

Harvard scholar, author Dr. Kennedy to give lecture, panel discussion at MVCC

Faculty, staff and students will have a unique opportunity to hear from renowned scholar and best-selling author Dr. Randall Kennedy on his current book, *Sellout: The Politics of Racial Betrayal*, during an afternoon lecture in the College's Threatre on Tuesday, April 1, from 2:30-3:30 p.m. The entire college community is encouraged to attend.

Dr. Kennedy's lecture will cover racial perceptions within the black community, which he wrote about in *Sellout*.

He will also be the keynote speaker during a lecture and panel discussion on this same topic April 1, at 7:00 p.m., in the theatre. The evening's event is free and open to the public. Seating is limited and based on first come.

Dr. Kennedy made national headlines with his highly controversial book, *Nigger: The Strange Career of a Troublesome Word*, which made the New York Times best-sellers list. In his latest book, this Harvard Law scholar grapples judiciously with the stigma of racial discourse in black society: "selling out."

Also know as "racial betrayal," Dr. Kennedy atomizes the mutation of the term "selling out" and shows how its usage plagues blacks and whites, while clarifying the effects it has on individuals and society as a whole. His lecture will explain

Communitas, MVCC Today survey

The Marketing and Communications Department wants to know how internal communications can be improve at MVCC. You will help us by answering a few questions on the effectiveness of MVCC Today and Communitas.

Your feedback will help determine the future direction of these forms of communication and assist us with making changes needed to better inform the College Community.

If you are reading this edition of Communitas online, just click the link below. If you are reading a hardcopy and don't have access to the Internet, a hardcopy of the survey can be mail to you by calling 792-5330.

Once the responses are compiled, the Marketing and Communications Department will evaluate the results and report back any anticipated changes.

Link: http://www.mvcc.edu/clgnfo/marketing/communitassurvey.cfm.



GUEST LECTURER - Dr. Randall Kennedy will give a lecture for faculty, staff and students on his current book, *Sellout: The Politics of Racial Betrayal.*

the message in *Sellout* and address the historical definition of the "black" community during a panel discussion afterwards.

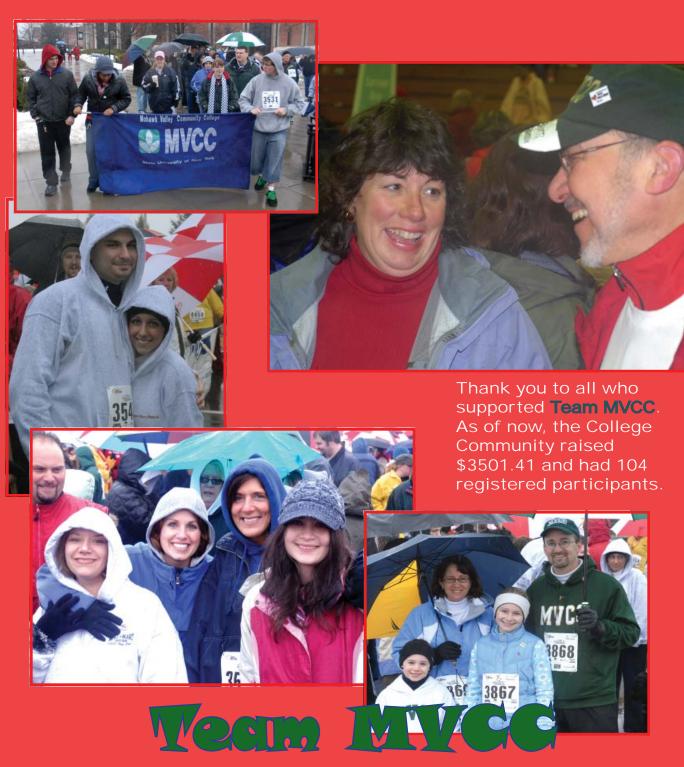
Dr. Kennedy explores the idea of selling out by looking at the ways in which prominent members of that community - Colin Powell, Condoleezza Rice, and Barack Obama - have been stigmatized as sellouts. He outlines the history of suspicion created by "racial betrayal" among blacks, and shows how current fears of selling out are expressed in thought and practice.

He'll discuss the perception of how Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas has become the most perfect embodiment of a "sellout" and in turn labeled a villain. Due to his own success, Dr. Kennedy gives a first-person reckoning of how he has dealt with accusations of having sold out at Harvard, especially after the publication of *Nigger: The Strange Career of a Troublesome Word*.

Dr. Kennedy is a graduate of Princeton University and Yale Law School, as well as a Rhodes Scholar. He served as

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America's Greatest Heart Run & Walk



MVCC Campus Events

Thursday, March 13

Defensive Driving Course, PH 300, 5:00 p.m.

NJCAA Women's National Basketball Tournament

Monroe College vs. Holyoke CC, 1:00 p.m.

MATC vs. Brookdale CC, 3:00 p.m.

College of DuPage vs. Montgomery College, 6:00 p.m.

MVCC vs. Central Lakes College, 8:00 p.m.

Friday, March 14

NJCAA Women's National Basketball Tournament

Losing Teams' Bracket Games, 1:00 & 3:00 p.m. Winning Teams' Bracket Games, 6:00 & 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 15

NJCAA Women's National Basketball Tournament

Losing Teams' Bracket Games, 1:00, 3:00 & 6:00 p.m. Championship Game, 8:00 p.m.

Monday, March 17

Board of Trustees Meeting, PH 300, 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 18

The Acoustic Café featuring Rocky Graz and Jana Losey, ACC 116, 7:00 p.m.

Relay for Life Meeting, IT 225, 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 19

Keuka College, IT 225, 5:00 p.m.

MVCC Concert Band Practice, ACC 116, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 20

Eckerd Drug Quiz Show, IT 225, 3:30 p.m.

Friday, March 21

Concert: The Fab Five - Greatest Hits of the Beatles and British Invasion, Theatre, 8:00 p.m.

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."



Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968) US black civil rights leader, and clergyman

Submitted by Matilda Sagass, Library

Kennedy

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a clerk to Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, and was awarded the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award for Race, Crime and the Law. He writes for a wide range of scholarly and general interest publications, and sits on the editorial boards of The Nation, Dissent, and The American Prospect.

Dr. Kennedy's lecture is sponsored by the Black Student Union and MVCC Foundation.

MVCC Faces: Wendy Lampert



Returning to the MVCC family this semester is Wendy Lampert, who is working as a Learning Disabilities Specialist in Disability Services.

Mrs. Lampert worked at MVCC as a Learning Disabilities Specialist from 2003 through 2005. Her responsibilities are to provide support services to college students with disabilities.

This Whitesboro resident's husband is Mike and they have three daughters.

Mrs. Lampert holds a MS in Special Education from Utica College.

Message from the President

Greetings,

As many of you know, we will be hosting our accreditation team members from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education beginning March 30, 2008. During their three -day visit, the team members will be touring many areas of campus, and may want to have impromptu conversations with many of you.

To make it easier for our team members to identify faculty and staff, we have ordered name tags for all full-time employees. These name tags are permanent – a gold background with black engraving of the college logo and your first and last name. They will also have lasting value for future events or to just provide a more accessible, student-friendly environment on campus if people wish.

Thank you in advance for wearing your name tag during the Middle States team visit, and for all I know you will do to make our team members feel welcome.

Randall J. VanWagoner, Ph.D. President Mohawk Valley Community College

Jabali Afrika headlines International Festival

The MVCC International Festival kicks off on Tuesday, March 25, with the African Music Group, with a concert by Jabali Afrika – "Afrika's Beat Keepers" at 8:00 p.m. in the College Theatre. Tickets are \$5.00 general admission, \$2.00 with any College ID, and free with an MVCC ID.

The festival continues on Wednesday as the International Initiatives Committee has scheduled a variety of lectures and activities on international themes, including a discussion by U.S. Congressman Michael Arcuri who will share his views on his recent trips to Iraq, Afghanistan, and North Africa during MVCC's annual International Festival.

The International Festival will take place on Wednesday, March 26, from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. in the Information Technology Building on the Utica Campus.

Scheduled for speakers are:

12:00 p.m.

Theater: Samuri Iaido (Sword)

Demonstration by Headmaster Clifford Crandall Jr.

Room 225: Lecture on Oneida Nation Culture and History by Kandice Watson, Director of Education and Cultural Outreach

First floor IT lobby: International Greetings led by Alison Doughtie Latinbased dance with David Katz

12:30 p.m.

Room 225: Lecture on Kenya: Paul Anyango

12:45 p.m.

Theater: SUNY Diversity Honors Scholarship Awards: Maimun Khan

1:00 p.m.

Theater: Congressman Michael Arcuri: International Reflections

1st Floor Lobby: Dance

Performances by the Black Student Union and the Caribbean Club

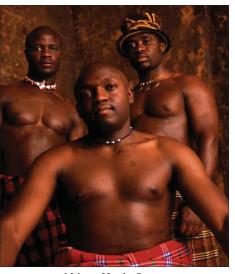
1:15 p.m.

Room 225: International Club

Culture Presentation

2:00 p.m.

Theater: Lecture on Art of the Islamic



African Music Group Jabali Afrika

World by Dr. Naseem Ishaq Qazi
Booths will include Skako:
wi Cultural Center, Peace Corps,
Mohawk Valley Resource Center for
Refugees, International Student Club,
Black Student Union, Caribbean Club,
and the Latino Student Union.

Irish festival uses MVCC student's artwork

The Luck of the Irish is being felt by Theresa Vassi this St. Patrick's Day as her poster design has been selected to represent the 2008 Great American Irish Festival at the Herkimer County Fairgrounds in Frankfort the weekend of July 25-27.

Vassi was a student last spring in MVCC's Professional Practice in Graphic Design Program when the GAIF committee held a competition to select three poster designs to represent the event through 2009.

"This assignment provided a unique opportunity for (the students) to compete for the honor of having (their) design printed," said Robert Clarke, Professor in MVCC's Art Department.

Last year's festival design was created by Jaime Shepard, a 1998 Rome Free Academy graduate. In the past, the GAIF committee has sought the help of MVCC's graphic design students in creating a recognizable image for the festival. Adrienne Sangastiano's

design featuring a harp and the shadow of a shamrock, two recognizable Irish symbols, along with an Irish top hat and an American Flag attached to the strings, continues to represent the festival.

"MVCC's students have been very helpful," said Matthew T. Sullivan, GAIF Director. "There are a lot of very talented people in the Mohawk Valley and we felt that it was only appropriate we should ask for their help. ... We were very, very impressed with the work done by the students."

Vassi's design was unveiled during the Passing of the Shillelagh ceremony at the Stanley Theater in Utica on Monday, March 10.

The design will be used on posters promoting the event along with appearing on the GAIF website, on t-shirts, signage and banners displayed throughout the Mohawk Valley.

The 2008 Great American Irish Festival will be a three-day event at the Her-



kimer County Fairgrounds in Frankfort. The dates are: Friday, July 25, 5:00 to 11:00 p.m.; Saturday, July 26, Noon to 11:00 p.m.; and Sunday, July 27, Noon to 5:00 p.m.