



## Murray campaigns against homelessness

During her visit to Utica for the College's 2010 Commencement, internationally known speaker Liz Murray took some time to discuss solutions to homelessness in the Mohawk Valley and recognize participants in a joint JPC/Mohawk Valley Community College education initiative at the Johnson Park Center, located at 1414-1416 West Street.

Murray, best known as the inspiration for "Homeless to Harvard," was the Spring 2010 Commencement Speaker.

The event at JPC began with brief remarks from Murray, Rev. Maria A. Scates of the JPC, MVCC President Randall Van Wagoner, and other representatives of the Mohawk Valley Homeless and Housing Assistance Coalition. Murray touched on her journey from the streets to the Ivy League and talked about the power of education to help people who are homeless.

Immediately following, the creation of new neighborhood redevelopment funding was announced.

Dr. VanWagoner and Murray also presented certificates of achievement to 12 local people who were formerly homeless or ex-offenders, and who have participated in an educational pilot program developed in partnership with the Johnson Park Center, Mohawk Valley Community College, and the Oneida County Workforce Investment Board.



**CAMPAGNING FOR THOSE WHO NEED HELP** - Liz Murray took the opportunity during her visit to Utica last week to campaign against homelessness in the Mohawk Valley. Murray spoke from personal experience, having grown up on the streets of New York City.

## New articulation agreements creates opportunities

As the College's Class of 2010 graduates walk across the Commencement stage, they have new options thanks to MVCC's rapid expansion of partnerships with other colleges. The number of colleges and universities that MVCC has engaged in transfer or articulation agreements has grown to nearly 40. In total, the agreements position MVCC graduates to make smooth transitions into more than 150 degree programs at other colleges and universities, about twice as many as when the expansion began.

For example, building on existing agreements between MVCC and Syracuse University, new pathways have extended into six areas: mechanical engineering, aerospace engineering, civil engineering, computer engineering, electrical engineering, and computer science. Another agreement with Buffalo State College is MVCC's first with that institution. It connects MVCC students to 49 programs at Buffalo State, running the gamut from art education to chemistry to hospitality administration. Other new or expanded agreements include Bellevue University (with numerous online options), SUNY Fredonia, SUNY IT, SUNY Oswego, SUNY Plattsburgh, and other partners.

"Preparing students for transfer has always been one of MVCC's great strengths," says President Randall J. VanWagoner, Ph.D., "Our recent, explosive growth in the number of articulation agreements is an intentional strategy to make the most of this strength. It helps MVCC build a better-educated, career-ready workforce for the Mohawk Valley."

The proliferation of transfer opportunities is led by MVCC's Office of Career, Transfer, and Job Placement Services, which was redesigned in 2009 to give students more guidance toward educational and career goals. The office works with MVCC faculty, local employers, and colleges across the state and nation to match MVCC offerings to the Mohawk Valley's workforce needs and student expectations. The articulation push is supported by MVCC's 2009 reorganization of its 90+ degree programs into five Academic Centers. These provide MVCC graduates with interdisciplinary backgrounds that make them attractive to transfer institutions.

"Nearly half of our students enroll in associate's degree programs that can be used to prepare for transfer to four-year institutions," says James Maio, director of Career, Transfer, and Job Placement Services. "We help students get ready to apply and succeed at any college, anywhere. Choosing a destination with an MVCC articulation agreement paves the way for the smoothest, most cost-effective transition."

The agreements specify how MVCC coursework can be applied to the requirements of the four-year college or university. If a student has a specific transfer institution in mind, she can use the articulation framework to plan ahead with faculty and advisors, building class schedules that ensure maximum carryover of college credits from MVCC to the destination institution. Popular transfer majors are business administration;

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# Vroman wins national Scholarship

The College is proud to announce that April R. Vroman was selected as one of 25 health care students from around the country to receive the Frank Lanza Memorial Scholarship, which was announced in Washington, D.C., earlier this month.

The American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) and Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society created these scholarships to recognize the accomplishments of students enrolled in allied health programs offered by regionally accredited community colleges. Twenty-five students received scholarships of \$1,000 each.



Vroman

Vroman, a Utica native and Proctor High School graduate, completed her Associate in Applied Science degree in MVCC's Nursing Program in May. She is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, making the President's List for four semesters. Along with her course load, Vroman worked as a peer tutor in human anatomy and physiology in the College's Learning Center, a position which requires recognition by her teachers to have the ability to aid others.

Her extra-curricular activities included being a member of the 2008 MVCC Cross Country team that won the NJCAA Region III Championship as well as the NJCAA Nationals. Vroman served as the secretary for the Student Nurses Organization that supports student nurses in reaching out to their community through the promotion of health and wellness workshops. Her volunteer work includes aiding in blood drives, assisting in blood pressure clinics, and health fairs.

The scholarship is named in honor of Frank Lanza, founder of L-3 Communications, a global aerospace and defense company.

The AACC represents nearly 1,200 two-year, associate degree-granting institutions and more than 11 million students. Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society is the largest honor society in higher education with 1,250 chapters on college campuses around the world. Membership in Phi Theta Kappa is offered to students who have a 3.5 GPA or higher over at least 12 credit hours in a degree program.

## Conference focuses on rights of the disabled within the legal system

The Center for Social Sciences, Business and Information Science coordinated with the Collage's Disability Services Office to present "The Silent Minority: Individuals with Disability and the Criminal Justice System" on Monday, May 3, in Room 225 of the Information Technology Building.

Individuals with disabilities comprise the largest minority group in this country, and, as such, interact with and within the system of criminal justice on a daily basis, - as professionals, employees of the system, and as victims and perpetrators of crime.

The presenters were attorneys from Legal Services of Central New York, Inc., a private not-for-profit law firm located in Syracuse. Susan M. Young is a 1983 graduate of the Washington College of Law at American University in Washington, D.C. Since 1987, she has represented both children and adults with disabilities in administrative proceedings and state and federal courts.

Sam Young graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Law School in 1993 and Brandeis University in 1990. He is currently the Director of Advocacy at Legal Services, with emphasis in the areas of disability rights, public benefits, housing, consumer and civil rights.

## Benefits Fair drawing winners

The 2010 Summer Institute Benefits Fair has ended. Thank you to everyone who attended. Below is a list of the winners. Please stop by the College Human Resources Office to pick up your gift.

### 2010 Summer Institute Benefits Fair Winners

Donated by	Prize	Winners
AFLAC	AFLAC Drinking Glass Set	Sandra Davis
Delta Dental	Delta Thermos	John Swistak
Excellus BC/BS	BCBS Canvas Tote	Colleen Cornmire
1st Source Federal CU	\$25 Barnes & Noble Gift Card	Terry Kippers
ING	ING Gym Bag	Mike Donaruma
ING	ING Cooler Bag	Zyn Jackiw
Liberty Mutual	Liberty Mutual Rolling Cooler	Donna Felitto
MaxorPlus	Maxor Silver Tray	Cheryl Plescia
1st Niagara	Basket of Comfort	Carol Young
MetLife	Golf Club w/Golf Balls	Munir Syed
MVP	MVP Gym Bag w/ accessories	Lisa Bullet
Oneida Co Federal CU	Notebook/Smart Shoppers Book	Robin Saxe
TIAA-CREF	Umbrella	M. Lee Berg

**Monday, May 31**

Memorial Day Holiday - Campus Closed

**Tuesday, June 1**

4:30 pm - STEP: Dinner, IT 225

6:00 pm - MVCAA: Drinking & Driving Program Class, RA 312

**Wednesday, June 2**

8:00 am - Police Academy, ACC 116

**Thursday, June 3**

8:00 am - MVCAA, IT 225

8:00 am - Police Academy, ACC 116

**Friday, June 4**

8:00 am - MVCAA: Drinking & Driving Program Class, PC 207

8:00 am - MVCAA, IT 225

8:00 am - NYS Special Olympics, Gym/Tennis Courts

**Saturday, June 5**

8:00 am - NYS Special Olympics, Gym/Tennis Courts

**Sunday, June 6**

8:00 am - NYS Special Olympics, Gym/Tennis Courts

## Help us make Summer Institute better for you

Hi folks,

I would like to extend a huge thank you to all of you who attended Summer Institute. Your support is deeply appreciated. We want to have the experience be useful, compelling and fun. Before the event fades into a vague memory, we are hoping you could please give us your candid feedback on the very user friendly form referenced below. Thank you and have a joyous holiday weekend to kick off the summer. Peace.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Please complete a form for each presentation that you attended. Your responses and comments to the questions posted at [www.mvcc.edu/training/si/survey.cfm](http://www.mvcc.edu/training/si/survey.cfm).

Please select your response to the items.

Rate aspects of the workshop on a 1 to 5 scale:

1 = "Strongly disagree," or lowest, most negative impression

3 = "Neither agree nor disagree," or an adequate impression

5 = "Strongly agree," or the highest, most positive impression

Choose N/A if the item is not appropriate or not applicable to this workshop.

Thanks for helping us improve our Employee Enrichment Program.

David R. Katz III

Coordinator of Faculty & Staff Enrichment



# Register online for non-credit classes

Don't get locked out of the class you have been looking forward to taking which are being offered by the Center for Corporate and Community Education. The summer catalog for non-credit classes is now available online at [www.mvcc.edu/cced](http://www.mvcc.edu/cced). While there, register online.

Course categories include professional development, computers and technology, mandated continuing education, health and wellness, leisure learning in the fields of cooking and dance, as well as the Summer Career Camps for Kids and Teens. Classes are being held on both the Utica and Rome Campuses and various locations in the community.

Also included in the catalog is information on a course for new motorcycle riders and a tractor trailer driver training program.

To receive a free catalog, call the Center for Corporate and Community Education at 792-5300, or visit online at [www.mvcc.edu/cced](http://www.mvcc.edu/cced) and click on "Adult Non-Credit." Office hours are 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. on Friday. All MVCC non-credit instruction is completely self-supporting, including indirect costs, and requires no public funding.



**SUMMER INSTITUTE FUN** - Above, Barb Evans and Helen Adsit hosted the "Evaluating Chocolate" class which was the first class to be completely full. Left, the keynote speakers for this year's event were actor-coaches Cindy Maher and Carol Grannis from Leading Edge Consulting. Below, after two days of informative and enjoyable sessions, the entire faculty and staff was treated to a wonderful luncheon put on by the Sodexo staff. MVCC employees were honored with announcement of promotions, awards and recognition for years of service.



# Congratulations Class of 2010



## Digital textbooks offered

The Collge Bookstore has completed installation of software that now will enable us to sell digital format textbooks. While the current list of texts is small, it will be added to as 2010 progresses. We would ask that four to six faculty members obtain a copy of a text currently available(at the store's expense) and install it on their PC or laptop and give us your impression of ease of use and content presentation. Stop in or call Jerry or Earl for a title list. Look forward to hearing from you on this new 'phase' of educational materials.

Jerry Pecorello, Bookstore

## New articulation agreements

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computer science, education, fine arts and graphic design, the liberal arts, and engineering. MVCC also produces successful student-athlete transfers, who move on from MVCC's championship-caliber teams to compete and study at top-tier academic and athletic institutions nationwide. In many cases, after they complete study at a four-year institution, MVCC alumni live and work in the Mohawk Valley. Today, there are more than 37,000 MVCC alumni in Oneida County.

For listings of articulation agreements and more information, visit [www.mvcc.edu/students/transfer/](http://www.mvcc.edu/students/transfer/).



**37 YEARS OF SERVICE** - Denis Kennelly is retiring on July 6 from MVCC after 37 years. A reception honoring him was held in the second floor lobby of the IT Building with many friends and co-workers gathering to wish him the best in his retirement. He was presented with an MVCC rocking chair.