



MONROE COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

enriching lives

Main Campus

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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

\$17-MILLION CAREER TECHNOLOGY CENTER OPENS

MONROE, Mich. – Monroe County Community College officials formally opened the new Career Technology Center during a ribbon cutting ceremony today in front of the main entrance to the \$17 million, 60,000-square foot facility.

Students begin taking classes in the building on Thursday, the first day of Fall Semester.

The Career Technology Center provides infrastructure to support state-of-the-art classrooms and lab space required to deliver instruction and skills necessary to secure high-growth,

high-demand and high-paying jobs, said MCCC President Dr. Kojo A. Quartey.

It allows for the updating and expansion of existing programs previously housed in the East and West Technology buildings, which had become inadequate to meet modern technology needs.

These include program areas such as nuclear engineering, welding, construction, computer-aided drafting and manufacturing, electronics, mechanical engineering and automation, quality assurance, and automotive engineering and service with an emphasis on hybrid and battery technology.



In addition, the Career Technology Center provides facilities and equipment necessary for the development of programs in the emerging areas of advanced manufacturing; renewable energies such as wind, solar and fuel cell technology; and sustainable and green technologies.

“This is a highly impressive and expansive facility for our applied science and engineering technology programs,” said MCCC Board Chairman William J. Bacarella Jr.

“The opening of the Career Technology Center accomplishes several objectives that are inherent in our mission, such as preparing students for meaningful employment via one- and two-year programs in technical fields, as well as partnering with employers, governmental institutions and other organizations to provide educational programming that meets the needs of an evolving economy.”

“As we look forward to celebrating the 50th year of Monroe County Community College at the end of this academic year, the opening of the Career Technology Center marks another very important milestone in the rich history our college has of enriching lives in this community,” said MCCC President Dr. Kojo A. Quartey. “This facility is all about preparing our students for tomorrow and being responsive to the needs of Monroe County.”

A combination of sustainable systems has been integrated into the design of the facility that will be incorporated into the curriculum. The building will serve as a learning laboratory for students in applied science and engineering technology fields.

The Career Technology Center was built to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver Standards and features state-of-the-art lab space, a geothermal system, Applied Science and Engineering Technology Division and faculty offices, a computer classroom and labs for all of the following areas: automation, automotive, construction, electronics, manufacturing, materials, mechanical design, metrology, renewable energy, nuclear energy and welding.

The state of Michigan financed half the cost of construction. The college has funded the other half through existing funds and a capital campaign in support of the facility.

“There will always be the need for career technology education, and Monroe County Community College is on the cutting edge of state-of-the-art instruction,” said State Rep. Dale Zorn (R-Ida).

“With the construction of this state-of-the-art facility, the community college continues its dedication to excellence in education,” said State Rep. Bill LaVoy (D-Monroe). “The training offered at this facility will provide affordable education and create highly skilled workers that employers in Michigan need.”

In March, the DTE Energy Foundation made a \$1 million gift to the Career Technology Center capital campaign. Other major gifts have included \$500,000 from the La-Z-Boy Foundation, \$75,000 from Michigan Gas Utilities and the Wisconsin Public Service Foundation, and \$50,000 from Monroe Bank & Trust.

In addition, more than \$200,000 has been raised through an internal fundraising campaign.

The Foundation at MCCC is still accepting donors to support the Career Technology Center.

“The Foundation is very excited about the success of the fundraising campaign to support this facility that will enrich, inspire and educate for generations to come,” said Michael R. Meyer, chair of The Foundation at MCCC. “There’s still plenty of room to join the donor list – at any level – and we welcome all the folks of Monroe County and the State of Michigan to be part of it.”

More information on the Career Technology Center at MCCC, including ways to support the new facility, is available www.monroecc.edu/ctc.

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