Communitas

MVCC Faculty/Staff Newsletter December 19, 2005

MVCC Students Developing "Mini-Baja" Car for Competition

A group of approximately 15 students has begun designing and building a "mini-Baja" car for the annual Society of Automotive Engineers" competition. The students have formed a "Mini-Baja Car Club," and are working in close cooperation with the student chapter of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers. According to the group's advisor, Assistant Professor Bryan Alguire, Engineering Technology & The Trades Department, the goal is to have a finished car ready for testing by the end of the Spring '06 Semester. Included in the group are students from the Mechanical Engineering Technology, Engineering Science, Welding Technology, and the CNC Machinist Technology programs, and from the Art Department. Corporate sponsors are being sought.

Teams from colleges and universities across the country take part in the annual competition. Cars must be capable of handling rough terrain. All are powered by identical 10-horsepower engines. Included in the competition criteria include design, safety, acceleration, top speed, braking, land and deep-mud maneuverability, power pull, suspensions, traction and a four-hour endurance race.

Happy Holidays!!!!

MVCCFaces

Shane McGovern, **Program Assistant, Customized Employment Grant**

Shane assists students with disabilities in finding employment.
He has been with the college for one month.
He holds a BS in Anthropology from Hamilton College
He volunteers with Job Club, and does various activities with St. Agnes Church.
Shane enjoys outdoor activities such as camping, mountain biking, and skiing. He also likes playing computer games
His parents are Lorraine and John McGovern and his sister, Erica Brindisi, is the CSTEP Coordinator for MVCC.

Talk about spirit! Even though finals were rapidly approaching, and the students were bogged down with their studies, they still found time to spread some cheer. Decorated in true nursing decor, Nursing lab assistant Lisa Rieth and student Laura Pesto trimmed the tree with stethoscopes, gloves, gauze bandages, IV blood tubing, and even some Christmas balls. Stop by for a look in AB 159- you won't see at tree like this anywhere.

News from Administrative Services

Vice President Ralph Feola

College Purchasing to Use BidNet

The Business Office is currently working with Oneida County to begin participating in BidNet, an online service used to provide specifications electronically to vendors for a wide range of products and services purchased by the College. Vendors can elect to access the Bidnet website for free or pay a fee to participate and be notified electronically when the College is requesting quotes/bids on a product they sell. There is no cost or fees to the College to post bids via BidNet. Using BidNet will make it possible to reach a wider array of vendors and at a lower cost to the College than distributing specifications in traditional ways. Formal startup will get underway sometime during the winter and departments will notice little or if any difference in how they interact with the Purchasing Office. All quote/bid results will be posted on the Web for vendors to see. The website, powered by BidNet's E-Procurement System, is named Central New York Purchasing (CNYP).

Electrical Work

During the Thanksgiving break, there was a temporary power outage on the Utica Campus so that Facilities & Operations could safely work with a contractor to evaluate electrical switchgear on the Utica Campus. The operation included an evaluation of oil levels and chemical content of the oils in the switches, to determine how well the switches are operating and aging over time. This is a routine periodic evaluation.

Energy Costs

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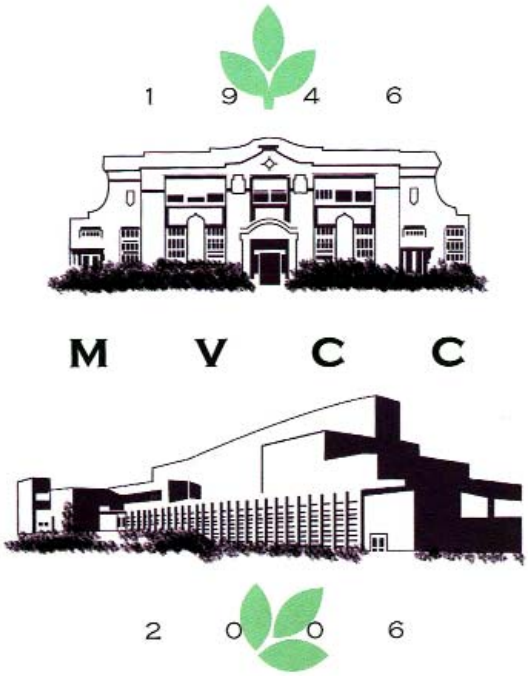
Mohawk Valley Community College
1946-2006
Enriching Our Community for 60 Years

In celebration of MVCC's upcoming 60th Anniversary remembrance, pictured top, is an image of MVCC's first home, the Country Day School, located on Genesee Street in New Hartford. Pictured below, is an illustration by Nina Roefaro of Utica, a student in Professor Bob Clarke's Professional Practices for the Graphic Designer class.



News from Administrative Services, cont.

Facilities & Operations is also assessing the potential impact of higher costs this winter for natural gas and electricity. The College is working with National Grid (formerly Niagara Mohawk) and the New York State Energy Research & Development Authority (NYSERDA) to identify acceptable ways of reducing energy consumption. We anticipate that National Grid and NYSERDA will make both short-term and long-term recommendations.

Facilities Maintenance Work

Work is underway at the Gymnasium to replace rooftop heating, ventilation and air conditioning units that serve the racquetball/weight room and Child Care Center areas.

With assistance of Oneida County DPW and donations from New York State Highway Department, Facilities & Operations installed new guardrails along the roadway leading to the Residence Hall parking lot during the fall.

Enrollment Reporting

The College recently submitted the Student Data File, with Fall Semester enrollment information, to New York State. This information, provided electronically to NYS each semester, is used to calculate future State Aid for the College, and to assist in the development of a future State Budget. Rosemary Spetka, Kate Barefoot and Mark Radlowski prepared the file for transmission. The State is considering a change in the time period covered by these submissions, so that they coincide with those used by the State-operated campuses.

Security Cameras

New security cameras were recently installed in the Utica Campus parking lots and also inside the Alumni College Center. Additional internal cameras are also being planned for installation at the Rome Campus.

Time for the FAFSA

The Financial Aid staff will be sending out reminders to students to complete their FAFSA online in the near future if they anticipate needing financial aid for college study in 2006. Reminders will be included in a newsletter and in a post card mailed to students.

INTERNATIONAL BOOK PROJECT

Sponsored by the Business Club

You can help those less fortunate than you by donating your old books. Today is the last day, December 19th, 2005 from 10am - 5pm in the College Book Store

You can also help by "adopting a box." Donate as much as you can towards the shipping costs of the boxes, (a 35 pound box costs $11.04 postage). Contact Patricia Cummings at 731-5769, or stop by PH345 to donate.

Upcoming Events

Monday, 12/19
~ MVCC Board of Trustee Meeting, 4:00pm, PH 300.
~ ASSET Test, 6:00pm, PCA10, Rome Campus.
Wednesday, 12/21
~Commencement, 6:00pm, IT Theater. Reception to follow ceremony in IT Lobby.
Thursday, 12/22
~ Ballroom Dancing, 7:00pm-9:00pm, MV Commons.