



Walk a Year in Our Shoes...

Northwest Iowa Community College Annual Report 2007–2008

“ It’s our duty to transition students from making uncertain timid steps to the self-confident strides of men and women walking in the shoes they were destined to fill... ”

—Dr. Bill Giddings, President, Northwest Iowa Community College



YOUR Community College

- 9,000+ College Alumni
- 4,000+ Area High School Students Have Taken A College Class Since 1999
- 98% Placement Rate for College Alumni
- 81% of Graduates Remain in Iowa
- 700,000+ Students Taught Through the Continuing Education and Business & Industry Departments

Walk a Year alongside

four Instrumentation and Control

students who competed in an in-

ternational contest and stepped on

the second place podium in the end.

See how NCC met industry needs

and student demands by expanding

the College's Powerline program

on campus...



I think that one of the reasons that this program does so well in competitions is that **we learn to solve problems** along with the equipment specifics.

The instructors encourage the development of a complete set of skills, not only factual knowledge.



—Micah Vogel, Instrumentation and Control student and member of the College's second place team at the International Student Games for Instrumentation Systems and Automation



Students Win 2nd at an International Competition

A team of four NCC students battled it out in a fierce head-to-head competition against 12 teams from five different countries during the International Student Games for Instrumentation Systems and Automation. At the end of the four-day event held in Houston in early October, NCC's team stepped off the silver medal podium.

Brandon Espey, Hartley; Micah Vogel, Orange City; Jared Zupp, LeMars; and Joseph Friedan, West Bend, won the right to compete at the ISA International Competition by placing first at the District 6 ISA Competition held April 13, 2007, in Wisconsin Dells, WI. Industrial Instrumentation and Control instructor Tim Floen and Electrical instructor Mark Bohnet advised the team.

The Student Games challenges students in hands-on practical exercises that pit technical/community colleges and 4-year universities in the field of instrumentation and control against each other. Teams from the United States, Canada, Mexico, Colombia and Russia competed, but it was the North American teams that took the top honors. British Columbia Institute of Technology in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada took gold medal honors and Lambton College in Sarnia, Ontario earned bronze.

Powerline Expansion

NCC leaders took the necessary steps in early 2008 to expand the Powerline program. The additional students started in the summer term.

The decision was prompted by industry's growing demands for graduates of the one-year diploma program and the fact that over the last several years the Admission's Office has maintained wait lists of students interested in Powerline.

The 18 students in the newest section of Powerline donned hard hats and climbing gear on May 28 to begin their education in construction and maintenance of electrical overhead and underground powerlines. A total of 72 students start the program each year.

The College hired an additional instructor to facilitate the expansion. Gary Morris joined Scott Meinecke, Steve Collen and Aaron Dvorak in teaching electrical concepts, theory and hands-on field work. The College purchased a digger truck, basket truck, pickups and hand tools to accommodate the additional students.

The expansion also required an extension of the Mel Marcotte Powerline Training Field. A 300-by-1,000-foot segment was annexed into the existing 40-acre training field.



Walk a Year through the halls of our new Radiologic Technology addition on Building H and the upgrading of the Welding Lab facilities and Powerline Field. Designed to meet the needs of students who tread the corridors today and in the future...



This program and facility will

attract new students to NCC

that would not have previously considered our College.



—Dr. Bill Giddings, President, Northwest Iowa Community College

Radiologic Technology Addition

Fifteen first and second-year Radiologic Technology students moved into their new digs in January after the 6,600 square-foot addition to Building H was completed.

All of the College's Health Science classes are located in Building H, now that Rad Tech has transferred from their Building C classrooms.

The Rad Tech addition sports a lounge area with lots of natural light, two classrooms, a lab where students practice X-ray procedure, a computer lab and office suite for instructors.

"The Health Science Addition will give the College 'state-of-the-art' training facilities for our Radiologic Technology program," President Dr. Bill Giddings said. "This will give NCC students the learning experience needed for this profession, and hopefully will attract new students to choose the NCC Radiologic Technology Program over others."

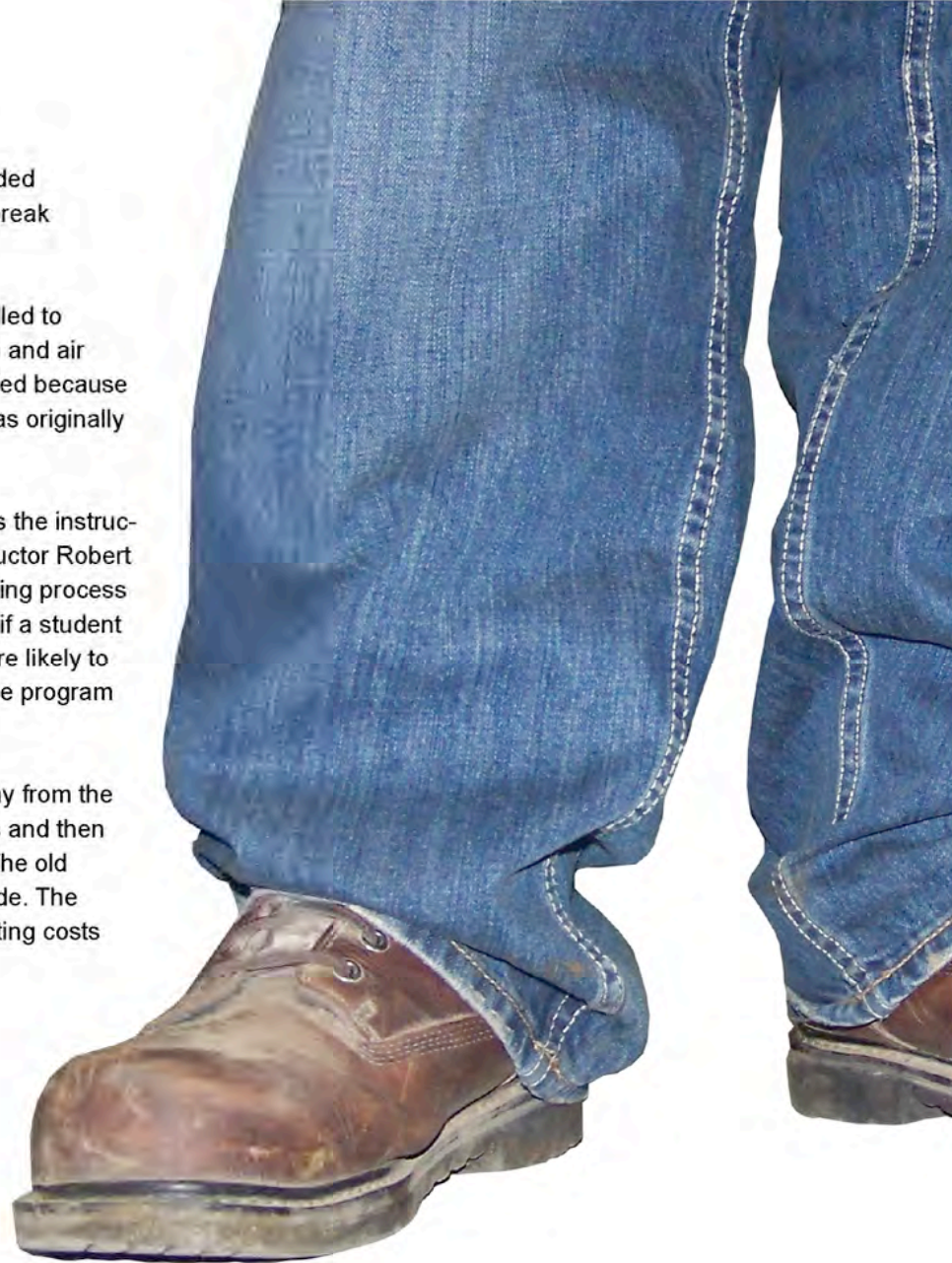
Welding Lab

This year Welding students received a much needed Christmas gift from the College. Over the winter break NCC updated the welding lab in Building D.

A total of 11 new "WeldStation 5" units were installed to provide 22 work booths and necessary ventilation and air purifying functions. The improvements were needed because the technology in the lab dated back to when it was originally built in 1966.

"The configuration of the welding shop now allows the instructor to view the students easily," said welding instructor Robert Hoting. "This is an important element to the teaching process because it allows the instructor to quickly identify if a student is having problems so the student will now be more likely to receive the help that he/she needs to complete the program successfully."

The new ventilation system draws air directly away from the student welder, cleans it through a series of filters and then exhausts the now purified air back into the room. The old ventilation system exhausted the air directly outside. The new system will allow the College to save on heating costs of the shop.



Walk a Year in our health

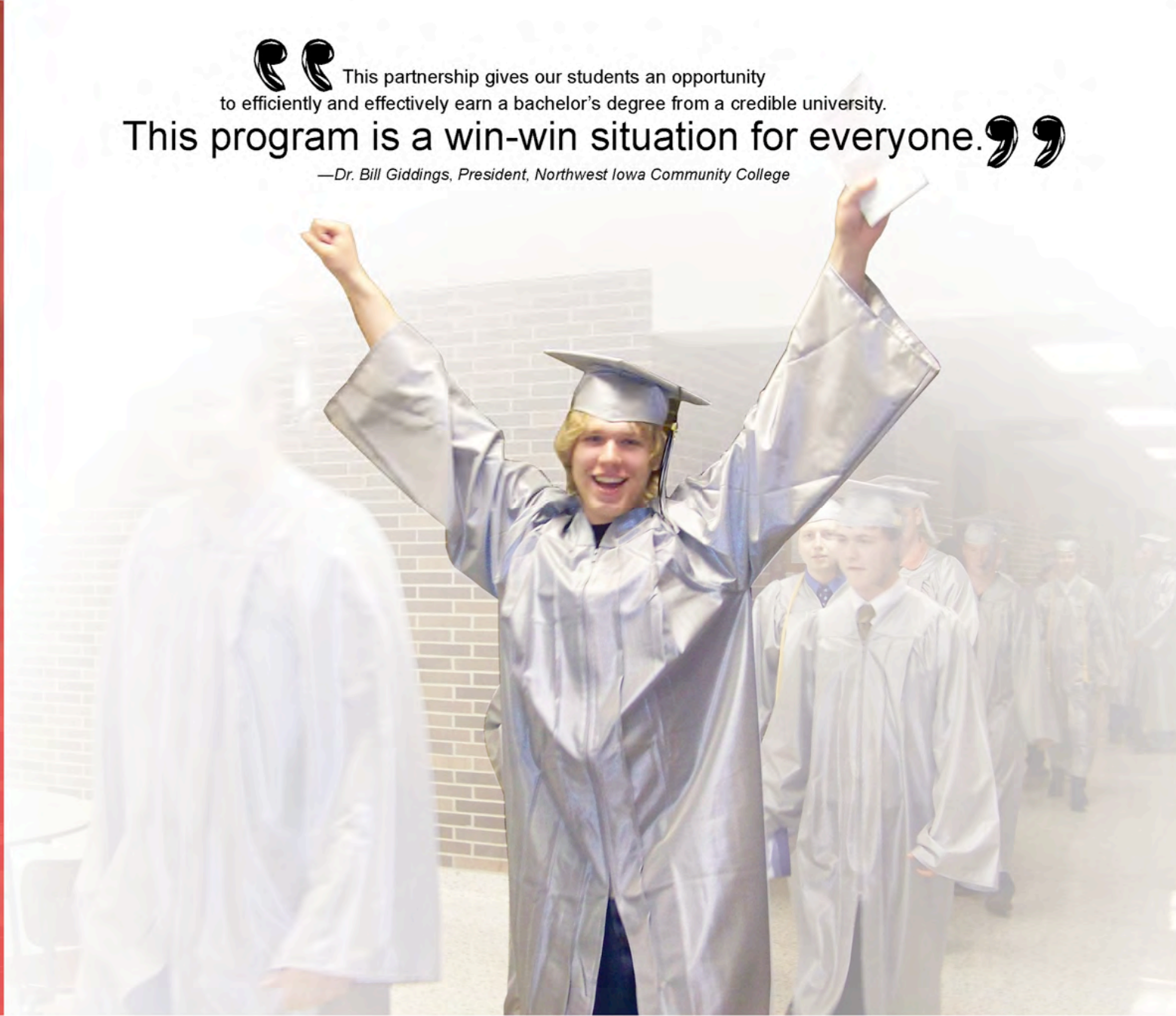
*and transfer classrooms as we
revived a long-missing tradition,
celebrated the first Radiologic
Technology graduation and
launched partnerships so our
associate of arts and science
graduates can seamlessly step
from commencement at NCC into
the doors of Iowa State University
and the University of Iowa...*



This partnership gives our students an opportunity
to efficiently and effectively earn a bachelor's degree from a credible university.

This program is a win-win situation for everyone.

—Dr. Bill Giddings, President, Northwest Iowa Community College



Transfer programs with Iowa State University and the University of Iowa

NCC has made it easier for students to seamlessly transition into Iowa State University in Ames or University of Iowa in Iowa City after earning their associate's degree from NCC.

NCC has signed agreements with the four-year institutions during the past year to establish the 2 Plus 2 Guaranteed Graduation Plan at University of Iowa and the Admission Partnership Program (APP) at Iowa State University.

Students who participate receive special assistance to pave the way for academic success and make their transition easier. Benefits include advisors at NCC and the university and a student ID from the four-year school. NCC students in the transfer programs can access student services, career services, library facilities, extracurricular activities and student pricing of athletic events, entertainment and cultural events at the university.

"This is an important partnership for Northwest Iowa Community College and one that meets our goal to better prepare the residents and communities in northwest Iowa for their futures," NCC president Dr. Bill Giddings said.

Radiologic Technology First Graduating Class

Nine students made history at Summer Commencement 2007 by being the first to earn an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Radiologic Technology from Northwest Iowa Community College.

After commencement, 150 people watched as each of the newly minted graduates was recognized during the first Radiologic Technology Pinning Ceremony.

These students walked into the classroom during the fall 2005 term as the first students in a newly created program. Throughout the next two years they studied radiology courses, completed general course studies, and practiced what they learned in clinical settings.

The program was created to answer health care providers' demands for skilled Radiologic Technicians in Northwest Iowa and received approval from the Iowa Department of Education in 2004.

Nursing Pinning Ceremony

Nursing instructors revived what is a long-standing tradition at most nursing colleges—the Dedication and Pinning Ceremony—after an 18 year absence.

The ceremony is recognized as the culmination of nursing education and was held before commencement this spring. A total of 37 Associate Degree Nursing students accepted a certificate dedicating them to the nursing profession and a pin that identifies them as competent, caring and compassionate professionals along with the College's name.

Afterward the newly committed nurses invited the more than 200 family and friends who attended the ceremony to Building H for a reception.



Walk a Year in the

shoes of our students who challenged Western Iowa Tech Community College students in friendly games of football and softball—our first foray into college athletics—and see how our Student Government Association picked up the pace by increasing the number of activities sponsored...



I really enjoyed getting to spend one last time with everyone on the team before the school year came to an end. It was a big bummer that it was rained out, but

everyone who played made it adventuresome,

and it was a great way to get away from my studies and to spend time with friends.



—Laura Timmer, Health Information Technology student on the softball games

Expanded Student Activities

As part of the first formal athletic program NCC has offered, students stepped out on the field for a fall flag-football game and a spring softball doubleheader against Western Iowa Tech Community College, Sioux City.

The Student Government Association, SGA, sponsored the events as a way to offer more organized student activities and to create a more "collegiate" atmosphere on campus.

The football game sent 18 students and a bus full of fans on a road trip to Sioux City for the first event held in perfect football weather on Friday, October 26.

Propelled by a 55 percent pass rating, completing 15-of-27 passes and home-field advantage WITCC earned a 38-32 win over NCC. NCC completed 19-of-50 passes for 28 percent pass rating.

In spite of the cold rainy weather, both of NCC's teams dominated the diamond during the May 2 softball doubleheader. With temperatures in the 50s and home plate looking more like a mud puddle, NCC's "Team A" won 17-10 in seven innings during the first game and the College's second team, "Team B", won 18-1 in four innings—it was called because of the weather.

Single digit temperatures in late February did not inhibit Snow Daze, another SGA event. Shevy Smith, singer from Nashville, TN, braved an Iowa snow storm to perform during lunch on the first day of the week-long event. The Winter Games were held Tuesday with Frozen Turkey Bowling, Hen-Put (Cornish hen shot put) and Tug-of-War that set programs against each other.

Sigma Kappa Delta sponsored the "Are You Smarter Than a Fifth-Grader? NCC Faculty vs. Students" over the lunch hour on Wednesday. During the final day of the event Jim Short offered a HAM radio demonstration.

SGA sponsored the Guitar Hero Tourney in late April. Lyon Hall's Recreation Room played host to the inaugural video game tourney with its big screen television and room for spectators.

Outdoor entertainment activities were enhanced this year, too. An outdoor basketball court was paved between Lyon Hall and Building C.

All Iowa Academic Team Banquet

The College played host to the annual All Iowa Academic Team Banquet on March 12 where 44 of the best-of-the-best of Iowa's community college students were honored for their high academic achievement, scholarship and community involvement.

NCC staff worked closely with the Iowa regional coordinator for Phi Theta Kappa to plan the event, including making invitations, program and securing the keynote speaker, Peter W. Wagner, President and Publisher for Iowa Information Inc. based in Sheldon.

Amanda Reed, a Radiologic Technology student from Sibley, represented NCC. She will transfer to the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha where she will complete her BA in 2009.

The 15 community colleges in the state take turns hosting the event. NCC selected *Dare to Dream* as the theme. A total of 230 people attended the banquet including honored students, their guests and community college presidents and staff.

Each student received a certificate signed by Governor Chet Culver.



Walk a Year through

the halls of our new residence

facility and the plans for the

Northwest Iowa Lifelong Learn-

ing & Recreation Center. We've

installed cameras and taken

other security measures to make

sure the campus is a safe and

secure place to learn...



I like living on campus because the people you meet or live with
become your friends for life.

You save time and money on gas because you don't have to drive to class and you
get to sleep a little longer because you only have to walk across the parking lot.

—Andrea Slota, Radiologic Technology student on living in Lyon Hall



Lyon Hall

The number of students who call the Northwest Iowa Community College Campus home more than doubled this past year when Lyon Hall opened just before the start of the fall term.

The two-story suite-style housing complex accommodates a total of 46 students. Each of the 12 suites is designed for four students and consists of two bedrooms, two bathrooms and a kitchen/living area. Other amenities include: a recreation room with a big screen television, game check-out, computer lab, wireless Internet and laundry facilities.

"We are very proud of our new residential facilities on campus," President Dr. Bill Giddings said. "We believe it will be a great asset to our students and expands what NCC can offer to them."

This is the second housing complex on campus. The first apartment complex, Cherokee Hall, was built in 1992 and houses 38 students.

Security Improvements

A walk across campus or through the hall should be safer now that the College enhanced security throughout.

A total of 54 security cameras were installed covering hallways, classrooms, outside parking lots, offices, library, learning center and the dormitories this year.

Improvements in communications with administrators and staff, faculty, and students continued. The intercom system has been tried, tested, and enhanced to make sure it can be heard in any building on campus. An outdoor speaker system has been purchased, and will be tied to the City of Sheldon's sirens. It can also be used to broadcast emergency messages.

In addition, the College has subscribed to SNOW-CAP, which provides real-time electronic notification of late starts, delays or other emergency information via text message or e-mail.

Two emergency parking lot telephones have been installed in the eastern parking lots between the dorms and Building D. All interior locks are being replaced with locks that can be activated from inside the room, in the case of a lockdown situation, instead of requiring a key from the outside.

The College's safety committee is reviewing all policies and procedures to assure a smooth fit with new technology.

Recreation Center

Early 2008 marked the start of the Northwest Iowa Lifelong Learning and Recreation Center after the board of trustees gave approval to seek financing options and further architectural plan development. The completion of the project will expand and enhance learning, recreational, and economic development opportunities to Northwest Iowa.

The Northwest Iowa Community College Foundation applied for a U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Loan to help pay for construction costs. The loan was approved in early July. The College also applied for a Vision Iowa Community Attraction and Tourism grant for the project.



Walk a Year with us

to see the diverse opportunities offered by the Business and Industry Center and Continuing Education. They are the arms of the College that reach out, evaluate needs and bring necessary instruction to the community at large...

“ One thing that you want to stress with firefighting training is to get as close to reality as possible. The sky is the limit of what we can do with this training aid; this is so much better than we had before. We used to have to travel for training, and that was expensive and it meant that our fire departments were left short. Now we can move the trailer to different towns and more people can be involved – getting us more bang for our buck.”

—Kenny Huls, Sibley Fire Chief on the new Firefighting Skills Training Trailer



Firefighting Skills Training Trailer

The thought of entering a burning building daunts the minds of newly recruited firefighters, but thanks to a \$100,000 state appropriation firefighters in Northwest Iowa will have a better idea of what they'll face when they walk in.

The Firefighting Skills Training Trailer makes the training experience as realistic as possible. Firefighters can use this tool to train on ladder use, ventilation, forcible entry, and confined space rescues.

Firefighters from Sibley, Matlock, Sheldon, Primghar, Cleghorn, and Ashton have trained in the new trailer, saving their departments money, which means more firefighters can be trained with the same amount of money.

Ethanol Conference

NCC and its partners, Northwest Iowa Development, Sheldon Chamber and Development Corporation and Iowa State University Extension hosted the Advancements in Ethanol Production Technology conference December 10, 2007, on campus.

Producers, business owners, lawmakers, and biofuel consumers made up a part of the 230 people who attended the event. The conference kicked off with lunch and continued into the afternoon with nonstop seminars and question and answer sessions on the hot topics in ethanol with industry experts including Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey and Sheldon native Dave Vander Griend, CEO and president of ICM Inc., a company that designs ethanol plants among others.

Sessions focused on educating the public, ethanol promotion, production of cellulosic ethanol, and how to make ethanol production more efficient—from growing the crop to manufacturing and distribution of the final product.

HACCP Training

The Business and Industry Center is leading the state of Iowa in offering Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) planning and training.

Meat, seafood, and juice industries are required to write and follow the HACCP Plan, which is a proactive approach to eliminating food hazards and maintaining food safety. Each plan identifies three vulnerable areas: Bacterial, like E. coli or salmonella; herbicide or pesticide residue; and foreign objects, like glass, rocks or bone.

Leshawn Howard, Business and Industry consultant/trainer, is a certified HACCP trainer. She is one of a few certified trainers in the state, and has been working closely with Iowa State University in Ames to offer workshops to help companies write or update their HACCP plans.

Biggest Loser

This is the third year Northwest Iowa Community College has co-sponsored The Lakes Health Conference: "Just For the Health of It" with Iowa Lakes Community College at the Iowa Great Lakes in June.

Designed to offer continuing education credits for nurses, this year's two-day conference also provided education credits for health professionals, social workers, psychologists, dietitians, athletic and personal trainers, and physical and occupational therapists. A total of 130 people attended.

Iowa native, Matt Hoover, winner of the second season of "The Biggest Loser" spoke about his experiences with weight gain/loss and losing 157 pounds to win \$250,000 on a reality show. Other topics included cancer prevention through nutrition, lymphedema management, bariatric surgery, the psychology behind eating, and everyday exercise.



Walk a Year on campus

to feel the impact of the record enrollments, see how lives change after studying abroad and witness NCC, other Colleges and K-12 school districts working together so all of our students develop skills needed to succeed in life...



Mexico was a life-changing experience.

I didn't think it would be, but there is no way a person can live in a different country and culture and leave without having one's worldview changed with it. What changed the most?

I will start caring more about what happens outside the United States, because we're not just Mexicans, Germans, Americans, Africans or Asians. We're all HUMANS.

—Rachel Ramirez, Associate Degree Nursing student on the study abroad trip



Mexico Trip

Six students walked into a new world and had their viewpoint expanded during the College's study abroad program. Enrollment Management Advisor Mallory Forseth traveled with six students to Cuernavaca, Mexico for three weeks to study at the Universidad Internacional during July 27–August 19, 2007. Immersed in Mexican culture, the students took Spanish classes from 8 a.m.–2 p.m. five days a week. In the afternoon, students had to take additional classes about Mexican culture or could go on excursions to cultural spots in the city.

Each weekend, the students traveled to different parts of the country, including Mexico City and Teotihuacan, an area with the third largest pyramids in the world.

STEP Grant

The College, five public school districts in Sioux County, Northwestern College in Orange City, and Dordt College in Sioux Center developed a partnership as part of a \$100,000 grant from Iowa Vocational and Rehabilitation Services.

The grant's purpose is to bring businesses and industries together with the educational system to make sure students in grades 6–12 are ready for the workforce. Grant goals include developing soft skills and informing students of job opportunities in Sioux County.

The first year of the grant was spent planning. The second year involved assessment where businesses and industries were visited, needs identified and then compared with what is going on in the schools. A large roundtable discussion has been planned to put business and industry leaders in contact with K–12 educators and post secondary schools to discuss their needs.

Record Enrollments

Popularity in the College's Automotive, Radiologic Technology, Welding, and Powerline programs and a record number of high school students bolstered enrollment numbers in the 2007–08 school year to record highs.

The headcount reached 2,116—a total of 112 more students enrolled or a 5.3% increase from the previous year. The total credit count increased, too. The College offered 29,668 credits, about a 4% increase or 1,156 more than the previous year.

If you dig deeper into the numbers you also see that the increase in total credit count also represents an 11% increase in full time students for NCC during the 07–08 school year.

The 4% change in credit count was brought on by increased efforts by the faculty to recruit students and growing interest in credit opportunities like the B-CAP Program, and word that the education students receive here is top notch.



Walk a Year

with us as we step into the 2008-09 school year and continue to serve our students and communities. We know our influence guides students as they prepare to leave their footprint on the world. Please contact me if you have any questions at 712.324.5061 Ext. 222 or e-mail me at william@nwicc.edu.

Dr. Bill Giddings, President

Northwest Iowa Community College

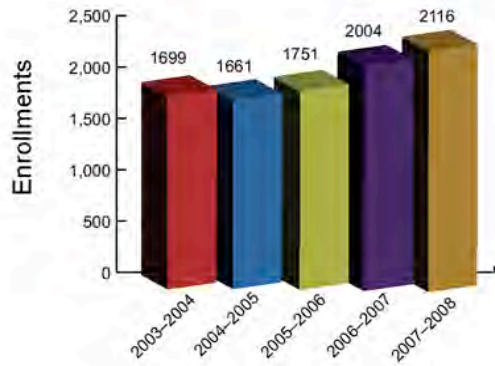


“ My greatest satisfaction comes from handing out those hard-earned diplomas at graduation. ”

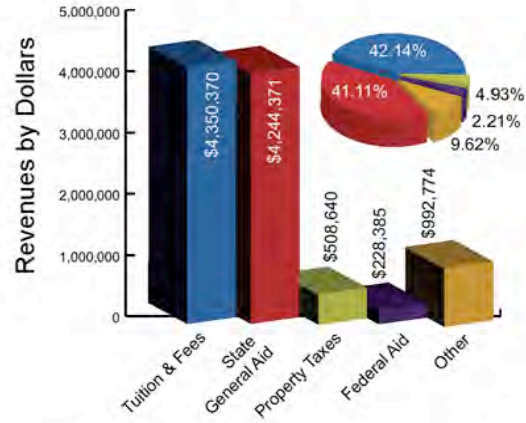
I am deeply honored to be the one who bestows the degrees and proclaims our students as 'graduates.'
– Loretta Berkland, DVM and board president on serving as a member of the NCC Board of Trustees

NCC Board of Trustees Pictured above L to R: Ken Vande Brake, District I; Leroy Van Kekerix, Vice President, District VI; Judy Blauwet, District II; Larry Hoekstra, District VII; Craig Struve, District IV; Dr. Loretta Berkland, President, District III; Chad Hamill, District V; Dr. Bill Giddings

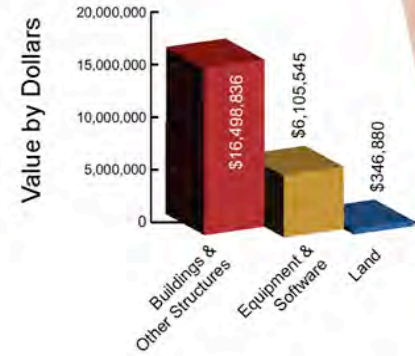
Unduplicated Credit Enrollments



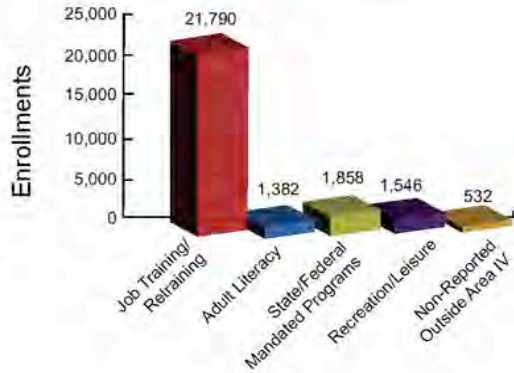
Revenues Total: \$10,324,540



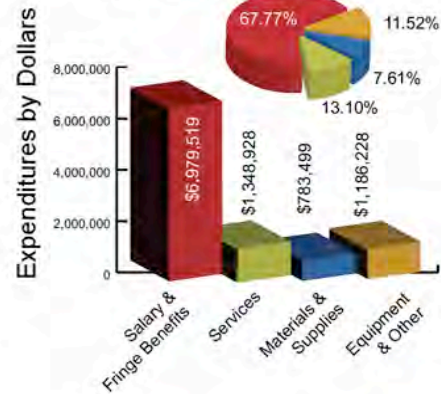
Fixed Assets Total: \$22,951,261



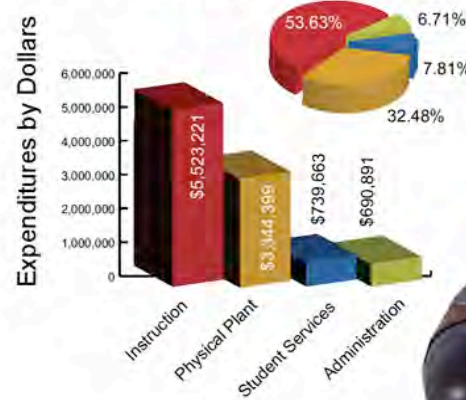
Non-Credit Course Enrollments Total: 27,108



Expenditures: By Category Total: \$10,298,174



Expenditures: By Function Total: \$10,298,174





603 West Park St. • Sheldon, IA 51201
712-324-5061 • 800-352-4907 • www.nwicc.edu