

## Double digit enrollment growth at Glen Oaks Community College

**CENTREVILLE---**Glen Oaks Community College has experienced a 12.2% enrollment growth this fall semester and more local high school students will be joining dual enrollment college and career technical education (CTE) classes. President Dr. Gary Wheeler informed college trustees at the Wednesday, September 9 morning meeting, "We are close to, if not over, our all-time enrollment high. Our headcount is up 12.2 percent and credit hours are up 11 percent. This is the third year for double digit growth at Glen Oaks. During one week in August last year our financial aid office processed 50 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) forms, but this fall in one week they did 200!" The enrollment as classes commenced this fall was 1376 students. That is 150 students higher than the same time last year.

Dr. Ana Gaillat, Dean of the College, said there are times of the day when Glen Oaks is at 100 percent capacity with classrooms in use, "If the growth continues, I can see the potential of offering some classes elsewhere if needed. We might have to go to employing adjunct faculty at a site in Sturgis or Three Rivers." Dr. Wheeler said some less used spaces might be renovated for classrooms on campus, but the classrooms would need computer equipment, Internet access, and so on.

Dr. Dennis McCarthy, Dean of Student and Community Services, said Glen Oaks staff and faculty did a "wonderful job of getting the semester off to one of the best starts ever." Dr. McCarthy said classes filled faster as students enrolled earlier this summer. Some staff worked longer hours and helped students who needed added assistance, he added.

Marilyn Wieschowski, CPA, and Chief Operations Officer, reported total tuition revenue as of August 31 was \$283,000, which represented 11 percent of the annual budgeted amount. She said the revenue rate was approximately one percent ahead of last year's summer tuition at this time. Expenses year-to-date were \$1.3 million, which represented 12 percent of the annual budget. The college's spending rate was approximately the same as last year's rate through August. The Net Surplus (Loss) as of August 31, 2009, was \$982,000. The Net Loss is expected at this time of the year, said Wieschowski, because all Fall Semester revenue has not been received. As books were earlier closed on the last Fiscal Year, Wieschowski said the unearned revenue for fall semester was \$1.3 million as of August 31, compared with \$1.1 million at the same time last year. She said a reserve is being maintained in the plant fund in reaction to unpredictable winter utility costs and state funds revenues.

In other action:

- The Board received a report from Kari Scare, Business Services Coordinator/Apprenticeship Program, about a Energy Auditor Certification training grant at Glen Oaks. The \$100,000 grant provides the certification training, along with a Workplace Readiness Certification, for 15 individuals within the college's service area. The Class Size Occupational Skills Training is being made possible via the Kalamazoo-St. Joseph County, Michigan MI-Works! through the American Recovering and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). She said individuals receiving the training come from the construction trades, as well as some from the auto industry with technical backgrounds.
- The Board approved a revised Vision, Mission and Values Statement for Glen Oaks Community College and learned from Lucy Zimmerman, Professor of English and coordinator of the Academic Quality Improvement Project (AQIP), that the college is meeting goals of continued accreditation. She said a Systems Process portfolio was submitted in November 2008 and a team of eight individuals will attend a forum on Continuous Learning in February 2010 as quality categories are met.
- Dr. Gary Wheeler informed the Board of the Michigan Community College Association's Energy Collaborative meeting held on August 7. He said the goal is to develop and implement curriculum and programs that provide training and certification for technicians to install, repair and maintain alternative energy technologies, perform energy efficiency auditing, and other related fields.