On May 17, 2010, IBM executives announced plans to open a new facility in Columbia, MO, and begin hiring IT employees as early as this summer. Plans had been in the works for many months among a consortium of colleges, universities and technical schools who have agreed to provide training to eventually build IBM's local employment up to as many as 800 jobs by 2012. The vast majority of these jobs will be for professional technical workers, with the company projecting average annual salaries of $55,000. IBM will be among the top 10 largest employers in Boone County, and Department of Economic Development officials described this announcement as one of the nation's top job creation projects in 2010.

Tim Shaughnessy, senior vice president of service delivery for IBM Global Technology Services, described the new facility as a data delivery center that will provide information technology services to national and global IBM clients that outsource IT work to IBM.

The job creation initiative, dubbed 'Project Tiger' was accomplished with a series of state and local economic incentives that include a sales tax exemption for personal property and a 50% property tax abatement. Those incentives were provided through chapter 100 bonds, an economic development tool endorsed by the Columbia and Boone County governing executives. The incentive package calls for the city to purchase the former Tri-Con Industries manufacturing plant on LeMone Industrial Boulevard at the AC exit on HWY 63 in southern Columbia for $3 million and lease the building to IBM for $1 a year for 15 years. A group of local banks has provided $9.5 million in financing for IBM to refurbish the building.

Renovations are beginning immediately, and the company is set to begin hiring this summer, with operations to begin by November with 100 employees. The facility expects to have 800 employees there by 2012 with an annual local payroll of $44 million.

Dave Griggs, chairman of Regional Economic Development, Inc. (REDI) billed the announcement as “the single most significant impact in private sector jobs for Mid-Missouri in the history of Columbia.”

“There is a big picture here,” said Griggs. “Locating a project of this magnitude in Columbia, MO, with a company of this reputation will generate the kind of publicity that will make other companies sit up and take notice.”

Boone County presiding Commissioner Ken Pearson lauded the successful recruitment of IBM as “a wonderful example of a community coming together.”

The new center will join two other North American service delivery facilities opened recently in Dubuque, IA and Lansing, MI, making it the third new facility IBM has opened in the United States in the last 18 months. The new center is part of an extensive network of IBM service delivery centers in more than 20 countries, with multiple sites in many of those countries, that provide information technology (IT) services and business process outsourcing capabilities to IBM clients around the world.

IBM will work with many of the institutions of higher learning in the Columbia region for recruitment and training of potential employees as well as hiring experienced professionals. In addition, IBM will look for opportunities to partner with these schools to enhance their curricula to better prepare students for opportunities in the IT industry, including the types of roles found at IBM.

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More information can be located on the IBM website at http://www-03.ibm.com/employment/us/jobs/columbia_mo.html Check that site for postings for the initial jobs coming later this summer.

Sources: Jodie Jackson, Jr., Columbia Tribune; IBM's official web site http://www.ibm.com/us/en/
New Traditions Scholarships Spring 2010

In a ceremony held on April 19, 25 MACC students in the New Traditions Scholarship program received a variety of private, institutional and state awards totaling $5,665.00. Five MACC Institutional Scholarships were allocated this semester. These renewable scholarships provide $300 each semester for up to four semesters. Private scholarships totaling $1,975 from nine individuals, business and community organizations were awarded to 16 students. Displaced Homemaker Fee Waivers totaling $2,040 were awarded to three students. A Breaking Traditions Award of $150 was presented to Hilary Morrissey of Macon. Hilary won the prestigious Daphne Jones Spirit Award.
Hilary Morrissey - Breaking Traditions Award Winner!

Students unavailable for photos: **MACC Institutional and DHFW**: Chrissa Wright, Kingdom City, PN; Mark Gibson, Moberly, PN; Nicole Guerra, Moberly, Business Accounting; Nicole Shields, Columbia, A.D.N.; **Moberly Business Women of Missouri**: Mary Carnahan, Moberly, AA; **Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Post 2654**: Wendi Bentley, Moberly, Moberly, Marketing/Management; **GE Capital**: Jamie Egan, Centralia, PN; Angel Hartung, Macon, AA; Amy Sparks, Martinsburg, PN; **Beta Sigma Phi Preceptor Laureate Eta**: Keri Welker, Moberly, PN.

Hilary Morrissey, Macon, was recognized for her significant achievements at the New Traditions Scholarships Awards ceremony on April 19. She received a $150 honorarium from Career Education Coordinator Diana Reynolds, Kirksville. Hilary also spoke at the New Traditions Advisory Committee meeting on April 15, and was honored at a statewide recognition event on April 23. Hilary is an exemplary nontraditional student who has overcome physical disabilities and multiple challenges, successfully completed two internships in Graphic Arts Technology and will be employed at a photography studio in Macon upon graduation from MACC in May 2010 with an AAS degree in Graphic Arts Technology.

Here are a few statements from Instructor Ben Leach’s nomination materials for Graphic Arts Technology student, Hilary Morrissey: “Success in spite of limitations is what best describes Hilary. She is self-determined and driven to learn, refine and improve her skills. She can accomplish anything that she decides to do, and she is, and will continue to be, a contributing member of society. She inspires whomever she meets. In this nontraditional program, Hilary has been a role model to other females, since she has been as unafraid to break gender barriers as she has been to break disability barriers. Hilary is articulate, committed, and dedicated. She will be a winner in life, and receiving this award will be a great motivational factor for her continued achievement. She is recognized as an exceptional person by nearly everyone with whom she interacts. She is a very deserving candidate for the Breaking Traditions Award.”

The Missouri Breaking Traditions contest recognizes outstanding students in nontraditional career and technical education programs. For 17 years, Breaking Traditions has honored exemplary students who have chosen career and technical programs based on their interests and abilities, and have not let their gender influence their career decisions. Sponsored by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), the Missouri Center for Career Education (MCCE) and the MCCE Career Education Coordinators, the Breaking Traditions awards are an excellent opportunity for students, career and technical programs, educators and schools to receive recognition and statewide publicity. Special thanks go to the instructors who took time to complete nomination forms for their outstanding students.
Upcoming Events

FREE Career Focus Seminars

Career Focus Seminars are held in three hour sessions and designed to help participants explore career interests, values, skills, and personality traits to assist them to develop relevant career and educational plans. Assessments include the Myers-Briggs Type Inventory, Skills Inventory, College Majors Scorecard, O*Net Career Interests Inventory and O*Net Career Values Inventory. Other topics include goal setting and staying motivated, stress management, and dealing with change.

Workshops will be held at the following MACC locations from 1 - 4 p.m. unless otherwise specified.

- Mexico: Tuesday, August 24
- Hannibal: Tuesday, October 19
- Kirksville: Tuesday, August 12
- Columbia: Thursday, August 31 12:30 - 3:30 pm
- Moberly: Friday, August 13 Career Center, Room C-37

Please RSVP to Pat Twaddle (660) 263-4110 ext 232

Career Focus Seminars are designed to assist individuals in making career-related decisions in a relaxed, supportive, small group setting. Part of the time will be spent completing paper-and-pencil vocational assessments that help participants identify key personality traits, general occupational interest areas, career values, and skills.

Part of the time will be devoted to exploring the process of career development and the steps involved in career decision-making. A PowerPoint presentation that includes interactive exercises will help participants learn ways to set goals and discover methods to stay motivated. We will discuss what it means to be in transition and how to deal with change and cope with stress. We will talk about how to identify and overcome obstacles and address barriers to achieving success. Participants will learn strategies for conducting labor market research and how to find the best resources to help them in achieving their educational and career goals.

Off Campus Visits

Career and Placement Services serves residents within service district served by Moberly Area Community College. Free career counseling and vocational assessment services are available to anyone seeking assistance: high school students, adults in career transition, ex-offenders, adults with disabilities, dislocated workers, displaced homemakers, single parents, and people with limited English proficiency. Here are the dates the that the Director will be on the following campuses:

- Columbia: 8/11; 8/26; 9/9; 10/12; 11/11
- Mexico: 8/4; 8/24; 9/14; 10/21; 11/23
- Hannibal: 8/19; 9/21; 10/19; 11/30
- Kirksville: 8/31; 9/16; 10/7; 11/4

Please call for an appointment: (660) 263-4110 ext 232