



Open forum seeks more civility at MVCC

There has been much talk throughout this semester on the deteriorating level of civil behavior in the residence halls, the classroom, dining halls, College offices, labs and at other colleges. To shed light on the problem of negative behavior, disrespectfulness, fights, harassment and the unsafe feelings shared by students and employees, the College hosted the first in what is planned to be several open conversations about civility.

More than 650 students, faculty, and staff packed the IT Theater on Thursday to be heard. David R. Katz III, who is Chair of MVCC College Senate and Associate Professor of Political Science and History, was the moderator for The Civility Project and enabled students to voice their concerns in a non-threatening environment while others listened. "This event is a sincere attempt to create a dialog among the college community," said Katz. He went on to lay the ground rules and conduct the event in such a way as to show respect for, and learn from, the people speaking.

Students did most of the talking and voiced a wide variety of concerns about the environment at MVCC.

- ▶ They feel ignored when entering College offices or moving through common areas.
- ▶ Students feel there is little opportunity for feedback on curriculum development.
- ▶ They don't feel completely safe on the Utica Campus and that the Security Department needs to beef up their patrols, especially at night.



- ▶ The problem of students not feeling safe on the campus was raised by several students in the audience. It was suggested that "everyone need to look out for one another" in order to regain control from the small group of individuals who cause trouble.
- ▶ Students in the Residence Halls need to show respect for the cleaning staff by "simply picking up after yourself."
- ▶ Students show a lack of respect in the classroom which is disruptive.
- ▶ Students and employees discussed underlying racial tensions on the campus and in society as a whole, noting that these tensions are ignored until something drastic occurs and that "dialog is the first step to breaking stereotypes."
- ▶ Instructors do not take students' personal or physical challenges seriously, and dismiss them.
- ▶ Students do not feel respected in the classroom, "especially if you are outspoken."
- ▶ Students are reluctant to report incidents of harassment and assault for fear of retribution.

To close out the event, MVCC President Randall J. VanWagoner, Ph.D., and Student Congress President Megan Vogt signed the following pledge: I pledge to do my part to create a more civil and respectful learning environment at MVCC.

Upon leaving the Theater, students, faculty and staff were also asked to sign a pledge card to enforce civility. More Civility Project initiatives will be announced in the coming weeks.



Time to make your vote count

Are you ready to vote in the 2011 College Senate Election? Make your voice heard by voting!

Polls will be open beginning Friday, April 1, and will conclude on Thursday, April 7, 4:00 p.m.

The nominations have been submitted for the 2011 College Senate election for Senator and Committee membership open elected positions. The electronic ballot is all set and ready for use.

Once you enter the voting ballot, submit all your votes at that time; the site prohibits re-entry once you leave.

Above the "Begin Voting in College Senate Elections" button is a link to a pdf file, <http://mvintranet.mvcc.edu/applications/senate/Ballot.pdf>. This pdf file contains the positions and the



candidates for the specific position. You can view this before actually placing your vote in the Senate election.

Make sure you vote! Your vote is anonymous and unlike Idol, you can only vote once. As this form is on the

Intranet, you can only vote while you are on campus.

Here's the link to our electronic voting form:

<http://mvintranet.mvcc.edu/applications/senate/>

Those with an updated Internet Explorer version may be asked to enter your login information. Your login name is mvcc\username (substitute your network/email login name for "username") and your password is the same password you use to log into the network/email.

Please contact Norma Chrisman for questions regarding the electronic form.

Thank you and Happy Voting!

Brought to you by the College Senate 2011 Election Committee

CCED program helps train child care providers

The Center for Corporate and Community Education has been working in conjunction with outside agencies to extend its reach into the community and provide training for child care providers.

In collaboration with Cornell Cooperative Extension and Mid York Child Care Counsel, the College has been running the Human Services 101 course at the Judd Road facility in Oriskany. There are eight child care providers from Rome, Hamilton, and Edmeston in the course.

"These providers have to get their CDA (Child Development Associate) certification where they have to have training several categories. While this course does not cover all the categories, it touches on all of them," said Dana Hubbard, Coordinator for Corporate Training in CCED. "This course goes toward their certification and if they are already certified, they can apply to the SUNY Empire State."

To receive certification, students need to complete a two semester preparatory course at the Child Care Council and work individually with a program advisor to meet their individual needs. Students may obtain a specialization in one of the following areas: center-based pre-school; center-based infant/toddler; or family child care.

The NYS Office of Children and Family Services require child care providers complete 30-hours of training in the areas of: Principles of Childhood Development; Nutrition/ Health Needs of Children; Child Day Care Program Development; Safety and Security Procedures; Business Record Maintenance and Management; Child Abuse and Maltreatment Identification and Prevention; Statutes and Regulations Pertaining to Child Care; Statutes and Regulations Pertaining to Child Abuse and Maltreatment; and Shaken Baby Syndrome.



Because these child care providers work fulltime, this program was designed that they meet each Monday for three hours. The program was the brainchild of Ron Bunce, Executive Directors for Cornell Cooperative Extension, who worked with Hubbard to make it become a reality.

In an effort to make this program a success, New York State's Educational Incentive Program (EIP), which provides funding for continued education and training, pay the tuition for the students. What EIP doesn't pay, the Workforce Investment Board stepped forward cover expenses such as textbooks that came to \$202 for two books.

"The hope is to continue to offer classes which touch on those certifications areas need and possible toward a degree," said Hubbard.

Green Tips: More sobering facts about plastic bags

Can't they be recycled?

- * Yes, but less than 2 percent are;
- * The recycling process (collecting, transporting, sorting, and melting) uses energy and creates pollution;
- * Yes, but they're not in demand: it costs \$4000 to process plastic bags for recycling, and the end result is \$32 worth of reusable material.

What are the alternatives?

- Carry items in your hands.
- Buy durable, reusable bags, use them over and over and over again, recycle them when they're no longer usable.
- Use plastic bags...but sparingly, use them over and over again, recycle them when they're no longer usable.

Monday, April 4

- 8:00 am - English Club Jewelry Sale, AB Lobby
- 8:00 am - WAC, AB Lobby
- 2:00 pm - Circle K, ACC 212
- 4:00 pm - Classical Pianist: Kevin Moore, Theater
- 6:00 pm - Drama Club, IT 225
- 6:00 pm - Cultural Series Lecture (DGV): "Understanding Autism Implications for Learning and Behavior" with Mara Ladd, Ph.D., Festine Auditorium
- 7:00 pm - Drama Club Variety Show, Theater

Tuesday, April 5

- 9:00 am - Coalition on Economic Justice: Bridges Out of Poverty - Day One Training, Festine Auditorium
- 2:30 pm - College Senate, IT 225
- 4:30 pm - Drama Club, ACC 114
- 6:00 pm - Drama Club, IT 225

Wednesday, April 6

- 9:00 am - WAC, AB Lobby
- 9:00 am - PA Grievance, IT 220
- Noon - Dash For Dollars Game Show, MV Commons
- Noon - International Festival, IT Lobbies/IT225
- 4:00 pm - Program Board, ACC 212
- 4:00 pm - Film Club, IT 220
- 4:00 pm - Step Team Club, ACC 114
- 4:30 pm - Latino Student Union, IT 218
- 6:00 pm - Drama Club, ACC 114
- 7:30 pm - MVCC Concert Band, ACC 116

Thursday, April 7

- 9:00 am - WAC, AB Lobby
- 3:00 pm - Student Activities, ACC 212
- 5:00 pm - Fashion Show Rehearsal, ACC 116
- 6:00 pm - Lecture: Russell Penner, IT 225
- 6:00 pm - Drama Club, ACC 114
- 7:00 pm - Movie: "True Grit," Festine Auditorium
- 9:00 pm - Counseling: Movie/Lecture, IT 225

Friday, April 8

- 9:00 am - WAC, AB Lobby
- 10:00 am - Student Activities, ACC 212
- 2:00 pm - IF, ACC 212
- 3:30 pm - Black Student Union, ACC 212
- 4:00 pm - Chess Club, ACC 114
- 5:00 pm - Fashion Show Rehearsal, ACC 116
- 6:00 pm - Poetry Club, ACC 212
- 7:00 pm - Movie: True Grit, Theater

Saturday, April 9

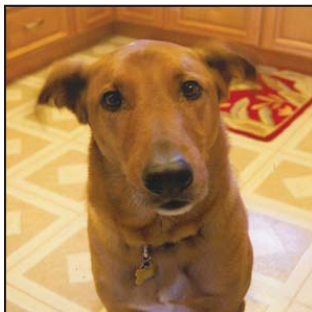
- 8:00 pm - Listening Room Concert Series - Pete Francis of the band Dispatch, Festine Auditorium

Kiddie Campus to collect donations for Stevens-Swan

The Kiddie Campus is once again helping out the Stevens-Swan Humane Society by collecting donations during the annual Pet Supply Drive.

The Stevens-Swann Humane Society is looking for donations of towels, blankets, sheets, toys, cat food, dog food and treats. Sorry, no pillows.

Drop off all donations to the Kiddie Campus Child Care Center anytime from April 4-26.



Athlete of the Week

As expected, Zackary Ciccotti picked up where he left off last season for the Hawks' baseball team. During the team's annual trip to North Carolina, Ciccotti lead the team with a .421 batting average.



Ciccotti

For his performance on this trip, Ciccotti was selected as the MVCC Athlete of the Week for the week ending March 20.

Ciccotti, who has signed a letter of intent with Flagler College in St. Augustine, Fl., to continue his playing career next year, drove in eight runs for the Hawks in four games. He also stole three bases.

Ciccotti is the starting catcher for the Hawks and a Rome Free Academy graduate. While he is currently majoring in General Studies, he is interested in pursuing a degree in Sports Management in Florida.

Donchuks celebrate birth

It has been a busy and (one can be sure) tiring week for MVCC's Oleg Donchuk and his wife Tamara as they celebrated the birth of Baby Anthon last Friday. The family is well and when you see them around, offer congratulations!



WORKING WITH POWER - The College's Airframe and Powerplant Technology program received a new piece of equipment to train on last week. MidAir USA, an aircraft leasing company located on the Griffiss Business and Technology Park in Rome, agreed to a long-term loan of this CF6-80 engine which is used on Boeing 747, 757 and 767 aircraft. The engine is being used as a tool for students to practice inspection and component identification of modern aircraft engines. Seen here are James Belfiore and Mike Williamson working the engine. It weighs approximately 20,000 pounds and has a 7 1/2 foot diameter intake.

Students develop learning community; learn the power of working together

When it came to creating a community learning environment this semester, Henry Bartlett, Ph.D., took an approach that he had read other colleges were working with. What was different about his approach is he allowed his students to develop a model of how they were going to learn the curriculum.

“There has been a lot of talk about developing learning communities here at the College that I wanted to try this approach,” said Dr. Bartlett. “These students have proven to be very mature and gifted. They have proven throughout the semester their willingness to work hard.”

Dr. Bartlett laid out the parameters of the curriculum on the first day of the class, and then let the students in his Introduction to Peace Studies (PS209) decide the method of learning. It took the 12 students in the class two days, but they had all the details worked out.

The plan was that each student would write 10 papers during the semester, each student would have one class period dedicated to a presentation on a topic selected from the textbook, and that each presentations would be graded by the entire class. The students even set the attendance policy, calling for it to count for 20 percent of their final grade.

“They even worked out among themselves when problems arose. One student got very sick and couldn’t do his presentation. He asked me if he could do it on another day and I told him it was up to the class. They discussed it among themselves and worked out a solution,” said Dr. Bartlett. “They showed more dedication to the class and to one another.”

The students were presented a Certificate of Appreciation for the “Development of an in-class learning community pedagogy”



COMMUNITY LEARNERS - Henry Bartlett, Ph.D., had his Introduction to Peace Studies (PS209) students develop a learning community within the classroom which enhanced their understanding of the curriculum. Sitting are: Lauren Lewis, Meghan Lewis, Brittani Murphy, and Sayaka Ishihara. Standing: Enid Tatarevic, Adnan Selimovic, Taylor Burnop, Joe Parrotta, and Dan Mazzorana.

from Dr. Bartlett and Vice President of Learning and Academic Affairs Maryrose Eannace, Ph.D., during a ceremony at the New Faculty Institute on Friday.



GRANTS HELP RETRAIN WORKFORCE – This is the first graduating class from MVCC’s Brownfield Job Training Grant through the Workforce Investment Board of Herkimer, Madison and Oneida Counties. The College received this grant as part of a U.S. EPA job training program where students attended classes from November 29 through February 11. They were required to attend every class and at the end of the program were awarded certificates as Environmental Technicians. They attended over 200 hours of class time and received certifications in 10- and 30-hour OSHA, Lead Abatement, Lead Renovators, Weatherization, First Aid & CPR, Hazardous Materials, Green Technologies and Asbestos Abatement. The program will continue through June of 2012. Interested students should contact James Lee at the Workforce Investment Board at 507-5411, extension 221.



LOOKING TO LAND A JOB – The College hosted its annual Spring Career Fair on Wednesday in the Information Technology Building. There were 43 employers on hand for the event with many accepting resumes for positions within their companies. Nearly 200 job seekers attended the event which ran from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Submit information for **Communitas** to Rich Haubert at rhaubert@mvcc.edu