



MVCC welcomes its newest doctor

When Andrea Stiefvater talks about successfully defending her dissertation to earn her Doctor of Education (Ed.D), she is very proud and humbled by the whole experience. Dr. Stiefvater becomes the second faculty member at MVCC to earn a doctorate in the past two years and was recognized for her accomplishment at the December Board of Trustees meeting.

"I am so glad to have finished this," said Dr. Stiefvater. "Now I would like to build on the research I've already done by testing my theory" in real world applications.

While the work that goes into earning this esteemed level of education is immense, Dr. Stiefvater kept her sense of humor throughout the process. "I defended on Halloween, which is scary. But they wouldn't let me wear my Halloween mask," she added jokingly. For moral support, Dr. Stiefvater's mother Mary Ann Stiefvater was in attendance.

Dr. Stiefvater is a native of Clinton and graduate of the Clinton School District. With a passion for literature, she pursued her Bachelor of Arts degree at Goucher College in Baltimore and then went on for a Masters degree from the University of Cincinnati in English. While working at MVCC as an adjunct, she continued her doctoral work from the University of Cincinnati in Literature and TESL (Teach English as a Second Language).

Dr. Stiefvater became a term appointment at MVCC in the fall of 2007 teaching ESL (English as a Second Language) and English. She is currently collaborating with John Bolton, who teaches grammar, in an effort to sync the lesson plans with the writing course she teaches.

"We want to be able to say to the students, remember the lesson in Dr. Bolton's class? This is how to apply it. And he can say the same to the students," said Dr. Stiefvater.

This form of team teaching is linked to Dr. Stiefvater's doctoral work, "How ESL Students Learn Academic Writing." For about a year in her doctoral work, she observed and recorded ESL classes along with conducting interviews of students and teachers. She also needed to collect course documents such as textbooks, tests and notes. By sifting through all the material, she was able to write her theory on how people think.

"Teaching formal grammar is not enough for people to perform academic writing. They need to make meaning and not just use the formal practices," said Dr. Stiefvater.



Dr. Andrea Stiefvater

With her Ed.D work behind her, Dr. Stiefvater is looking forward to publishing articles in academic journals based on her theory. The trade journal TESL Canada will be publishing one of her articles this spring.

Dr. Stiefvater is also interested in working in the areas of Computer Assisted Language Learning and Non-Native English Speaker Teacher certification.

Dr. Eannace gives Senate update on academic reorganization

The College Senate played host to Dr. Maryrose Eannace this week for an update and progress report on the reorganization of the academic departments.

Dr. Eannace opened by dispelling rumors about the final outcome.

"I want to start by saying, reorganizing will not cause anyone to lose their jobs," said Dr. Eannace. "The hope and plan is to have people become re-engaged more fully and to re-energize the passion of why we got into education in the beginning."

She unveiled that the college will be creating dean positions, but the reorganization committee is still fine tuning responsibilities of everyone involved. She also dispelled the issue of creating more red tape. This process will not be costing the college any additional money and will not create more layers of administration. Hiring for the positions resulting from the reorganization will be done from within house.

"I have confidence we have all the talent within the college needed to meet our goals," said Dr. Eannace. "If you



TALKING WITH THE SENATE - Dr. Maryrose Eannace was invited to the College Senate this week to give an update on the college's academic reorganization. She also took the opportunity to dispell rumors.

"Every thing possible to be believed is an image of truth."



William Blake (1757 - 1827)
Poet and Author

Submitted by William Rose, Instructor, Social Science

cast the right people in the right roles with the right support, their performance will be stellar. When we perform better, our students benefit and are enriched."

The purpose behind reorganization is to eliminate redundant services, eliminate the "silos" which have formed over departments, building bridges within the different areas of the college and to unify faculty in order to better serve the student body which has increased over last year.

"We shall not cease from exploration, and the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time," TS Eliot.

MVCC EVENTS

Monday, January 19

Chess Club, Alumni College, Room 114, 3:30 pm

Board of Trustees Meeting, Payne Hall, Room 304, 4:00 pm

Tuesday, January 20

Night Hawk Cafe, Alumni College, Room 116, 7:00 pm

Wednesday, January 21

MVCC Concert Band Practice, Alumni College, Room 116, 7:00 pm

Night Hawk Cafe, MV Commons, 7:00 pm

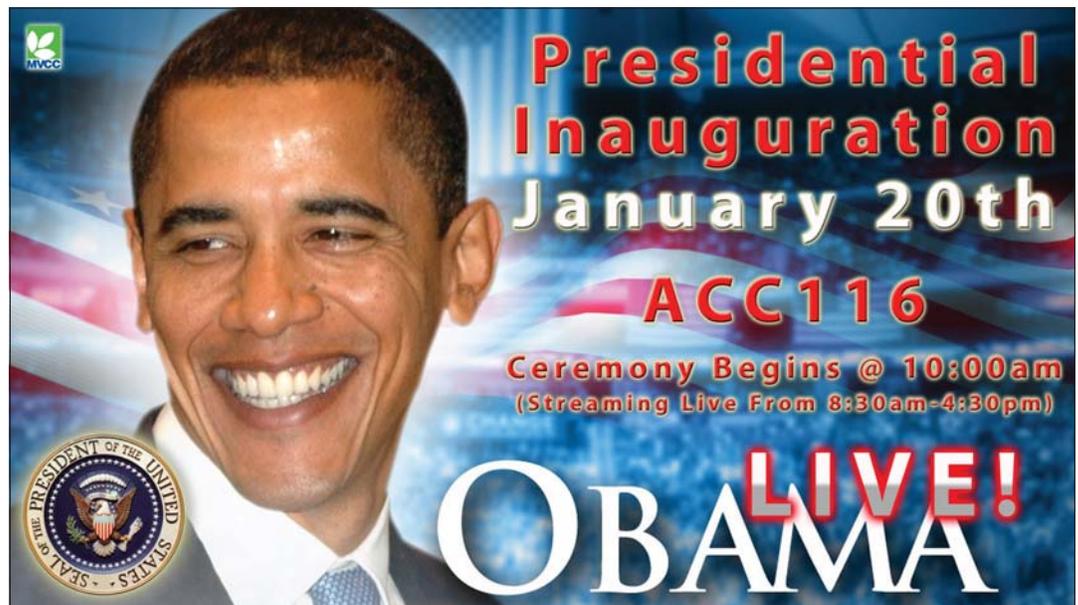
Men's Basketball vs. SUNY Delhi, Gymnasium, 7:00 pm

Ice Hockey vs. Broome CC, Utica Aud, 7:00 pm

Thursday, January 22

CCED: Ballroom Dancing, MV Commons, 7:00 pm

Concert: Michael Glabicki of Rusted Root, Theater, 8:00 pm



Friday, January 23

Women's Basketball vs. Adirondack CC, Gymnasium, 6:00 pm