



MONROE COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

enriching lives

Main Campus

1555 South Raisinville Road
Monroe, MI 48161-9746

Whitman Center

7777 Lewis Avenue
Temperance, MI 48182

www.monroecc.edu

Press Release

Contact:
Joe Verkennes
Director of Marketing
(734) 384-4207

April 23, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RESPIRATORY THERAPY PROGRAM **AWARDED MAXIMUM ACCREDITATION**

Program in Compliance with National Standards; Next Review in 10 Years

MONROE, Mich. – The Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC) has awarded Monroe County Community College’s respiratory therapy program continued accreditation status for the maximum period of 10 years, Dr. Grace Yackee, vice president of instruction, has announced.

The commission voted on March 26 to grant continued accreditation based on the recommendation of an evaluation team that performed a comprehensive, on-site program review from January 15-16.

In a letter to MCCC President Dr. David E. Nixon dated March 26, Dr. Thomas R. Smalling, CoARC executive director, said “The recent accreditation review conducted by CoArc recognizes the program’s compliance with the nationally established accreditation standards. The next comprehensive evaluation of the program, including on-site review, is scheduled to occur no later than 2022.”

In closing the letter, Smalling said, “The commission commends you and your colleagues for your commitment to continuous improvement in education, as demonstrated by your participation in programmatic accreditation.”

(more)

After completing its visit, the on-site evaluation team reported a number of strengths of the respiratory therapy program. No deficiencies were noted.

Strengths included:

- Administration and long-term leadership of the program, recognition and support of it as an integral part of the college and community, and a high awareness of it among college constituencies;
- Students who are enthusiastic about the program and have a clear understanding of admissions processes and program outcomes;
- A medical director who is supportive, engaged and has an excellent commitment to the program and the lifelong learning of students;
- A dedicated, engaged advisory committee that feels its input makes a difference; and
- Energetic and passionate faculty and director.

“Bonnie Boggs was specifically recognized for her excellence as respiratory therapy program director and as a mentor for students, as well as for her energy and passion for the program,” Yackee said following on-site visit. “In addition, Nicholas Prush, instructor of respiratory therapy/director of clinical education, was recognized for his outstanding skill set and experience in the area of respiratory care and clinical education.

“I would also like to thank Jack Woltmann, who retired last year as associate professor of respiratory therapy/director of clinical education. Jack played a key role in our success by assisting with the self-study documentation, providing a number of reports that were anticipated for the site team, and helping Nicholas Prush with transitioning into the role of the director of clinical education.”

(more)

After the visit, Nixon said that the evaluation team’s recommendation for continued accreditation was a “win-win-win – for the respiratory therapy students who are graduating and looking for jobs, the RT students who are currently enrolled, and the medical facilities that hire the graduates of this program.”

The visit was the culmination of a 102-page self-study report on the respiratory therapy program. The report was developed by the respiratory therapy department and submitted to the MCCC CoARC referee who, in turn, forwarded the report with his comments to the evaluation team in advance of the visit.

The self-study report can be found at:

www.monroeccc.edu/health_sciences/RT-Visit/RT-Visit.htm

About the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care

The Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care accredits professional respiratory care degree programs at the associate, baccalaureate, and master’s degree level in the U.S. and internationally. CoARC’s mission is to serve the public by promoting high-quality respiratory care education through accreditation services.

Accreditation is a status that provides assurance to prospective students, their families and the general public that an institution (or a program) meets minimum requirements and that there are reasonable grounds to believe the institution (or program) will continue to meet those standards in the future.

(more)

About Monroe County Community College

Founded in 1964, Monroe County Community College is a public, two-year institution supported by tax monies from Monroe County, educational funds from the State of Michigan and student tuition. The college's mission is to provide a variety of higher educational opportunities to enrich the lives of the residents of Monroe County. The Main Campus is located on South Raisinville Road in central Monroe County with easy access to Toledo and Detroit. The Whitman Center is located in Temperance, near the Ohio-Michigan Border.

Monroe County Community College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the North Central Association.

Information about MCCC is available at www.monroeccc.edu.

###