Join us for the 2023 Student Success Summit! In our Opening Luncheon we will get to hear from Keynote Speaker Jamon Alexander, president and CEO of the West Michigan Center for Arts and Technology. Jamon spent six years growing the nationally recognized Adult Career Training Program that builds income security with families through holistic support, leadership development, and career training for adults experiencing under- and unemployment. Registration for the event is still open – secure your spot today!

Welcome to the 2023-24 MCCA Leadership Academy fellows! We hosted the first convening of the Leadership Academy at Lansing Community College. Thanks to our speakers Steve Robinson, Kimberly Hurns, Robert LeFevre, Daniel Hurley, Brandy Johnson, and Katie Witkowski. Thanks to Monica Liggins-Abrams for coordinating this event and Christopher Baldwin for supporting the entire project. We appreciate our project partners, the National Center for Inquiry and Improvement, Aspen Institute College Excellence Program, and the Ohio Association of Community Colleges. Thanks to our funders, the The Kresge Foundation, Ascendium's Education Philanthropy, and ECMC Foundation. See photos from the event.

Presidential Candidate Symposium Invitation: In collaboration with Lake Michigan College, the MCCA is offering a new Presidential Candidate Symposium (PCS) to prepare rising professionals with specialized knowledge and skills required to successfully obtain the top leadership position. Participants will receive practical guidance about each step of the presidential search and interview process. The PCS will be on September 25-26 in Benton Harbor, Michigan. The cost is $300 per participant. For more information, click here.
Transfer Student Week: This year’s Transfer Student Week is coming up on October 16-20! National Transfer Student Week offers the perfect opportunity to highlight transition struggles and successes and unite your campus partners in advocating on behalf of your transfer population. Find Transfer Student Week resources from NISTS here.

Seeking applicants for an OER Consultant: MCCA is seeking a consultant to manage data collection and reporting on the use of Open Educational Resources at Michigan community colleges, state universities and private colleges and universities, maintain the MCCA OER website and the Michigan OER Commons hub and serve as the MCCA liaison with OER initiatives at the Michigan Higher Education Compact, the Michigan OER Network and other OER entities. Applicants are expected to be familiar with the use of Open Educational Resources in higher education, able to use Word and Excel and navigate web interfaces, and willing to work independently with minimal supervision. See the position description and contact Jenny Schanker, Senior Director of Learning and Research at jschanker@mcca.org for more information.

Higher Education and Gen Z Townhall: Detroit Public TV is hosting an in-person town hall on October 5 from 8:45am to 10:15am at Henry Ford College centered on higher education and the battle for Gen Z talent. President Russ Kavalhuna is one of the panelists. For more information and to register, click here.

Reenrollment Assistance Vendor Vetting: With the Reconnect age expansion coming and anticipating a high volume of calls to your colleges, we are exploring various vendors who specialize in outreach and reenrollment campaigns. ReUp Education is one company that works with institutions and systems to re-enroll stopped out students. Kalamazoo Valley Community College has partnered with the company for the past few years with impressive results (over 2,900 re-enrollments and counting). Colleges compensate ReUp with a pre-set percentage of the students’ net tuition revenues. There are no upfront or fixed costs. ReUp will be hosting information sessions about their work and the impact for institutions. Those sessions are open to you and your colleagues and will take place: Tuesday, September 26 from 10-11am; Friday September 29 from 9-10am and Wednesday October 4 from 3-4pm. To register for one of the sessions please visit: https://go.reupeducation.com/mcca2023.

In recent weeks, we have had meetings with ReUp and other vendors including Edamerica to look for discounted contracts. Please let Ashley know (ashley@mcca.org) if there are other vendors you would like us to explore.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Senate committee hears testimony on Michigan New Jobs Training Program: The Senate Economic & Community Development Committee heard testimony on HB 4573 sponsored by Rep. Carol Glanville (D-Grand Rapids). The bill would extend the sunset for the MNJTP to December 31, 2033 and allow wages for new jobs to reflect regional cost of living differences. Several questions were asked about the change in wages employers must pay to qualify. Testifying in support of the bill were Dr. Michael Gavin, President of Delta College alongside Katie Witkowski from MCCA, Kristen Charlton from Oakland Community College and Julie Parks from Grand Rapids Community College. We anticipate the committee will report the bill this fall to the full Senate for consideration before the end of the year. A recording of the hearing may be streamed here.

House committee hears testimony on traditional regalia at graduation ceremonies: On Wednesday, the House Higher Education Committee listened to testimony on HB 4853 sponsored by Rep. Samantha Steckloff (D-Oakland, Schoolcraft) that would amend the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act (ELCRA) to prohibit an educational institution from discriminating against individuals who possess traditional objects or wear traditional regalia. The bill would also require educational institutions to allow individuals to possess or wear those items in buildings and at graduation ceremonies. The committee is expected to report the bills this week. A recording of the hearing may be streamed here.

Legislation would postpone sunset for distance education reciprocal exchange act: HB 4982 sponsored by Rep. Carol Glanville (D-Grand Rapids) would postpone the sunset of the
Higher Education Authorization and Distance Education Reciprocal Exchange Act from September 20, 2023 to September 30, 2029. The Act authorizes LEO-Workforce Development to, on behalf of Michigan college and universities, enter into reciprocal distance learning compacts; ensure that distance learning providers meet standards of practice; set annual fees; protect student records; and establish a student complaint system. The bill is on the House Higher Education Committee's agenda this week.

**MDARD Farm Innovation Grant Opportunity:** The Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development (MDARD) is now accepting applications for a one-time farm innovation grant program. The Farm Innovation Grant Program is designed to help in-state educational and research centers to develop and support innovative solutions to real, immediate, and future farm problems facing Michigan’s food and agricultural industry. Those interested in applying should visit [www.michigan.gov/mdargrants](http://www.michigan.gov/mdargrants) to view the application and grant guidelines. Proposals must be received via email at mda-grants@michigan.gov no later than 3:00 p.m. on November 20, 2023.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Monday, September 25: [DEIB Alliance Group Meeting- September 2023](#) (1:30 PM to 3 PM)

Monday, September 25 - Tuesday, September 26: [2023 Presidential Candidate Symposium](#)

Tuesday, September 26: [Digital Accessibility Affinity Group](#) (3 PM to 4 PM)

Wednesday, September 27: [Emergency Occupational and Environmental Management Affinity Group Meeting](#) (10 AM to 11:30 AM)

Thursday, September 28 - Friday, September 29: [Fall Board of Directors](#)

View the full list of upcoming events [here](#).

**IN THE NEWS**

Battle Creek Enquirer: [Here's how you can be a lifelong learner at KCC](#) (September 5, 2023)

Community College Daily: [How presidents on social media shape community college success](#) (September 7, 2023) Shout out to LCC President Robinson!

Watershed Voice: [Glen Oaks 2023 nursing graduates achieve 100 percent pass rate on nursing entrance exam](#) (September 13, 2023)

Manistee News Advocate: [West Shore Community College leader in serving low-income students](#) (September 14, 2023)

Just a few newsworthy stories from Michigan community colleges. Check out more news items at [MCCA News](#) or on Twitter, LinkedIn, or Facebook.

Did someone forward you this newsletter? **Click the button below to subscribe to receive it every time.**