

Communitas



MVCC Faculty/Staff Newsletter

October 3rd, 2005

Sure, MVCC's libraries, located in Payne Hall on the Utica Campus and in the Plumley Complex at the Rome Branch Campus, have 90,000 books, 700 periodicals, and a large selection of reference materials. They also have bestsellers, children's literature, picture files, microfilm, audio books and paperbacks. They serve MVCC students, faculty, staff, alumni, administrators, students at other institutions, and the community at large. The Libraries are accessible for users with disabilities, and have specialized equipment for use by students with vision problems.

But these are more than your father's college libraries. Stephen Frisbee, Director of College Libraries and The Learning Center, says they're also deeply involved in the information technology revolution, an involvement that

MVCC's Libraries:
Serving Students,
Faculty & the
Community with
Traditional and
Contemporary
Information
Services



continues to grow, especially with the increasing number of online courses being offered. That means educational and feature film videotapes and DVDs, music and software CDs, and a growing array of electronic resources such as full-text periodical articles and reference materials, e-books, electronic databases, and more, all available to MVCC faculty, staff and students both on- and off-campus.

Changing technology is also impacting day-to-day operational matters such as circulation, acquisitions, cataloging, and periodicals, as the Libraries switch from their long-term relationship with the Mid-York Library System to a new relationship with SUNY Connect, which will provide a computerized library management system uniform throughout the SUNY system. The changeover has started with testing and training, and will take full effect in December. It promises to make library services even



Frisbee

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MVCCFaces

Lew teaches mostly literature and composition classes; helping students improve their writing by emphasizing critical thinking, reading and writing.

He teaches English 101 and 102, Oral and Written Communication, Effective Speech, Report Writing.

He worked for 1 1/2 years as an adjunct, and joined the full-time faculty this semester.

He holds a BA in English from Utica College and an MA in English from SUNY Cortland.

Lew is currently co-advisor for the Poet's Recluse, a weekly meeting with student poets to share their work and help each other improve; and co-advisor of Open Mic Night.

He is a co-founder/co-director of the Resonance Center Inc., a non-profit community arts studio in downtown Utica.

In 2004, he received the New York State Council for the Arts DEC grant for three original one-act plays as an extension of the Resonance Center's experimental theater project.

He lives in Utica and enjoys writing poetry, plays and stories.



Lew Kahler,
Instructor, Humanities Dept.

News from Student Services

**Vice President
Denise
DiGiorgio**



SOCIAL NORMING CAMPAIGN:

Last year, MVCC was one of seven colleges in NYS to implement the Challenging College Alcohol Abuse program as part of a three-year grant. We spent much of the spring semester conducting our survey, having the results analyzed and developing the marketing pieces to launch the campaign. You will soon see a variety of strategies to help students hear the message that almost 80% of MVCC student have 2 or fewer drinks when they party (this is based on the survey data). Our "2 or Less" campaign will feature speakers, T-shirts, table tents, quiz shows and all sorts of marketing materials. The concept of the grant is to continue driving home the message across campus and then re-survey students next fall to assess drinking habits and perceptions. The grant also works its way into the community this year with a similar survey being conducted regarding drinking habits (and perceptions) of those 18-25 who are working in our community. Those results will be analyzed and a media campaign carrying that message will be broadcast in our community. Co-chairs for the grant oversight and implementation are Chris Destito, business owner in the Rome area, Rochelle Cardillo from the Mohawk Valley Council on Alcoholism & Other Addictions, and me.

WEBSITE:

The new navigation system for the website is now in place. The entire site is now standards compliant and all pages carry a similar look. The previous site was not terri-

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College Libraries, cont.

better, and enhance borrowing of items between SUNY campus libraries, while also saving money.

Of course, technology means computers. The Utica Campus Library has 10 computers in the reference area, available to both students and community library users. There are another 18 in the Library Computer Lab, which is often used for bibliographic instruction classes, but also serves as an open lab for students. The Rome Campus Library recently received 16 new computers which will serve as a research area and open lab. And as in other areas of the College, keeping these computers in sync with advances in technology is an ongoing challenge.

Frisbee is particularly proud of the Libraries' web site, and invites all readers to log on, at www.mvcc.edu/library. It includes links to the Library catalog, electronic databases, Faculty/Staff resources, reference websites and search engines, term paper/writing tips, Library hours of operation, a glossary of library terms, and an online form for asking reference questions. It also includes other Library policies, special resource lists for particular subjects or courses (need a book on the history of the Mohawk Valley? See the Subject Resource Lists on the Libraries' web site!), a list of campus life resources for students, e-Books, new acquisition lists, links to local public and academic libraries, a link to The Chronicle of Higher Education full text online, and much more. Information and web links on the Libraries' web site is provided by the librarians, one of whom also serves as the site's webmaster, and is updated regularly. The wealth of information provided has proven of great benefit to faculty, staff, and students, especially those who are engaged in distance learning.



Librarian Anne Ichihana checks out a book for a student at the Circulation Desk.

Of course, a library is just a warehouse for books without its staff. The real strength of the Libraries lies in a commitment to customer service by its very knowledgeable librarians and staff members. This may take the form of one-on-one assistance with research, or it may take the form of actual library instruction, where entire classes come to the Library to learn about its resources and how to use them. These sessions are often customized to meet the needs of students in specific programs or taking specific courses. The librarians enjoy a close working relationship with the instructional departments, especially in the area of acquisitions. Each member of the Libraries' professional staff is responsible for working with designated departments to identify materials the Libraries should add to their collection. Items are often purchased in support of specific courses and cultural events (e.g. poetry readings) on campus. At the Rome Campus, for example, you will find materials related to cooking and carpentry, a reflection of the Hospitality and Carpentry & Masonry programs based at the branch campus. Department representatives frequently assist in identifying materials which are out of date and no longer useful. The collection is usually "weeded" during the summer to ensure that timely, current material are always available.

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Student Services News, cont.

bly user friendly with one having to know exactly where to look to find a particular piece of information. The new navigation basically carries all college information in four main pull down menus from the home-page, a quick link menu and a soon-to-be added search box. Future projects for the site include entrance into the site by audience, more inter-active mechanisms, more photos of our campuses and perhaps a new way to highlight specific events. The "ASK MVCC" feature has had close to 1,000 questions raised since mid-January – that's an average of 30 questions per week. Questions are all over the map; how to enroll, non-credit course offerings, forms and applications, accessing student e-mail, directions to campus, program offerings, returning after a long absence, etc. Thanks to so many of you who have fielded the questions that I have forwarded. I once again urge anyone with suggestions or thoughts on the site to contact me.

NEW WEIGHT ROOM:

In the early 1980s, racquetball was a big sport both on campus and in the community. As with most things, we have experienced a steady decline in the number of individuals looking for racquetball court time. At the same time, we have seen a steady increase in the number of students using the free weight room. Over the summer, we turned two of the four racquetball courts into a state-of-the-art free weight room and are now offering strength training classes for the first time and sections of "racquet sports" which includes badminton, racquetball and handball. Our new and improved free weight room is a welcome addition to the physical education complex and if you haven't been down there to take a peak, I invite you to see for yourself.

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Pictured left to right, Mario Banzon Magat, team leader; Rainier Joseph Ungco; Tanya Miren Cruz, and Franco Mario Vicente; and MVCC students Jennifer Thayer and Jeff Smith.

MVCC's Rome Campus hosted a Rotary Group Study Exchange Team from The Philippines last Monday, September 26th.

The Rome Rotary sponsored the visitors from the Philippines who answered questions from MVCC Assistant Professor David Hoffman's Hospitality students. The students were especially interested in learning the differences in the food service industry, from restaurant owner "RJ" Ungco. The group also took a tour of the Rome campus and enjoyed lunch in the Hospitality Programs dining room.

**MVCC's
4th Annual
Gala Event**
"My Sinatra,
The Songs and the Stories,"
Performed by Cary Hoffman
with the
Stan Rubin Orchestra

Saturday, October 29th

Faculty and staff can purchase two
tickets at a reduced price of
\$35 each.

Tickets are now on sale through
Donna Yaghy in the President's
Office at ext 5486.



**MVCC
First**

Kevin F. Buttenschon,
Criminal Justice, a Class of
1986 grad, is now an investi-
gator with the NYS Police. He
also earned a B.S. degree in
Law Enforcement at Utica
College, and served as an
Oneida County Sheriff's
Deputy from 1987 to 1992.

College Libraries, cont.

The librarians also serve as consultants to faculty members and department heads on copyright issues. The Library has a budget for acquiring copyright permissions, and responds to occasional inquiries from the campus Print Shop on copyright matters. Generally, they adhere to the principle of "fair use," which addresses the amount of material to be copied, and its use. They also assist faculty members in identifying possible cases of plagiarism by students and in educating their students about the proper citing of sources. The Librarians are active in local library-related organizations, interacting regularly with their counterparts at the other area colleges and in the public libraries and schools. Frisbee currently serves as president of the Central New York Library Resources Council (CLRC). The CLRC is one of nine Reference and Research Library Resources Councils in New York State, facilitating resource sharing and interlibrary cooperation. CLRC serves libraries and library systems in Oneida, Herkimer, Madison and Onondaga Counties. He's been on its board of directors for five years, has been vice president, and chaired its planning and review committee.

In addition to his duties as Director of College Libraries and The Learning Center, Frisbee serves on the College's Curriculum Committee, Administrative Promotions Committee, Heart Run/Walk Committee, and is an advisor for Phi Theta Kappa.

The Utica Campus Library employs four full-time librarians: Louise Charbonneau - Electronic Resources and Serials; serves on Learning Center Advisory Committee as well as Teaching and Learning Cooperative Krista Hartman - Cataloging; serves as Secretary to and Senator on the College Senate; serves on the Safety and Security Committee; regularly speaks at local libraries, schools, and conferences on topics such as women authors, Oneida County authors, and children's literature; serves on the Oneida-Herkimer BOCES School Library Advisory Council and on the board of the Central New York Library Association; serves as a Millenium Project liaison with the Proctor High School librarians

Anne Ichihana - Circulation; serves on General Education Committee Colleen Kehoe-Robinson - Reference, Bibliographic Instruction Coordinator, and Library Computer Lab; serves on regional Preservation Committee and Distance Learning Committee; serves as a Millenium Project liaison with the Proctor High School librarians

Other full-time staff members include:

Sherry Day - Library Clerk / Interlibrary Loans

Barbara Granato - Senior Stenographer; serves as secretary to the Director and handles various library duties as well as College memberships; also serves on the Safety and Security Committee and the Traffic Committee

There are currently two vacant clerk positions due to recent retirements which will be filled soon. Additionally, the Utica Campus Library has four



Librarian Colleen Kehoe-Robinson chats with a student in the Bibliographic Instruction Lab on the Utica campus.

Student Services News, cont.

NEW RESIDENCE HALL & DINING FACILITY:

By now, everyone on campus has heard about (and some have seen) the new 155-bed residence hall. Students continue to rave about it and we will soon be marketing the complex for summer conferences (it is air conditioned). The links that provide entrances to the existing halls have been well-received and everything seems to be unfolding nicely as we begin week #4 of the Fall semester. We are at 98% occupancy with just a few female beds left vacant by "no shows." There are still some punch list items to be completed, but everyone involved in the project deserves a big round of applause. Special thanks to Chair of the Dormitory Corporation John Stetson, President Schafer, Bill Gaetano, Paul Rabbia, Jamie Sprague, Mike McHarris, John Zegarelli, Ralph Feola, Mark Murphy, Dennis Gibbons, all Dormitory Corporation staff as well as staff at Stantec and the workers for each of the sub-contractors who made this possible.

The Resident Dining Hall had a complete make-over during the summer. It literally took over the area once occupied by the Game Room and the room has been transformed into beautiful, open, well-lit facility with various food stations (pizza, entrée, salad, deli, etc) as opposed to one big cafeteria line. Comments have been extremely favorable from both students and staff who have visited. Kudos to Sodexo, HMC, March Associates and Gaetano Construction for something that looks like it came out of a campus dining magazine!

College Libraries, cont.

part-time librarians and five part-time clerks to help staff our evening and weekend hours and to provide support during our daytime hours.

The Rome Campus Library employs one full-time librarian, Barbara Evans who coordinates library services on the branch campus. She serves on the Staff Development Committee and the Rome Leadership Team. She is joined by two part-time librarians and three part-time clerks.

The Libraries are frequently assisted by as many as 12-15 student employees, who monitor the computer lab, assist in reshelving materials, and maintain the stacks.

Challenges for the Libraries are similar to those experienced in other parts of the College, including making the available budget meet the needs of the Libraries and their users, and keeping computer technology up to date and accessible. The Library staff is also challenged to make the best use of available space - combining active working libraries with quiet study areas, and accommodating some use of the libraries as social space.

The Libraries promote two library events held each year. The annual ReadAloud is held in April to celebrate National Library Week, and the annual Marjorie Thorpe Memorial Award term paper contest gives prizes to winning entries each year during this May event. In addition, staff members in the Utica Campus Library read to the children from the Kiddie Campus each month, and other campus events and celebrations are supported with displays and reading lists.

The Libraries are busy places. In a given month as many as 12,000 persons from the College and the community may use one of the Libraries. But Frisbee and the others in the Libraries welcome the company. Their mission, they say, is to teach them how to find and evaluate the information they provide. It's just what librarians do.

(Editor's Note: The Learning Center is also associated with the Libraries, and will be profiled at another time.)



Students work on the computers in the Rome Campus Library.



Marie Czarnecki reads during one of National Library Week's ReadAlouds.

MVCC Plans Reunion for "NYSIAAS/MVTI" Grads: 1948-1960

The College will host a reunion for members of its first 12 graduating classes, 1948 to 1960, on October 28th and 29th. From its founding in 1946 until 1953, MVCC was known as the New York State Institute of Applied Arts & Sciences at Utica, and was operated by the New York State Education Department. In 1953, the Institute was renamed Mohawk Valley Technical Institute, and was organized as a community college, sponsored by Oneida County and affiliated with the State University of New York. The final name change, to Mohawk Valley Community College, came in 1963.

Reunion activities will begin on Friday, October 28th, with a welcome reception from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Encore Lounge at the Radisson Hotel in Utica.

Activities scheduled for Saturday, October 29th include:

- Utica Campus tours at 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., leaving from Room 116 of the Alumni College Center.
- A luncheon at 12:00 noon, also in Room 116 of the Alumni College Center.
- A reunion reception at 5:30 p.m., in the same location.
- The College's annual Gala, open to the community, will take place at 6:30 p.m. in the Information Technology/Performing Arts/Conference Center Building. This year's Gala will feature fancy hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction and a live tribute to singer Frank Sinatra by Cary Hoffman and the Stan Ruben Orchestra. Tickets for the Gala are available by calling 792-5486.

For information on other reunion activities call 731-5797.

Members of the reunion committee include Frank Maurizio, Class of 1953; Anthony Vecchio, Class of 1953; Barbara Taylor Kuban, Class of 1960; Ronnie Newman, Class of 1957; Delores (Dee) Blackwelder, Class of 1954; John Rice, Class of 1959; and Sally Thompson, Class of 1953.

Here are just a few of the electronic resources available to you both on- and off-campus:

- **Children's Literature Comprehensive Database:** Contains over 150,000 critical reviews of children's books, ranging from the earliest baby board books to novels and nonfiction for young adults.
- **Chronicle Campus-wide:** Online version of the Chronicle of Higher Education.
- **Criminal Justice Periodicals Index:** Provides current and scholarly coverage of criminal justice and legal topics.
- **Health and Wellness Resource Center:** Includes reference material as well as full-text magazines, journals, and pamphlets from a variety of medical sources.
- **Issues & Controversies on File:** Essays on topical issue or controversy in today's news. Hyperlinks to biographies, news updates, and relevant Web sites. Includes bibliographies, chronologies, maps, graphs, tables, and photos.
- **NewsBank:** Provides coverage of local and regional news. Includes Utica's Observer-Dispatch, Syracuse's Post-Standard, and Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.
- **Professional Collection Development:** Provides a specialized collection of more than 550 education journals and 200 educational reports.
- **PsycINFO:** Covers psychology and related behavioral and social sciences including psychiatry, sociology, anthropology, education, pharmacology and linguistics.
- **And there is much more to be found under Research Resources:** Databases on the Library web site at www.mvcc.edu/library.

Student Congress Sponsors Blood Drive

On Wednesday, October 5 the Student Congress is sponsoring a blood drive with the American Red Cross. The goal for M.V.C.C. this year is 53 participants and we are allotted for a maximum of 73 donors.

If any one is interested in giving blood, the sign up sheet with donation times is in the Student Activities Office in ACC 208 or you can sign up in the Student Congress Office in ACC 102.

**Last week the MVCC
Public Policy Club and
League of Women Voters
registered 50 new voters!**

Upcoming Events

Monday, 10/3

~ Brown Bag Lunch Series, "Note Taking," 11:00am and Noon, ACC 116.

~ Volleyball vs. SUNY Delhi, 7:00pm.

Wednesday, 10/5

~ Hospitality Programs Luncheon, theme: "Romantic Caribbean Dining," lunch and movie "Pirates of the Caribbean," 11:45am, on the Rome campus. Price is \$9.50, call 334-7702 for reservations.

~ Artist Richard Harvey Exhibit Lecture, 3:00pm, IT 225.

~ Women's Soccer vs. Herkimer CCC, 4:00pm.

Saturday, 10/8

~ Volleyball Tri-Match with Tompkins-Cortland CC and Monroe Community College, 1:00pm.

~ Women's Soccer vs. Hudson Valley CC, 1:00pm.

Wednesday, 10/12

~ Hospitality Programs Luncheon, theme: "El Dia de la Raza: A Celebration of the Hispanic Heritage of the Americas," 11:45am, on the Rome campus. Price is \$9.50, call 334-7702 for reservations.

~ Lecture: "Living in Natural Life: Emerson and Thoreau at Walden Pond," by SUNY Albany Professor Ronald A. Bosco, 2:00pm, IT 225.

Saturday, 10/15

~ Women's Soccer vs. SUNY Delhi, 1:00pm, Proctor Stadium.

~ Men's Soccer vs. Adirondack CC, 1:00pm