

CONFUSED?

MCC offers a variety of tools to help students decide on a career path



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– Tore Skogseth, MCC student success counselor

Not sure what you want to be when you grow up? We can help.

Montcalm Community College offers a variety of tools to help students already admitted to the college explore their interests and consider options for career training.

Student Success Counselor Tore Skogseth and Counselor Brandy Bunting said students enrolling at MCC are in various phases of life – some are high schoolers, some have just graduated from high school and others are already working in established careers but are looking to do something different.

“We’ve found more and more that students come in and really don’t know what they want to do,” Skogseth said. “They maybe have thought about it, but many have never seen it as a decision that is really important to make.

“They know college is the next step, but the challenge becomes determining where to go from there,” he added. “We often start by talking about what they have wanted to do in the past, just to get a feel for their interests.”

They agree the most important next step for students is to explore their options.

“We often talk about how much education they want and whether they are willing to transfer to another institution to pursue a higher level degree. We also counsel them to look into entry requirements at other institutions, and we talk about alternative career options,” Bunting said.

For example, a student may indicate a desire to become a nurse, but they can’t handle the sight of blood.

“In that instance, we typically discuss other health career options that may fit a goal, such as helping others. It may be a case where they find something in the medical office side of health care is a great fit for them,” Bunting said.

“It’s OK to be undecided,” she added. “I think there’s a lot of frustration for students sometimes when trying to decide on their career path, but we have several ways to assist them.”

MCC offers a variety of tools to help guide students.

John Holland’s Self-Directed Search is a workbook that leads students through the process of self-exploration. It provides narrative to help them explore career options, offers an occupations listing that includes information on thousands of occupations and leads students through a self-assessment in which they rank

