

Student Story

John Stump

Spending just five minutes with John Stump helps one easily understand how grateful he is to be attending classes at JCCC. In fact, unrehearsed, Stump quickly and proudly recalls key dates that helped change his life.

"I remember walking across the stage a year ago last May 12, and the president of this school handed me my diploma for my GED and said, 'Welcome, and would you please come to my college?' " Stump said. "I said, 'I'd be honored to come to your college.' "

Stump said he remembers how nervous and anxious he was when he started his first day at JCCC. For someone who hadn't been to school since 1972 when he dropped out of

The Center for Sustainability

Activities for JCCC's Center for Sustainability in 2010-2011 ranged from composting to waste reduction and brought the center its fair share of recognition.

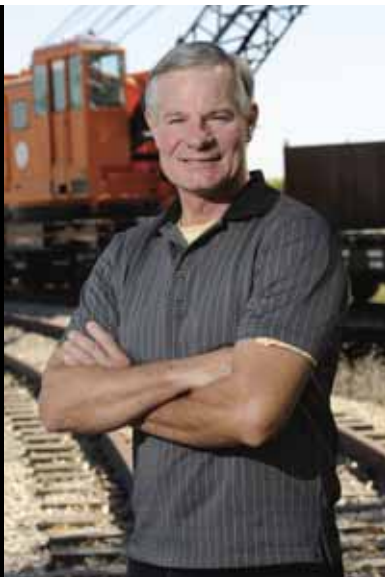
In fall 2010, the **stormwater treatment system** on the southeast side of the JCCC campus was recognized as a noteworthy green project in the Kansas City area. The Mid-America Regional Council listed the project as one of its Sustainable Success Stories. The acknowledgment, which MARC bestows monthly for green projects, credited Bowman Bowman Novick, Inc., and Burns & McDonnell, the firms that designed and implemented the system for the college.

"In addition to making Overland Park's streams cleaner, this project is an example of green infrastructure for students and the general public," MARC stated in its

The system was also recognized by the Kansas City chapter of the American Public Works Association with a "Public Works Project of the Year Award" in the environment category (less than \$5 million).

In April 2011, JCCC's Center for Sustainability won the **silver Edison Green Award**. The award recognizes efforts to reduce participating communities' carbon footprint, create green-collar jobs through new innovation methods and improve community health and self-sufficiency. The Edison Awards are sponsored by TV's Discovery Channel, The Nielsen Company and Spencer Trask and are associated with the Thomas Edison Papers at Rutgers University, the State University of New Jersey.

Now on the northwest corner of the campus is a two-and-a-half-acre, four-season vegetable **farm used by students in the**



10th grade, Stump said he was questioning his decision to go to college.

Another important date was at the end of that same semester when Stump received three As and two Bs. He received a letter from JCCC congratulating him for making the Dean's List, one of only three percent of students who received this high academic recognition.

"That letter from Dr. Calaway inspires me to come each day," Stump said. "I want to be here. I want to learn."

"I'm just not going to school. I am part of this school," Stump added. "I'm part of something tangible that I can touch, feel and see. This is college. This is as real as it gets."

description of the project on its website. "This system demonstrates stormwater capabilities of natural systems and provides JCCC and its students educational and learning opportunities."

Before the system was created, oil from cars and other pollutants mixed with rainwater runoff from parking lots on the southeast side of campus and flowed into Indian Creek. The new system, which includes native vegetation, bioswales and a wetland, filters pollutants from the water and slows the release of the water into the creek.

Most of the \$650,605 project was paid for by stimulus money provided by the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act. Of that amount, the college contributed 20 percent.

college's sustainable agriculture entrepreneurship program.

The students practice a broad range of tasks facing a market farmer – planning, planting, harvesting, delivering, marketing, selling and bookkeeping. The farm has become a four-season operation with crops available to JCCC's Dining Services, the college's culinary program and students, faculty, staff and the general public through a farmers' market. The goal is for the farm to become a community outreach site for people interested in the local food movement to try different growing methods and for school districts interested in farm-to-school lunches.

Supporting the farm is JCCC's **new food composting program**, one of the few in the United States incorporating solar power to turn a continuous cycle of food waste to soil amendment and back to food. The program will enable students to learn about the positive environmental impact that composting has and reduce the costs of waste removal. The college is using an in-vessel composting program, which is an industrial form of composting biodegradable waste that occurs in enclosed reactors. During the first phase of the program, three tons of food waste and coffee grounds were collected from the college's main kitchen each month. As food waste from other kitchens on campus is added, the amount of food waste composted could double. The program provides more than \$4,000 in savings and free compost to use on college grounds and the farm.

printing and charging for printing above 200 pages. The use of recycled toner during the past year has produced approximately \$51,000 in savings.

Finally, in summer 2011, JCCC became the site for two of 10 **electric vehicle charging stations** being placed around the Kansas City metropolitan area through a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy. The Kansas City Regional Clean Cities Coalition is working with KCP&L to administer the grant, which is funded through the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act. JCCC's charging stations are located in the lower level of the Carlsen Center west garage, near the entrance to the building.

Student Story

Gleb Gluhovsky

Twenty years ago, Gleb Gluhovsky began his health care career at JCCC. Now he's an emergency medicine physician assistant for hospitals in the Kansas City area.

"One of the reasons I wanted to go to a two-year school, and I encourage others to do the same, is because professors at JCCC are keenly interested in success of students," he said. "Students are more than a number in a giant class. You engage with others in small classrooms, and professors encourage you to become part of study groups."

Gluhovsky first attended JCCC after his family emigrated from the former Soviet



In the face of rising electricity costs, in December 2010 the board of trustees **invested \$1.1 million in energy efficiency** at JCCC. Many of the college's mechanical systems are being upgraded along with retrofits of the college's lighting. When completed, JCCC will save at least \$150,000 each year in energy costs, with more savings generated as electricity rates continue to increase.

In addition, **changes to printing systems** in the college library reduced the amount of paper and toner used there by 40 percent. Overall, the college has realized a total reduction in printer/copier paper usage of around one truckload, which represents a savings of approximately \$21,000, attributable to many factors, such as double-sided

Union. He enrolled in English as a Second Language classes and went on to complete an emergency medical technician certificate.

"The English as a Second Language as well as the reading and writing improvement classes were essential and effective," he said. "After a semester, I was able to converse in English and take general-level classes."

Gluhovsky then decided to become a physician assistant. Before he began the training, he returned once again to JCCC to fulfill prerequisite requirements.

"If you have a will to learn, JCCC helps you succeed," Gluhovsky said. "There's absolutely nothing that stands in the way of your success as long as you're willing to apply yourself and use the resources available to you."