Fulfilling the Need

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Your investment in MWCC means that your gift will be used in our community to secure the best education for our students and improve our community's quality of life.

Campaign Overview

Mount Wachusett Community College has always recognized that education is the great equalizer. For more than forty-five years, MWCC has overcome the challenges of student preparedness, access and affordability and has forged partnerships with businesses and individuals to meet the needs of a changing world.

MWCC continues to meet its responsibility to advance economic development through student preparation and community and industry support. More than ever it has become critical to prepare students to participate in the worldwide economy, help businesses remain competitive and build healthy communities.

In response to shifting and dynamic needs, MWCC has embraced a three pronged, preparation plan.

Endowment ................................ $3,750,000
Renovation ................................ $2,250,000
Program Support ......................... $1,500,000
Total ........................................ $7,500,000

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Please join us by investing in MWCC, an essential institution dedicated to the vitality of the region.

Campaign General Chairmen,

American Community Colleges are the nation's overlooked asset. As the United States confronts the challenges of globalization, two-year institutions are indispensable to the American future. They are the Ellis Island of American higher education, the crossroads at which K-12 education meets colleges and universities, and the institutions that give many students the tools to navigate the modern world.

–Report of The National Commission on Community Colleges

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Leading Into the Future…
Meeting the Challenges of Globalization

The Campaign for Mount Wachusett Community College
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The Center for Democracy and Humanity

The Center for Democracy and Humanity, created in 2005 and initially funded by MWCC Foundation, Inc., is growing exponentially and succeeding in its goal of building healthier communities through civic engagement. The center encompasses six distinct programs, including the Molly Bish Institute for Child Safety, the “What’s Next? Speaker Series,” and the Youth Venture partnership with United Way of North Central Massachusetts. These programs are benefitting tens of thousands of area residents, developing future leaders and volunteers who are passionate about the value of service to others, and helping the nonprofit sector build capacity and become financially stable.

Good citizenship was the one thing that I had never thought of before this course. After taking the course, I know how many issues there are in society today.

Alyssa Belcher, student, 2007

I have learned that every little bit counts… I am very thankful for this class because I had never thought of community service as being a part of good citizenship. I now feel that I am a better citizen.

The Center for Sustainability & Renewable Energy

The college’s renewable energy initiatives have: reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 22.5 percent over the past five years; earned national and international recognition; and have reduced energy costs by more than $2.9 million. MWCC will establish a Center for Sustainability & Renewable Energy that will capitalize on the many notable achievements.

This center will be housed at the Gardner campus, where the college operates a biomass plant that is among the largest in the Commonwealth. The plant provides energy for all campus buildings and has reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 22.5 percent over the past five years. The plant has provided an energy savings to the college of more than $2.9 million.

The center will expand the college’s outreach by providing community awareness through guest lectures, presentations, credit and noncredit courses, and individualized energy conservation consultation.

The Center for Biotechnology & Biomanufacturing

In an effort to align K-12 curriculum with post-secondary education, MWCC will develop an academy that introduces youth to the fields of life sciences, biotechnology/biomanufacturing and sustainable energy. This program will be closely tied to the Institute for Biotechnology and Biomanufacturing.

The development of an Institute for Biotechnology & Biomanufacturing is a direct response to the current need for technicians in renewable energy and energy conservation.

Academy of Science and Math

The Academy of Science and Math is designed to provide students with an advanced education in science, math, and technology. This program is designed to prepare students for careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields. The plan for the institute is multi-faceted involving furthering the existing education, space development, and partnerships with current Devens’ campus neighbors.

 MWCC is removing financial obstacles for qualified students. The following factors have increased the need for increased student scholarships:

- Recent cuts in financial aid forces college students to take out more loans and work more hours than ever.
- Childcare costs have increased significantly over the last few years.
- The cost of college books has increased 62% over the last few years.
- Scholarship funding requests currently exceed available endowment funds.
- Enrolling students currently exceed available endowment funds.

The Center for Democracy and Humanity, through its “What’s Next? Speaker Series,” and the Youth Venture partnership with United Way of North Central Massachusetts, are benefitting tens of thousands of area residents, developing future leaders and volunteers who are passionate about the value of service to others, and helping the nonprofit sector build capacity and become financially stable.

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By engaging citizens from early childhood through adulthood, these programs are benefitting tens of thousands of area residents, developing future leaders and volunteers who are passionate about the value of service and civic engagement. The center is growing exponentially and succeeding in its goal of building healthier communities through civic participation and collaboration.

The college’s renewable energy initiatives have been showcased in the National Wildlife Federation’s newly released publication, “Beyond the Sunset: 20 Companies That Are Reshaping the Future.”

Led to prominent appointments on the American Council of Renewable Energy’s Higher Education Committee and the advisory committee of the Innovation for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education.

The college will establish a Center for Sustainability & Renewable Energy that will capitalize on the many successes of MWCC, infuse the curriculum with best practices, and incorporate the college’s earned notable achievements.

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The Center for Democracy and Humanity

Student Scholarships Endowment

is growing exponentially and succeeding in its goal of building healthier communities through civic engagement. The Center for Democracy and Humanity, created in 2005 and initially funded by MWCC Foundation, Inc., has experienced a recent surge in support, driven by a desire to address the challenges faced by college students and the rising costs of higher education. Recent cuts in financial aid forces college students to take on more debt, exacerbating the need for increased student scholarships.

The cost of college books has increased 62% over the last few years, and the impact on students is significant. MWCC is removing financial obstacles for qualified students. The following factors have been identified as key in determining college affordability:

- Student scholarships
- Textbook stipends
- Childcare support

Mount Wachusett Community College is committed to ensuring open access to all. Often, financial stability is the deciding factor in whether or not an individual will enroll and complete an academic program in a timely manner. By increasing student scholarship funds, textbook and childcare stipends, MWCC is able to support students in achieving their academic goals.

“Good citizenship was the one thing that I had never thought of before this course. After taking the course, I know how many issues there are in society today.”

Alyssa Belcher, student, 2007

I have learned that every little bit counts… I am very thankful for this class because I had never thought of community service as being a part of my life.”

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The college’s renewable energy initiatives have achieved notable successes. The biomass plant on campus has provided an energy savings to the college of more than $2.9 million, and has reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 22.5 percent over the past five years. This achievement is a testament to the college’s commitment to sustainability and reducing its environmental impact.

The Center for Sustainability & Renewable Energy

The college’s Center for Sustainability & Renewable Energy has earned national and international recognition for its innovative and impactful programs. The center, housed at the Gardner campus, where the college operates a biomass plant, has been showcased in the National Wildlife Federation’s newly released publication, “Higher Education in a Warming World: The Business Case for Climate Leadership on Campus.”

The center will expand the college’s outreach by providing community awareness through guest lectures, workshops, seminars, and presentations, credit and noncredit courses, and individualized energy conservation consultation. By engaging citizens from early childhood through adulthood, these programs are benefitting tens of thousands of area residents, developing future leaders and volunteers who are passionate about the value of service to others, and helping the nonprofit sector build capacity and become financially stable.

Institute for Biotechnology & Biommanufacturing

The development of an Institute for Biotechnology & Biommanufacturing is a direct response to the current demand for skilled labor in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). This institute, which will be located at Devens, will feature approximately 40,000 s.f. of space that will include multi-media classrooms, fully equipped state-of-the-art laboratories and support facilities, offices, and conference space.

The institute will be housed at Devens, a site that is well-positioned to support the four-year college’s mission to provide high-quality educational programs that promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education. The institute’s success will be measured by its ability to attract and retain top-notch faculty and researchers, and to develop educational programs that meet the needs of the local workforce.

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In addition to the academic programs, the institute will facilitate regional broad-based economic development through partnerships with current campus initiatives. This includes collaborations with the Mount Wachusett Community College Economic Development Corporation, which promotes economic development and job creation in the region. The college’s commitment to sustainability and renewable energy will continue to be a cornerstone of its mission. The college has already earned national and international recognition for its efforts in this area.

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Health and Safety, the Institute for Nonprofit Development, Community Scholars, Democracy Café, the “What’s Next? Speaker Series,” and the Youth Venture partnership with United Way of North Central Massachusetts.

By engaging citizens from early childhood through adulthood, these programs will develop future leaders and volunteers who are passionate about the value of service learning. Students have an opportunity to become financially stable and good citizens.

Dr. Daniel M. Asquino, President, MWCC
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