September 2012

Dear Muhlenberg Education Friends:

I am pleased to offer this update for each of you as MCC begins its 44th academic year of service to western Kentucky, including eleven years at the P.A. and Pauline Shaver Education Center. I hope that you were able to visit the local campus this year; over 750 credit students attend classes each semester and numerous allied-heath related classes are offered locally that count toward an Associate of Applied Science degree.

Academic Year 2012 was generally very productive; over 335 students received private scholarships around our service area, including 90 in Muhlenberg County. The Glema Mahr Center for the Arts enjoyed another great season that included five shows with at least 700 in the seats – and the Darius Rucker show on September 15th had over 1,000 patrons alone. The college announced plans to implement several new degree offerings, including Paramedic and Paralegal, and the Physical Therapist Assistant program had an outstanding on-site review from its accrediting organization. Finally, for the second year in a row, MCC was recognized as one of America's outstanding 120 two-year colleges by both the Aspen Institute of Washington D.C. and the charitable foundations of Bank of America and J.P. Morgan Chase.

Regarding advancement activities, our work continues to increase access for Muhlenberg residents ready to earn a college degree and begin a rewarding career. During the past year MCC implemented its first endowed professorship programs on the Health Sciences Campus, and these opportunities will help Muhlenberg students taking health-related courses. The following is a summary of those permanent scholarship and program funds that specifically support the Shaver Center:

- The Iris Givens Scholarship Fund now has a market value of $1.425 million and provides $77,000 in average annual income; the college continues to support 16-18 adult scholarships through the Iris fund for allied health and nursing students each year (who are Muhlenberg residents) with remaining interest reserved for the Muhlenberg School Counts workforce program. 33 students who completed School Counts criteria were served in 2011/2012.

- The Muhlenberg County Endowment for Excellence; the endowment will have a fund balance exceeding $1.25 million as of February 2013. The endowment earns $52,000 annually for tutor support in the Irene Sadler Learning Center, scholarships, and arts outreach activities coordinated by the Glema Center and Martin Auditorium staff. The college recently applied a portion of Brown Badgett's estate gift to the local endowment and that $50,000 will be matched next year by KCTCS's endowment match program.

- *Partners in Progress* Scholarship Endowment; funded in 1994 by an anonymous Hopkins County donor, the PIP fund now has a market value of $875,000, and offers scholarships to 9-11 Muhlenberg adult students. The *Partners in Progress* Endowment also helps to sustain the Muhlenberg ACE^2 GED/study skills program.

- Other selected scholarship opportunities; the Everly Brothers Foundation, the Darrel & E.A. Gentry Family Endowment, the Lawton Family Technology Endowment, the Mahr Humanities Fund, new scholarships for education/transfer majors and the college's Title III Math-Science Endowment are other funding sources that promote local support.

The support systems now funded privately in Muhlenberg County are designed to help students develop a new skill and/or obtain a college degree. Madisonville Community College was also able to partner with other local outreach efforts – most notably the opening of the Felix Martin Auditorium on the west campus of Muhlenberg County High School and cooperative efforts to see that both Hopkins and Muhlenberg Counties are certified as "Work-Ready" communities. The college also instituted a new scholarship program in cooperation with the Martin Foundation for adults who have earned a significant number of college credits but have not yet graduated.

Thanks again for being so supportive and generous. I have included with this letter the 2012/2013 schedule of shows at the Glema Mahr Center for the Arts, which includes an evening with Michael Bolton during the Christmas season, four great Coffeehouse shows and a family special featuring Jack Hanna's Into the Wild LIVE. I encourage you to support the Glema Center as much as possible and to continue seeing that the Shaver Center remains an integral part of Muhlenberg County life.

John Peters
Advancement Director

Last thoughts: The Advancement Office continues to stress the importance of serious community considerations when planning your estate and completing a personal will. Contemporary quality of life issues like local arts programming, a comprehensive local YMCA, college classes close to home, and funding for your church requires generous personal financial commitment. Attached with this letter is a scholarship success story related to a large estate gift. Please, remember your church and college in your will.