

WPU Degree Achieved at MCC



Dr. Linnea Weiland, the chair of Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education.

By Yujiao Sun

Mercer County Community College and William Paterson University have joined to offer several bachelor's degrees such as Business Administration with a concentration in management, Early Childhood Education/Elementary Education, Psychology, and Liberal Studies on MCCC campus.

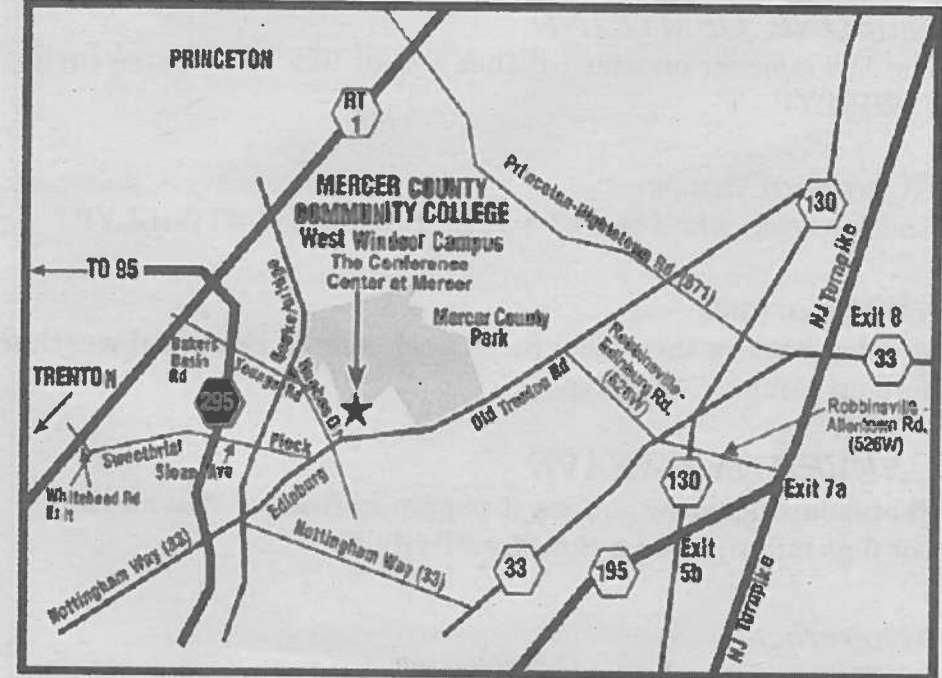
WPU offers those Bachelor Degrees at the West Windsor campus of MCCC during late afternoons, evenings, Fridays, on weekends, and online.

WPU welcomes applications to this upper division program designed for graduates of a community college who already have an Associate's Degree earned after Jan. 1, 2005. Those

with degrees prior to that date are welcome to apply for the WPU at Mercer program for the fall or spring semesters; however, credits will be evaluated on an individual basis.

According to Dr. Linnea Weiland, the chair of Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education, who is in charge of William Paterson at MCCC, 170 students are participating in the program this year and between 70 and 75 students are education majors.

Weiland said that several years ago, Dr. Ed Weil, WPU Provost, worked with deans at MCC and WPU to get permission from the institutions to start this program. The administration of MCC was interested in having a way that its students can complete



their education degrees at Mercer.

"This happened because one of the vice presidents at Mercer graduated from WPU, so it has a connection," said Weiland. "This program works well for students because they can get their degrees while staying right there at Mercer."

WPU at Mercer has convenient on-site and on-line classes with a small student-to-teacher ratio. An on-site WPU coordinator assists students with any problems they may have.

For in-state students, the 2012-2013 tuition and fees is \$4,912 for full-time study (12-19 credits) or \$315 a credit for part-time study (1-11 credits); for out-of-state students, the tuition and fees cost \$8,612 for full-time study or \$ 558 per credit for 1-11

credits. After 19 credits, state residents will be charged \$315 and Non-Residents will be charged \$558 per additional credit.

"It is a very exciting program," said Dr. Weiland. "The students are very enthusiastic and we've managed to get a collection of really dedicated faculty members that are willing to work there."

In addition to MCCC, WPU also has articulation agreements with many other New Jersey community colleges, including County College of Morris, Bergen County Community College, and Brookdale Community College to facilitate transfer from those institutions to William Paterson.