thomas said. “Instead, it was so natural-feeling, and I felt the program was too good to be true. This program allowed me to propel my undergraduate education by two years.”

Seventeen-year-old Claudia, this year’s validictorian, earned her associate degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences, as well as a top academic award during MWCC’s Commencement – the President’s Key. She transferred this fall to Gordon College to pursue a bachelor’s degree in English.

“These were the most wonderful two years of my life because I built the foundation of people that I know, that I love, and that I can turn to as role models,” Claudia said.

One of the first two innovation schools created in Massachusetts as part of Governor Deval Patrick’s education reform bill, Pathways provides motivated high school juniors and homeschooled students the opportunity to accelerate the pace of their academic careers. The program covers the cost of tuition and fees through school choice funding, enabling students to earn their high school diploma and college degree for the cost of textbooks alone.

Massachusetts Secretary of Education Matthew Malone, former Education Secretary Paul Reville, Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education Mitchell D. Chester and Higher Education Commissioner Richard Freeland are among the officials to visit the Pathways school and praise it as an innovative, successful model.

“Pathways students are motivated and mature,” said Natalie Mercier, Pathways director and principal. “They chose to leave the traditional high school environment so that they can step into a college education and complete a two-year degree before they even officially graduate from high school. These students are not just passing classes at MWCC, they are thriving.”
INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES AND PRACTICES
are at the core of the Center for Civic Learning and Community Engagement, which supports students, faculty, and community organizations in a holistic approach to educating students in preparation for understanding one's role as a citizen of a community, of a region, a nation and as a global citizen.

Practices have led to receiving the Carnegie Classification in Civic and Community Engagement, a recognition only 20 community colleges nation-wide have achieved. College staff and faculty have presented workshops on high impact practices in civic learning at the Massachusetts Conference on Teaching and Learning as well as at the American Association of State Colleges and Universities’ American Democracy Project/The Democracy Commitment annual meeting in Denver.

This past spring, MWCC hosted ‘Rooting Change: The Vision for Civic Education in Public Higher Education,’ a conference for faculty, staff, students and administrators focused on the integration of civic learning into curricula and the state-wide effort through The Vision Project to focus on ‘preparing citizens’ as a key outcome of higher education.

During the 2012-2013 academic year, service learning was offered as a component in more than 50 courses and engaged nearly 400 students. All student clubs and organizations were required to complete a minimum of two community projects. Student service was recorded on transcripts and recognized at graduation for students who excelled within our community.

NEWMAN CIVIC FELLOW AWARD
After learning that many community college students struggle to stay in school for one reason or another, Human Services major Bryan Sanderson made it his mission to establish MWCC’s new Students Serving Our Students Office.

The Students SOS office, located within the Center for Civic Learning and Community Engagement, provides trained student mentors to assist peers with information, referrals, and hands-on assistance with life issues that are posing barriers to their academic success, such as childcare, transportation, financial assistance, food, housing, and heating oil assistance, as well as guidance for on-campus tutoring and other support services.

During its first semester in operation this spring, more than 450 students tapped into the offices available resources and support.

“In the military, you’re always looking out for the person next to you,” said Sanderson, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran who served in the Gulf War. “You’re always taught to have your battle buddy. You had to trust the guy next to you to look out for you and you had to look out for him. And that’s what we do in the SOS office. Students come to us with an issue or several issues. We’re not counselors, but we want to help them figure out the root problem that is keeping them from being successful.”

The Lunenburg resident has received national recognition for his initiative. In March, Sanderson was the first MWCC student to ever receive the Newman Civic Fellow Award from Campus Compact, which promotes student involvement in community and service learning programs. Sanderson was among 181 students across the country honored with the award.
The Center for Civic Learning and Community Engagement was awarded a Bridging Cultures to Form a Nation grant for faculty development from the National Endowment for the Humanities to train adjunct faculty in civic learning and integrate new activities and assignments into 30+ courses.

President Daniel Asquino was appointed chair of the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education’s civic engagement task force, a key component of the state’s Vision Project. Center Director Fagan Forhan also was appointed to the task force, as well as the national steering committee of The Democracy Commitment.

More than 1,600 students from 18 partnering schools and organizations were engaged in their communities through United Way Youth Venture, a partnership between MWCC, the United Way of North Central Massachusetts and Ashoka, to help young people plan and implement their own socially benefiting projects and programs in the community.

MWCC students performed 20,000+ hours of volunteerism & service learning in the community.

MWCC student, peer mentor, veteran and Newman Civic Fellow, Bryan Sanderson.

Brandee Courtemanche, a 2013 graduate of MWCC and year three AmeriCorps Member, was among the volunteers harvesting crops at Many Hands Organic Farm in Barre.

The Center for Civic Learning and Community Engagement was awarded a Bridging Cultures to Form a Nation grant for faculty development from the National Endowment for the Humanities to train adjunct faculty in civic learning and integrate new activities and assignments into 30+ courses.
MWCC BUILDS FOR THE FUTURE
In October 2013, Governor Deval Patrick, the Massachusetts Division of Capital Asset Management, and state legislators announced $37.9 million in capital funds for a new science and technology building and renovations at MWCC’s Gardner campus. When construction begins, the 39,000-square-foot addition will be one of the region’s largest projects.

The addition and renovation project will provide much-needed upgrades to classrooms and laboratories that support the college’s science and healthcare programs, while updating the main campus building, the Arthur F. Haley Academic Center. Following the design phase, construction is slated to begin in 2014 and be completed in fall 2015. Boston-based Architerra, Inc., which specializes in sustainable architectural design, is designing the new project, working with the college administration and incorporating ideas from faculty, staff and students.

29 WHO SHINE
MWCC Student Trustee Christine L. Eck, Human Services major, mother of three, and active volunteer, was honored during the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education’s “29 Who Shine” awards ceremony on May 2 at the State House. The annual award recognizes outstanding graduates from all 29 public colleges and universities in the state.

A champion for MWCC and public higher education, the Barre resident earned her associate degree in May and transferred to Elms College to pursue a bachelor’s degree in Human Services under a new transfer agreement between the two colleges.

Twenty nine exceptional faculty members, each selected by the student recipient at their institution, are also recognized each year for providing motivational support and intellectual guidance. Eck selected Professor Janice Gearan, chair of the department of Human Services and Psychology, as her mentor.

More than 250 MWCC students were inducted this year into the Phi Theta Kappa and Alpha Beta Gamma honor societies.

MWCC’s School of Health Professions, Public Service Programs and Social Sciences conducted its 40th annual Nurse Pinning ceremony. This year, 124 students received their associate degree, which prepares them to become Registered Nurses.
More than 730 associate degrees and academic certificates were awarded during MWCC’s 48th Commencement on May 16.

Distinguished media executive Robert Regan, a 1974 graduate of MWCC’s communications program and 1989 Alumnus of the Year, delivered the keynote address, sharing his inspiring story of beginning his academic journey with “a dollar and a dream.”

As an MWCC student, the Lowell native studied broadcasting and communications at the old Elm Street campus and was among the first class to graduate from the new building in 1975. He went on to work as a producer in Boston and Hollywood for 38 years before recently being named founding director of the Dr. John Keshishoglou Center for Global Communications Innovation at Ithaca College in 2012.

The Service Above Self Award was presented to long-serving community volunteer Raymond LaFond, senior vice president for commercial lending and business development at Enterprise Bank. LaFond, who served for 10 years on MWCC’s Board of Trustees, accepted the award on behalf of the many residents he has worked with on various community initiatives.

Christopher Brown, a physical therapist assistant and 2010 graduate of MWCC, was recognized as the Alumnus of the Year for his ongoing work with veterans and for heroic actions in March during the scene of an accident.

The class of 2013 included the first graduates of MWCC’s new Dental Assisting program. President’s Key recipients for outstanding academic achievement were presented to Liberal Arts and Sciences majors Claudia Elbourn and Heidi Villaran, Early Childhood Education major Darri Wenning, and Computer Information Systems major Zachary Raboin. Student Government Association President Bridgette Woodcock, who received a degree in General Studies – Allied Health and will continue her studies in MWCC’s Nursing program, received the Dean’s Key award for outstanding community service.
NEW LEADERSHIP
The past academic year has been one of growth and renewal for the MWCC Foundation, Inc., including new leadership and new endeavors.

The foundation board grew, with eight new business and community leaders joining the effort to further the educational, social, recreational, and cultural mission of the college and to benefit the students and communities served by MWCC.

In January 2013, Carla DeFosse was appointed executive director, bringing experience in nonprofit management and development, public service, fundraising, strategic planning and renewable energy to the college. A lifelong resident of North Central Massachusetts, DeFosse replaced Executive Director Darlene Morrilly, who retired after 10 years of service.

Lea Ann Scales returned to MWCC in February 2013 as Vice President of Access, Transition and Development, providing expertise in development and strategic planning to further the mission of the foundation. In addition, Carol Jacobson joined the foundation team as Associate Director of Alumni Relations.

2013 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR
In May, the foundation honored Patrick L. Muldoon as the 2013 Harold E. Drake Jr. Citizen of the Year for his leadership and service in the community.

At the time of his recognition, Muldoon served as president and CEO of HealthAlliance Hospitals and Central New England Health Alliance. He has since been appointed president of UMass Memorial Medical Center. Among his many community activities, Muldoon serves on the Board of Trustees for Workers’ Credit Union and the Spanish American Center, and the SHINE Initiative. He previously served for many years on the United Way of North Central Massachusetts. In addition to his service to many local organizations, he is chair of the Massachusetts Hospital Association Board of Trustees, was honored during the foundation’s annual dinner in May.

The Citizen of the Year Award is presented in memory of Harold E. Drake, Jr., treasurer and former president of Royal Steam Heater Co. and Lynde Hardware & Supply, Inc. The award recognizes community members who exemplify Harold Drake’s extraordinary commitment to the North Central Massachusetts region.

Patrick L. Muldoon, center, was honored as the 2013 Harold E. Drake Jr. Citizen of the Year. Also pictured, from left, MWCC Foundation Executive Director Carla DeFosse, President Asquino, Jay Davis Drake, and Foundation Chair Richard Mohnk.
NEW BEGINNINGS

With a dream of a better life for their family, Lawrence Nfor and his wife, Elizabeth Mwambo, made the difficult decision to part with their relatives and friends in Cameroon, West Africa and move to the U.S.

Selected through the U.S. State Department’s Diversity Visa Lottery Program, the couple arrived in Massachusetts in 2009 with their four children. With no prior career experience in the U.S., getting started was difficult. Nfor worked a third shift factory job and Mwambo worked part time jobs.

“We thought going back to school would be the best thing to do and we decided to start off at the Mount,” Mwambo said.

The Leominster couple received guidance and encouragement from MWCC staff members even before they enrolled, as well as from experienced faculty and welcoming staff throughout their academic programs. They are also the grateful recipients of Sterilite Scholarships awarded through the MWCC Foundation.

“The Mount has been a source of encouragement and greatly valued support during this journey,” said Nfor, who was the featured student speaker during the foundation's annual dinner. He is earning an associate degree in business administration with an accounting concentration this academic year and plans to pursue his bachelor's and master’s degrees in business. Mwambo recently completed prerequisite courses and this fall entered MWCC’s rigorous dental hygiene program.

“So many thought it was a crazy thing to do, going back to school with four young children at home. But I think it was the best time to start,” Mwambo said. “It restored my confidence and made me realize that I can succeed. Being so far from home with no parents or family around to assist financially or encourage one to keep going, the foundation feels like that parent who says 'keep it up, be strong, keep going, you can do it.'”

Established in 1971, the foundation has grown from awarding $259 in scholarships to now annually awarding more than $260,000 in scholarships through the generous support it receives from local businesses and organizations, alumni and others.

SUPPORTING SCHOLARS

This summer, the MWCC Foundation was awarded a $50,000 grant from the Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts to support a new scholarship program for students. This grant will support MWCC’s “Career Focused Education Scholarship Program” in Advanced Manufacturing, Biotechnology, Certified Nursing Assistant, or Emergency Medical Technician programs.

“We are most grateful to the Community Foundation for this award to support students as they pursue their academic and career goals,” said MWCC President Daniel M. Asquino. “Because the vast majority of our students remain in the area after graduating to live and work, this funding ultimately helps strengthen our local communities as well as the economic vitality of our region.”
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

FY2013 Financial Overview along with Foundation, Inc. Statement of Activities (June 30)

ENROLLMENT

FY13 Non-credit: 6,156
FY12: 6,013

FY13 Credit: 7,013
FY12: 6,978

FY13 Total: 13,169
FY12: 12,991

REVENUE

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<th>FY13</th>
<th>FY12</th>
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<td>State Appropriations</td>
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<td>Capital Funding</td>
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<td>Tuition &amp; Fees</td>
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<td>Grants</td>
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EXPENSES

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<td>Instruction</td>
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<td>Scholarships</td>
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<td>Student Services</td>
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<td>Academic Support</td>
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<td>Maintenance of Plant</td>
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<td>Institutional Support</td>
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<td>Public Service</td>
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<td>Auxiliary Enterprise</td>
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<td>Total Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increase (decrease in net assets)</td>
<td>10,433</td>
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ECONOMIC IMPACT

$189,470,012
Total FY13 based on a conservative multiplier of 3.5
### Foundation, Inc.

**Board of Trustees**
- Tina Sbrega, Chair
- James Garrison, Vice Chair
- Mark Hawke, Secretary
- Christine Eck, Student Trustee
- Richard Cella
- George Thomas Clay
- Sheila Daly
- Joana Dos Santos
- Scott Howard
- Yvonne Hunter
- Mark Shirman

**Executive Council Members**
- Daniel Asquino, Ph.D.
  President
- Ann McDonald, J.D.
  Executive Vice President
- Jacqueline Belrose, J.D.
  Vice President, Lifelong Learning & Workforce Development
- Lorie Donahue
  Professor, English
- Robin Duncan, M.B.A.
  Vice President, Marketing & Communications
- Melissa Fama, Ph.D.
  Vice President, Academic Affairs
- Ryan Forsythe, Ed.D
  Associate Vice President, Strategic Enrollment Management and Student Financial Aid
- Robert LaBonte, M.B.A.
  Vice President, Finance & Administration
- Sharyn Rice
  Senior Vice President
- Diane Ruksnaitis
  Vice President, Human Resources & Affirmative Action
- Lea Ann Scales
  Vice President of Access, Transition & Development
- Joseph Stiso
  Associate Vice President, Development, Planning and Institutional Advancement
- Vincent Ialenti, Ed.D.
  Dean, Academic & Institutional Technology

### FY12 - 13

**Boards & Council**

#### MWCC Foundation, Inc.

**Board of Directors**
- Richard Mohnk, Chair
- Angelo Sabatato, Vice Chair
- Peter Armbruster, Clerk
- Scot Barrett, Treasurer
- Charles Bowles
- Winfield S. Brown
- Wayne Canty
- Richard Cella
- Anthony A. Cetrone (board emeritus)
- Walter J. Dwyer IV
- Richard Flannagan
- James Garrison
- Michael T. Greenwood
- Raymond LaFond
- Erica Light
- Raymond Martino
- Ann McDonald
- Douglas J. Petersen
- Linda Racine
- Molly Ruble
- Steven C. Sharek
- Regina Wironen
- Christina Wiggins

#### FY Revenues

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<td>Grants &amp; Contributions</td>
<td>236,423</td>
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<td>Fundraising Activities &amp; Appeals</td>
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<td>Investment Returns</td>
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#### FY Expenses

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<td>Academic Support</td>
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<td>Supporting Services:</td>
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<td>Management Fees</td>
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<td>(decrease in net assets)</td>
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<td>Net Assets (end of year)</td>
<td>4,542,836</td>
<td>4,359,464</td>
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FY13 PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT
mwcc.edu

Gardner
444 Green Street
Gardner, MA 01440
978-630-9110

Devens
One Jackson Place
27 Jackson Road
Devens, MA 01434
978-630-9569

Leominster
100 Erdman Way
Leominster, MA 01453
978-630-9810

Fitchburg
275 Nichols Road
Fitchburg, MA 01420
978-630-9413