An Event Built For Engineers

For the third year in a row, Greenfield Community College’s Engineering Department has been hosting Speaker Day, an increasingly popular event that brings area students to meet professional engineers. Speaker Day will be held on Dec. 4 from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in the Sloan Theater on campus. Greg Brown, director of Recruitment and Transfer Affairs for the University of Massachusetts College Of Engineering, will be on hand.

Engineers from the area will also be available to talk about their work, educational background and how students can obtain these. Louise McGough, the GCC professor who started the Speaker Day annual event as a way for her students to meet local engineers, said it is a valuable opportunity for everyone in the community. “It’s really an informational session,” she said. “Students can come up to talk to engineers individually and see what the engineers have brought, such as plans or models for the students to look at. It’s very informal and a good opportunity for students to get a picture of the working lives of engineers, so some of the variety that is available in this engineering’s role—disciplines, and just to imagine possibilities—progressing in the field and in what types of careers they might choose to pursue. The engineers who speak run from self-employed consultants to government contract engineers, from local to national firms.”

GCC’s two-year engineering program is designed in order to provide an opportunity for students to transition successfully to four-year universities. “It is a program that draws many of the skilled scientists—mathematicians of the region,” said Peter Rosnick, interim associate dean for GCC’s Science, Math and Business.

When GCC students transfer to places like UMass, Smith College’s Picker Engineering Program, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Massachusetts Polytechnic Institute and Northeastern University of Engineering, he said, “They do so readily and able to compete with students who began their education at first-year students at those institutions.”

Former GCC students agree. “Teachers can help guide the intensity of a four-year college but also develop classes for the more abstract academic parts of the university.” With GCC’s help, she’s on her way. GCC is an invaluable resource as I move into this new phase of my life.” With GCC’s help, she’s on her way. GCC is an invaluable resource as I move into this new phase of my life.

For more information on how to apply for GCC’s Engineering Department, please visit the website: www.gcc.mass.edu/programs/engineering.

Dance Concert

Friday, December 5, 7:30 p.m., Greenfield High School

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By Natalia Muñoz

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