

College aims to make class registration easier

With the Spring semester quickly coming to a close, it is time for students to start planning for the Fall. To better assist students, the College has developed two new registration options.

First there is "Priority Registration." This is a system created to allow students who are further along in their degree, to get the classes they need to fulfill their graduation requirements. The way this happens is that students have been assigned a date and time when they can schedule classes, giving the priority to those who have earned more credits.

"The new system reduces the chance that students will be shut out when they try to log on, as a result of too many students registering at the same time," said Jennifer DeWeerth, Director of Student Service Center/First Year Experience.

Pre-scheduling for classes for the Fall semester begins on Thursday, April 9, with students scheduled to register over the following five days. Registration opens for all students on April 16.

The second new feature being offered by the College is a "Wait List." This is for students who wish to take a class that is filled by the time they register. They are then placed on a waiting list in the order they request that class. If a seat opens becomes available, the first student on the waiting list is notified via their College email that they have been registered for the class.

"A student can register for an alternative class and still be on the wait list. If and when a seat opens up, they can drop the alternative class," said DeWeerth. The new system allows students to express interest in a closed section.



HELPING TO BETTER SERVE STUDENT - Justin Rahn, College Advisor, helps a student register for classes in the Student Service Center on the first floor of Payne Hall.

Students were informed of their reserved registration time by a personalized letter sent to their home addresses in March, with a follow up electronic message to their College email.

"There are concerns students haven't received communications, but we know the letters and emails have gone out. Students have a responsibility to make sure the College has a proper mailing address and for them check their email," said DeWeerth.

Faculty and staff may also encourage students to look for their scheduling dates and times in order to make this process seamless. There are posters in all classrooms notifying students.

The Office of Vice President for Learning and Academic Affairs will be able to use data from this program to better assist the College in scheduling times, classrooms, labs, courses and days for future semesters based on the demands of the students.

To submit information for Communitas, e-mail Rich Haubert @ rhaubert@mvcc.edu



International Festival highlights regional cultural diversity

There will be an international flare on the Utica Campus this coming Wednesday when the Fourth Annual International Festival is held in the Information Technology Building. This year's event will feature lectures, displays, dance instruction, musical performances, ethnic cuisine and demonstrations representing cultures from over 20 nations.

"The International Festival is a great opportunity for faculty, staff and students to meet and interact with the diversity our campus and community has," said Professor Dr. Carolyn West Pace.

The festivities will begin at 12:00 p.m. with a flute performance by Leslie Kubica and welcoming remarks from MVCC President Randall VanWagoner. He will be followed by international greetings from MVCC International students along with introductions of Tenzin Yingyin, a Tibetan Sand Mandala Artist, and Nguyen Duy Khang, a visiting professor from Vietnam.

MVCC Professor Shawn Liang will speak on "China then and now" at 12:15 p.m., featuring a first-hand look at the most populous nation whose action impacts the entire world. Professor David Katz will also be giving instruction on Latin Dance at this time.

Just after 1:00 p.m. MVCC student Moses Agapito, who is one of the Lost Boys of Sudan, will lecture on "Surviving Darfur," and his survival experience. There will also be a Burmese dance instruction in the lower lobby.

The featured performance will be at 7:00 p.m. in

the Theater when flamenco guitarist Maria Zematauski performs. This is the second time she has performed at MVCC, drawing large audiences.

Continuous displays and tables will represent Ireland, Russia, Origami, Mohawk Valley Latino Association, Iroquois Museum, MVCC Caribbean Club, MVCC Black Student Union, Shako:wo Cultural Center, Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees, MVCC International Club, Bangladesh, Latin Student Union Club, Peace Corps, Heritage Chain, and Vietnam.

This DGV event is made possible by the MVCC International Initiatives Committee, the Cultural Series, and many volunteers from the College and community.

Buddhist sand painting

Tenzin Yignyen, an ordained Buddhist monk, will be on the Utica Campus from Tuesday through Friday, April 7-10, creating a Mandala in the lobby of the library on the second floor of Payne Hall. Tenzin Yignyen will spend three days constructing his mandala with a purification ceremony being held Friday at noon.

The Mandala, Tibetan sand painting, is an ancient art form of Tibetan Buddhism drawings in three-dimensional forms of sand. The sand mandala is carefully constructed from dyed sand particles.





Senior nursing students spread the knowledge on good health

With patient education being a central part of the practice of professional nursing, senior nursing students set up tables with displays to share health promotion with our MVCC family.

The senior nursing students are required to develop a teaching project on a health related topic and to use the teaching learning principles when presenting the project to a group in the community. This exercise gave them an excellent opportunity for patient education through a set of theories based on research findings, and on skills they learned and practiced.

"Our students demonstrate not only the scientific base of knowledge but also the ability to effectively communicate with others," said Professor Nancy Caputo, MSN, RN, Department Head of Health Services. "The MVCC community enjoyed and learned from our nursing students."

Caputo emphasized that students in all of MVCC's health



related programs love to share their knowledge about diseases and are becoming an excellent resource for others who strive to maintain good health and avoid illness.

MVCC Campus Events

Saturday, April 4

Family Fun Series: 2009 Youth Health & Safety Fair,
Plumley Complex Auditorium, 12:00 pm

Lacrosse hosts Genesee CC, 1:30 pm Softball hosts Columbia Greene CC, 1:00 pm Baseball hosts Hudson Valley CC, 2:00 pm

Monday, April 6

SNO: Jewelry Sale, Plumley Atrium, 9:00 am SNO: Popcorn Sale, Academic Building Lobby, 9:00 am Webinar, Information Technology, Room 218, 8:30 pm Muslim Student Assoc, Alumni College, Room 203, 2:00 pm Fire God, Alumni College, Room 222, 3:00 pm Softball hosts Jefferson CC, 3:00 p.m.

Chess Club Games, Alumni College, Room 114, 3:30 pm Student Congress Alumni College, Room 212, 3:30 pm CCED: Tai Chi Class, Alumni College, 5:30 pm CCED: Ballroom Dancing, Payne Hall Lobby, 7:00 pm CS Movie: "The Dhamma Brothers," Theater, 7:00 pm

Tuesday, April 7

Used Computer Sale, Room 225, 9:00 am
Webinar, Information Technology, Room 218, 9:30 pm
Baseball hosts Herkimer CCC, 2:00 p.m.
College Senate, Information Technology, Room 225, 2:00 pm
Muslim Student Assoc, Alumni College, Room 203, 2:00 pm
The Experience Concert: Stranger Than Fate Band,
MV Commons, 7:00 pm

Wednesday, April 8

SNO: Popcorn Sale, Academic Building Lobby, 9:00 am Webinar, Information Technology, Room 218, 9:30 pm Brown Bag Lunch Series: "So you want to write a paper and avoid plagiarism," Room 116, Alumni College, 12:00 pm International Festival: "Celebrating our International Heritages," Information Technology Building Lobby, 12:00 PM Program Board: John Taglieri, Human I-Pod Music,

MV Commons, 12:00 pm

Muslim Student Assoc, Alumni College, Room 203, 2:00 pm
Black Student Union, Alumni College, Room 222, 3:00 pm
The Experience, Alumni College, Room 212, 4:00 pm
Dinners with Distinction: "The Last Dinner on the Titanic,"
Rome Academic Building Dining Room, 6:00 pm
MVCC Concert Band, Alumni College, Room 116, 7:00 pm

MVCC Concert Band, Alumni College, Room 116, 7:00 pm Night Hawk Café, MV Commons, 7:00 pm

International Festival Concert: Guitarist Maria Zemantauski, "The Art of Flamenco," Theater, 7:00 pm

Thursday, April 9

W.I.C., Alumni College, Room 116, 8:00 am CCED: Verizon, Information Technology, Room 225, 8:00 am Muslim Student Assoc, Alumni College, Room 203, 2:00 pm Program Board, Alumni College, Room 212, 2:00 pm Men's Tennis hosts Herkimer CCC, 4:00 p.m. Lacrosse hosts Tompkins-Cortland CC, 4:00 p.m.

Paranormal Investigation Society Alumni College,

Room 212, 5:00 pm

Strategic Gaming Club Alumni College, Room 212, 6:00 pm Gay/Straight Alliance, Alumni College, Room 207, 6:00 pm CCED: Ballroom Dancing, MV Commons, 7:00 pm

Friday, April 10

Blood Drive, Alumni College, Room 207, 10:30 am
Hospitality Escoffier Club: Bake Sale, Plumley Atrium, 11:00 am
Golf hosts Mohawk Valley CC Invitational, 11:00 a.m.
Psychology Club, Alumni College, Room 212, 12:00 pm
Muslim Student Assoc, Alumni College, Room 203, 2:00 pm
Baseball hosts Jamestown CC, 2:00 p.m.
Latino Student Union, Alumni College, Room 212, 3:00 pm
CCED: Ballroom Dancing, MV Commons, 7:00 pm

Saturday, April 11

Lacrosse hosts Monroe, 1:00 p.m. Baseball hosts Fulton-Montgomery CC, 1:00 p.m.

CS Concert: Toby Lightman, Theater, 8:00 pm



HELPING CENTRAL NEW YORKERS - County Executive Anthony J. Picente Jr., took the opportunity at MVCC Open House on the Rome Campus to announce the more than \$1 million Oneida County will receive through the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act. College President Randall VanWagoner talked about how MVCC will meet the challenges of training Central New York's workforce.

"The world in which you were born is just one model of reality. Other cultures are not failed attempts at being



you; they are unique manifestations of the human spirit."

Edmund Wade Davis (December 14, 1953 -)
Anthropologist, Ethnobotanist

Submitted by Jennifer DeWeerth, Director of the Student Service Center

Thank you for your help

On Behalf of the Mohawk Valley Hockey League and Abby Evans and her family, I (Jeff Kimball) would like to thank all of you who donated to our recent benefit game. We are happy to say we surpassed our total of last year and raised over \$5500 for the Evans family. Thank you again for your generosity

For more information, call Jeff Kimball at 292-4953 or by visiting the league's website at www.mvhl.org.

College to sell used computers

The College will be selling its inventory of used computers on Tuesday, April 7, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Room 225 of the Information Technology Building on the Utica Campus.

The computers are Dell OptiPlex GX260 (or similar hardware configuration) with Pentium 4 CPU 2.53-GHz.

The cost for these computers is \$100 and all sales are final with **NO IMPLIED GUARANTEE.** They will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Limit of one per person.

MVCC plays role in training workforce

At a press conference during the annual Spring Open House on the Rome Campus which announced the more than \$1 million Oneida County will receive through the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act, MVCC President Randall VanWagoner emphasized the College's readiness to help train the region's workforce.

The college's strongest programs, such as CNC Machinist training, provide skills that are in demand by manufacturers and will be in greater demand as the need for manufacturing components that go into renewable energy operations increases, said Dr. VanWagoner.

County Executive Anthony J. Picente Jr. urged residents to enroll in high-skill, high-potential courses through MVCC.

"Training money from the federal stimulus package is opening new possibilities that can help Oneida County residents learn new skills to take advantage of the potential in growing green collar sectors as well as our areas traditional strengths in manufacturing and health care," said Picente.

Also on hand was Alice Savino, executive director of the Workforce Investment Board of Herkimer, Madison and Oneida Counties.

Oneida County Director of Workforce Development David Mathis said unemployed Oneida County residents should visit the Working Solutions offices at the State Office Building in Utica, or in Rome at 153 Brooks Road, to learn about details regarding programs, services and eligibility.

Dr. Pinderhughes presents research on working poor

Phi Theta Kappa Honors will host a lecture by Dr. Raquel Pinderhughes on the topic "Pathways Out of Poverty through Green Collar Jobs: The Role of Scholarship in Improving Quality of Life for Urban Residents." This lecture will be held Monday, April 13, at 5:00 p.m. in Room 225 of the Information Technology Building.

Poverty and unemployment are significant problems in the United States and there is an urgent need for stable living wage jobs for low income adults. They face barriers to employment such as not having a high school or GED degree, limited labor market skills, and/or being out of the labor market for a long period of time.

Dr. Pinderhughes' work on green collar jobs, which she defines as "manual labor jobs in firms or other enterprises whose products and services directly improve environmental quality," has shown that they represent an important category of work force opportunities for adults.

Dr. Pinderhughes' presentation will focus on two aspects of this work: 1) pathways out of poverty through green collar jobs, 2) how scholars can be involved in social change and directly contribute to improving quality of life for urban residents.