STUDENT LIFE

Student life creates an environment that provides for the personal integration of educational, recreational, civic, and social experiences for all students. Our mission is to give students the opportunity to develop their skills and knowledge and to strengthen their awareness of their role and responsibility in society. Every attempt is made to be responsive and satisfy the expressed interest of the student body by providing quality programming and increased levels of participation in clubs/organizations.

At MWCC, students choose their level of involvement in extracurricular activities. Through involvement in the Student Government Association (SGA), or any number of clubs and organizations, students can develop their leadership abilities, gain new friendships, and become more culturally enriched. If there's not a club that suits you, a group of students may form a club if it meets the SGA criteria.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with disabilities who may require accommodations in order to participate fully in student activities, programs, or events should contact the Coordinator of Disability Services to discuss their specific needs. When an American Sign Language interpreter is needed, reasonable notification is critical to ensure appropriate coverage. Students are asked to notify the Coordinator at least 30 days in advance of the start of each academic semester or in advance of a meeting or event requiring the support of an interpreter.

ACTIVITY CALENDARS

Calendars of events and announcements are published monthly by the student life office. Check out the calendar of events at the MWCC Student Life website (http://www.mwcc.edu/studentlife), iConnect (http://iconnect.mwcc.edu), or on the Student Activities bulletin board located in the café hallway.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Students are encouraged to join one or more clubs or organizations depending upon interests and availability of time. Notices of club sign-ups and meetings are posted on college bulletin boards. Consult the MWCC Student Life Office for further information.

Clubs and organizations include:

- 89 Club
- ACE (Adult Continuing Education)
- Active Minds Club
- ALANA Club
- Alpha Beta Gamma Business Honors Society
- Art Club
- Astronomy Club
- Bowling Club
- CATS (Campus Activities Team for Students)
- Cultural Engagement and International Service Club
- Dental Hygienist Club
- Early Childhood and Elementary Education Club
- ESL Club
- Graphic and Interactive Design Club
- Green Society
- Human Service Club
- Intramurals
- iPublications
- Legal Studies Group
- Math and Our Community Club
- Medical Laboratory Technicians Club
- Mount Observer Student Newspaper
• Mountaineers Hiking and Recreation Club
• Musicians at the Mount
• Nutrition Club
• Otaku United Club
• Parent Support Group
• Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society
• Philosophy Club
• SAGA (Sexuality and Gender Alliance)
• Student Government Association (SGA)
• Shakespeare Revivalist Society
• Student Nurses Association (SNA)
• Theater Club
• Veterans and Allies Club

FITNESS & WELLNESS CENTER

MWCC’s Fitness & Wellness Center is housed in the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Physical Education Complex, built in 1977 to help students develop their bodies as well as their minds. This philosophy is extended to the public as well as to the college’s faculty, staff, and students. This multi-purpose Fitness & Wellness Center serves the educational, recreational, and physical needs of all who wish to join and use it.

The Facility

The MWCC Fitness & Wellness Center is a 65,000 square foot, air conditioned center that features state-of-the-art fitness equipment in a clean and friendly environment. The center is staffed with professional and certified personal trainers to assist in recreational and fitness activities and features the following equipment and facilities:

• Multi-purpose gymnasium
• Two extensive cardio areas featuring the newest in fitness equipment including: treadmills, elliptical trainers, Adaptive motion trainers, Arc trainers, steppers, octane lateral machine, step mills, Trixter interactive bikes, and rowers
• Extensive weight and fitness areas
• Six-lane, 25-yard swimming pool
• Racquetball courts
• Outdoor basketball, tennis courts, and track
• Volleyball courts
• Men’s and women’s shower and locker facilities
An extensive program of noncredit instructional classes is also available to members and non-members. Some of these courses include:

- Over 75 Group Fitness program
- Body training systems world class group exercise programs
- Red Cross CPR, first aid, lifeguard and Water Safety Instructor training
- Golf lessons
- Racquetball courts
- Silver Sneakers Senior fitness
- Swimming lessons
- Ultimate Performance fitness programs
- Wellness programs
- Aqua classes
- Summer camps

A nursery is available, at certain times, to members while they are in the center for a low fee.

**Hours of Operation and Membership**

The Fitness and Wellness Center is open from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

**Rates**

All students, staff, and members of the community should call the center at 978-630-9212 for the membership options available to them.

**HONOR SOCIETIES**

**Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society**

Membership in Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society guarantees you access to benefits that will recognize your outstanding academic accomplishments and provide you with the competitive edge that helps ensure future success. These benefits are unmatched by any other collegiate honor society. For example, members have access to over $37 million in scholarships set aside for members only.

The guidelines that dictate eligibility for Phi Theta Kappa are derived from both the international membership guidelines and those set forth for the Phi Delta chapter at MWCC. The guidelines include the following:

- Minimum cumulative QPA of a 3.3 in coursework completed in residency at MWCC.
- Minimum of 12 credits earned (completed) in residency.

Full and part-time students as well as continuing education, international and dual enrollment students are eligible for membership under these guidelines. Currently, students are selected for this recognition during the months of October and March.

Students who meet these requirements and indicate their interest in membership to the Phi Theta Kappa advisor by the designated deadline will be recognized at commencement ceremonies and at the annual awards ceremony.

Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 2.5 million members and 1,275 chapters located in 50 United States, U.S. Territories, Canada, Germany, Peru, the British Virgin Islands, the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the United Arab Emirates. In 1929, the American Association of Community Colleges recognized Phi Theta Kappa as the official honor society for two-year colleges.

**Alpha Beta Gamma International Business Honor Society**

To be eligible for membership in Alpha Beta Gamma International Business Honor Society, a student must:

- be enrolled in a business curriculum in a junior, community, or technical college, or a two-year accredited program within a college or university;
• have completed 15 credit hours with at least 12 hours of his/her work taken in courses leading to a degree recognized by his/her institution; and
• have demonstrated academic excellence by attaining a 3.0 GPA or its equivalent in business courses as well as a 3.0 overall average.

Leadership Society
Sigma Alpha PI is Mount Wachusett Community College’s online chapter of The National Society of Leadership and Success.

The National Society of Leadership and Success is a nationwide community of college leaders dedicated to building leaders who make a better world. The Society is one of the largest honor organizations in America and includes programming events that positively impacts people's lives. Each term Mount Wachusett Community College students are invited to participate in the program who have obtained a minimum of 2.5 grade point average, successfully completed 15 credit hours and are in good standing with the college.

MWCC STUDENT CENTER
The casual atmosphere of the new, 4,000 square foot student center makes it the perfect place for students to relax and to gather with fellow students before and after classes. Special events and programs will be sponsored in the center by the Student Life Office. We invite students to drop in and enjoy the amenities and welcoming environment that the facility offers. Amenities include computers, televisions, gaming stations, and ping pong & pool tables.

ROOM USE
Clubs or organizations wishing to meet during the community time or at any other time should contact the room reservation staff located on the Gardner campus in room 263 or at 978-630-9145 to request to book a space.

STUDENT ACTIONS
Students who wish to present issues to the student body relative to on- or off-campus questions or issues, whether as a means of collecting or registering opinions of support, or protest, or of simply collecting comments on topics of interest and concern to the student body, shall be afforded the opportunity to do so in the following manner:

• The students who are primarily involved in organizing the action must present a signed, written notice of their intent to the executive vice president.
• The executive vice president will provide a location for tables or picket lines in an appropriate location in the college buildings or on the college grounds.
• Students may not interfere with the normal operation of the college or its agencies. The activity must be set up in such a manner so as not to interfere with the right of members of the college community to use the facilities of the college without deviating from their normal traffic flow.
• Persons who are not members of the college community (students, faculty, and staff) are not entitled to participate in these activities on college property.
• All the normal rules and regulations governing the posting and distribution of printed or other graphic material, and prohibiting solicitation on campus, will apply.

Those persons, who are engaged in an activity which is in violation of the regulations set forth above, or which results in physical damage to the property of the college or its agencies, shall be held personally responsible and shall be referred to the proper college authorities for disciplinary action.

For purposes of definition relative to this statement, the following are considered to be agencies of the college: all recognized student organizations, the Alumni Association, the cafeteria, the bookstore, and all groups or organizations which are permitted use of the facilities (for the duration of their occupancy of such facilities).

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
The Student Government Association (SGA) fosters the recognition of student body rights. It acts as a unified body that represents and governs the students. The SGA endeavors to provide for student welfare, approves the existence of organizations on-campus, administers the budgets for student activities, and facilitates the necessary communications and understanding between the faculty, administration, and the student body. The by-laws governing the SGA are published online. Meeting dates are posted on the SGA announcement board at the beginning of each semester. They are open to the college community and
students are invited to attend. Students are further encouraged to take an active role in the SGA by running for office and voting during SGA elections. The SGA holds its elections in September and April.

**STUDENT PUBLICATIONS**

iPublications is a student literary organization that showcases student poetry, prose, and artwork by organizing student readings and publishing the annual student literary magazine, *A Certain Slant*.

The Mount Observer, a student-run newspaper, is available in print and on the web. The Mount Observer also highlights stories on Facebook and Twitter.

**STUDENT TRUSTEE**

Each year during the spring election, a full-time student is elected to serve a one-year term as student trustee. This individual is a voting representative who serves on the 11-member MWCC Board of Trustees. This board is the governing body of the college and makes major decisions about policies for the institution. The student trustee provides student representation on the board and presents the voice of the students about various campus concerns, as well as broader issues in public higher education.

1 Students may request an accommodation to the policy determining what full-time status is for the purpose of serving as a student trustee.

**WHO’S WHO AMONG STUDENTS IN AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGES**

The college participates in the national publication, *Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges*. Students are selected for this honor by a committee and are listed in the national publication which is printed annually. General criteria for this selection are based on active participation in student clubs and organizations, scholarship, leadership, and contribution to the college and community. To be eligible, you must be a full-time student, participate in at least one on-campus college co-curricular activity, meet grade point average requirements, and meet the criteria for sophomore status.