

To celebrate MVCC's 60th Anniversary, Communitas will run a weekly feature highlighting photographs from the College's history



Enriching Our Community for 60 Years

On August 10, 1982, the Mohawk Executive Forum welcomed broadcast journalist David Brinkley. Posing for the picture were John Pridgeon and MVCC President George Robertson.



(The following are highlights of President Schafer's presentation at Convocation on January 10.)

Middle States Accreditation Overview of the Self-Study Project

Accreditation is the means of self-regulation and peer review adopted by the educational community. The Middle States Commission on Higher Education was organized by higher education institutions in this region to conduct such accreditations. Accreditation is intended to strengthen and sustain the quality and integrity of higher education, making it worthy of public confidence and minimizing the scope of external control.

In 2002, Middle States approved its revised Characteristics of Excellence, with greater emphasis on institutional assessment, assessment of student learning, and diversity of educational delivery systems.

There are Fourteen Standards:

- Standards 1-7 deal with broad issues of institutional context.
- Standards 8-14 deal with issues of educational effectiveness.

Standard One - Mission, Goals, and Objectives

The mission and goals clearly define the College purpose, whom it serves, what it intends to accomplish, and how it will fulfill its mission. They are formally approved, publicized, and widely known, and are used to develop and shape programs, practices, and evaluate effectiveness.

Standard Two - Planning, Resource Allocation, and Institutional Renewal

An institution conducts and utilizes the results of its assessment activities to improve institutional quality and in an ongoing evaluation of the strategic plan and resource allocation to support change and institutional renewal.

Standard Three - Institutional Resources

The resources [human, financial, technical, facilities] necessary to achieve the institution's mission and goals are available and accessible. The effective and efficient allocation of resources is analyzed as part of ongoing outcomes assessment.

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Middle States Self Study Project, cont.

Standard Four - Leadership and Governance

The institution's system of governance clearly defines the roles of institutional constituencies in policy development and decision-making. The governance structure includes an active governing body to assure institutional integrity and to fulfill its responsibilities of policy and resource development.

Standard Five - Administration

The institution's administrative structure is organized effectively with clearly defined roles and responsibilities to facilitate learning, foster quality improvement, and support the institutional organization and governance.

Standard Six - Integrity

In all its programs and activities, the institution demonstrates ethical standards and follows its own stated policies, providing support to academic and intellectual freedom.

Standard Seven - Institutional Assessment

The institution has developed and implemented an assessment plan and process that evaluates its overall effectiveness in achieving its missions and goals; implementing planning, resource allocation, and institutional renewal processes; using institutional resources efficiently; and, assuring that institutional processes and resources support appropriate learning and other outcomes for its students and graduates.

Standard Eight - Student Admissions

The institution seeks to admit students whose interests, goals, and abilities are congruent with its mission. Admission practices ensure that students have a reasonable opportunity for success in meeting educational goals.

Standard Nine - Student Support Services

The institution provides a well-organized, comprehensive system of student support services responsive to diverse needs, abilities, and cultures.

Standard Ten - Faculty

The institution's instructional programs are designed and supported by qualified professionals. The faculty bears primary responsibility for promoting, facilitating, assuring, and evaluating student learning and is committed to all aspects of student success.

Standard Eleven - Educational Offerings

The institution's educational offerings display academic content, rigor, and coherence appropriate to its mission. The institution identifies student learning goals and objectives, including knowledge and skills, for its educational offerings. The breadth and depth of student learning and the demonstrable ability of students to integrate knowledge are key elements in judging the success of an educational program.

Standard Twelve - General Education

The General Education program should be purposeful, coherent, engaging and rigorous. The curricula are designed so that students acquire and demonstrate college-level proficiency in general education and essential skills including oral and written communication, scientific and quantitative reasoning, critical analysis and reasoning, technological competency, and information literacy.



60th
Anniversary
Snapshots
For last week

January 23, 1991 - James M.

Kiernan, director of development and alumni affairs, had recently been reelected president of the Central New York Chapter, National Society of Fund Raising Executives, and a director of the organization at the national level. He was a 1958 MVCC graduate in advertising design and production.

January 24, 1991 - The MVCC Public Information Office received recognition throughout the Northeast in the form of the Silber Award for Achievement from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations, for a series of newspaper advertisements. Competitors included community or junior colleges in Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, the District of Columbia, and the Canadian provinces of New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Quebec. Judging of entries was done by national ad agencies.

January 25, 1991 - Children in the Kiddie Kampus Child Care Center sent cookies and powdered drinks to U.S. soldiers serving in the Middle East as part of Operation Desert Shield.

January 26, 1953 - Evening classes began at the College, then known as the SUNY Institute of Applied Arts & Sciences at Utica. (Later in 1953, the name was changed to Mohawk Valley Technical Institute.) Among the courses: Square Dance Instruction (tuition: \$7/couple or \$4/single), Radar I, II and III, Practical Television Servicing, and a free Great Books Leader Training Course.

January 27, 1953 - the Utica Daily Press reported that Governor Dewey had "slammed the door" on full State support for the Institute of Applied Arts & Sciences at Utica after August 31, 1953. The action meant that if the Institute was to remain open, a local

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Snapshots

sponsor and students would have to bear two-thirds of the Institute's cost, and that the Institute would legally become a community college. The State agreed to give the Institute existing facilities and equipment, but limited future capital investments to 50%.

January 28, 1948 - Retail Business Management faculty member James Bachman, a former IRS auditor, presented an income tax clinic on preparation of 1947 State and Federal income tax returns. The cost for the program, including five two-hour sessions and all materials, was \$5. To register, residents were asked to call the Institute at 4-2165.

January 29, 1953 - Assemblyman William S. Calli of Utica stated his belief that the State University Institutes (including NYSIAAS at Utica, forerunner of MVCC) should be continued at State expense. Governor Thomas Dewey had recommended discontinuing the Institutes as State-operated schools, giving them the opportunity to become locally-sponsored community colleges as an alternative. (Assemblyman Calli's son, William, currently serves on MVCC's Board of Trustees.)

MID TERM ABSENTEES, Faculty?

With Midterms rapidly approaching, some students will be questioning whether or not they can pass your class. Whether it's absenteeism or personal problems that get in the way of academic success, please forward your students to the Counseling Office (PH 104B) where we can take the time to work through whatever the obstacle is. If we can save even one student from withdrawing, it's worth it. And don't forget, we have a Substance Abuse Specialist as well, willing to address some hard realities if that's what is needed. Keep them in your class. Walk them over to us. Just demonstrating your concern could be keeping them in class.

Middle States Self Study Project, cont.

Standard Thirteen - Related Educational Activities

Related educational programs or activities, which must meet appropriate standards, including: basic skills, certificate programs, internships, non-credit offerings, branch campuses, and distance learning.

Standard Fourteen - Assessment of Student Learning

The Assessment process should be an integral part of the institution. The systematic assessment of student learning demonstrates that students have knowledge, skills, and competencies consistent with institutional goals and that students at graduation have achieved appropriate higher education goals. Institutional assessment plans should begin with measures already in place. Institutions should consider developing new data sets related to learning outcomes and utilize multiple approaches to demonstrate mastery of stated learning outcomes.

Self-Study Goals

Goal 1:

Identify institutional strengths and weaknesses relative to each accreditation standard, and use this information to make recommendations for improvement.

Goal 2

Reflect upon recent changes in planning and resource allocation, assessment, diversity and global view, and organizational structure, with particular attention to their effects upon student learning.

Goal 3

Identify and analyze the range of assessment activities and their related impacts - infused in the Standards - throughout the College.

Goal 4

Provide the Commission with the information and analysis needed to determine the re-accreditation of the College.

Key components:

- Design and implement a process that ensures a wide participation among the College community
- Address all MSCHE Standards
- Do a comprehensive review of the entire College

Steering Committee

The Steering Committee provides overall direction to the Self-Study project. It supports and monitors the Work Group activities, resolves conflicts and issues, and assists in the preparation of the final Self-Study Report. It will have fifteen members:

- Co-Chairs: Dr. Daniel Larson, Vice-President for Instruction; and, Norayne Rosero, Professor of Mathematics and Assessment Coordinator
- Chairs of the seven Work Groups
- Five Ex-Officio Members
- One student representative

The Co-Chairs have recommended a structure of seven Work Groups, each of which addresses two of the Middle States Standards. The Co-Chairs and the five ex-officio members will serve as liaisons to the seven Work Groups.

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Middle States Self Study Project, cont.

The seven work groups and their associated standards are:

1. Mission and Integrity [Standards 1 & 6]
2. Institutional Planning and Resources [Standards 2 & 3]
3. Institutional Leadership and Administration [Standards 4 & 5]
4. Institutional Effectiveness and Learning Assessment [Standards 7 & 14]
5. Student Admissions and Support Services [Standards 8 & 9]
6. The Faculty and General Education [Standards 10 & 12]
7. Educational Offerings [Standard 11 & 13]

The Work Groups will assess the College against their assigned Standards and provide input to the Steering Committee in preparation of the Self-Study Report.

Members of the College community - faculty, staff, and administrators - along with student representatives are invited to serve on the Work Groups. Each of you is welcome to participate even if you are not asked to serve on a specific Work Group. Please respond to Dr. Larson or Professor Rosero by telephone or email: dlarson@mvcc.edu or nrosero@mvcc.edu

Project Calendar

January-April 2006

- Steering Committee organizes and begins monthly meetings
- Work Group members identified and appointed
- Initial draft of the Self-Study Plan is reviewed by the Steering Committee
- Work Groups organize and receive training for their work
- Revised draft of the Self-Study Plan is reviewed by the Steering Committee

May 4, 2006

- College hosts visit by Dr. John Erickson, Middle States staff liaison

June 2006

- Revised draft of the Self-Study Plan is submitted to Middle States

August-November 2006

- Work Groups begin their regular meetings, work, and research
- Work Groups provide first progress updates to the Steering Committee

February 2007

- Work Groups provide second progress updates to the Steering Committee

April-May 2007

- Work Groups submit their report drafts to Steering Committee

August 2007

- Co-Chairs complete first Self-Study draft
- Draft reviewed by the Steering Committee

September 2007

- Revised first draft of Self-Study completed
- First draft circulates to College community for feedback

October 2007

- Co-Chairs complete the preliminary version of the Self-Study
- Visit of the Middle States Team Chair
- Team Chair review of the Self-Study

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, 1/31

~ Women's Basketball vs. Finger Lakes CC, 7:00pm, Gym.

Wednesday, 2/1

~ Hospitality theme dinner, "Heart Warming Winter Fare," 6:00pm, \$18. Call X7702 for reservations.

Thursday, 2/2

~ Syracuse University INFOSEC Update Course, 8:00am-5:00pm, PCA10, Rome Campus.

~ Hockey vs. Hudson Valley Jr. A Eagles, 7:00pm, Utica Aud.

Friday, 2/3

~ MMR/Meningitis Clinic, 1:00pm-3:00pm, ACC 104, Student Health Center.

~ Syracuse University INFOSEC Update Course, 8:00am-5:00pm, PCA10, Rome Campus.

Saturday, 2/4

~ Black History Month Celebration Speaker Dr. Adam Banks, 1:00pm-3:00pm, IT Theater.

Sunday, 2/5

~ Hockey vs. Monroe CC, 2:00pm, Utica Aud.

Tuesday, 2/7

~ Hockey vs. SUNY Canton, 7:00pm, Utica Aud.

Wednesday, 2/8

~ Author Alan Foote's "Gateway to Freedom: The American Revolution on the Northern Frontier" book discussion, 7:00pm, IT 225.

~ Hospitality theme dinner, "Recipes of Rachel Ray: Upstate New York's Celebrity Chef," 6:00pm, \$18. Call X7702 for reservations.

Friday, 2/10

~ "Cooking with Love" lecture-demonstration by the "Love Chef" Francis Anthony, 7:00pm, IT Theater.

Saturday, 2/11

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

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

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Middle States Self Study cont.

November 2007

- Co-Chairs complete the final version of the Self-Study

January 2008

- Self-Study delivered to Middle States and the Team, six weeks before Team visit

March or April 2008

- Team visit - before April 15
- Team Report drafted
- College response to the Team Report

Summer 2008

- Middle States Commission on Higher Education acts on the Team recommendations

MMR/MENINGITIS CLINIC

FEBRUARY 3, 2006
ACC 104, STUDENT HEALTH CENTER
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

PAYMENT: MMR VACCINE SLIDING SCALE BASED ON INCOME
BRING INSURANCE CARD-MEDICAID ACCEPTED
-MENINGITIS VACCINE :\$95.00 CASH OR CHECK ONLY

IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF THE ABOVE VACCINATIONS,
PLEASE SIGN UP WITH THE
MVCC HEALTH CENTER- ACC 104,
X 5452
ON OR BEFORE,
JANUARY 31,2006