

MVCC joins rehabilitation process at jail

MVCC and the Oneida County Sheriff's Office have been collaborating on the development of the first-ever college coursework to be delivered on-site at the Oneida County Correctional Facility.

This pilot project is in response to the growing number of young adults who are arrested because of the bad decisions they've made, but are still young enough where they can pull their lives back together.

"This program demonstrates our commitment to leveraging the talents and resources of the College to make a significant difference in our community," said President Randall VanWagoner during the official announcement of the program.

Joining President VanWagoner to make this announcement were Oneida County Executive Anthony J. Picente Jr.; Oneida County Sheriff Daniel Middaugh; Amy Turner, Executive Director of Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency Inc.; Alice Savino, Executive Director of the Workforce Investment Board; and David Mathis, Director of Oneida County Workforce Development.

"This collaboration recognizes that we need to intervene to make these young adults employable. That's not only good for them, it is good for the community," said Picente.

The College's Workplace Success courses are designed to equip students with the skills necessary to get, keep and do well on the job. This course provides a range of skills necessary for success in the workplace, including successful interviewing techniques and communication skills.



CRIMINAL JUSTICE REUNION - President Randall VanWagoner discusses the College's role in the collaborative effort with Oneida County to offer a Workplace Success course at the Oneida County Correctional Facility. In the photo are, from left, Oneida County Executive Anthony J. Picente, Jr., Oneida County Sheriff Daniel Middaugh, and David Mathis, Director of Oneida County Workforce Development.

Other skills include decision making, problem solving, team management, listening and speaking. After successfully completing the five and a half weeks of the coursework and a final exam, students will receive an official college transcript.

"Employers want young people who can learn from mistakes, who can work well with others in the workplace, and who will bring with them the basic skills employers need. We developed our Workplace Success curriculum to address those needs," said President VanWagoner.

"All of the research says that the time to start helping offenders change their lives is while they are still in jail. I think we make the public and the community safer if we provide the opportunity for offenders to leave jail and find work," said Sheriff Middaugh.

The course is run through the Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency using MVCC's curriculum. It will incorporate all of the material as does the on-campus course, including a final exam. The goal of the program is to bring to the attention of these young adults the importance of education and to familiarize them with a college type setting.

"Linking life skills with education will help them learn new ways to succeed. The Sheriff's Office has allowed us to try an expanded approach to better serve the community, and we appreciate the opportunity," said Turner. "Someone who has broken the law has one strike against them. If we can keep that person from having two strikes, we are improving the public safety climate of our community."

Penc named National Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year

MVCC's athletic programs have been receiving many honors, awards and accolades this season. The



Penc

Hawks were the recipients of another honor this week when Lauren Penc was selected as the Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year by the National Alliance of Two Year College Athletic Administra-

tors (NATYCAA).

She shares this honor with Heather DiCrescenzo of Gloucester County College, as both championship caliber student-athletes finished with 4.00

Grade Point Averages.

Penc, a Liberal Arts and Science major and a Whitesboro High School graduate, participated in cross country, indoor track and outdoor track and field. In cross country, Penc led the Hawks to both a Mountain Valley Conference, Region III and MVCC's ninth National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) National Championship. She earned All-Conference and All-Region honors.

During the indoor season, Penc was the Region III champion in the 200-meter and 600-meter runs, while also participating on the distance medley relay team. This success carried over to her outdoor track and field

performance as the MVCC women's squad won the NJCAA Division III Outdoor Track and Field National Championship. She was a member of the national champion 4x800-meter relay team.

When not running, Penc serves as a peer tutor and has received the prestigious SUNY Chancellor's Award. She plans on attending Utica College to continue her academic and athletics pursuits.

The NATYCAA is in its 22nd year as the professional organization of two year college athletics administrators from throughout the country. For more information on NATYCAA, please visit www.natycaa.com.

MVCC athletes recognized at annual banquet

The annual athletics banquet was held last week with hundreds of students, family members, friends, coaches, faculty and staff filling the MVCC Commons. The entire coaching staff marveled over the success the Hawks' programs had this year with National Championships by the women's cross country team along with many other teams and individuals reaching lofty achievements on the national level

One such achievement wasn't realized until the weekend after the banquet when the women's outdoor track and field team also won a National Championship.

While the Most Valuable Players weren't selected for the Spring athletic programs because teams were still competing, Athletic Director Gary Broadhurst voiced the perfect statement when he claimed that every athlete on an MVCC athletic program is a champion.

The MVPs for the Fall and Winter seasons were announced and they are as follows.

Men's Basketball: Bradley Griffin Men's Bowling: Mike Guernsey Men's Cross Country: Kevin Mulcahy

Ice Hockey: Kevin McCready

Lacrosse: Rick Harter
Men's Soccer: Justin Little
Men's Tennis: Thanh Nguyen
Women's Basketball: Leslie Mencia
Women's Bowling: Shawna Hammond
Women's Cross Country: Heather Vroman

Women's Soccer: Kelly Adams Women's Tennis: Ashley Waldron Women's Volleyball: Samantha Roberts

There were also several individual awards presented as



AWARD WINNER - Board of Trustee Chairman William S. Calli, Jr., presented Kayla Critser with the Utica Kiwanis Award during this year's athletics banquet. Critser is a two-sport athlete, having competed on the basketball and softball teams.

well for top male and female athletes. They were:

Utica Kiwanis Award was presented to Kayla Critser and Mike Arcuri.

Robert R. Jorgensen Award was presented to Lauren Penc and Kevin McCready.

Theodore F. Moore Scholar-Athlete Award was presented to Lauren Penc and Chris Stefanec.

Alumni Award was presented to Erica Smalls and Garrett Rockefeller.

George L. Scala Memorial Award was presented to Tonya Snyder and Dustin Colgan.



94 Nursing graduates take part in annual Pinning Ceremony

The Nursing Program held its annual Pinning Ceremony on Thursday in the Theater. This year's ceremony honored 94 graduates who have earned an Associate in Applied Science for Nursing.

This year's class includes 12 male graduates, 25 who are part of MVCC's English as a Second Language program, and 18 Licensed Practical Nurses. Over 50 of these graduates have already been accepted into bachelorette programs.

Also notable about this year's graduates is that 30 are from the Rome area, having enrolled with the aid of the MVCC-Rome Memorial Hospital Partnership. This partnership has been made possible over the past five years due to the cooperation of the Rome Memorial Hospital which was instrumental in the creation of the Nursing Lab on the Rome Campus of MVCC.

"The purpose of this partnership was to meet the needs of Rome residents who were interested in entering into nursing, but found traveling to the Utica Campus for all their classes to be difficult," said Professor Nancy Caputo, RN, MSN, Department Head, Health Services at MVCC.

Remarks during the ceremony were made by President Randall J. VanWagoner, Ph.D.; Maryrose Eannace, Ph.D., Vice President for Learning and Academic Affairs; and Professor Caputo.

Many of the graduates were also honored with nursing awards for their performance at MVCC. They are:

Nursing Faculty Award - For the student who demonstrates outstanding academic performance: Mi Lawson

Clinical Awards - To the students who demonstrate clinical competency, compassion, and caring: Christopher Aiken, Shannon Bumbolo, James Clyne, Kimberly Eiss,



PINNING CEREMONY - Nancy Caputo, RN, MSN, professor and Department Head for the Health Services Department, places the nursing pin on Jamie Barton of Rome during Thursday's Nursing Pinning Ceremony held in the Theater. This year there are 94 nursing graduates.

Nicole Famolaro, Shana Gallagher, Shelly Guske, Ayankie Kasende, Amanda Krucher, Kelly Libby, Linda Lyon, Jennifer Oehl, Wendy Paul, Mary Scheve, and Rebecca Strauss.

Leadership Awards - To the students in recognition of professional leadership demonstrated during nursing education at Mohawk Valley Community College: Amy Costello and Vicki Giacovelli.

Spirit of Nursing Awards - To the students in recognition for outstanding caring behavior and a love for nursing: Amy Costello and Vicki Giacovelli.



CRUISING BOSTON - Students and advisors from the Society of Civil Engineering Technology (SOCET) and the Welding and CAD (WAC) Club took a weekend trip to Boston this semester. Here they are seen on the USS Constitution.

ET&T clubs tour Boston

The Society of Civil Engineering Technology (SOCET) along with the Welding and CAD (WAC) Club collaborated for a field trip to Boston on April 2-4. There were 27 students on this trip.

Upon arriving in Boston, the students toured the Navy destroyer USS Constitution, aka Old Ironsides, along with a pit-stop at Warrens Tavern, America's oldest pub. Legend has it that Paul Revere was there the night before he rode on horseback to signal the British were coming.

On Friday, the SOCET Club toured the MIT Museum of Technology, while the WAC Club toured the magnificent sea aquarium. Students used the mass transportation system to explore to Quincy Market, the Theater District, as well as wandering among the Harvard University, MIT and Boston College students in Cambridge. The hotel overlooked the Charles River.

The trip was chaperoned by assistant professors Alan Chace and Brian Judycki from the Engineering Technologies and Trades Department.

Summer 2009 Sports Camps

MVCC is offering several sports camps this summer. A copy of each brochure can be downloaded by going to www.mvcc.edu and clicking on "Athletics."

Girl's Basketball Camp: July 6th – July 10th, 9am-3pm; ages 7-15; cost: \$125; contact Coach Allison for information at 731-5718 or (rallison@mvcc.edu).

Boy's Basketball Camp: June 29th – July 3rd, 9am-3pm; ages 7-16; cost: \$125; contact Coach St. Croix for information at 792-5571 or (mstcroix@mvcc. edu).

Boy's and Girl's Soccer Camp: July 13th-17th, 9am-12:30pm. ages 7-14; cost: \$85, team rate \$75; contact Coach Gould for information at 792-5388 or (rgould@mvcc.edu).

Softball Camp: July 27th – July 31st, 9am-1pm; Ages 7-15; cost: \$85; Pre-registration is encouraged. contact Coach Warren at 792-5674 or (dwarren@mvcc. edu).

Baseball Camp: Summer Camp, July 21st – 24th, 9am-1pm; ages 7-15. cost: \$85; Pre-registration is encouraged. MVCC Baseball Hitting clinic, January 22nd. Contact Coach Warren at 792-5674 or (dwarren@mvcc.edu).

Basket donation sought

The Employee Recognition Team is seeking donations of gift baskets for the penny auction to be held Thursday, May 21, in the lobbies of the Information Technology Building from 3:30 – 6:00 p.m.

The penny auction is part of this year's MVCC Employee Celebration of Success Luau.

Gift baskets can feature wine/ cheese, gift certificates, coffee/mugs, candy, chips/soda, soaps/lotions, garden equipment, etc. Baskets can be donated by individuals, College offices, departments, or organization.

For ideas, visit www.homemade-gift-basket-ideas.com.

All proceeds from the raffle will benefit a local charity.

Please bring completed baskets no later than Noon on Thursday, May 21, to Marie Kohl (x5340) in the Alumni Office, Room 368 in Payne Hall or to Sue Halbritter (x7707), Room 117 in Plumley Complex, on the Rome

Disability Services Office Recognition Awards

Twelve MVCC employees were honored at a reception on Wednesday, April 29. All of these individuals were selected by students with disabilities - In recognition of (their) exemplary attitude, valuable assistance, and ongoing support of MVCC's students with disabilities.

The award recipients are:
Deborah Boyce, Diane Clark, Scott
Connor, Sandy Cummings, Pam Fess,
Andrew Goodman, David Hoffman,
Tom Schink, John Susenburger, John
Swistak, Craig Sydoriw, and Carla
Zupancic.

The staff members who provide disability services on both campuses join with our students in thanking these valuable colleagues.



NYS SHERIFFS SCHOLARSHIP - Patrick Green of New Hartford was this year's recipient of the New York State Sheriffs Association Institute's 2009 Criminal Justice Scholarship. Presenting him the award was President Randall VanWagoner and Oneida County Sheriff Daniel Middaugh.

Students honored at Social Sciences recognition luncheon

The College's Social Sciences Department held its "Recognition Luncheon" last week in the Board Room to honor three students for excellence in their fields of study.

Patrick Green was the recipient of the New York State Sheriffs Association Institute's 2009 Criminal Justice Scholarship worth \$500. Green, a resident of New Hartford, will graduate this Spring with an Associate in Applied Science for Criminal Justice.

The Social Science Faculty/Staff Scholarship worth \$250 was awarded to Peter Moot of Utica. He'll be graduating with a Associate in Science for Public Policy.

The Looseleaf Law Publication, Inc., Certificate of Recognition was presented to Patrick Newby of Penn Yan, NY. Newby will graduate with an Associate in Applied Science for Criminal Justice.

On hand for the ceremony were MVCC President Randall VanWagoner and Oneida County Sheriff Daniel Middaugh along with members of the Social Sciences Department.

Dr. Searles' poem published



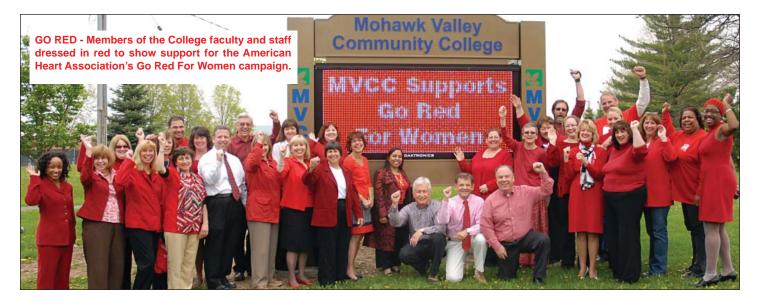
Searles

Professor George J. Searles, Ph.D., of the Humanities Department, has authored a poem in the Spring issue of the *Concho River Review,* a literary magazine published at Angelo State University (Texas).

To submit information to Communitas, email Rich Haubert at rhaubert@mvcc.edu



THE COLOR OF EGGS - Tiffany Christian, a Criminal Justice major, took part in helping to run this Spring's Easter Egg Hunt on the Rome Campus. Showing off the green egg he found is five-year-old Dominic D'Argenio. Tiffany works for student activities in Rome.



BIT students tour Turning Stone

The Administrative Assistant students were given a tour of the Turning Stone Resort and Casino on Thursday, April 30, by Jennifer Griffin, Training Specialist.

Following the tour, Griffin took the group to the training classroom where Tina Szczesniak, an Administrative Assistant who reports to the Director of Sales, discussed her job description at the Turning Stone. Szczesniak oversees the Business Center with about 28 sales people. She is also in charge of supplies, budget, reports, meeting minutes — takes notes and types them, payroll, answers phone, email, coordinates special events, takes care of her bosses emails, and types letters.

Danette Broughton, Human Resources Specialist, talked to the group about employee recruitment while covering such topics as service industry, schedule and lifestyle, opportunities, hotel and spa operations, golf operations, food and beverage, gaming, retail, entertainment, security, cage operations, finance/accounting/purchasing, telecommunications, facilities/landscaping, human resources, education, and industry trends.



TURNING STONE TOUR - Administrative Assistant students enjoy a lunch after receiving a tour of the Turning Stone Resort and Casino. The students received a behind-the-scenes look at the operation.

Students to work on cutting edge technology

Kevin Reid, a Computer Science mayor in the Engineering, Computer and Physical Sciences Department, has been selected as one of 1,000 students worldwide to be accepted into the 2009 Google Summer Code Program.

This program employs students to write code for open source projects and organizations over a three-month period. Its goal includes expanding the world of ope-source software, encouraging young developers to work on open source, providing students with an opportunity to 'flip bits,' not burgers by doing work in their field of study.

Two other Engineering, Computer and Physical Sciences Department students have been accepted to perform

real-world work in their fields of study. Tom Urtz and Steve KhanaMbazo are among 25 engineering students in New York to be accepted to the Nano Technology Research Camp at SUNY Albany this summer.

The camp starts in June and ends in early August. These students will work with world class researchers on various areas of nano technology from bio engineering to materials science.

This opportunity comes with a salary for the weeks they are working in Albany as well as the opportunity to work with the top scientists in the field of nano technology.