DMACC Magazine

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Making a Point to Partner

UnityPoint Health Supports DMACC Students

Eric Crowell (left), UnityPoint Health-Des Moines CEO and Rob Denson, DMACC President

DMACC Magazine

FALL/WINTER 2015 IN THIS ISSUE

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ABOUT *DMACC MAGAZINE*

DMACC Magazine is a publication of the DMACC Foundation & Alumni Association. If you would prefer to receive your copy electronically, please email foundation@dmacc.edu.

Director's Message

In our 50 years of service to Central Iowa, we have earned our reputation for breaking down barriers for those looking to improve their lives through education.

In this issue of *DMACC Magazine*, we offer a look back at a small sampling of the big things we have done in just five decades. We are excited to share features about advanced programming that has expanded the scope of career training offered in the region (read about our Surgical Technology program, our Health Sciences programs and more in this issue).

We are also proud to share the stories of great DMACC partners and corporate citizens such as UnityPoint Health-Des Moines. The interest shown by UnityPoint Health in ensuring that the next generation of professionals receives the education and training needed to be successful is truly remarkable.

But let's be honest. Over the last 50 years, overall support for—and of—DMACC has been nothing short of remarkable.

Every time we have asked supporters like you to stand up and lend a helping hand to students with the ambition, curiosity and determination to succeed, you have responded.

For a good number of our students, the generosity shown in the form of a scholarship can be a game-changer, vaulting them over a financial hurdle and onto the path toward the goal of a degree and the type of job that would allow them to pay forward that gift. We see it year after year.

So, as we look forward to 2016 and the 50th anniversary of DMACC, we will be making an appeal to ALL alumni, faculty, staff and supporters to get involved in a giving effort fitting of the magnitude of the anniversary. Watch for details on this effort in the weeks to come!

Sincerely,

Tara Connolly
Executive Director
DMACC Foundation

A Gathering of Pioneers

The DMACC Pioneers gathered at the Ankeny Campus on September 3 to mark the start of another school year. The Pioneer group was established in 1994 to help retired DMACC employees stay current with developments of the College and provide continued service to DMACC and our students. That tradition continues today with the Pioneers' active participation in raising funds to support a scholarship, maintaining an archive of DMACC history and much more.

Calendar *of Events*

February 26, 2016
DMACC Night at Iowa Energy
Wells Fargo Arena
For tickets, contact Erin Smith at 515-964-6376.

February 29-March 4, 2016
ciWeek
DMACC West Campus

April 9, 2016
Fleur de Lys Gala
Iowa Culinary Institute, Building #7
DMACC Ankeny Campus

April 30, 2016
DMACC Foundation 50th Anniversary Celebration and Dinner
The Meadows Events Center, Prairie Meadows Racetrack & Casino
Reservations required. Please contact Lisa Cappaert at 515-964-6229 or foundation@dmacc.edu

June 9, 2016
DMACC CEO Golf Invitational
Talons of Tuscany, Ankeny, IA

For more information, please visit us online at dmacc.edu/foundation or call us at 515-964-6229.

Special Thanks!

Thank you to the Ankeny Campus Student Activities Office for sponsoring a portion of the printing costs to produce *DMACC Magazine*. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Setting the Pace

Surgical Technology Celebrates 10th Anniversary

The 2015—2016 DMACC surgical technology class marks the tenth year for a program that has kept pace with rapidly evolving surgical procedures while staying in touch with the timeless fundamentals of the profession.

Just 20 years ago, most surgeries involved larger incisions and required longer post-operative hospital stays. Today, the combination of medical technology and human skills allows for more laparoscopic, robotic, laser and stereotactic surgeries that involve much smaller incisions (if any), and often no post-op hospital stays.

DMACC's program, based at Urban Campus and led by Registered Nurses and Certified Surgical Technologists Betty Baker and John Hadley, prepares students for today's high-tech surgical suite by emphasizing the timeless fundamentals. First and foremost, the surgical technologist is the guardian of the sterile field in an operating room. Students also learn to think critically and maintain a strong surgical conscience with integrity.

They learn to multitask and communicate effectively, have a knowledge of surgical procedures that creates the ability to anticipate the surgeons' needs, and provide compassionate, effective patient care. Creating this strong foundation prepares students for further training in the use of next-generation medical technology.

Another program strength is its collaboration with 11 excellent surgical clinical sites in Greater Des Moines that provide more than 500 hours of clinical practicum to each student. DMACC's Surgical Technology Program is CAAHEP accredited and students consistently post high national certification exam scores and post-education employment rates.

Baker and Hadley, who have combined clinical experience of more than 50 years, both said they knew they wanted to be on the operating room team from the first time they observed surgery.

Baker tells the students every year that her favorite surgeries are the birth of a baby—she cries every time she observes a birth—and watching the heart beat in the patient's body. "There is no better feeling than knowing that you have helped and protected a patient during their surgical procedure," Baker said.

Observing a total knee replacement as a junior in high school launched Hadley on his career path. He was especially fascinated by a great surgical tech's seeming clairvoyance in passing surgeons instruments almost before they asked for them.

"The desire to help people in a professional healthcare setting with the intense atmosphere of the operating room was too much to resist," Hadley said.

Today Baker and Hadley give back to the next generation of surgical technologists by training them to become extremely valuable members of operating room teams and encouraging them to continue their educations toward nursing and beyond.

Pictured at top left (from left) are Laura Douglas, Provost DMACC Urban Campus, with the Surgical Tehcnology Program leaders Betty Baker, RN and John Hadley, RN. Article by Bill Zahren

"I can focus on my studies and use my abilities to succeed."

Anthony Nguyen

Pursuing the Dream

He was born into a poor family a world away, so college didn't look to be in the cards for Anh Tuan (Anthony) Nguyen. Despite the long odds of making it out of Vietnam to study abroad, Anthony continued to dream of pursuing a college education overseas. When an opportunity presented itself in July of 2013 to move to the United States, he jumped.

Anthony and his family moved to Central Iowa. He quickly enrolled at DMACC and began taking classes to prepare him in his pursuit of an Accounting degree.

"I learned right away that DMACC offered a good education at a reasonable price," he says. "It is a respected education and I can transfer my credits to a four-year school."

Anthony says the financial support he's received in the form of scholarships from the DMACC Foundation have made all the difference in the world.

"The scholarships mean a lot to me," he says. "I was born in a poor family so I don't have the financial help, even though we all know how important education is. Having the financial support allows me to work less and study more. I can focus on my studies and use my abilities to succeed."

After completing his course work at DMACC, Anthony is eyeing another move: To either Iowa State or Drake to complete work toward a Bachelor's degree.

And much like he was in Vietnam, he is focused on a dream.

"I want to be a CFO within 10 years," he says with a broad smile. "I am grateful to have this opportunity to work toward that here at DMACC."

DES MOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
50 YEARS
1966-2016
DMACC
Transforming Lives for 50 Years

During 2016, Des Moines Area Community College will mark its 50th Anniversary of serving Central Iowa. As we prepare to move into our next 50 years, we feel it's important to take a look back.

DMACC was officially created March 18, 1966, and was designated as Merged Area XI. The College was established after extensive studies had indicated the need for such an institution.

In 1968, the Board of Directors adopted Des Moines Area Community College as the official name of the institution. The first classes were held at the new Ankeny Campus location in 1968. Administrative and operational control of Boone Junior College was assumed in 1969 and the Carroll Campus was initiated in 1979. The Urban Campus began operation in metropolitan Des Moines in 1972, and a new facility was constructed at Seventh and Laurel in 1980. The first classes were held in the fall of 1993 at Newton Polytechnic. In October 2001, the state-of-the-art technology facility, West Campus, opened in West Des Moines.

The timeline at right offers a glimpse at some of the meaningful dates in DMACC history.

1966
The College leases its first instructional facility at 2501 Vine St. in West Des Moines, the site of a former grocery store.

1978
After DMACC's Urban Campus was founded in 1972, land is acquired for campus expansion.

1966 1976

Transformi

1986
The new Carroll Campus facility is officially dedicated.

2006
DMACC and Iowa State University launch Admissions Partnership Program. University of Iowa follows with similar program in 2007 and University of Northern Iowa does the same in 2009.

2001
DMACC West Campus in West Des Moines officially opens.

2013
The DMACC Southridge Center opens, bringing quality educational programming to Des Moines' south side.

1986 1996 2006 2016

ng Lives for 50 Years

View our complete history at **dmacc.edu/50**

The Point of Partnership

"The experience showed me that this is where I want to be. It feels like home here. This is where I belong."

—Nicole Benhart, RRT

Pictured above from left: DMACC President Rob Denson, UnityPoint Health-Des Moines CEO Eric Crowell, and DMACC graduate and UnityPoint Health-Des Moines Respiratory Therapist Nicole Benhart, RRT.

DMACC, UnityPoint Health-Des Moines Partner to Prepare the Next Generation of Iowa Health Care Professionals

Growing up in Carlisle, working in health care was the furthest thing from Nicole Benhart's mind. From a young age, she was taken by architecture, dreaming of designing everything from luxury homes to courthouses, cathedrals and more. But, like so many of us when we are young, Nicole learned through practical experience that sketching out spaces and drawing up plans wasn't all she expected it would be.

"I really thought I wanted to be an architect," she says. "But I did a job shadow in high school and found out quickly it wasn't what I wanted to do."

That experience threw a monkey wrench in her plans. When it came time to select a college she visited Iowa State University, but didn't feel like she could make it financially. It was at that point that she began to entertain the idea of attending DMACC—and pursuing a career in the health sciences.

PURSUING AN INTEREST

It was a Medical Terminology class Nicole took through DMACC while in high school that sparked her interest in health care.

"I enjoyed the class right away," she says. "As someone with asthma, I was interested in learning more about everything in health care."

With her newly discovered interest in all things health sciences, Nicole enrolled in DMACC after high school graduation. Determined to get the most out of her college experience she took on the added challenge of entering the Honors Program.

"I didn't have a qualifying ACT score out of high school to get into the Honors Program," Nicole says.

"But I continued to work with the staff to find any way to get in. I assured them that I would prove to them that I belonged. They let me in, and I proved it."

The rigorous studies required of Nicole in the honors classes prepared her for entry into the Respiratory Therapy program.

In need of financial support to pursue her educational and career aspirations, Nicole received support in the form of a scholarship provided by UnityPoint Health-Des Moines.

SUPPORTING THE NEXT GENERATION

UnityPoint Health-Des Moines has long viewed DMACC as a strategic partner in developing highly skilled health care professionals. And to ensure that all who show promise have the opportuity to pursue a career in the health sciences, UnityPoint Health annually offers scholarships through the DMACC Foundation. UnityPoint Health-Des Moines, which is also a generous contributor to the annual DMACC CEO Golf Invitational, has offered more than $570,000 for scholarships since 2007.

"Supporting those institutions that help train our future employees is critical," says UnityPoint-Des Moines CEO, Eric Crowell. "As health care delivery continues to change and evolve, supporting the education of our future health care professionals is a critical success factor for the future of UnityPoint Health."

DMACC President, Rob Denson, sees partnerships like the one with UnityPoint Health as vital.

"It is in the best interest of our students to form partnerships with good corporate citizens like UnityPoint Health," Denson says. "UnityPoint Health has been generous in support of our students financially and in providing an open door to meaningful and enriching career experiences."

Continued Page 10

"Supporting those institutions that help train our future employees is critical."

MAINTAINING FOCUS

Nicole was a recipient of the UnityPoint Health-Des Moines scholarship. She says it provided peace of mind and allowed her to maintain a sharp focus on what was important.

"The scholarship allowed me to spend more time on my studies because I wasn't having to work multiple jobs to pay for my education," Nicole says. "In fact, I was able to work part-time as a Respiratory Technologist and pick up practical skills that helped me in the classroom. It was a win in so many ways."

Nicole worked as a technician at UnityPoint Health-Des Moines. And following her graduation from DMACC, she was hired full-time as a Respiratory Therapist. It was a seamless move to go from student at DMACC to therapist at UnityPoint Health.

"There is a lot of support in the program and you are set up for success from day one," she says. "And to also feel the support from UnityPoint Health throughout the experience showed me that this is where I want to be. It feels like home here. This is where I belong."

And it's experiences like Nicole's that provide Crowell with further proof of the value in partnering with DMACC.

"DMACC has been, and continues to be, a great partner to UnityPoint Health-Des Moines," he says. "We look forward to many more years of working together, to improve the health of our communities."

HEALTH SCIENCES CAREER PATHWAYS

DMACC offers a variety of health sciences career paths. Currently, these options are available:

- Adult Services (A)
- Advanced Standing Nursing (RN) (A,B)
- Aging Services Management (A)
- Associate Degree Nursing (RN) (A,B,C)
- CNA/Nurse Aide Certification
- Dental Assistant (A)
- Dental Hygiene (A)
- Dietary Manager Specialist Certificate
- Emergency Medical Technology (A)
- Fitness and Sports Management (B)
- Gerontology Specialist (A)
- Health Information Technology (A)
- Long-Term Care Administrator (A)
- Long-Term Care Administrator-Practicum (A)
- Medical Assistant (A)
- Medical Laboratory Technology (A)
- Nursing—Advanced Standing (A,B)
- Optometric/Ophthalmic Tech (A)
- Paramedic Specialist (A)
- Pharmacy Tech (A)
- Phlebotomy (A)
- Practical Nursing (LPN) (A,B,C,N,U)
- Respiratory Therapy (A)
- Surgical Technology (U)

Campuses are in parenthesis: A=Ankeny, B=Boone, C=Carroll, N=Newton, U=Urban/Des Moines, W=West Des Moines.

Honoring Small Business' Best

The Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) 2015 Small Business Awards ceremony was held on September 17. This year's winners are (pictured from left to right):

- **Titan Immel** of Aerofarming, LLC, of Adair, DMACC Foundation $10,000 Entrepreneurship Competition winner
- **Patrick Murphy** of Murphy Tower Service, LLC, Top Growth Company
- **Reggie Collette** of Thombert, Inc., Small Business of the Year
- Event organizer and DMACC Entrepreneurship Program Chair **Vada Grantham**
- **Pete Ranallo**, gourmet chef and owner of Ranallo's on Third, Dennis Albaugh Award
- **Jeremiah Terhawk** of WebSpec Design, Young Entrepreneur of the Year
- **Scott Yegge** of 1Comm Medical, Inc., Most Innovative Company

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Season's Greetings

Warmest thoughts
and best wishes
for a wonderful holiday
and a very happy
new year!

DES MOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
FOUNDATION