

Communitas



MVCC Faculty/Staff Newsletter

February 9th, 2004

Cartoonists' Interpretation of Classic Literature to be Discussed in February 18th Lecture

A lecture entitled "Masterpiece Comics" is scheduled for Wednesday, February 18th, at 9:30 a.m. in the Theater. The lecture will feature freelance writer and illustrator Robert Sikoryak.

Under funding from the New York Council for the Humanities Speakers in the Humanities program, the lecture is open to the public free of charge.

Using slides, Sikoryak will explore the intersection of "high art" literature and "low art" comic strips, as cartoonists through the last century adapted classic novels and plays.

Sikoryak will discuss the history of these reinterpretations, with images from over sixty years of comic books. They are by turns respectful, hilarious and revelatory.

MVCCFaces



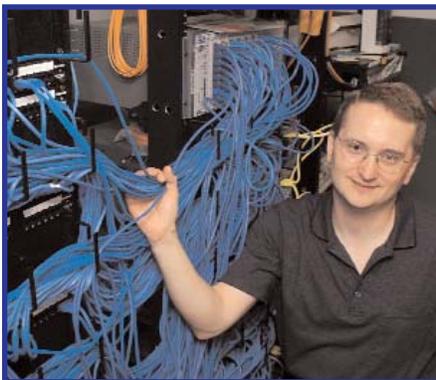
Robin Saxe, Day Care teacher

Robin assists in the care and nurturing of children enrolled in the Kiddie Campus day care center.

She holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education from SUNY Oneonta and a fine arts degree from Munson Williams Proctor Arts Institute.

In her free time, she enjoys reading, photography and fine art work.

She lives in Clinton.



John Wittenmyer, Educational Applications Assistant,

John supports faculty and staff PC and MAC personal computer software, installs software and updates, performs LAN duties such as system setup, maintenance and management; and provides system backup, supplies and account management.

He joined MVCC in August.

He holds an AAS in Network Administrator from HCCC.

He volunteers in the Heart Run and Walk and is a Hall of Fame Race Volunteer.

In his spare time, he enjoys doing home improvements and working on computers.

He lives in New Hartford with wife Dawn and daughter Amanda Jean who was born on October 28th, 2003.

Heart Run and Walk Kick Off

Last Thursday, members of Phi Theta Kappa and Student Congress set up a table in the MV Commons to rally support for Team MVCC. Participants will be pledging, walking, or running in the event on Saturday, February 28th.

For additional information on how to participate use the link on the MVCC home page or contact a member of the committee.



Phi Theta Kappa president Marissa George, Jeff Owen, Heart Association Representative, Sarah Milograno and President Schafer pose for a photo at the kickoff.



Inspirational Honoree Sarah Milograno, hands out information on the Run/Walk to students in the MV Commons.

News from Instruction

Dr. Daniel Larson, Vice President for Instruction



Strategic Planning More Important Than Ever

Strategic planning continues to grow in importance for the College as we face a future rapidly changing in funding and accountability while continuing to be responsive to the needs of the community.

With financial resources coming to the College already constrained, it appears that the situation not only will continue but also probably become an even greater challenge. The Governor's Executive Budget proposal includes a reduction in base aid for community colleges, even while our costs increase. Oneida County is facing its own financial challenges and may have difficulty in substantially increasing its contribution to the College budget. Although the other major revenue stream is student tuition, the potential for increase there is limited as we recognize the real ability of students to pay more for their education and the increasing competition for students with other colleges and universities.

At the same time, the Mohawk Valley community looks to us for new and updated program offerings in areas such as information assurance, cybersecurity, and first-responder skills, all related to homeland security issues. With constrained budgets, it becomes necessary to ask employers for financial support when they request new programs. The proposed program in dental hygiene is an example. Grants and partnerships will become even more important; we no longer can do it by ourselves. Our colleagues in independent colleges and universities have understood and addressed this fact for some time. It now is coming to public higher education, and strategic planning can provide a way of dealing with it. The convergence of these forces gives even greater importance to effective strategic planning.

Several years ago, MVCC adopted seven College-wide goals (reiterated in the next column of this issue of *Communitas*). Those goals were developed carefully with input from all sectors of the College community and periodically have been re-examined. They are commendable, broad goals, and likely to remain unchanged for some time into the future.

The challenge for all divisions of the College, including Instruction, is to relate those College-wide goals to our own goals, objectives, and action plans at the department and individual levels, including the assessment and budgetary processes. This is where strategic planning begins to reach its potential, when individual and unit goals are clearly defined in terms of the College-wide goals. It is critical that all individual and unit plans be viewed through the lens of the College-wide goals, and adjusted if necessary to support those goals.

There may be times when you do just that, and put forth thoughtfully developed proposals that, unfortunately, are not funded. Some discouragement and frustration is inevitable in such situations. It is important to understand that an unfunded project does not mean it was without merit or not taken seriously. Often, it simply is a matter of funding limitations. Our task then is to find ways to accomplish the proposal without overwhelming available resources. We will work with you to do just that insofar as possible.

Over the long term, one strategic challenge the College must face is a likely wave of retirements as baby boomers reach retirement age. Over the next several years, it is not unreasonable to anticipate that up to 40% of

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MVCC's College-Wide Goals

Salary, Staffing & Morale:

Mohawk Valley Community College will develop plans for salary improvement, appropriate staffing, and morale improvement because the future success of the College rests on its ability to provide salary and staffing infrastructures which value people, excellence, and innovation.

Financial Stability: Mohawk Valley Community College will maintain the viability of the College so that it can achieve its mission, by actively seeking increased resources and greater control over its financial future.

Enrollment Management:

Mohawk Valley Community College will remain committed to an enrollment management strategy that optimizes enrollment in ways supportive of the College's mission to provide accessible and affordable higher education, training and services.

External and Internal

Marketing: Mohawk Valley Community College will become a college of choice for quality educational programs and specialized services by developing mutually beneficial long-term relationships with the students, secondary schools, transfer institutions, employers, and public that the College serves, and with the members of the MVCC community who make that service possible.

Educational Programming:

Mohawk Valley Community College will continue to develop educational programming for the current and future needs of its students and the larger community

Institutional Effectiveness

and Assessment: Mohawk Valley Community College will implement and maintain a College-wide process that provides ongoing institutional and student outcomes assessment to support the continuous improvement of the institution.

Information Technology:

Mohawk Valley Community College will strive to enhance instructional, student and administrative services through the continuous improvement of Information Technology resources.

News from Instruction, cont.

the faculty will retire or depart from the College for other reasons. Each of those positions will be re-evaluated carefully at that time, in consultation with the affected department, to determine its impact on the College and students in the related programs. In some cases, resources tied to the position may be transferred to another program or department with even greater needs.

Exploring Ways to Meet the Need for More Secondary Science & Math Teachers

In December, the College was notified as one of 18 community colleges in the nation selected to participate in a Phi Theta Kappa-National Science Foundation mentoring grant. The purpose of the grant is to address the growing need for secondary science and mathematics teachers. During the next 18 months, we will be working with mentors, identified by NSF as national experts, to develop strategies for MVCC to meet this need. We will collaborate with the Utica City School District and SUNY New Paltz in this project.

Other Significant Grants Activities

Two significant grant proposals recently have been submitted to the National Science Foundation.

One, prepared by Assistant Professor Robert Decker of the Engineering Technology & the Trades Department, requests more than \$350,000 over a three-year period to address the creation of new course, curriculum, and program materials for training technicians in automated manufacturing environments. Examples include the semiconductor, pharmaceutical, automotive, and food processing industries, advancing technicians from operating tools to supervising systems that operate the tools. The project would result in program enhancements in Electrical Engineering Technology, Mechanical Engineering Technology, and Semiconductor Manufacturing Technology. If approved, MVCC would partner with 12 other community colleges, industry leaders, and the Maricopa Advanced Technology Education Center in Arizona.

Professor Celia Domser, department head in Engineering, Computer & Physical Sciences, submitted a NSF proposal for just under \$400,000 over a four-year period, to create scholarship opportunities for students seeking high-tech careers by earning Associate degrees in fields such as Engineering Science, Computer Science, Mathematics, and certain trades. The proposal envisions 118 scholarships of \$3,000 each, with preference given to under-represented populations in these fields, including women, minorities, and the disadvantaged. An additional \$43,000, if approved, would support faculty stipends, tutoring, ESL advisement, and student mentoring.

We also plan a thorough and aggressive investigation of other funding opportunities for the College such as the US Department of Education grants such as Title III for strengthening institutions and TRIO programs that help institutions enhance student support services, particularly those with a local population of underserved and underprepared students. While these grants have specific goals to be accomplished, part of the benefit and opportunity would be found in the secondary outcomes associated with them.

MMR/Meningitis

For some time, the Health Center has been burdened with the massive task of monitoring College compliance with State law pertaining to measles, mumps, and rubella immunization. Recently, New York imposed a similar requirement with regard to meningitis.

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News From Respiratory Care

The Respiratory Care Program faculty Lorie Phillips, Chuck Svoboda and Debra Waterman are pleased to announce that three adult mechanical ventilators valued at a total of \$10,000 have been recently donated to the Respiratory Care Laboratory. Crouse Hospital in Syracuse donated two used Puritan Bennett 7200 ventilators and Syracuse Medical Equipment Repair donated a used Bourns Bear 3 ventilator.

The ventilators will be used by Health Services Department students as learning tools to gain hands-on experience in a controlled laboratory setting prior to use on actual patients in a critical care hospital setting. Community support of the program is deeply appreciated.

What's Love Got to Do With It?

Join us for a discussion on HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS. Do you have any? How do you know?

For Faculty/staff and students.
Thurs. 2/12, ACC 116, 12:15pm
Lunch is included.

Sponsored by the Counseling Center!!

County Executive
Joe Griffo will give
the State of the
County Address in
the Theater on
Thursday at
10:00am.

Everybody Doesn't Drink!

You can believe anything you want. But the truth is, more than one third of college students seldom or never drink alcohol. So what do they do instead? Why not ask them?

The truth is: Approximately 33% of college-age students drink alcohol less than six times a year or not at all.

Substance-free residence halls are having a positive impact. Residents of substance-free housing experience fewer secondhand effects of alcohol including; having studying or sleep interrupted having to "baby-sit" an intoxicated roommate, being insulted or humiliated, being involved in a serious argument or quarrel being confronted with unwanted sexual advances

Campus communities offer many ways to enjoy your self without alcohol. Choose ways that: help you have new experiences encourage and support your relationships

Substance Abuse Coordinator

Gary W. Cohen 792-5380

Payne Hall Rm. 121

Alcohol and Drugs on American College Campuses, A Report to College Presidents Core Institute Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, 1998. Harvard School of Public Health College Alcohol Study, January 2001

MVCC Seeks Nominations for Alumni of Merit Award

The College is now accepting nominations for its annual Alumni of Merit Award, to be presented as part of graduation ceremonies in May.

Nominations will be judged on professional and/or artistic achievement, how the nominee has helped the College, its Foundation or its Alumni Association since graduation, and any other ways in which the nominee has exhibited professional leadership.

Nomination forms can be picked up in the Office of Institutional Advancement, Alumni Office, or they may be downloaded from the Web site at www.mvcc.edu/alumni.

Nominations should be sent to Marie Kohl in the Alumni Office.

Upcoming Events

Monday, 2/9

Drinking Driver Program, 6:00pm-9:00pm, RA302, Rome Campus.

Wednesday, 2/11

Hospitality Dinner, theme- "A Salute to Julia Child." Seating begins at 5:45pm in AB 108, Rome Campus. Price is \$18. Call 334-7702 for reservations.

Brown Bag Lunch Series, "Using Your Personal Computer," Noon - 1:00pm; 1:00pm - 2:00pm, IT 137.

Movie, "Amistad," 6:00pm, IT Theater. Discussion to follow. Additional Black History Month events will be listed in the next issue as well.

Thursday, 2/12

Open Mic Night, 7:00pm, ACC 116.

Saturday, 2/14

Women's Basketball vs. Hudson Valley, 1:00pm, Gym.

Men's Basketball vs. Hudson Valley, 3:00pm, Gym.

Monday, 2/16

Drinking Driver Program, 6:00pm-9:00pm, RA302, Rome Campus.

Tuesday, 2/17

AIDS Community Resources presents movie "Kevin's Room," at 2:00pm in ACC 116.

Wednesday, 2/18

Hospitality Dinner, theme- "Adirondack Adventure." Seating begins at 5:45pm in AB 108, Rome Campus. Price is \$18. Call 334-7702 for reservations.

News from Instruction, cont.

Faculty members have been asked to help the College meet this mandate by sharing information with students in their classrooms. We understand that this is one more non-educational activity required of faculty. However, the consequences of non-compliance for the College, in terms of fines and other enforcement actions, are severe. The College is using multiple means by which to notify students of these requirements. We greatly appreciate the assistance given by the faculty in making students aware of their responsibilities in this area.



Thomas Horth, a 1996 civil engineering technology grad is a civil engineer with C&S Engineers

Brown Bag Lunch Series, "Strategies for Success," Noon - 1:00pm; 1:00pm-2:00pm, ACC 116.

Cultural Series Event, LECTURE: "Masterpiece Comics," 9:30am, IT Theater.

Saturday, 2/21

Oneida County Dept. of Traffic Safety Defensive Driving Course, 9:00am-4:00pm, PC 211, Rome Campus.

Men's Basketball vs. Columbia Greene, 2:00pm, Gym.