

# Iowa Valley Community College District

## IVCCD History

1965 – ECC enrollment is 830; MCC enrollment is 867  
1966 – Robert Horsfall is named Superintendent  
1968 – Donald Skinner is named Superintendent  
1970 – ECC enrollment is 1,045; MCC enrollment is 925  
1973 – Dr. John Prihoda is named Superintendent  
1980 – ECC enrollment is 959; MCC enrollment is 1,211  
1990 – ECC enrollment is 909; MCC enrollment is 1,415  
1991 – Dr. Paul Tambrino is named President  
2000 – ECC enrollment is 892; MCC enrollment is 1,134  
2002 – Tim Wynes is named President  
2010 – Dr. Chris Duree is named Chancellor. ECC enrollment is 1,078; MCC enrollment is 2,078.  
2019 – Dr. Kristie Fisher is named Chancellor. ECC enrollment is 710; MCC enrollment is 1,726.

## Marshalltown Community College History

Marshalltown High School Principal B.R. Miller announced in May 1927 that enough graduating seniors had preregistered to ensure the opening of Marshalltown Junior College (MJC) in the fall. Like other Iowa junior colleges at that time, it was operated under the auspices of the Marshalltown Board of Education, sharing facilities and faculty with the high school (now the site of Miller Middle School). The curriculum was a liberal arts general education, paralleling that offered at the state colleges.

B.R. Miller served as Principal of MHS as well as Dean of MJC. The College faculty included Fannie Eberhardt, Velda Fox, Harry Miller and Sadie Young. Of the 53 students in the freshman class, more than half were from Marshalltown; about one-third were women. Tuition for full-time students was \$50 a semester.

In April 1928 MJC was fully accredited by the University of Iowa, enabling students to transfer their MJC credits to the state universities and private colleges. The first MJC graduating class that spring included eight men and one woman, who received their degrees at the high school commencement ceremony. Six of the nine graduates transferred their credits and completed a bachelor's degree elsewhere.

The stock market crash in October 1929 and subsequent Depression left the Board of Education looking for ways to cut costs and increase revenues. Faculty members were informed that MJC enrollment had to reach at least 50 students for the College to remain viable. The Marshalltown Chamber of Commerce helped with recruitment by hosting a dinner for all graduating high school seniors and showcasing the advantages of attending MJC. By Sept. 4, 1930, a total of 57 students had registered for fall semester, and that number grew to 62 within two weeks.

In 1932 the MJC Collegiate Players drama group was formed, performing three one-act plays in area towns to standing room only crowds. The following year they charged admission and by 1936 were performing for annual crowds of 12,000!

In 1933-34 the men's basketball team posted a 7-0 record in the Hawkeye Conference, eventually defeating Muscatine Junior College in the state championship game to claim the state title.

MJC course offerings were slowly broadened over the years, and by the end of 1937 MJC was serving 670 students from 49 communities; 480 of the students were from Marshalltown. In the fall of 1938, with 114 students enrolled, MJC was the fourth largest junior college in Iowa. New clubs and student activities were made available (including women's athletics), and an official College song was adopted. Edward Knock was appointed as MJC Dean; he left for military service and was killed in action in 1944. Russell Dickinson was appointed Acting Dean and then Dean.

In 1940 the Board of Education spent \$1,600 for renovation and remodeling of a house (known as The Annex) adjacent to the high school for classroom and College student study-lounge space. Although space continued to be tight, enrollments dropped somewhat during World War I (1941-1946). The 1944-45 high school yearbook showed MJC enrollment at 40 students, but the Board of Education kept the doors open in anticipation of a greater demand for postsecondary education following the war. By 1946 tuition was set at \$135 per semester to attract veterans.

In 1956 the Board began searching for a new site for the high school and junior college. A tract of land was donated by Ralph McCague in 1958. Earl J. Moore was named Dean of the College in 1956, followed by George Bowman in 1960. The name Marshalltown Junior College was changed to Marshalltown Community College in 1962, indicating a broadening of services and stakeholders. The MCC dean position became full-time that year, and the College began offering vocational-technical programs in Drafting, Automotive Mechanics and Machine Technology, as well as Secretarial/Clerical career training.

Arlen Hackbarth was appointed Acting Dean in January 1966. The need for classroom space forced the Board of Education to rent part of Marshalltown's National Guard Armory for MCC classes, and in 1966 MCC moved to its new "campus" in the renovated Old Central building just north of downtown Marshalltown. The nearby Coliseum was rented for physical education and served as MCC's home court for basketball games, as well as being used for music classes and concerts, plays and musical performances.

Also in 1966 the MCC Foundation was approved by the Board of Education to receive and administer gifts and bequests for student scholarships. Hugh Davis, Jon Renner and Terry Leeper began the first solicitation to finance the startup of a football team. Over the years, the MCC Foundation Board has received outstanding support from board members and donors representing businesses, organizations and individuals.

In July 1966, James McKinstry was hired as Dean; Conrad Dejardin was named Director of Adult Education and Francis Burnham was Director of Vocational Education.

In 1967-68 the College offered night courses, had a football team and an award-winning college newspaper, and enrolled students from Nigeria, Kenya and Cameroon. A new clinic for training Dental Assisting students was opened in the basement of the John Childs Building. Each of the MCC vocational-technical programs had an advisory committee of professionals employed in that particular career area. In 1970 MCC began offering the Licensed Practical Nursing program.

In 1968, the Area VI Board purchased 209 acres southeast of Highways 30 and 14 as the site for a new Iowa Valley/MCC campus. MCC began the 1971-72 academic year with completion of the Phase I building on the new campus. Vocational-technical programs were moved to the spacious new building, which had moveable classroom walls to meet MCC's ever-changing needs. The 60-foot spans with no load-bearing walls were held up by giant Y-shaped concrete supports, each weighing 33 tons.

In the summer of 1975 Old Central and the old gym were vacated and all contents (including the 30,000 volume library) were moved to the new Phase II portion of the MCC campus. There was concern about the "divided campus" as MCC's health career programs remained at the John Childs Building and physical education and athletics remained at the Coliseum. The Phase II building was dedicated on Oct. 12, 1975, at which time librarian Betty Harrison collected items for a time capsule, to be buried in the courtyard. By this time, MCC's enrollment was 981. When Dean McKinstry resigned to become Iowa Valley Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Don Fleming was hired as MCC Dean.

The opening of the new physical education complex on MCC's campus in 1977 coincided with the hiring of Dr. Paul Kegel as dean of MCC. Phase III construction, which included a multi-purpose physical education facility and student center, was completed in 1978. The football program was dropped for financial reasons that same year.

MCC began offering an Associate Degree Nursing program in 1979. With the closing of the Marshalltown Hospital School of Nursing, enrollment in MCC's ADN program grew. By 1984, records indicated that MCC nursing graduates had 99% passage of the state Board of Nursing exams.

In 1981 Luther Utterback's outdoor sculpture, Seven Cubes, was loaned to MCC. Each steel cube was 6.5 feet square and weighed more than a ton. The cubes were later donated to the College.

By 1983 MCC's enrollment exceeded 1,500, and there were 305 graduates. The final phase of MCC campus construction opened in 1983, enabling the health career programs and adult and continuing education offices and classrooms to move to the main campus. There was a separate new building for District administration offices.

MCC Dean Dr. Paul Kegel resigned in December 1987 and Dr. Jim Blake was named acting dean; he was named Dean in 1989. Dr. Blake served only briefly, resigning that August.

In the fall of 1989, IVCCD voters approved a 10-year, \$7.5 million bond issue to finance facility and infrastructure improvements and equipment purchases in Marshalltown and Iowa Falls. On the Marshalltown campus, a new library was built and the former library was remodeled into a student union and bookstore. A fitness center was also built in the Babe Harder Gymnasium.

In February of 1990, Dr. Bill Simpson was named MCC Dean. This is also the year when MCC began offering college credit courses to high school seniors, and a new Radiology program was initiated.

By 1991 MCC employed 38 full-time professional staff. The College's non-residential campus dictated that activities fit into students' on-campus schedules. MCC offered a variety of student- and community-oriented co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. Intercollegiate athletics

(baseball, softball, basketball, co-ed tennis and co-ed golf) generated considerable student and community support. An aggressive program of student-athlete recruitment improved the College's standings in the Iowa Community College Athletic Conference, and student-athletes from throughout the Midwest brought a competitive dimension to MCC. The intramural program (coordinated by faculty) included racquetball, volleyball, table tennis, basketball and soccer. Installation of a new fitness center in the Babe Harder Memorial Physical Education Complex increased both student and staff participation in aerobics, fitness testing, and individual workout programs. Campus organizations included Older Wiser Learners (OWLS), a Women's Issues organization, the Alpha Iota Rho chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (national fraternity for academic achievers in two-year colleges), Young Republicans and Young Democrats. Journalism students produced a student newspaper. PTK sponsored two public lecture programs annually. Student government was (and continues to be) centered in a representative body, the Student Senate, with social activities managed by a Student Activities Council. Student Senate provided leadership retreats for students involved in both groups. On-campus SAC events include an annual week-long Oktoberfest celebration, Fun Flicks, popcorn days, special programs in the Student Union (hypnotist shows, guest speakers), and holiday dances. Activities were financed primarily by student activity fees. Academic programs in 1991 included Accounting, Associate Degree Nursing, Business, Child Care, Community Service Associate, Computer Science, Dental Assisting, Drafting & Design, Electronic Technology, Machine Trades, Medical Assistant, Practical Nursing, Secretarial, Surgical Technician and Tool & Die Making.

In a continuing effort to recruit and serve students from around the globe, MCC became affiliated with Youth for Understanding (YFU) in 1993. Approximately 10 YFU students enrolled at MCC in the program's first year, while living with host families in the community. MCC's YFU program remains vital to this day.

Dr. Simpson left MCC in 1997 and was replaced by Interim Dean Dr. John Erwin and then Interim Dean David Felland, who was named MCC Dean in July 1997.

In 2000 MCC's first on-campus student housing was constructed, an apartment-style building that houses 48 students; a second apartment building was opened for occupancy in 2002. In 2001 the College opened its new front entrance and expanded Student Services offices. Dean Felland left MCC in 2002 and was succeeded by Interim Deans Dr. Cynthia Green and Dr. Chris Russell. Dr. Barbara Burrows was named MCC Provost in October 2003. The Construction Technology building on the northwest corner of campus was completed in 2005.

In 2005 MCC partnered with Marshalltown High School, the Martha-Ellen Tye Foundation and other business and community organizations to establish the Marshalltown Education Partnership (MEP). The goal of MEP is to make post-secondary education possible for all MHS graduates. To qualify, students must be a first-generation college student and demonstrate financial need. Participants must sign a Commitment to Excellence Contract prior to the start of 9<sup>th</sup> grade stating they will achieve established standards of attendance (95%) and scholarship (2.75 GPA). Students receive support in achieving their goals and participate in many MEP activities. To date, MEP has successfully transitioned hundreds of students from MHS to MCC.

In March 2008 the Business & Technology Center, which includes a state-of-the-art welding lab with 36 welding stations and several classrooms, was opened on the MCC campus as an addition to the Construction Technology building. Dr. Barbara Burrows left MCC in September that year and Dr. Chris Russell was named Interim MCC Provost. In 2009, the third MCC student apartment building (constructed by MCC students with housing for 60 students) was opened for

fall term occupancy. On Oct. 13, a ribbon-cutting was held for the new MCC Student Activity Center. Also that year, the Entrepreneurial & Diversified Agriculture building was opened just east of the Construction Technology building. Dr. Chris Duree was hired as MCC Provost in November.

One year later, Dr. Duree was named IVCCD Interim Chancellor, then Chancellor in 2010. Dr. Robin Shaffer Lilienthal was then promoted to the position of MCC Provost; she had previously served as the Dean for Iowa Valley Grinnell.

By Fall 2014, MCC had completed an extensive remodel of the Health Occupations classrooms and offices. A remodel of the Machine Trades area and nearby classrooms and followed, with completion in early 2015. In early 2016, it was announced that MCC alum William “Bill” Faust had left a \$1 million bequest to the College, to be used for renovating the student union. The William Faust Student Union was dedicated on Sept. 22, 2016.

MCC began offering a new Advanced Manufacturing Technology AAS degree in Fall 2019.