

Communitas



MVCC Faculty/Staff Newsletter

April 7, 2008

Landscape project digs up parts of 'Quad'

There is a new look on the Utica Campus, but it is not the melting snow banks. Over the past week, construction equipment has been digging trenches and moving around a lot of dirt.

Not to worry, as this is the first phase of the Academic Quad Landscape Project. The firm of All-Phaze Electrical is in the process of uncovering the underground conduit for the light poles in the quad. The wiring is being upgraded while damaged conduit is being replaced. Once this work is completed, new energy efficient lighting will be put into place.

While the electrical work is underway, the second phase of the Academic Quad Landscape Project began on Thursday. This portion of the work is being done by Thompson Brothers Landscaping and includes cutting down the dead or dying trees.

As students, faculty and staff walk around campus, they will also notice white lines painted on the ground. These lines indicate where the landscape company will redesign sitting areas with trees and ground shrubs to make the quad more inviting. New benches are part of the project.

The project is expected to be completed by the end of May.

There is also work planned for the Rome Campus.



LOTS OF DIGGING - Construction equipment sits near the Information Technology Building on the Utica Campus as part of the Academic Quad Landscape Project.

Conference exposes nursing students to perinatal issues

Nursing students from MVCC's Nursing 2A – Maternity class recently attended the Annual Mohawk Valley Perinatal Network Student Nurses Conference held at SUNY-IT.

Topics covered include Preconcep-

tion Healthcare, Genetic Counseling, and Chronic Disease and Pregnancy. Each year, the Mohawk Valley Perinatal Network invites nursing students to attend this free event to expose them to topics pertaining to promoting healthy

births and healthy families.

Attending these types of events exposes the student to a professional conference and promotes the concept of their responsibility for life-long learning.

"Prayers for the condemned man will be offered on an adding machine. Numbers constitute the only universal language."

*Nathanael West (1903-1940)
Author, Screenwriter, and Satirist*

Submitted by Tom Schink,
Mathematics Department



NURSING CONFERENCE - MVCC nursing students attended the Mohawk Valley Perinatal Network Student Nurses conference held at SUNY-IT.



HELPING OTHERS - The 21st annual Epicurean Delight to benefit Hospice and Palliative Care, Inc., raised nearly \$50,000 during its fundraiser last weekend. From left are: Glen Beville, Executive Director of Hospice;

Oneida County Executive Anthony Picente and his wife Eleanor; Doreen Nicholls, Epicurean chairperson; and Dr. Bruce Neil, Director of MVCC's Hospitality Programs.

Nicholls ensures Epicurean Delight is a success

Associate Professor Doreen Nicholls believes strongly in giving back to the community which is why she volunteered to be chairperson for the 21st annual Epicurean Delight, the food-tasting fundraiser for Hospice and Palliative Care Inc.

This year's event was held Sunday, April 6, from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at Hart's Hill Inn in Whitesboro and attracted nearly 500 people. The Epicurean Delight featured 30 area restaurants along with MVCC's Hospitality Program.

There were 10 students along with Dr. Bruce Neil from the Hospitality Program providing deserts for guests.

Helping Mrs. Nicholls in the organization of the event was MVCC's Business and Information Technology intern Justin Caporale, who worked on marketing and public relations for the event. He is credited with organizing the live auction which raised nearly \$13,000.

For the evening, the Epicurean Delight raised nearly \$50,000 for patient and family services in Oneida, Her-

kimer and eastern Madison counties.

Former BIT intern Ken Jarosz also returned from New York City to volunteer for the evening.

Oneida County Executive Anthony Picente, a 1984 MVCC graduate in Criminal Justice, and his wife, Eleanor, served as the honorary chair couple. Entertainment was provided by Jeff Glatt and the DVD Band, with Vinnie Esposito and Dean Blask.

Student places ninth in statewide mathematics competition

Everything was adding up for MVCC's Thomas Urtz as he captured ninth place in this year's New York State Mathematics Association of Two Year Colleges' mathematics competition.



Urtz

The NYSMATYC mathematics competition consists of two exams, one taken in fall and the second during the spring, consisting of pre-calculus equations. Prizes are awarded to the top students on each part, top combined scores, and top team scores for the colleges which is based on

combined scores for the teams (top 5 scores at each college).

Nearly 700 students took the fall examination while 616 took part in the spring competition. Urtz scored 35 and 48,

respectively, with a perfect score being an 80. As an indication of the difficulty of this competition, the top score in the fall was 65 and the spring's high score was 66.

Urtz is a Verona native and a graduate from Vernon-Verona-Sherrill High School. He is in the College's Engineering Science Program. NYSMATYC presented him with a complete software package, Scientific Notebook along with other prizes.

"There are 20 questions on the exam and students get four points for each correct answer, zero for blank and one point is deducted for an incorrect answer," said Mathematics Department Head Donald Willner.

As a team, MVCC finished seventh out of 21 colleges with a score of 142 points in the fall and 172 points in the spring for a total of 314 points. The winning team was Monroe Community College with 429 points.

MVCC Campus Events

Saturday, April 12

Ballroom Dancing, PC Atrium, 10:00 a.m.
Softball hosts Adirondack CC, 1:00 p.m.
Baseball at Fulton-Montgomery CC, 1:00 p.m.
Tennis hosts Adirondack CC, 1:00 p.m.
Lacrosse at Monroe CC, 2:00 p.m.
Golf at Broome CC
Black Student Union Dance, MV Commons, 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, April 13

Baseball hosts Columbia-Greene CC, 1:00 p.m.

Monday, April 14

College for Kids – CCED, ACC 116, 8:00 a.m.
SUNY IT Recruitment, PC Atrium, 10:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.
Chess Club, ACC 114, 3:30 p.m.
Yoga, ACC 116, 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 15

College for Kids – CCED, ACC 116, 8:00 a.m.
2008 Job Fair, IT Lobbies, 10:00 a.m.
Baseball hosts Jefferson CC, 2:00 p.m.
College Senate, PH 300, 2:30 p.m.
Softball at Fulton-Montgomery CC, 3:00 p.m.
Lacrosse hosts Hudson Valley CC, 3:00 p.m.
Night Hawk Café, MV Commons, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 16

College for Kids – CCED, ACC 116, 8:00 a.m.
College Department Head Meeting, IT 218, 1:00 p.m.
Yoga, ACC 116, 5:00 p.m.
Keuka College Representative, IT 225, 5:00 p.m.
MVCC Concert Band Practice, Acc 116, 7:00 p.m.
Night Hawk Café, 7:00 p.m.
Tennis hosts Onondaga CC, 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 17

College for Kids – CCED, ACC 116, 8:00 a.m.
Library “Read –A-Loud” Program, PH Lobby, 10:00 a.m.
Softball at Schenectady CCC, 3:30 p.m.
Lacrosse hosts Jefferson CC, 3:00 p.m.
Tennis hosts SUNY Cobleskill, 4:00 p.m.
History of Rome Series: Influential People of Rome,
PC Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.

Friday, April 18

College for Kids – CCED, ACC 116, 8:00 a.m.
Hydronics Seminar, IT 225, 8:00 a.m.
Brown Bag Luncheon Series: Pro Study – Anti Stress Day,
AB 151, 10:00 a.m.
Student Congress, ACC 212, 3:00 p.m.
Golf at Jefferson CC
Business After Hours Receptions, PC Atrium, 3:30 p.m.
Performance: Faculty Poetry Reading, IT 225, 7:00 p.m.
Ballroom Dancing, MV Commons, 7:00 p.m.
Faculty Poetry Reading, IT 225, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 19

Ballroom Dancing, PC Atrium, 10:00 a.m.
Softball at SUNY Delhi, 1:00
Baseball hosts SUNY Cobleskill, 1:00 p.m.

Dr. Jubenville wins national award

Dr. Robert Jubenville's nomination earlier this year turned into a national honor last weekend when he was the recipient of the 2008 Instructional Leadership Award at the National Council of Instructional Administrators (NCIA) annual conference which was held in Philadelphia.

Dr. Jubenville was nominated by a panel of community college representatives from across the country and was presented the award at the NCIA's Academy for Instructional Administrators Convention.

This is the first time receiving this award for Dr. Jubenville, who joined the MVCC family in 1973.

As a Professor in the Life Science Department, where he became department head in 1978, Dr. Jubenville has played a crucial role in the development of the College's cadaver laboratory along with upgrading facilities to meet today's ever-changing technology. MVCC's cadaver laboratory is one of the few such facilities among community colleges throughout the nation.

This award is presented to an individual who “has exerted influence at the college level in areas such as student outcomes assessment, curriculum transformation, advancement of diversity, institutional effectiveness, or faculty development,” according to a letter from the NCIA, which is headquartered at the University of Nebraska located in Lincoln.

In supporting his application, Dr. Jubenville's nominators pointed to his commitment to the professional development of faculty under his supervision and his dedication to Life Science education.

He is also currently filling the role of Executive Assistant to the Vice President of Instruction. The College is nearing the completion of a national search to fill the Vice President of Instruction position.

Dr. Jubenville, 64, earned his Bachelor's Degree from Coe College and his Master's Degree from Humboldt State University. In 1974, he successfully completed his Ph.D. work at the University of South Carolina. Dr. Jubenville's field of expertise is in biology.

Along with winning the 2008 Instructional Leadership Award, Dr. Jubenville won the MVCC Award for Excellence in Service in 1983-1984; the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Professional Service in 1992-1993; and SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Faculty Service in 2003-2004.

NCIA is a professional organization affiliated with the American Association of Community Colleges.



Dr. Jubenville

2008 Spring Job Fair is Tuesday

The 2008 Spring Job Fair will be held Tuesday, April 15, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in first and second floor lobbies of the Information Technology Building. This Job Fair is open free to students, upcoming graduates, alumni and the general public.

Over 35 employers including those from healthcare, insurance, banking, human service, government, electronics and manufacturing will be seeking various full-time and part-time employees from entry level to professional.

This is a great opportunity for upcoming graduates, but is also useful for all students to attend. In addition to full-time, part-time and summer employment opportunities, students will be able to talk to various employers, network and get a feeling for what is available in the local job market. It is also an opportunity to discover what they need to do to enter various careers.

If you know someone looking for a career, encourage them to attend the 2008 Spring Job Fair. For more information contact the Working Solutions Employment Office in Room 115 of the Academic Building or by calling 792-5382 or 792-5488.

Forum brings to light reasons violence remains in our society

When it comes to violence in our society, Associate Professor David Katz points out nations have historically been built through the use of "accepted" violence. This was part of the focal point of the panel discussion in the College Theatre on Monday as the Social Sciences Department addressed the topic of "Violence in American Society."

Nearly 120 students attended the discussion which featured Mr. Katz, Social Sciences Assistant Professor William Zogby and Professor Beverly Quist, along with Assistant Professor Dr. Robert Christman from the Psychology, Human Services and Education Department.

Mr. Katz discussed how the American culture enforces violence as a way to overcome evil, but that using evil to defeat evil just creates another form of evil.

"If the British won the Revolutionary War, our Founding Fathers would have been viewed as terrorist," said Mr. Katz. "Nations are built on violence to enforce their viewpoints on others."

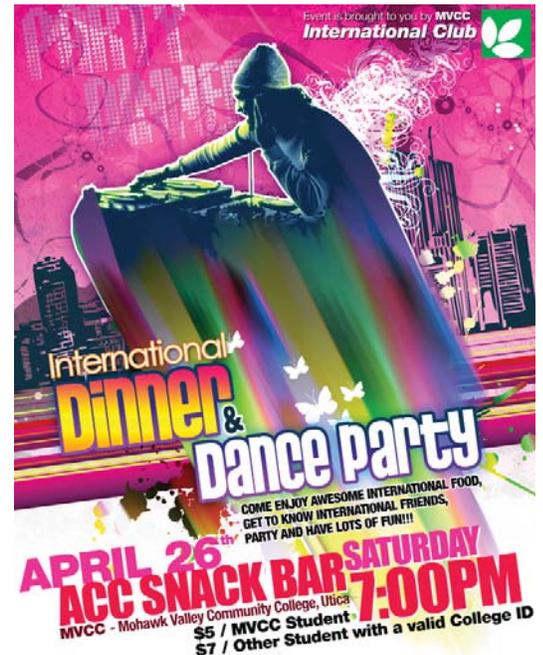
Ms. Quist emphasized the "truth to power" theory. "Our society claims to be waging war on poverty. Why don't we wage peace on poverty," said Ms. Quist. She pointed out that presenting the truth on issues in not always received favorably, creating tensions. It is these tensions we as the human race have to get past to address problems in a peaceful fashion.

The students in the audience raised pointed questions on outside factors which cause an individual to be violent. Dr. Christman spoke on this using as an example Charles Whitman, the University of Texas "bell tower sniper," who suffered from a brain tumor that made him go on a killing spree. Along with biological aspects, there's chemical dependency issues, environmental issues as well as personality disorders.

"In order for violence to happen, you have to make the person less than human," said Dr. Christman. "This way, the abuse isn't viewed in a negative light. ... The practice of becoming desensitized to violence is a problem. Kids see violence in their movies, video games and on TV."

Memorial scholarship designed to help single mothers

Faculty members are asked to encourage students who are single mothers to apply for the Daron Malik Jae Simpson Memorial Scholarship for Single Mothers. Students need to be Oneida County residents - preference given to minority residents of Utica. The scholarship is open to residents of other parts of Oneida County. They must be matriculated and have at least a 2.00 GPA.



Dr. Searles authors textbook

Dr. George J. Searles, a Professor in the Humanities Department, recently authored the 4th edition of his textbook, *Workplace Communications: The Basics*. Published by Pearson/Longman of Boston, the book is in use at more than 100 colleges and universities nationwide.

Lew and Colleen have baby girl

Humanities Instructor Lew Kahler's wife Colleen Passalaqua-Kahler gave birth to a baby girl on Sunday, April 6. She was named Jasmine Rose Kahler and was eight pounds, 19 1/2 inches.

Todd Kubica wins drum set raffle

The winner of the "Drum Set" raffle is Todd Kubica, Director of the MVCC Upward Bound Program. This raffle was sponsored by the Latino Student Union.