



Message from HR on the Flu

As flu season continues, the Office of Human Resources is taking steps to ensure that staff have information regarding the H1N1 virus and how it could affect the workplace. MVCC is taking measures suggested by local and federal health authorities, such as cleaning surfaces in classrooms; and HR encourages all employees to use common sense to stay healthy.

The College has published information about the H1N1 virus, its symptoms and preventative measures at www.mvcc.edu/h1n1. Announcements from public health authorities and other information will be added to the site on an ongoing basis.

Absences due to the flu may vary. In general, employees are expected to come to work if they are well. However, in the event of an influenza event, it is critical that each individual employ good judgment. **It is important to stay home if you are sick with flu-like symptoms**, including a fever of more than 100 degrees Fahrenheit, headache, fatigue, body aches, dry cough, sore throat, congestion and occasionally stomach symptoms such as diarrhea, nausea and vomiting. Staff absent because of flu-like symptoms are to use available leave time.

Employees who are suffering from flu-like symptoms should take the following steps:

- **Stay home while you are sick** and for at least 24 hours after you cease to run a fever in the absence of medication.

- **Notify your office or academic center.** When you call in, we ask that you voluntarily indicate if you are suffering from flu-like symptoms. Each area should have an established procedure for calling in sick. If you are unclear on this, ask your supervisor for clarification.

- **Notify Human Resources by calling 792.5496.** HR will track the number of absences because of flu-like symptoms so we can be aware of any sudden, large changes.

- If you are the primary caretaker for someone who is suffering from the flu, you may use available leave time to stay at home to provide care. HR recognizes that complications may arise, and HR employees are happy to speak with individuals on a case-by-case basis.

HR suggests that all employees seek advice from health care providers about whether to be vaccinated for the seasonal flu. Also, people with higher risk factors (those who are pregnant or people with chronic medical conditions like heart disease, asthma, or diabetes) for H1N1 complications should consider getting the H1N1 vaccine when it becomes available. For more information about priority groups for vaccination, visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination/acip.htm.



CELEBRATING NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS - The Adult Learner Services Office marked National Non-Traditional Week with a week ending dinner for adult learners.

Adult Learner Services celebrates Non-Traditional Student Week

The College's Adult Learner Services Office celebrated the national week dedicated to recognizing adult learners, November 2-6.

Currently there are more than 1,800 students over the age of 25 who attend MVCC which equates to 31 percent of the total student body.

The week began with a coffee kickoff sponsored by student activities which brought coffee, cookies, and hot chocolate to adults on both the Rome and Utica campuses.

As the week progressed, workshops were offered by the Career, Transfer and Job Placement Office and Adult Learner Services Office in career exploration, resume development and social media. Thursday was a day for the adult students to give back by sending thank you cards to those faculty, staff, and family members who have supported them in their education.

The week culminated with a free dinner sponsored by the Utica Returning Adult Student Association where over 80 students and their families were in attendance. Guest speaker Rose Button, Assistant Dean for Student Support provided inspiration and guidance for the group by speaking about the difficulties adult students must deal with when they make the decision to return to school.

This is the second year that MVCC has participated in this event by helping to bring awareness to the college community.

Phi Beta Lambda kicks off second annual toy drive

For the second year in a row, the MVCC's Phi Beta Lambda is sponsoring a toy drive which will benefit the Holly Days, Christmas For Children, Inc.

Toy bins will be placed against the back wall of the Student Service Center on the first floor of Payne Hall and inside the Registrar/Business Office at the Rome Campus. The toys should be new and unwrapped. The drive will end December 11.

To learn more about the Holly Days toy drive, contact instructor Robert Huyck at 731.5769.

The people who help make MVCC successful



From Social Sciences, professor Beverly Quist, 20 years; and associate professor Carolyn D'Argenio, 10 years.



From facilities are Steve DeMichele, 30 years; John Hamelin, 30 years; Ciro Raspante, 25 years; and Joseph Delia, 30 years.



From the Registrar Office, Lori Rycraft, 20 years.



From the Registrar Office, Jackiw Zynowij, 30 years.



From the nursing program, Nancy Caputo, MSN, RN, Professor, Associate Dean of Nursing and Allied Health, 30 years.



From the VP for Learning and Academic Affairs, Kitty Dack, 10 years.



Above, from Student Activities and Student Engagement, Dennis Rahn, over 35 years.



From the Registrar Office, Rosemary Spetka, 15 years; and Janet Leo, 15 years.



Right, from facilities, Wayne Maser, 40 years.



MAKING THE HOLIDAYS HAPPIER - Members of the Escoffier Club, Returning Adult Students Association and the Rome Student Activities Office provided turkeys to be distributed to those in need. Helping are Vicki Ortiz, Tiffany Christian, Jason Jerome and Trisha Calenzo.

MVCC students give back to community

Mohawk Valley Community College's Escoffier Club, Returning Adult Students Association and the Rome Student Activities Office wanted to show their appreciation by giving back to the community.

Over the years these three organizations have enjoyed much support, commitment and participation from the surrounding community with all of their activities. This community support has led to numerous opportunities for students while enhancing the overall Community College experience for everyone involved.

The Escoffier club decided to help during the Holiday season by donating over 400 pounds of turkey to the Rome Rescue Mission for Thanksgiving. This donation will add an additional 500 meals to the thousands being prepared by the Rescue Mission. Hats off to Rome Rescue Mission for providing a great service to the community all year round.

MVCC's Student Activities staff and RASA club members will also be volunteering some of their own personal holiday time on Thanksgiving day by supporting the Rescue Mission with preparation work, serving and delivering turkey dinners with all the fixings.

The Escoffier Club would also like to give a very special thank you to Wal-Mart in Rome for helping to make this happen.

TAC of ABET gives favorable review after accreditation visit

By Donald Willner
Dean of the STEM Center

The College recently received the draft report of TAC of ABET, the accrediting agency for the Engineering Technology Programs.

Although the College did not receive a blanket renewal, we did receive very favorable comments on our programs and our faculty. The main concern was the effects of reorganization in which one person, Bob Decker, is in charge of all four programs, Electrical, Civil, Mechanical, and Surveying, instead of one for each program as suggested by TAC of ABET.

There was some suggestion that in another year in which we had time to gather some data on the effects of the single leader, the Visiting Team might have had no reservation.

The other issues raised by the team related to assessment which is an area the College as a whole is struggling.

One extreme issue was that of the four programs, there was one in which the citation for TAC of ABET in the College Catalog was incorrect, the address was missing. Ah, yes. Our expectation in the worst case is that we will have to issue an Interim Report in two years.

In the best case we will get a full accreditation based on the due process part of this review which will be finalized at some time in August.

I want to thank Randy VanWagoner and Maryrose Eannace for their strong support of this effort. It was a critical part of this process. Bob Decker did yeoman's work in directing and preparing our programs reports. Every member of the Visiting Team appreciated his leadership.

I want to thank the faculty of the Center for their long hours spent in writing and gathering supporting documents. Carol Young did a wonderful job in organizing the room full of exhibits. Norayne Rosero gave much guidance on the assessment parts. Many faculty and deans provided examples of classroom work and evidence of how the assessment of student outcomes was handled across the disciplines.

Thanks so much for playing a contributing part.

MVCC EVENTS

Monday, November 23

International Club: Candy Sale, AB Lobby, 11 am
RSAA: Pie Giveaway, PC Atrium, 11 am
Health Services: Health Fair, PC Atrium, 2 pm
Health Services: Health Fair, AB/PH Lobbies, 2 pm
Chess Club: Informal Games, ACC 114, 3:30 pm
Drama Club, ACC 222, 3:30 pm
CCED: Tai Chi, ACC 116, 5:30 pm
MVCAA: Drinking Driver Program Classes, RA 306, 6 pm
Program Board: Monday Night Football, MV Commons, 8 pm

Tuesday, November 24

Kiddie Campus: Thanksgiving Event, IT 225, 10 am
RSAA: Pie Giveaway, PC Atrium, 10 am
Criminal Justice Club, ACC 212, 2 pm
Gay/Straight Alliance, ACC 114, 3 pm
Habitat for Humanity, ACC 212, 3:30 pm
Men's Basketball vs. Fulton-Montgomery CC, Gym, 7 pm

Wednesday, November 25

International Club: Candy Sale, AB Lobby, 11 am
Environmental & Career Opportunities in Science, ACC 212, 1 pm
The Experience, ACC 222, 3 pm
Student Congress, IT 218, 3 pm
Student Voice (Student Newspaper), ACC 204, 3 pm
Latino Student Union, ACC 212, 4 pm
Returning Adult Student Association, ACC 212, 5 pm

Thursday, November 26

Happy Thanksgiving!!!! - College Closed

Friday, November 27

Thanksgiving Break - College Closed

Saturday, November 28

Thanksgiving Break - College Closed

Sunday, November 29

Thanksgiving Break - College Closed

Women's soccer finishes third at nationals

After falling to Richland College during the semifinals of the NJCAA National Final Four Tournament held at Herkimer CCC, the Hawks bounced back in the consolation game to win 4-1, claiming the third place ranking in the NJCAA.

The Hawks (18-4) were led by sophomore forward Nicole DiNitto with one goal and two assists, all coming in the first half. The second goal of the game was provided by Jessica Palmateer in the 25th minute. Alyssa Upson and DiNitto teamed up to tally the Hawks third goal, with 2:45 left in the half for a 3-0 lead.

Scoring for the Hawks' final goal was Samantha Spohler on a corner kick from Andrea Zabek in the game's 55th minute. Goalkeeper Caitlyn Smith made five saves to preserve the victory.

Men's Soccer: The Hawks wrapped up the 2009 season with sophomore defender Aubrey Brown being selected to the NJCAA Region III, Division III First Team. MVCC also had freshman midfielder Oraine Pringle named to the Region III, Division III Second Team after scoring eight goals this season.

Women's Volleyball: Freshman Kaitlin DeLett was named to the All-Mountain Valley Conference Team for the 2009 season. DeLett is a freshman Liberal Arts major who graduated from

Whitesboro High School.

Men's Basketball: The Hawks suffered their first losses of the season in two very tight contests. MVCC came up short against Broome CC, 66-64, as sophomore guard Bradley Griffin was held to 18 points, well shy of his 30 point average. Jerome Davis was on pace with 20 points.

Over the weekend, Erie CC came back for an 86-80 final as sophomore guard Davis picked up some of the slack with 29 points and Griffin drove the lane for 18 points. The Hawks are now 4-2 overall and 2-1 in Region III.

Women's Basketball: Domanique Washington poured in 28 points to help keep the Hawks undefeated this week with a 69-59 victory over Broome CC. MVCC is now 5-0 overall and 3-0 in Region III.

Athlete of the Week: Nicole DiNitto She scored one goal and assisted on two others in a 4-1 victory over Genesee CC to help lead the Hawks to a third place finish at the NJCAA National Final Four Tournament held at Herkimer CCC. She was named to the All-Tournament Team and was honored as MVCC's Athlete of the Week. DiNitto is a sophomore Liberal Arts major who graduated from Oriskany High School.



College adds to winning traditions with launch of women's lacrosse program

Mohawk Valley Community College has added a new dimension to its athletic programs with the creation of a women's lacrosse team. MVCC will become the ninth NJCAA Region III college to offer women's lacrosse



Fazio

"Women's lacrosse is a growing sport with a number of high schools beginning to offer that sport," said MVCC Athletic Director Gary Broadhurst. "Women's lacrosse will create another opportunity for students to be attracted to MVCC and allow them to be engaged in a sport of their choice."

With the addition of women's lacrosse, MVCC will now host 11 women's athletic programs and 11 men's athletic programs. The

women's athletic programs have a long tradition of excellence, having won three national championships in as many years. Last year alone, MVCC teams won six Mountain Valley Conference championships, two Region III titles and two NJCAA national championships.

For individual student-athletes, 67 were named All-Region, 25 were named All-Americans and three were named NJCAA National Players of the Year as were two coaches. Nine student-athletes were Academic All-Americans as were four teams. Overall, MVCC had a winning percentage of .673 (417 wins, 185 losses, 5 ties) to finish second for the NATYCAA Cup.

The MVCC Hawks have named Gina Fazio as interim head coach. The responsibility of building the program will fall to Fazio as she seeks to recruit athletes in preparation for the inaugural season scheduled for the spring of 2011.

"The challenge is getting the name out there and letting high school coaches and players know MVCC has a program," Fazio. "There are a number of current students on campus who have shown interest in being a part of the new program. I

am confident that these current students, along with incoming freshman will help make up a solid group of student-athletes for our first season."

Fazio is a native of Watertown where she competed in soccer, basketball and lacrosse for the General Brown High School. She went on to play lacrosse at Jefferson Community College where she was named First Team for the Mid State Athletic Conference and First Team All Region III in 2004.

The following three years, Fazio played lacrosse for SUNY Cortland where she filled the position of starting attacker and helping the team compile a 52-7 record in three seasons. While the SUNY Cortland program flourished to advance to the NCAA's Division III Final Four in 2006, individually Fazio became the 29th Player in the college's history to eclipse 100 career points with 119 points and be named twice to the All SUNYAC Team.

"We are fortunate to be located in the middle of the state and coming from a lacrosse background, several of my former teammates are now coaching at the high school level. This will, hopefully, make it much easier to make contact with some of the recruits," said Fazio.

Along with recruiting from programs in Whitesboro, Rome, Clinton and New Hartford, Fazio will be expanding her network to the Syracuse, Albany, Rochester and the Watertown area.

Along with playing at the collegiate level, she comes from a rich family history where her father has been a longtime coach. She already has several connections to people involved in lacrosse which will help her to network at the high school level," said Broadhurst.

A New Hartford resident, Fazio is currently an instructor in the Center for Language and Learning Design at MVCC. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Health Education from SUNY Cortland and a Master's in Literacy from SUNY Potsdam.