New Foundation President and Board Members Take Office

New officers of the Schoolcraft College Foundation Board of Governors took the helm in July 2006. They are Michelle Plawecki, president; Ed Schulz, president elect; John Bowen, vice president; Maureen Foley, secretary; and Abe Munfakh, treasurer.


• President Michelle Plawecki, a former Wayne County Commissioner, is president of Mid-Atlantic Planning and Consulting in Plymouth Township.
• President Elect Ed Schulz is a CPA and principal with Sutherland & Yoe in Plymouth.
• Vice President John Bowen is the executive director and general counsel for Rock Financial Showplace in Novi.
• Secretary Maureen Foley is a retired chemistry professor from Schoolcraft College.
• Treasurer Abe Munfakh is the president of Munfakh and Associates, which provides engineering management and consulting services.

John Allie owns Allie Brothers Uniforms in Livonia. Allie is returning to the board following a one-year hiatus after six years of service.

• Craig Bowles is president of Meadowbrook Products in Livonia.
• John Elkins is the president of JR Elkins Consulting and is the retired CEO of Dearborn Federal Credit Union.
• Robert Farris is an owner and chief operating officer of the Ralph C. Wilson Agency in Southfield. Farris is returning to the Foundation Board following a one-year hiatus, after nearly 10 years of service to the board.
• James Fausone is an attorney with Fausone Taylor and Bohn in Northville.
• Ray Friedrich is general manager of Sterling Services, located in Canton.
• Guy Gehlert is president of Cadillac Coffee Company in Madison Heights.
• David Grossman is a retired businessman and resides in Franklin.

College and Foundation Partner to Recognize Donors

As we prepare for another academic year and begin the process of awarding scholarships and welcoming back students, we are mindful of the generosity of individuals who have helped to make scholarships, program enhancements and upgraded facilities available to our students and campus community.

We are in the process of designing and producing a permanent display to honor and recognize the generosity of our friends over the past 40 years. The goal of this display is to provide the recognition our donors’ generosity deserves, and to serve as an example to encourage others to support Schoolcraft College.

The display, which will be housed in the VisTaTech Center, recognizes donors whose cumulative giving, including matching gifts, is $10,000 or greater, or who are members of the Henry Rowe Schoolcraft Society. The Henry Rowe Schoolcraft Society recognizes individuals who have made a provision for the Foundation in their estate plans.

The display will measure more than 270 inches in length, and has been designed with materials that compliment the VisTaTech Center and existing recognition pieces. The display will feature donors’ names etched into Corian® blocks, with giving levels differentiated by block color and size. The display will be updated annually to accommodate new additions to the various giving levels.

We are planning a dedication ceremony for late 2006. More details will follow in our next newsletter.
Qualified Charitable Distributions...How do they benefit me?

On August 17, 2006, President George W. Bush signed the Pension Protection Act of 2006 which included significant legislation to benefit qualified public charities. Sections of this Act allow for annual IRA charitable rollovers up to $100,000 to qualified public charities as current gifts, specific charitable purposes or field of interest fund gifts. The rollovers are available to IRA owners who are 70½ or older at the date of the contribution. The benefit to you is that while there is no charitable tax deduction for an IRA rollover to charity, the distribution you do make, up to $100,000, is not included in your taxable income. What this means to you is:
- The IRA rollover will qualify for all or part of the required minimum distribution that you must take from your IRA.
- The qualified charitable distribution is not included in your taxable income.
- While this option is only for IRA accounts, you may rollover your qualified plans like 401(k), 403(b), and other plans to IRAs, then make these qualified distributions.
- Gifting to charities has become much easier, and for some taxpayers there are added benefits.

What other benefits arise from this new legislation?
- Required minimum distributions for individuals over 70½ must occur each year; this legislation offers alternatives to satisfy the distribution rules, without added taxable income, and benefit your favorite charity.
- A generous donor over 70½ may give cash gifts of more than 50 percent of adjusted gross income since there is no charitable tax deduction for a qualified charitable distribution from the IRA.
- You may give the full $100,000 each year as major gifts to charity. While you do not receive a deduction, you also do not have to report the gift as income which could provide substantial tax savings.
- If you receive Social Security and take required minimum distributions you may be increasing your taxable income. Qualified charitable distributions may lower your taxable income so that less of your Social Security is taxable, and you helped your favorite charity.
- If you are a standard deduction tax filer taking IRA required minimum distributions and not able to deduct your charitable gifts at this time, the qualified charitable distributions may help since this gift will help charity, lowers your taxable income, and does not affect your standard deduction.

If you are fortunate enough to not need the required minimum distributions from your IRA plan for current living expenses, qualified charitable distributions are a great plan to benefit your favorite charities with accumulated assets in IRA or retirement plan accounts. For more details on this or other charitable gift ideas you should contact your professional advisors or the Development Office at Schoolcraft College.

This article is written by John W. Kidwell, President and Partner of The Corinthian Group, LLC, a fund development consulting firm. He is also Vice President and Trust Officer of Tri-Star Trust Bank, both in Saginaw, MI.

Mary Ellen King is the retired director of Northville Youth Assistance and serves as a director of the Conrad Charitable Foundation.

Martha Snow is an attorney with Xuereb Snow PC in Canton.

Rodger Vojcek is the vice president of Loc Performance Products, Inc. of Plymouth.

Additionally, Schoolcraft College and the Foundation Board gratefully recognize the energetic, dedicated and tremendous leadership of our outgoing president, Charlie McIlhargey. We also recognize the dedicated and tireless service of our outgoing board members George Grafe, Marc Israel, James Jabara, Tom Marek, Jane Thomas, Larry White and Karl Zimmermann.
Schoolcraft College to Launch Alumni and Friends Program

Schoolcraft alumni soon will have opportunities to form closer ties with each other and with the College through an Alumni and Friends Program. The Schoolcraft College Foundation Board of Governors approved a three-year grant to launch and operate the program at its May meeting.

Schoolcraft alumni, who number approximately 32,000, play important roles in their communities and in the region. We want to tap into their energy and dedication, and ask them to be ambassadors for the College, promoting its programs and reputation.

An equally important goal of the new program is fostering a life-long relationship and a spirit of fellowship between the College and its alumni and the alumni with each other.

We often hear alumni say they wish they could give something back to Schoolcraft College. We believe the Alumni and Friends program will provide opportunities for our alumni to: strengthen their relationship with the College; share the excitement as Schoolcraft continues to grow and launch new educational and community initiatives; and help students be successful as they prepare to begin their professional lives or transfer to a four-year university.

Foundation staff will begin creating the program’s framework with a series of alumni surveys and focus groups. This year’s graduates were the first graduating class to participate in a survey for the program. Feedback from the surveys and focus groups will be used, in part, to develop the program. There will be discussion groups on campus to create a portfolio of opportunities for alumni and friends.

The Foundation will oversee the program, which is part of a larger strategic planning process the Foundation embarked upon in January 2005 to strengthen its impact on the College.
The weather was picture-perfect and the day’s activities went flawlessly at the Foundation’s annual Golf Classic Fore Scholarships on June 5. The event at the Walnut Creek Country Club in South Lyon netted nearly $40,000 to support our students.

Students from the Schoolcraft Massage Therapy Program offered complimentary chair massages to soothe the anxious golfers. Other activities included a silent auction which featured more than 100 packages, including an autographed Steve Yzerman game jersey and a “Be a cop for a day” package at our Police Academy in Garden City.

Special thanks to our prize sponsor, Loc Performance Products, Inc., our golf and auction committees, our many dedicated volunteers and staff members and also the staff, management and members of Walnut Creek Country Club for another great outing.

Stay tuned for information on next year’s outing.

Golf Outing “Fore Scholarships” a Great Success!

New Faces

Wayne Glass

For the first time in recent history, Schoolcraft College has a full-time director of grants. Wayne Glass began his tenure as Schoolcraft College director of grants in April. The veteran grant administrator said he will emphasize securing funds for programs that benefit the entire College, such as curriculum development, student programs, career services, recruitment and retention.

The new Center for Biomedical Technology should provide the impetus for several grant proposals, seeking program and equipment funding, he said.

After earning a bachelor’s degree in natural sciences from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a master’s in business administration from Auburn University in Alabama, Glass worked in development positions at Auburn, the state of Florida’s small business development program, Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas, the University of Southern Maine in Portland and Plattsburg State University in New York.

His last post before coming to Schoolcraft was in the Economic Development Agency in Saranac Lake, New York. He decided that while the rural setting of upstate New York was very nice, he and his family wanted something a bit more urban.

Sharon Common

If you call the executive director of development and governmental relations’ office, you probably will speak first with Sharon Common, secretary to John Walsh. Common has been with Schoolcraft since 1998, working in the Bookstore, the Liberal Arts Office and the Women’s Resource Center. Each office, she said, prepared her for her next post.

Common maintains all Foundation files, records all gifts, and works with the Accounting Office to keep the records up-to-date and accurate. She also coordinates meetings of the Foundation Scholarship Committee and handles the revenues from fundraising events.

Jennifer Theakston

A second new face in the development area is Jennifer Theakston, secretary to Jason Valente and Wayne Glass, director of development and director of grants, respectively. Theakston began as a student at Schoolcraft, and a student assistant in the Business and Technology areas.

Before accepting the development position, she worked in the Distance Learning office. In addition to her regular secretarial duties, she will help evaluate and use software to manage grant applications, awards and implementation. She also will assist in managing Foundation accounts and plans to be part of Foundation fundraising events.
New Foundation Scholarships

Communication Arts Scholarships

In 1996, Professor of Communication Arts Dr. JuJuan C. Taylor, with the encouragement and support of retired Associate Dean of Liberal Arts Larry Ordowski, created the Communication Arts Scholarship competition. Because communication arts emerges from the same academic arena as the performing arts, Taylor felt the scholarship competition should also possess many of the same creative and dynamic entities as the art itself.

“The competition affords students an opportunity to win a $500 scholarship toward the following semester’s academic tuition,” said Taylor. She added that presenting formal speeches in competition offers our community an opportunity to witness the talent in the Department of Communication Arts students. A panel of professionals from the campus and community serve as judges for the competition.

The winner of the Fall 2005 Communication Arts Scholarship was communication arts student Colleen Baidon for her speech “Domestic Abuse—Proposals for Solutions.” The second-place winner was communication arts student Rachel Roughley for her speech “Mass Media and its Effects on American Teens.” Moreover, because there were so many applicants last year, a second competition was held. The second competition’s winner, Brittney Schires, delivered a speech titled “Sexuality Among Teens in America (especially teens within the city of Livonia, Michigan)...State of Affairs.”

Stephen Schewe Physics Scholarship

Retired physics Professor Stephen Schewe and his wife Nancy have established the Stephen Schewe Physics Scholarship. This scholarship will provide financial support to students who have completed Physics 211 or its calculus-based equivalent and are enrolled in Physics 212. The scholarship recipient will be selected by the physics professors teaching Physics 211 using the aforementioned requirements and the following criteria:

◆ The student enjoys physics class. This is evidenced by regular attendance, active participation and demonstrated effort in classroom discussion and activities, and a positive attitude.
◆ The student earns satisfactory grades, and is well prepared for class, discussions, laboratory sessions and examinations.
◆ The student works well with other students and professors during class and laboratory sessions, exhibits leadership characteristics, and earns the respect of fellow students.

The Ryan Connelly Winn (1978–2004) Memorial Scholarship

Ryan Winn was a lifelong resident of Northville, Michigan and a 1996 graduate of Northville High School. He studied chemical engineering at the University of Michigan and biochemistry at Western Washington State University.

During his high school and college years, Ryan worked in a number of restaurants and developed a knowledge of, and affinity for, the food service business. He became a self-taught chef and developed a very creative cooking style. His knowledge of chemistry helped him understand many of the technical aspects of cooking.

Ryan suffered from a depressive disorder which, through drug and alcohol addiction, took his life.

“While he was with us, Ryan inspired us to a deeper love of dining and cooking,” said Ryan’s parents, Craig and Barb Winn. “We have taken classes at Schoolcraft College, and we participate in a gourmet club where friends get together to prepare fine meals and share our love of cooking.”

Ryan’s parents established the Ryan Winn Memorial Scholarship with the help of many of their friends to encourage high school graduates to pursue a love of cooking by studying at Schoolcraft College, one of the finest culinary arts instructional programs in the United States.

The first Ryan Connelly Winn Memorial Scholarship will be awarded this fall.

Certified Angus Beef and SYSCO Foodservice of Detroit Scholarship

The Certified Angus Beef brand and SYSCO Food Service of Detroit have partnered to offer an annual scholarship to culinary arts students in the Brigade Advanced Culinary Skills Program. Brigade students are invited to submit entries, including a 500-word essay, on the future impact they hope to have on the global culinary community. This year’s three finalists were selected based on their essay and their culinary activities, scholastics, leadership potential, community and social activities, and culinary ability. The three finalists then participated in an American Culinary Federation-judged competition.

“These students have set becoming professional chefs as their goal,” said Dianna Stoffer, corporate chef for the Certified Angus Beef® brand. “Participating in this competition helps extend their education into the professional world, where chefs often share trendy culinary techniques through competition. The chance to win the scholarship is an added bonus.” The judges evaluated the students’ beef dishes using standard American Culinary Federation criteria for hot food competition. Criteria include creativity, visual presentation and nutritional balance, as well as flavor, taste and texture.

The winner, Antoinette Rice, received a $500 scholarship and participated in externships with Certified Angus Beef and Sysco Detroit.

The Jerry Costanza Memorial Endowment

The Jerry Costanza Memorial Endowment was created in 2003 to honor longtime metro Detroit restaurateur Jerry Costanza, who died in March 2003. Costanza owned and operated Station 885...
2006–07 Foundation Grants Total $83,954

The Schoolcraft College Foundation Board of Governors awarded 12 grants for the 2006–07 year, totaling $83,954. Examples of the grants, targeted at projects that enhance curriculum, college outreach or professional development, include:

The Communication Arts Department received a grant to examine the impact of media on decisions we make through funding a presentation by WXYZ news anchor Frank Turner.

The Instruction, Financial Services, Development and Governmental Relations departments received a grant to support the initial speaker—Betsy Barefoot, co-director of the National Policy Center on the First Year of College—in a speaker series.

Collegiate Skills received a grant to support a summer college readiness program for Upward Bound seniors at Wayne Memorial High School.

The Financial Aid Department received a grant to create and administer a fund that provides textbooks for students in financial need. The original proposal, submitted by the Athletics Department, called for a fund for student athletes, but was amended to include all students.

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one semester for a student at Schoolcraft College. The funds were
used to provide a scholarship for one of the women graduates of
the Women’s Resource Center’s CHIPS program. The CHIPS pro-
gram is for women, many of whom are newly divorced, who are
re-entering the workforce after an absence, and need computer
training, and career and educational counseling.

Betty Junod Willis Fund
Lisa Willis Rappa and Judith Junod Palmer created the fund
in memory of their mother Betty Junod Willis, who attended
Schoolcraft College in the late 1960s, and always had a place
in her heart for the College.

Two need-based scholarships will be awarded to a working
mother or older student returning to college. One scholarship
was awarded in the winter 2006 semester; a second scholarship
was awarded in the fall of 2006.

2005–2006 Van Dimitriou Memorial
Endowment Fund Awardees
The Van Dimitriou Scholarship was created in 2002, to honor
longtime Schoolcraft College men’s soccer coach and mentor,
Van Dimitriou, who passed away in 2001. Dimitriou coached
men’s soccer at Schoolcraft for 17 years and compiled an out-
standing 220-63-21 record. More impressive was the impact
he had on the lives of his players. Dimitriou was most proud of
those players who not only achieved success on the playing field
but also in the classroom, and those players who, through per-
severance and commitment, were able to improve their perform-
ance both on and off the soccer field.

The scholarship is awarded annually to two members of the men’s
soccer team. One scholarship is awarded to the most improved
player, as determined by the soccer coach and athletic director.
The second scholarship is awarded to the team member with
the highest grade-point average. This year’s awardees are Plamen
Mitev, a freshman from Redford Union High School, as the most
improved player, and Ryo Nishijima, a freshman from Jiyyuu No
Mori in East Lansing, with the highest grade-point average.

The Joan E. Kling and Antone L. Lambert
Memorial Scholarship
The Joan E. Kling and Antone L. Lambert Memorial Scholarship
was created by Timothy Lambert to honor the memory of his par-
etns, especially his mother, Joan, who was a nurse. The endowed
scholarship will provide financial support for second-year stu-
dents in the Nursing Program. Students must be enrolled at least
part time and have a minimum grade-point average of 3.0.

Bequest to provide additional nursing scholarships
The Foundation received a bequest from the estate of James Brown,
a longtime friend and Foundation donor. The bequest was added
to the Eileen Moore Nursing Scholarship, which Brown created in
memory of his late wife, Eileen, who was a nurse.

For more information about supporting programs that are important to you
through a bequest, please contact the Foundation at 734-462-4463.
15th Annual Culinary Extravaganza draws record crowd

A record 1,200 tickets were sold for the annual fundraiser Culinary Extravaganza, held September 24th in the VisTaTech Center. Local restaurants and companies generously provided a variety of hors d’oeuvres, entrées, beverages and desserts for attendees to enjoy. The Foundation thanks these vendors for making this year’s event the biggest and best ever.

A.H.D. Vinters
American Harvest—Schoolcraft College
Asian Village of Detroit
Back Home Bakery
Black Star Farms
Cadillac Coffee Company
Cantoro Italian Market and Baking Company
Cold Stone Creamery
Delicato Vineyards
Espresso Source International
Fiamma Grille & Compari’s on the Park
Five Lakes Grill
Galaxy Wine Distributors
Gravity Bar & Grill
Great Oaks Country Club
Hilton Garden Inn, Plymouth
Holiday Catering
Jeff Zak Catering, Inc.
Schmittsohne Winery
L. Mawby Vineyards
LaBistecca
Loving Spoonful
Michigan Wine Council
Midwest Wine Exchange distributed through
Henry A. Fox Sales Co.
Mitchell’s Fish Market
Pellec Island Winery distributed through Josuetae Wines Inc.
Pepsi Bottling Group
Picasso of Pizza
Rattlesnake
Shiro

Fall Craft Show 2006

November 11, 9:30 a.m.—4 p.m.
November 12, 11 a.m.—4 p.m.
Admission $2.00
Physical Education Building

More than 150 exhibitors ◆ Hourly Raffles ◆ Free Parking
Refreshments ◆ Proceeds fund student scholarships

For more information contact Marge Lynch at 734-462-4518.

Additional Upcoming Events
◆ Major Donor Dinner November 1, 2006
◆ VisTa Gala 2007 March 24, 2007