

**Written Testimony**  
**Appropriations Committee Public Hearing**  
**February 28, 2011**

I am an international student studying at Manchester Community College and I heard about MCC through my sister who lives here. From ever since high school I have always wanted to study in the United States. However, universities in the US do not offer many scholarships for international students, or maybe 1 out of 20 students are eligible.

I took the SATs so that I could get a scholarship to go to a university in the USA; I got a great score but I was not successful in getting a scholarship. I never thought about going to a community college because I never knew much about it. However, my sister studied at CCC and transferred to a four-year college after 2 years. I began to look at community colleges that offered a program I would like to do, but I never found any. One day while my sister and her co-worker talked about college education, she was told about MCC. I did not know that MCC offered the exact program that I wanted to do, which is paralegal. No other college offered it. I also found out that it was affordable.

I was told that MCC has a great international student advisor and I wanted to see for myself. When I arrived on campus the first day to start the process of acquiring my student visa, the staff at MCC was so welcoming, the international advisor helped me every step of the way and explained everything to me that I needed to do.

I was so elated when I got my student visa to study here at MCC. It has been a remarkable experience studying here at MCC and I would want others to experience the same. The courses offered here allow me to be flexible in balancing school work with chores. The services provided at MCC are great, for instance tutoring, which is free, which I have used for help on countless occasions. The computer labs are open late so I can finish my assignments; the library is also open late and there are a variety of books that I use that are available. The teachers are great, all my teachers are very interested in my success as an individual. They take the time to help me if I have issues with course material or problems studying or understanding the course work or homework. Not to mention the assignments and homework are so beneficial to my success because they help me to practice what I have been taught.

If I could I would take countless courses at MCC because, there is a wide selection of courses to choose from and all are very interesting. There are so many benefits from this college for a student and I could not imagine what it would be like if some of these services were to diminish. Getting an education at a community college is both affordable and rewarding.

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