Communitas

MVCC Faculty/Staff Newsletter

October 2, 2006

Student housing pumps life into MVCC campus

While the academic curriculum is the heart of MVCC, it's the student housing complexes that act as the veins that pump the life into the college.

There are three Residence Complexes consisting of five dormitories. The newest facility is New Hall which is primarily for second-year students. The South Halls complex consists of two dormitories, Penfield and Butterfield. The North Halls complex consists of the dormitories Daugherty and Huntington. The names for the dormitories were derived from historic New York State names, that were selected from research done by MVCC students.

It is a huge job keeping track of every facet of student life in the dormitory complexes and this responsibility falls on the shoulders of Dennis Gibbons, Director of Student Housing in the Residence Life Office.

"The big question always asked is how do we help the college? Yes, we house 500 students and maybe 200 will move off campus, but we have a waiting list which allows us to fill those vacancies," said Mr. Gibbons, as the dorms are currently filled to 102 percent occupancy. "People from other countries and from out of state look at MVCC's academic programs because we do have the student housing. And these students really bring a lot to the college."

Student Housing Continued on Page 2

MVCC Nursing Then and Now

KEEPING MOHAWK VALLEY HEALTHY – MVCC's Nursing Program is one of the leading health care programs in Central New York. Many of the nurses of yesterday and today walked the corridors at MVCC.

60th Anniversary Snapshots

October 2, 1992 – The Institute for Quality Improvement, operated by the College's Office of Corporate Programs, was enrolling students in training programs such as Building Total Quality Teams, Applied Statistical Process Control, and Total Quality Awareness.

October 1, 1951 – Evening classes included Conversational Drawing, and Marriage Relations – both 12-week classes with a tuition charge of $12 - and Workshop in Bazaar Management – a six-week class with a $6 tuition charge.

September 30, 1953 – A publication called "Wave Guide," distributed at Griffiss Air Force Base, announced that "for the first time on October 12th an on-base evening education program will be open in Building 123… to base military and civilian personnel as well as residents of the Rome area….

Snapshots Continued on Page 2

Snapshots Continued

The program is being sponsored by Mohawk Valley Technical Institute of Utica and Griffiss AFB. Initially electronics will be the main course of study. Other courses will be given if requested by enrollees. (Tuition was $6 per credit hour.)

September 29, 1978 – An economic impact study revealed that MVCC generated more than $34 million in positive economic impact in Oneida County. The study was conducted by Instructor Paul Bowkun and Professor William Smith of the Accounting Department and Assistant Professor Stephen Sotherden of the Business Management Department. (NOTE: In 1977-78, the College's operating budget was $10,016,597. For 2005-2006, by comparison, it was $37.9 million.

September 28, 2002 – September 28th was the start of "Gala Week," held to celebrate the opening of the theater in the new Information Technology/ Performing Arts/Conference Center Building on the Utica Campus. In the afternoon, the Hartford Players Youth Theater presented a children's program, "Fables, Foolery & Fairytales." In the evening, the theater was the location for a gala Broadway event entitled "Voices of the Mohawk Valley: A Celebration of the Theater." Events later in the week included "Piano Fest," which provided an opportunity for members of the College and community to play the new Steinway concert grand piano. There was also a performance by Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute and Utica DanceWorks students, a performance by the MVCC Concert Band, and a performance of Shakespeare works by the Hartford Players Youth Theater.

September 27, 1969 – A new library-administration building, Payne Hall, was formally dedicated. The building included a library, three auditoriums, several biology labs, two language labs, and administrative and faculty offices. Speakers included Board of Trustees Chairman Thomas S. Kernan, Oneida County Executive Harry Daniels, and Congressman Alexander Pirnie.

Snapshots Continued on Page 4

Student Housing Continued

The three major roles of the Residence Life Office is to assist with off-campus housing in the form of how to find available, safe housing; filling the Residence Halls; and acting as the college conduct office when trouble arises.

One of the top priorities for Mr. Gibbons and his staff is the safety of the students while providing a memorable and enjoyable experience. As part of the safety process, there is one Resident Assistant assigned to each floor of all five dormitories along with three Resident Directors: Jamie Schwabenbauer, Ushona McLean, and David Kramer. A Resident Director lives in each of the complexes.

The MVCC Security Office also takes part in keeping the facilities safe with the assignment of Gary Rogowski patrol the Residence Halls complexes from 8 p.m. to 4 p.m., five days a week.

"Adding Gary to the security force has been vital to keeping the student housing complexes safe," said Mr. Gibbons. "He may not know each student's name, but he knows their faces and whether they belong there."

In today's collegiate environment, dormitories can no longer consist of just a bed, desk and lamp. Dormitories are representative of the college and need to keep up with technology. For this reason, all living quarters now feature cable television, telephone and internet access.

Mark Murphy, Supervisor of Residence Halls Facilities, has been instrumental in getting the living quarters updated. He is also responsible for dormitory maintenance.

The average cost for student housing is $3,500 per semester, which equates to approximately $30 a day for room and meals. There are several options for students to choose from: suite single, suite double, triple room, double room, or compact double. There are also different meal plans.

"One of our biggest problems for students is social adjustment. They come here and are placed in an environment where they have to deal with many different personalities, where at home they didn't have that," said Mr. Gibbons. For this reason, the Residence Life Office developed a student outreach program. Each Resident Director brings together 20 different students weekly to answer questions on where problems exist and address solutions.

Student Housing Continued on Page 4

College Senate October 3 agenda

Meeting of the College Senate
October 3, 2006
PH300 at 2:30 p.m.

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1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes: 9-05-06
3. Chairperson's Report
4. President Schafer's (or designee's) Report
5. Student Congress President's (or designee's) Report
6. Committee Reports (1) Promotions Review Task Force – on hold
7. Old Business (1) Distinguished Faculty Rank – B. Quist; (2) College Catalog Changes - W. Perrotti; (3) Dual Credit - S. McGovern; (4) "Green campus" Task Force - N. Rutishauser
8. New Business (1) Senate Self-Assessment - S. Bice; (2) Safety and Security Committee - Proposed change in composition - J. Palmer; (3) Senate Meeting Venue - W. Perrotti; (4) Committee Operating Procedures – K. Hartman, B. Quist
9. Other Business
10. Adjournment

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 7, 2006 at 2:30 p.m. in PH300

Senate Advisory Committee Meeting: Monday, October 23, 2006 at 3 p.m.

Erin Brush Memorial Fund

I am pleased to present a check in the amount of $1,487 to the Erin Brush Fund on behalf of the faculty, staff and students at MVCC. Erin was a cashier with Sodexho Dining Service here at the College and had a profound impact on everyone who met her.

This amount is a compilation of direct donations and donation canisters set up at various sites on campus.

Thank you,

Denise DiGiorgio, Vice President for Student Services

Upcoming Events on MVCC Campuses

Monday, October 2
- Pilates Class, ACC 116, 5:30 pm
- Ballroom Dancing, MV Commons, 7:00 pm

Tuesday, October 3
- Cultural Series Lecture: "The Entrepreneurial Process, Business Ethics, and You," IT Theater, 2:00 pm
- Small Works Gallery: Department of Art Faculty Exhibition Opening, IT, 3:30 pm
- College Senate Meeting, PH 300, 2:30 pm
- Yoga, ACC 116, 5:30 pm
- Night Hawk Café - Airbrush Tattoos, MV Commons, 7:00 pm
- Ballroom Dancing, ACC 116, 7:15 pm

Wednesday, October 4
- Men's soccer hosts Herkimer CCC, 4:00 pm
- MVCC Concert Band Practice, ACC 116, 7:00 pm
- Night Hawk Café, MV Commons, 7:00 pm
- Volleyball hosts SUNY Cobleskill, 7:00 pm
- Women's soccer at Herkimer CCC, 7:00 pm

Thursday, October 5
- Open Mic Night, ACC 116, 5:30 pm
- Ballroom Dancing, MV Commons, 7:00 pm

Friday, October 6
- MVCC Chess Club, ACC 114, 3:00 pm

Saturday, October 7
- Women's soccer at Hudson Valley CC, 1:00 pm
- Volleyball at Tompkins-Cortland CC, 1:00 pm
- Cross Country at Hamilton College, 11 a.m.
- Men's soccer hosts Hudson Valley CC, 1:00 pm

Saturday/Sunday, October 7-8
- Women's tennis at Region III Tournament at Onondaga CC, TBA

Tuesday, October 10
- Women's soccer hosts Columbia-Greene CC, 4:00 pm

Thursday, October 12
- Women's soccer hosts Monroe CC, 4:00 pm
- Volleyball hosts Onondaga CC, 7:00 pm
- Cultural Series Lecture & Book Signing: "The Great Camps of the Adirondacks," IT 225, 7:00 pm

Friday, October 13
- MVCC Chess Club, ACC 114, 3:00 pm
- Cultural Series Murder Mystery Dinner Theater: "The Homestyle Homicide – the Freagan Family Reunion," ACC Commons, Tickets: $15 general, $10 faculty/staff, 7:00 pm

Saturday, October 14
- MVCC 60th Anniversary Celebration/College Open House, IT, 10 am
- Men's soccer at Adirondack CC, 1:00 pm

Monday, October 16
- Justice Roundtable: Justice for Victims, ACC 212, noon
- Volleyball at Hudson Valley CC, 7:00 pm

Tuesday, October 17
- Men's soccer at SUNY Delhi, 4:00 pm
- Women's soccer at Cayuga CC, 4:00 pm

Wednesday, October 18
- Small Works Gallery: Lecture: Sculpture Space Artist Beth Krebs, IT 225, 2:00 pm
- Volleyball at SUNY Delhi, 7:00 pm

MVCC Faces: Matthew St. Croix

The MVCC men's basketball team will be under the new leadership of Matthew St. Croix as he takes the coaching reins this season for the Hawks.

Mr. St. Croix will have a strong foundation to build on after the Hawks went 19-13 last season. But his duties on the campus go far beyond the court as a newly hired Physical Education Instructor. His course load includes running the fitness center along with teaching the tennis and basketball classes.

Prior to coming to MVCC, this Watertown native served as Head Men's Basketball Coach for Jefferson Community College.

He brings several years of experience in coaching and physical education, as well as many years as a player, and has helped develop many outstanding players, including several Division III All-Americans and Junior College Regional student-athletes.

This New Hartford resident loves to golf and fish in his spare time as well as distance running. Mr. St. Croix holds degree in Sports Management and Education from St. John Fisher College.

Some of the volunteer programs and committees Mr. St. Croix is involved in include Camp Good Days and Special Times, youth basketball and the Teen Center Committee.

Matthew St. Croix
Physical Education Instructor
Men's Head Basketball Coach

Mr. St. Croix's family includes his parents Rose and Jeff St. Croix along with brothers Mike and Mark and his sister Monica.

2006-2007 ACADEMIC YEAR HOLIDAYS

Columbus Day	October 9	Open
Election Day	November 7	Open
Veterans Day	November 10	Open
Thanksgiving	November 23, 24	Closed
Christmas	December 25	Closed
New Year's Day	January 1	Closed
MJ King, Jr.	January 15	Open
Lincoln's Birthday	February 12	Open
President's Day	February 19	Open
Good Friday	April 6	Open
Memorial Day	May 28	Closed
Independence Day	July 4	Closed

Most college offices will be closed December 26-29, 2006

Snapshots Continued

September 26, 1985 – Retired NBC News journalist Edwin Newman was guest speaker for the Mohawk Executive Forum. That same evening, the Student Congress Program Board sponsored an on-campus concert by "Weird Al" Yankovic and the "Stupid Band."

Student Housing Continued

The Resident Assistants play a big role in helping students adjust as each is responsible for organizing activities such as movie night, game room events, dances, open gymnasium and much more.

During the summer months, the MVCC dormitories are very active by providing housing for athletes participating in the Utica Boilermaker, as well as for other events on the MVCC campus.

Due to state regulations governing community colleges, the student housing complexes are not linked to the college directly. They are operated by the Mohawk Valley Community College Dormitory Corporation, a private not-for profit business that is run in conjunction with the college. The MVCC Dormitory Corp is responsible for its own budget, human resource department, payroll, and staff evaluation.

While the Residence Life Office acts as a bridge between the student housing complexes and the college, the MVCC Board of Trustees govern the MVCC Dormitory Corp. with President Michael I. Schafer overseeing all transactions.

Along with housing students, The Residence Life Office also provides storage space for all of the MVCC Archives in one of the dormitories.