

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION AS PUBLISHED IN

dsm: Faces of EDUCATION

Profiles of the catalysts for our colleges, universities and schools



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Rob DENSON

President of Des Moines Area Community College

TELL US ABOUT THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT YOUR SCHOOL

DMACC was recently recognized by *Community College Week* as the 15th fastest growing two-year college in America. While the report focused on enrollment, it also underscores the many initiatives taking place across the College that drive enrollment and our success.

We are on the Leadership Council and heavily involved with Opportunity Nation, a national coalition to advance economic opportunity and mobility in America. DMACC is also planning to expand its presence in south-central Iowa through opening a new Career Academy in Southridge Mall. There are many more announcements taking place this year.

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR CONTINUED GROWTH?

We are excited about the Southridge Mall expansion and additional student housing in Boone and Ankeny. We are now focusing on remodeling and improving our current facilities. One example of that is a multimillion-dollar renovation on both the Ankeny and Urban Campuses last year.

TO WHAT DO YOU ATTRIBUTE YOUR SCHOOL'S SUCCESS?

DMACC employs 2,341 outstanding faculty and staff who work hard to help students achieve their goals. Earlier this year, the *Des Moines Register* recognized DMACC as one of Iowa's "Top Workplaces," an accolade resulting from an employee survey. Great employees who love their work make us a success.

For more insights about DMACC, watch the "President's Perspective" at www.dmacc.edu/about/welcome.asp

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Dr. Mark PUTNAM

President, Central College

ELEVATING THE DISCOURSE

Our nation's ability to engage in civil discourse has eroded. Colleges must lead the way to intellectual renewal. The future of our global society depends on inquiry and examination. It's why I started blogging. Civil discourse is encouraged by all – not just members of the Central College family. You, too, are invited. <http://blogs.central.edu/president>

GLOBAL EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Internationally known for its study abroad programs since 1965, Central has been a leader in global experiential learning and boasts academic programs in eight locations worldwide. To ensure studying abroad is an intentional growth experience, and to include Pella more inclusively in the global campuses, we've focused planning efforts around making our experiences even better. <http://www.central.edu/abroad/>

THE NEXT GENERATION

Here are ideas substantially different from the model of conformity and constraint generally presented to young students:

- **Slow down. Don't be in a hurry.** Try a different approach. Encourage students to not settle on a major until they've really explored.
- **Focus on the "being" question.** We are completely preoccupied with doing. Just "being" is critical to sustained success in adulthood.
- **Prepare for an uncertain future; don't follow a script.** Life's journey takes many unexpected turns. Failure is as important as success. <http://blogs.central.edu/president/2011/09/22/the-next-generation/>



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