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*MCC is committed to preparing students for a multicultural world shaped by a global economy. Our mission reflects this focus: “to educate and prepare diverse learners to achieve scholarly, professional, and individual success within a local and global context.”*

## Student Escapes Syrian War, Begins Building New Future at MCC

His first goal was to escape the Syrian civil war. In June 2013, that goal was realized when Hachiar Mohammed finally joined his wife Amel, an MCC accounting student, and their newborn son in this country. Hachiar’s next goal was to earn a college credential in two years and get a good job to support his family. Accomplishing that goal is already paying off.

A former freelance journalist, Hachiar took the advice of an MCC counselor who guided him toward a

future in information technology. “For the last two years, I was a full-time student, working 45 to 47 hours per week at Wegmans and in MCC’s Math Learning Center,” he said. “MCC gave me a lot of confidence.”

Prior to his May 2015 graduation, Hachiar attended an MCC career fair and was hired as a technician with Kodak Alaris. He continues to balance work and family life while pursuing a degree in computer information technology at Rochester Institute of Technology. “The people who come to



**Hachiar Mohammed**

MCC are trying to improve their lives. My teachers were very supportive,” he said.

Hachiar and Amel are now saving to buy their first home in Rochester. “As an immigrant, I needed the support I received from MCC,” he said.

## International Student Enrollment on the Rise

Over the last several years, MCC has maintained a steady enrollment of approximately 100 students from other countries. However, with the opening of the Global Education and International Services Office at MCC, the numbers are beginning to increase. In fall 2015 MCC received 165 applications, up from 123 in fall 2014. Of those, 95 students were accepted and 56 registered for fall courses, an increase of 38 acceptances and 15 additional registered students.

MCC’s international, immigrant and refugee

***MCC’s international, immigrant and refugee students come from more than 85 different countries.***



students come from more than 85 different countries. In addition to providing comprehensive academic advising and immigration services to students, the Global Education Office is coordinating field studies designed for these students to engage with our domestic students, creating a cross cultural exchange within our local context. MCC’s international, immigrant, and refugee students bring a welcome breadth of varying perspectives and life experiences into our classrooms, enhancing the learning for all.

## MCC Joins SUNY's Effort in Globally Networked Learning

The State University of New York (SUNY) Center for Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) is one of the leading international organizations focused on the emerging field of Globally Networked Learning (GNL). Earlier this year, MCC joined SUNY COIL as a Tier I member. Eight MCC faculty members have already signed up to use a COIL module in one of their courses.

*“Collaborating with teams of people from various cultural backgrounds helps students gain important intercultural communication skills, increasing their employability in our global society.”*

– *Jonathon Little, MCC assistant professor, geography and geospatial technology*

The four MCC COIL courses scheduled for 2015-2016 will allow over 80 MCC students to benefit from affordable, engaging international

learning experiences with their peers in other countries. COIL modules, which incorporate diversity and global learning, are in line with MCC's focus on incorporating high impact practices into the curriculum. Collaborative courses focused on global learning have proven to increase student engagement and influence student retention and persistence rates.

In Spring 2016, MCC Assistant Professor of Geography and Geospatial Technology Jonathon Little is partnering on a COIL module with Professor Clemens Hoffman of Bilkent University in Ankara, Turkey. Through virtual meetings, MCC students will work directly with



*COIL participants from SUNY, including MCC Faculty Member Jon Little, recently met with Turkish professors in Eskisehir.*



Turkish students using the power of maps (GIS) to visually display the complex dynamics between world politics and the environment. According to Professor Little, “Collaborating with teams of people from various cultural backgrounds helps students gain important intercultural communication skills, increasing their employability in our global society.”



*College of Science, Technology & Applied Arts and Sciences of Trinidad and Tobago (COSTAATT)*

## MCC Continues Long-standing Partnership with Trinidad and Tobago

Since the mid-1980s, MCC has maintained an innovative partnership with the College of Science, Technology & Applied Arts and Sciences of Trinidad and Tobago (COSTAATT). This past July, COSTAATT President Gillian Paul visited MCC for the sixth time, bringing four administrators along to learn firsthand why MCC ranks among the top community colleges

in the country. Director of Global Education and International Services Gale Lynch led the delegation in four days of meetings with 19 different units of the college giving them a broad perspective on the workings of MCC. According to Lynch, “They left inspired and impressed—ready to make a difference for their students and for higher education in Trinidad and Tobago.”

### Contact MCC

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