



MONROE COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

enriching lives

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Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FACULTY MEMBER AND DEAN WITH COMBINED SERVICE OF MORE THAN 75 YEARS TO RETIRE

Public Reception for Dr. John Holladay and John Joy to be Held at MCCC Thursday

MONROE, Mich. – Together, Dr. John “Doc” Holladay, professor of English and philosophy, and John Joy, dean of corporate and community services, have dedicated more than three quarters of a century to Monroe County Community College.

Both are retiring in May.

Holladay started at the college 46 years ago. Joy came to MCCC 30 years ago.

The college will recognize Holladay and Joy during a retirement reception on Thursday at 12:30 p.m. in the La-Z-Boy Center atrium. The reception is open to the public.

“Dr. John Holladay arrived at the College in the fall of 1968, [and] his accomplishments since that time are voluminous – his impact on students, faculty, the college and community even larger,” said Dr. Grace Yackee, vice president of instruction.

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Holladay served as a role model and mentor for thousands of students in his career and was the driving force behind innovative student support programs such as the Writing Center and Writing Fellows program. He was also the pioneer of instructional technology at MCCC, delivering the first online class and integrating online technology into other classes.

He was considered an extraordinary professor by his colleagues and students, as indicated by his twice receiving the “Outstanding Faculty Award,” with numerous additional nominations, and being selected as the 2013 Commencement Honorary Grand Marshal.

During his career, Holladay also served as editor for MCCC accreditation reports and the college’s literary arts magazine, Images, and chaired the Academic Review Committee.

Joy’s first position with the college was in 1984 as the facilitator for the new Small Business Assistance Center, which provided a variety of services to the small business community, including training and retraining programs (which would later come to be known as “contract training.”). Under Joy’s leadership, the center became an integral part of Monroe County’s early economic development activities.

In 1996, Joy was promoted to the position of division director for continuing education and community services, and he later became dean of corporate and community services. He was the primary force behind MCCC securing multiple grants to support contract training and provide additional services to the local community. Additional areas were later incorporated under the umbrella of CCS, including employment services, the Office of Lifelong Learning, room reservations, evening and weekend administration, the Whitman Center, campus and community events, the Fitness Center, the La-Z-Boy Center and the Learning Bank.

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“John is a well-known and respected face of the college,” said Yackee. “He is a long standing member of the Michigan Association of Continuing Education and Training and has interacted with countless business and industry leaders, economic development professionals, and community service agencies and organizations.”

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