

Vietnamese Community College Representatives Visit Utica and Rome Campuses

On Thursday and Friday May 27th and 28th, the College hosted a group of community college leaders from Vietnam. Their visit was sponsored by the International Visitors Program of the U.S. State Department.

The purpose of this visit was to learn more about the American community college model: its connection to the community, its open door policy, vocational and transfer functions, and the commitment to excellent teaching. The legislation governing community colleges in Vietnam is due to change at the end of the year. This was an opportunity for the visitors to see the differences and discuss what they might change at their schools to fit their local educational needs.

They spent most of Thursday in Utica and Friday mostly in Rome, ending in Utica at Matt's Brewery. They enjoyed meeting with faculty, staff and administrators, touring both Utica and Rome campuses including visiting classes and touring local businesses the College works closely with.

The visit was coordinated by Dr. Sandra Engel, Humanities Dept. Head.



Enriching Our Community for 60 Years



1957 cheerleaders, left to right, Barbara Owens, Katie Nichols, June Greyer, Elaine Jessup. Missing from picture was Carol Titus.



Yale Sociologist to Receive MVCC Alumni of Merit Award

Kevin Irwin, a sociologist and research associate at the Yale School of Public Health and the Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS, has been selected to receive the 2006 Mohawk Valley Community College Alumni of Merit Award. He graduated from MVCC in 1998 with a dual degree in Human Services and Chemical Dependency Counseling.

The award will be presented as part of MVCC's May 19th graduation ceremonies. The presentation will be made by David Mathis, MVCC Board of Trustees chairman and president of the College's Alumni Association. At the Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS, Irwin is coordinator of qualitative research training and support in the methods and biostatistics core.

After graduating from MVCC, he went on to earn a B.A. degree in sociology at Syracuse University, and an M.A. degree in sociology at Yale University. He is currently a doctoral candidate at Yale. His work spans a wide range of clinical and field settings, centering on disease prevention and health improvement among marginalized groups in the United States, Russia and India, with a particular focus on intersections of addictions, law, policy and health.

He has been serving as research coordinator for Project Parivartan, a study on implementing structural interventions among high-risk HIV groups in India. His work has also included research on drug use in Maine, Connecticut, California and Russia.



Highlights of April 17th Trustees Meeting

During their April 17th regular monthly meeting, the MVCC Trustees took the following actions:

- Approved the appointment of Walter Constantini as director of the developing Airframe & Powerplant Technology program, with the rank of instructor. See story, right, for more information.
- Approved the appointment of Joan Andrek as director of marketing and communications. She comes to MVCC from MedVance Institute in Florida, where she has been serving as assistant vice president for media services. She has also served as director of marketing and media relations at Valencia Community College in Florida, director of community relations and graphics at Dutchess Community College, director of community relations and college affairs writer at Dutchess Community College, and as a copywriter and interim public relations manager at the Culinary Institute of America. She holds an AS degree in communication and media arts from Dutchess Community College, and a BA degree in communication arts from Marist College.
- Approved submission to SUNY of two program proposals, for online certificate and associate degree programs in school facilities management. The programs were developed at the request of the New York Association for Superintendents of Buildings and Grounds, which includes 600 schools and 30 BOCES systems.
- Approved a three-year proposal to increase Student Activity Fees. In 2006-7, the fee for fulltime students would increase from \$65 per semester to \$85, while the fee for part-time students would increase from \$1 per credit hour to \$2. In 2007-8, the full-time fee would increase to \$95, and in 2008-9 to \$100. The part-time fee would stay at \$2 per credit hour in 2007-8 and 2008-9. The plan was approved by Student Congress on April 4th.
- Approved a revised Competencies Statement for the College catalog. (The statement is published elsewhere in this issue of *Communitas*.)
- Authorized the College to fill the vacant position of assistant to the executive director of institutional advancement, as well as two physics instructor positions in the Engineering, Computer & Physical Sciences Department.
- Accepted the resignation of Paul Lein, Engineering, Computer & Physical Sciences Department, and a notice of retirement from Anthony Malagese, who has been welding instructor in the Engineering Technologies & The Trades Department.
- Approved minutes of their February 20th meeting. (There was no March meeting.)
- Approved warrants covering College operations during February and March.
- Approved Amendment #3 to the 2005-6 operating budget, an increase of \$77,284 in grant appropriations, reflecting two grants: \$60,894 for the Job Club Program (Customized Employment Grant), WIB; and \$16,390 for programming involving the Annsville/Taberg Residential Centers, WIA.
- Ratified appointments of the following individuals as adjunct faculty for the Spring 2006 semester, as well as future semesters as needed:
 - Cynthia Barres, to teach Introduction to College for the Humanities Department. She holds a Bachelor's degree in biology from Utica College, and a Master's degree in education from Touro College. She is a science teacher in the Utica City School District.
 - Donald E. Budmen, to teach Basic Education Law for the Business & Information Technology Department. He is a partner in the Ferrara, Fiorenza Law Firm. He holds two degrees from SUNY Oneonta, a B.S. in secondary education-English, and an M.S. in counseling, and a J.D. degree in law from Cornell University.
 - Richard Calenzo, to teach General Physics 1 for the Engineering, Computer & Physical Sciences Department. He is also a physics teacher for the Utica

Constantini Named Director of MVCC Airframe & Powerplant Program



Walter Constantini of Stittville has been appointed director of the new MVCC Airframe and Powerplant Technology program. The program, to be offered at Building 221 at Griffiss Business & Technology Park and at the nearby MVCC Rome Campus, is scheduled to begin with the College's fall semester, contingent on registration by the State Education Department and approval by the Federal Aviation Administration. The State University of New York recently gave its approval for the new program. Building 221 at Griffiss has been made available for the program by Oneida County, and is currently undergoing significant renovations. FedEx Express also donated a Boeing 727 aircraft for use in the program.

Constantini comes to MVCC from the Empire Aero Center at Rome, where he has been serving as logistics manager/facilities manager. He has also held a number of other positions in the aviation industry, including employment with Bombardier Aerospace Learjet, Global Aviation Services, Jet Air, Inc., and Comair Airlines. He attended the Riverside School of Aeronautics, and is a licensed airframe and powerplant mechanic. He also received a B.S. degree in aviation maintenance management from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Florida.

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Coordinator of Child Care Services Elected To Child Care Council Board



On March 27, 2006, Karen Buono, Coordinator of Child Care Services was elected to the position of President of the Board of Directors for the Mid York Child Care Coordinating Council, Inc. Buono previously served as Board Vice President and Chairperson of the Board Development Committee.

MYCCC is a non-profit corporation founded in 1990 to promote and support, affordable, accessible, and quality child care for Herkimer, Madison and Oneida counties through education, advocacy and coordinated community planning.

Other services provided by the Childcare Council include childcare referral services for families looking for licensed childcare, training and technical assistance for new and existing childcare programs, sponsorship of the nationally recognized Child Development Associate course work, early literacy partnership with area Even Start Programs, Child Passenger Safety Seat Fitting Station and low income car seat distribution center, and fingerprinting for childcare employees.

60th Anniversary Snapshots For last week



April 24, 1989 - The College's Social Science & Criminal Justice Department had recently joined with the City of Utica Department of Public Safety and the New York State Federation of Police to sponsor a seminar on "Investigating Serial Homicides." The seminar was attended by representatives of 50 police agencies in Oneida, Herkimer, Madison, Lewis, Onondaga, St. Lawrence, Jefferson, Schoharie, Otsego, Ulster, Cortland, Chenango and Broome Counties.

April 25, 1968 - Editor-in-Chief Erwin D. Canham of the Christian Science Monitor spoke at MVCC as part of the College's sixth annual lecture series, and analyzed the 1968 political campaigns. He had served as a delegate to the U.N. Conference on Freedom of Information in Geneva, as alternate

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Summer Lunch Breaks for Clerical Staff

According to an agreement the College reached with UPSEU in November 1999, lunch breaks for clerical employees with one-hour lunch breaks will change for the summer. From Memorial Day through the day preceding the day on which faculty return, clerical staff who take one-hour lunch breaks may take one-half hour lunch breaks. They will return to one-hour lunches on Monday August 21.

" The agreement deals with lunch breaks only. Offices will remain open as usual and supervisors will schedule staff as needed to provide coverage.

" The change in lunch breaks applies only to employees represented by UPSEU. This provision does not cover professional staff or administrators.

" Those with half-hour lunch breaks may find the time of the lunch break has to change to provide coverage in the office.

" The only people who may retain half-hour lunch breaks after August 21 are those who had half-hour lunches on October 21, 1999.

" Staff who wish to remain on a one-hour lunch break may do so if they and their supervisor agree.

Trustee Highlights, cont.

City School District. He holds an A.A.S. degree from SUNY Cobleskill in fisheries and wildlife, a B.A. degree from Utica College in physics, and an M.S. degree from SUNY Oneonta in mathematics.

- Lynn Joseph, to teach Introduction to College for the Humanities Department. Joseph holds a B.A. degree in international relations from Syracuse University, and an M.S. degree in second language education from the University of Houston.

- Pattina Keniston, to teach American Sign Language 2 for the Humanities Department. She holds a B.Ed. degree in teaching English as a second language from the Canadian Institute of English.

- Leroy Smith, to teach Principles of Coaching for the Physical Education/Athletics Department. He is a former physical/health education instructor at Utica College and New Hartford Central School. He also has extensive coaching experience including girl's varsity basketball (20 years), boy's varsity baseball (10 years), and boy's varsity soccer (six years).

- Geraldine B. Wagner, to teach Introduction to Sociology for the Social Sciences Department. She taught previously for the Department on a full-time basis from 1985 to 1988. She is a home teacher for Rome City Schools, and owns a business, Technicrafts. She holds an A.A. degree from Onondaga CC in humanities, a B.A. in sociology/education from SUNY Fredonia, and an M.S. in social sciences from Syracuse University.

Guests at the meeting included members of the women's basketball team, and the cross country and indoor track teams, who received congratulations from the Trustees on outstanding seasons.

The Trustees also heard a presentation on the CollegeWorks program from Joanne Donaruma of ARC of Lewis-Oneida Counties

The next Board of Trustees meeting is schedule for May 15th at the Rome Campus.

Upcoming Events



Dr. Schafer accepts gifts from the visitors from Vietnam.



Left- Lisa Rieth, Laboratory Assistant in Health Services, gives the group a tour of the Nursing Learning Resource Center.

Below- The guests sat in on one of Assistant Professor Bill Zogby's History of Civilization 2 classes.



Phi Theta Kappa "Project Graduation" Feed a Body, Feed a Mind

Students in Phi Theta Kappa will be accepting food and book donations starting this week. Check "MVCC Today" for times and drop off locations.

Monday, 5/1

~ Rome Campus Spring Picnic, Noon-4:00pm, RA Lawn.~ Brown Bag Lunch Series, "Making Decisions About Your College Career," Noon-1:00pm, Atrium, Rome Campus.

Tuesday, 5/2

~ College Senate Meeting, 2:30pm, PH 300.

~ Softball vs. SUNY Cobleskill, 3:00pm.

~ "An Evening of Magic," 7:00pm, IT Theater.

Wednesday, 5/3

~ Hospitality theme dinner, "A Springtime Buffet," 6:00pm, \$18. Call X7702 for reservations.

~ MVCC Band Concert with Utica College Band, 7:00pm, IT Theater.

Friday, 5/5

~ Coffee and Careers Lecture: "Sociology" Noon, IT 225.

~ Special Olympics Dance, 6:00pm-9:00pm, PCAtrium, Rome Campus.

Saturday, 5/6

~ Placement Testing, 9:00am, IT Theater.

~ Softball vs. Hudson Valley CC, 1:00pm.

Monday, 5/8

~ Japanese Animated Film, "Howl's Moving Castle," 7:00pm, IT Theater.

~ "Religious Pluralism & Freedom of Religion" Lecture, 7:00pm, Plumley Complex Aud, Rome Campus.

Tuesday, 5/9

~ Placement Testing for students with disabilities, 5:00pm, PC 252.

~ Placement Testing, 6:00pm, PC10, Rome Campus.

Wednesday, 5/10

~ Placement Testing for students with disabilities, 5:00pm, AB 153.

~ "Art Farm," 7:00pm, IT building.

Friday, 5/12

~ Sports Medicine Symposium, 8:00am, ACC116.

Saturday, 5/13

~ Placement Testing, 9:00am; 1:00pm, IT Theater.

Snapshots, cont

U.S. delegate to the United Nations, director of the World Peace Foundation, and chairman of the National Manpower Council.

April 26, 1951 - A headline in the Utica Observer-Dispatch announced "Electrical Expert Joins Faculty at State Institute." The "expert" was William R. Pulhamus, who had been appointed as instructor of motor control, design and layout. He later served as head of the Electrical Technology Department from 1953 to 1975, and as Associate Dean of the former Division of Mathematics, Science & Technology from 1975 until his retirement in 1979. He was inducted into the MVCC Hall of Fame in 1998. Dean Pulhamus passed away in April 2001.

April 27, 1968 - Acting President Robert D. Larsson announced that the College's Liberal Arts & Sciences program would be available in its entirety as an evening program. The curriculum had been available only as a day-time offering since its creation in 1965.

April 28, 1960 - The College (then MVTI) received notice of initial accreditation by the Middle States Association. Notification came in a letter from Ewald Nyquist, Deputy Commissioner of Education for New York State.

April 29, 1989 - A new advertising campaign had been developed by the Public Information Office with the theme "Good Things Begin at MVCC." Media used in the campaign included television, radio newspapers, billboards and bus cards. Separate ads featuring actual students were created to appeal to traditional students interested in college transfer for employment after graduation, and to older men and women considering coming back to college to restart their education. The campaign won awards from the SUNY Council for University Affairs & Development, and the national Council for the Advancement & Support of Education.

April 30, 1964 - Trustees approved a rare reduction in tuition for evening classes, from \$9 to \$7 per credit hour. Board of Trustees Chairman Rudolph Schatzel said "In this critical period when a problem of unemployment threatens our community, we feel it is our responsibility as a community college to provide training and retraining for as many people as we are prepared to serve."

New College Competencies Statement

The following competencies statement was developed by the General Education Committee, and was approved on April 17th by the Board of Trustees. It will appear in the 2006-7 College catalog.

The College is committed to providing opportunity for students to gain knowledge and to use it effectively. To accomplish this goal, degree and certificate candidates will follow a course of student that addresses the competencies listed below. The course of study lays the groundwork for further learning. Students are expected to be responsible partners in the learning process. By the time of program completion, students will have demonstrated, at a level appropriate to their degree or certificate, the ability to:

Communicate effectively with others.

Students will:

- a. produce coherent texts meeting standards appropriate to academic programs
- b. demonstrate the ability to understand and use the language of their academic programs
- c. effectively use the oral discourse of the academic program
- d. research a topic and develop an oral or written argument
- e. evaluate an oral presentation according to established criteria

Organize information, evaluate alternatives, distinguish fact from opinion and reach logical conclusions.

Students will:

- a. effectively frame questions and develop hypotheses
- b. obtain, evaluate, and organize information
- c. research and present logical conclusions

Interact effectively within a diverse society.

Students will:

- a. demonstrate an awareness of and respect for the differences among individuals and for other cultures in the global society
- b. demonstrate an understanding of how different cultures interact in the global society
- c. appropriately participate with diverse groups and with individuals with different points of view

Think logically and solve quantitative problems by using various computational and other mathematical techniques.

Students will:

- a. express mathematical information symbolically, visually, numerically, and verbally
- b. use mathematical processes to solve quantitative problems and draw reasonable conclusions
- c. interpret and draw inferences from mathematical models such as formulas, graphics, tables and schematics

Identify and locate information from a variety of sources and understand the related legal and ethical uses

Students will:

- a. use traditional and contemporary information technology
- b. identify, access, and appropriately use authoritative sources of information