Communitas

MVCC Faculty/Staff Newsletter November 1st, 2004

2004 Inductee Bob Kelly laughs while listening to Dr. Schafer's introduction.

Hall of Fame

Several members of the MVCC Hall of Fame pose under the new wall honoring their accomplishments to the College at last Saturday evening's Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony in the IT Building.

Clockwise from left, Barbara Berlin, (99); Dr. Beverly Warner (97); James O'Looney, (00); Bob Kelly, (04); Jerome M. Alvermann, (02); John Hollinger, (01); David Mathis, (96); John H. McMillan, (02); Dr. Schafer, (96); Emlyn I. Griffith (96).

Utica Symphony Concert Schedule

The Utica Symphony will again be presenting its Classic Concert Series in the College's theater at 2:00pm and 8:00pm on selected dates.

CONCERT I *Saturday, November 6th*

Overture to "Coriolanus" by Ludwig van Beethoven. "Piano Concerto No. 2, G Minor" by Camille St. Saens. Soloist, Sar-Shalom Strong. Symphony No. 4 B Flat Major by Ludwig van Beethoven.

CONCERT II Saturday, February 26th

"Mostly Mozart." "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik" by Wolfgang Mozart. "Concerto for Two Violins, D Minor" by Johann Sebastian Bach. Solosists: Michael Emery and Debra Trudeau. "Concerto for Bassoon, B Flat Major" by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Soloist, Krassimir Ivanov. "Symphony No. 15, G Major" by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

CONCERT III *Saturday, April 9th*

"All-French." "Nuits d'ete" by Hector Berlioz. Soloist, Dianna Heldman. "Danses sacree et profane" by Claude Debussy. Soloist, Barbara Dechario. "Introduction and Allegro" by Maurice Ravel. Soloist, Barbara Dechario. "Divertissement" by Jacques Ibert.

Tickets for individual concerts are available at the Stanley Theater Box Office, 259 Genesee Street, Utica, 724-4000.

News from Instruction
Vice-President Daniel Larson

Developing a Center for Improvement of Instruction

In Instruction, we are enthusiastic about the development of the new Center for the Improvement of Instruction [CII], which emerged as a need from the work of a task force led by Don Willner of the Mathematics Department a few years ago.

Jeanie Friedberg, an adjunct ESL instructor in the Humanities Department, and Andy Glidden, of the Hospitality Department on the Rome Campus, are taking the lead with initial development of the CII project. They are contacting potential advisory committee members, taken from a list of faculty members who indicated interest, and are soliciting suggestions from faculty members about possible programs and services that might be beneficial for them in their instructional roles. You do not need to wait for their call or e-mail, however. Feel free to contact them directly with your suggestions now. Jeanie and Andy have the background and capability, with your help, to make the CII project a rousing success.

The CII actually is part of a larger concept, the Teaching, Learning & Technology Center [TLTC], which is a national model of professional development to serve the entire institution, faculty, staff, and administrators. The TLTC would be involved in a broad range of activities, from new employee orientation to the introduction of new technology and staff development and presentations. Although full implementation of the TLTC may be a couple of cycles in the future, as facilities and staffing issues are resolved, the CII is an initial step toward that larger whole.

Assessment: It's Important, and It's Here to Stay

We have been hearing a lot about assessment, in K-12 and in higher education. It is one of those topics here to stay, as internal and external stakeholders place an ever-increasing premium on accountability. It is important that we develop an approach to assessment well suited to the College, rather than an approach imposed by outside organizations.

When faculty members returned in August, special workshops occurred to continue work on the development of program outcomes tied to the College Mission Statement and to the College Competencies. The College is committed to the promise that its students will be able to:

* communicate effectively with others
* organize information, evaluate alternatives, distinguish fact from opinion, and reach logical conclusions
* demonstrate the ability to interact effectively within a diverse society
* demonstrate logical thinking and solve quantitative problems by using various computation and other mathematical techniques

A calendar of due dates has been formulated for the development of various assessment items through next May. At that time, plans should be complete for outcomes assessment and measures for each instructional program, paving the way for launching the Instruction assessment program in Fall 2005.

Taking the Assessment Process College-Wide

Assessment is not limited to Instruction, since learning occurs outside of the classroom and laboratory. The next phase will involve Student Services departments and offices, introducing them to the concept, and initiating a similar process of developing assessment outcomes and measures. In time, a similar approach will be used with Administrative Services and with other parts of the College that do not report to a vice-president.

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Safety and Security Committee Membership

The members of the Safety and Security Committee for the 2004-2005 academic year are: George Aylesworth, Robert Bernstein, Karen Buono, Carolyn D'Argenio, Eileen Dailey, Barbara Granato, Krista Hartman, Nancy Hubert, Lynn Igoe, Mike McHarris, Mark Murphy, Barbara Seaton, and Joe Palmer, Chair.

Issues and concerns can be brought to the attention of any member of the Committee.

MVCC First

Michelle Shanley, **a 2002 Nursing grad is the associate director of nursing at Heritage Health Care Center.**

We Are All in This Together

It is difficult, if not impossible, to overstate the importance of assessment, not only to meet accreditation requirements and the growing expectations of College stakeholders but also to support improvement as an institution focused on teaching and learning.

In 3½ years, representatives of the Middle States Association will come to the College for a regular site visit that helps to determine its continuing accreditation. We will need to demonstrate that we are actively and effectively involved with assessment in every part of the College, as we all have an impact on student learning.

To a significant extent, we have been "doing assessment" for a long time, under other names, and in a variety of ways. We should build on what we have been doing, and not create new systems and approaches. Assessment must be part of the lifeblood of the College, not just something done to satisfy a particular stakeholder.

Success with assessment will allow the College to say with confidence to all of its stakeholders, "This is what we know about student learning at MVCC," and to support those statements with solid evidence. To achieve that important success, we will need the constructive involvement of everyone at the institution.

Disabilities and Campus Safety Offices Relocating

Jim Kinney hangs the Service for Students with Disabilities sign at its new location, AB 153.

Last Friday, the Campus Safety and Security Office moved to its new location, AB 109.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, 11/3
~ Brown Bag Lunch Series, "Preventing Plagiarism," 11:00am and Noon, ACC 116.
~ Hospitality Programs Luncheon, theme: "British Pub Lunch." Seating begins at 11:45am in RA 108, Rome Campus.
~ Poet's Recluse, 2:00pm-3:00pm, PH Lobby.

Thursday, 11/4
~ Women's Basketball vs. Onondaga CC, 6:00pm.
~ Men's Basketball vs. Onondaga CC, 8:00pm
~ Night Hawk Cafe, "Modus," 8:00pm, MV Commons. Free.

Saturday, 11/6
~ Utica Symphony Orchestra Concert, 2:00pm and 8:00pm, IT Theater.
~ NJCAA Division III National Women's Soccer Championships 11:00am and 1:00pm.

Sunday, 11/7
~ NJCAA Division III National Women's Soccer Championships 11:00am and 1:00pm.

Wednesday, 11/10
~ CCED Import/Export International Trade Seminar, 8:00am-Noon, Utica Campus.
~ Brown Bag Lunch Series, "Study Skills & Techniques," 11:00am and Noon, ACC 116.
~ Hospitality Programs Luncheon, theme: "Luncheon in Burgundy." Seating begins at 11:45am in RA 108, Rome Campus.
~ Poet's Recluse, 2:00pm-3:00pm, PH Lobby.
~ Cultural Series Event: ART EXHIBIT: "A Sense of Form: Works by Dana Gannon and Christie Harrington, Small Works Gallery.
~ Women's Basketball vs. Tompkins-Cortland, 6:00pm.
~ Men's Basketball vs. Tompkins-Cortland, 8:00pm.

Thursday, 11/11
~ Janice Grieshaber from the Jenna Foundation for Non-Violence Forum, 3:30pm-4:30pm, IT 225.
~ Cultural Series Event: CONCERT: "Carmen Caramanica Jazz Trio," 8:00pm, MV Commons. Free.

Friday, 11/12
~ Cultural Series Event: PLAY: "Scotland Road," Readers Theater production, 8:00pm, IT Theater. Admission is $5 at door; $3 with ID.
~ Men's Basketball Tourney, 6:00pm and 8:00pm.

Saturday, 11/13
~ Men's Basketball Tourney, Noon and 2:00pm.
~ Cultural Series Event: PLAY: "Scotland Road," Readers Theater production, 8:00pm, IT Theater. Admission is $5 at door; $3 with ID.