



## MVCC gets green with solar panels

With the College working on becoming a “Green” environmental steward, the STEM Center has taken major strides toward offering renewable resources programs over the past year. The first major project was completed in spring 2012 when 16 solar panels were installed on the Science and Technology Building.

“We built the array basically to support our students who will be installing complete systems in the future,” said Professor Robert Decker, Director of Engineering Technologies. “Through doing so and completing the grid intertie agreement with National Grid, we have also learned about the application process for projects such as these. This also helps us to explain to our students what is required based on firsthand knowledge.”

The photovoltaic (PV) solar panels are made by Sanyo and produce around 3,500 watts of electrical power. That size array can produce enough energy to cut a typical homeowner’s electric bill by 40-50 percent on an annual basis.

The solar cells in these panels are manufactured in the United States and then the panels are assembled in Mexico. The panels generate Direct Current (DC) power that connects to an inverter that converts the electricity in to Alternating Current (AC) for home use. DC is useful for items which operate on batteries while the electricity provided by the nation’s power grid is AC.

With the installation of these solar panels at the College and other lab acquisitions funded by NYSERDA through the SUNYGREENSNY grant and by the US. Department of Energy through Solar Instructor Training Network, MVCC was able to offer ET167 – Introduction to Photovoltaics this past summer and to develop and offer the non-credit Intro to Photovoltaic Systems through CCED. Students completing either of these courses are eligible to take the North American Board of Certified Energy Providers (NABCEP) Photovoltaic Entry Level Exam, which is a nationally recognized preparatory



**FREE ENERGY** - Professor Robert Decker, Director of Engineering Technologies, examines the solar panels which were installed on the roof of the Science and Technology Building in the spring of 2012.

step for individuals interested in entering the solar energy field. As a learning tool, the College will use the system for both credit and non-credit courses while also hosting workshops on solar power for industry. The College has six lab stations in its Wiring and Codes lab that can be used to provide hands-on experience with real-world system components.

“We are looking toward to having workshops and awareness sessions in the future to show people the benefits of having such a system installed in a household,” said Decker, who was instrumental in this project. “Students will be able to actually build and connect a complete solar system which is tied to the grid. We are partnering with several colleges statewide in developing these programs.”

The College’s solar panels are tied into the building system of the S&T Building. During the daytime hours and weekends when the system is not in use for training, the power generated by the panels is fed back through the power grid – ‘turning the College’s power meter backwards’ and cutting down the energy bill for MVCC.

As for the effectiveness of the solar panels, cloudy weather can cut the power



production by 50 percent or more compared to a sunny day, but these systems are measured on an annual energy production. Solar energy system design takes into account the number of peak sun hours per day that range on average anywhere from 2½ hours during winter months to five hours in June and July in this area. To maximize energy production over the entire year, the MVCC solar array is tilted at about a 45 degree angle, corresponding to Utica’s latitude, and also causing the snow to slide off the smooth glass surface in the winter. The panels point to the South to follow the path of the sun.

# Honoring Employees for Years of Service

Cathy Glod has had a hand in shaping the direction of MV for more than 25 years. She was recognized for her years of service recently with a ceremony in her office.

She began at MV teaching Micro and Macro Economics and then taught management and marketing courses. As a Professor in the Center for Social Sciences, Business & Information Sciences, she has seen firsthand how technology has changed the world of business which is why she enjoys teaching Introduction to Computer Applications and Concepts and Computer Applications and Concepts 1.

"Before I came to the College, I was working in an HR office and students were coming out of college not knowing the basics of the technology used in the business world. I thought to myself, I would like to teach in the area of business in order to help students entering the business world to understand the professional practices they will need to be successful," said Glod.

She went on to say, "I like to work with new students who have no background in technology and help them develop their computer skills. I am amazed sometimes at how many of the students don't know the basics of computers."

Prior to the creation of the academic centers, Glod was the department head of the Business and Information Sciences Department for five years and under former President Michael Schafer, she served as the Director of Marketing Strategies for two years. She has always been willing to offer suggestions on how to improve programs



at the College. For this reason, she was tapped to become the only faculty member on the marketing and strategic planning committees at their inception. She served six years on these committees.

Nearly 20 years ago, the concept of Summer Institute came out of a discussion she initiated on why faculty and

staff were not being recognized for their years of service. This conversation, which was carried through the College Senate, led to Glod being appointed to develop the framework of the end-of-year event.

"I am proud to have had a hand in many things during my time here at the College," said Glod.



**ANSWERING THE CALL** - Twenty-nine cadets representing 15 fire departments graduated from the Utica Fire Academy at MV on Wednesday, Nov. 21. One firefighter, Justin Zybert of the Lackawanna Fire Department, took the opportunity to propose to his girlfriend, Brianna Quaranto, after she pinned his badge on his uniform. She said yes. Keynote speaker Congressman Richard Hanna congratulated and thanked the graduates, acknowledging that "it takes a special person to become a firefighter. I am proud to be among you today."



## Dr. Searles publishes poem

George J. Searles, Ph.D., continues to be very active in the literary field. Dr. Searles attended the Geraldine R. Dodge Poetry Festival in Newark, NJ, on October 12-14. He has also published a new poem in the Poetry Forum section of *MadSwirl*, an on-line literary journal.

Dr. Searles is a Professor in the Center for Arts & Humanities and teaches English and Latin.

# New Faces @ MVCC



MVCC recently named Seyed Akhavi to the position of Dean of the Center for Mathematics, Engineering, Physical Sciences, and Applied Technology. He holds a Master in Science and a Bachelor in Engineering electrical engineering from Youngstown State University in Youngstown, Ohio, and currently is completing his PhD degree in Leadership for Higher Education at Capella University.



**Akhavi**

Akhavi has held several positions in the private sector, most notably as President of MicroNet International, Inc., an Ohio based company that provided engineering and computer networking services to local and international companies.

He has also held the position of Dean, Information and Engineering Technologies at Eastern Gateway Community College, formerly known as Jefferson Community College, and most recently, Dean of Technology - Engineering and Information Technologies Division of the Technical Career Institutes in Manhattan.



**GREEN GRANT** – MV's Utica GEAR UP was awarded a \$500 grant to develop an initiative to Go Green at JFK and Donovan middle schools and the community at large. David Lupinski, Director of Recycling for Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority, was on hand to present a ceremonial check to MV's Jessica Woolheater and Linda Tettamant.

## Utica GEAR UP receives grant to 'Go Green'

The Utica GEAR UP program at MV has partnered with Oneida Herkimer Solid Waste Authority to develop and implement GREEN Team initiatives at JFK and Donovan middle schools and the community at large.

In order to better develop the initiative to Go Green, Utica GEAR UP wrote a grant to cultivate an Ever-Green park for Utica GEAR UP students. The Utica GEAR UP team was awarded nearly \$500 for the project, which will include planting Evergreen saplings (location is to be determined) and creating a park with a recycled plastic bench and eco-friendly signs.

To further the environmental education plan, students will start a composting project in the spring or fall months that will create mulch used in the park. Students will be responsible for the development and maintenance of the project.

Jessica Woolheater and Linda Tettamant received the award on behalf of the Utica GEAR UP staff at a NYSAR3 (New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse and Recycling) conference in Cooperstown. It was presented by David Lupinski, Director of Recycling for Oneida Herkimer Solid Waste Authority.

## Extended fall library hours for Finals Week

### Utica Campus Library

Friday, December 7	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 8	8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 9	Noon – 10:00 p.m.
Monday, December 10	8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 11	8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 12	8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

### Rome Campus Library

Fall 2012 – Regular Hours for Finals Week

## MV celebrated its Fifth Annual Non-Traditional Student Week

You may have noticed the large banner that hung across the Alumni College Center on November 5th through the 9th that welcomed Non-traditional students to celebrate Non-Traditional Student week. This national recognition week is celebrated on both two and four year college campuses across the country. Through the efforts of the Adult Learner Services Office in collaboration with Counseling, Career & Transfer Service, Rome Student Services, Kiddie Campus, and the financial support of Student Activities and the Returning Adult Student Association (RASA), this year's week was bigger and better than ever!

Each year, Adult Learner Services has offered non-traditional students social, educational, and networking opportunities through various celebrations, workshops, and one-on-one appointments.

New items for the 2012 year included:

- Workshops to relieve stress, save money through couponing, & Networking
- Subs & Clubs on the Rome Campus
- Kiddie Campus Child Care Center Tours

Students also participated in the first Non-Traditional Student Week Essay contest. Fifteen students submitted their thoughts on the following question:

What does earning an education from MVCC mean to you as an adult student?

The winner, Jodi Khouri, a first semester Culinary Arts Management major and mother of three, wrote about her experience and motivations for returning to school after 25 years. She writes, "For me personally, it is not only the gratification of knowing that I have decided to break through the barrier or intimidation and self-doubt and return to school, but also the fact that I will finally have a college degree from MVCC that I can be proud of." Through the Returning Adult Student Association, Jodi and two others, Doreen Castronovo, an Individual Studies Major, and Norma Happle, a General Studies major, were recognized at the Non-Traditional Student Celebration Dinner on November 9th and given gift cards as a reward for their submissions.

Currently at MVCC, a third of the student population is over 25.

# Increase success by developing long-range vision

Gary Broadhurst, Associate Dean of Athletics and Physical Education at MVCC, was tapped by **"College Athletics and the Law"** for his expertise in the field. These two articles appear in the November 2012 issue of that periodical which focuses on "Practical Guidance On Athletics Laws And Regulations."



Broadhurst

Gary Broadhurst has had a lot of practice juggling multiple roles during his collegiate athletics career spanning more than 30 years. As associate dean of athletics and physical education and full professor at Mohawk Valley Community College, he's responsible for curriculum development and the faculty for the physical education, recreation and leisure services, sports medicine, and coaching certificate programs, as well as the athletic/events center. And that's all in addition to the typical responsibilities of an athletics director.

His approach in managing it all has brought continued success. In fact, he received the Under Armour AD of the Year Award in the Junior/Community College Division both this year and in 2007. And under his leadership, MVCC student-athletes won numerous national and regional titles. But he looks beyond all the recognition to focus on the primary goal of preparing student-athletes to become better citizens and students who will make positive contributions to society.

If you're juggling multiple roles, follow Broadhurst's advice for achieving success for your student-athletes and athletics department:

- **Put in the time.** Accept that you don't have a typical 9-to-5 job, Broadhurst said. Be prepared to work 12 to 14 hour days, plus nights and weekends, as Broadhurst does.
- **Develop strong time management and organizational skills.** Multitask and continually prioritize on a daily, and sometimes even hourly, basis, to accomplish the most urgent tasks.
- **Build a great team — of coaches and administra-**

**tors.** You can't do it alone. To succeed, you'll need to rely on talented and dedicated staff members who work together as a great team. Although many other two-year colleges face frequent staff turnover, MVCC has much consistency and very little turnover, according to Broadhurst. Focus on identifying, recruiting, mentoring and retaining exceptional staff members.

"Create an environment they can be successful in and surround them with people of character. If you recruit for character and train for skill, you will never have a bad hire," he said.

- **Volunteer for leadership roles.** Broadhurst's multiple regional and national leadership roles have given him the opportunity to meet a diverse section of professional peers and to learn how they manage the challenges they face. Those relationships and experiences prove invaluable during challenging times, he said.
- **Develop a long-range vision.** To achieve goals for your department, you'll need to work effectively with institutional administration and think at least five years ahead. Clearly articulate the role of athletics and how it relates to the overall college mission.  
"You have to be a visionary and understand it takes a number of years before that vision typically comes to fruition," he said. It took a 15-year process to bring a new athletics/events center to the MVCC campus. But Broadhurst's patience paid off in the construction of a 112,000-square-foot facility.
- **Practice patience and perseverance.** "You have to understand there will be many battles to be fought and many will be lost on your way to trying to accomplish what you want. Many times you can't accomplish what you want on your own," he said. That's why you'll need to generate collegewide support. Start by building relationships across campus, including with colleagues from other departments, he added.

## Measure success according to your core values

In the competitive world of collegiate athletics, it can be challenging to measure success beyond the scoreboard. But doing so can mean the difference between a truly successful athletics career in the long term.

That's a lesson learned by Gary Broadhurst during his athletics career spanning more than three decades. He's now associate dean of athletics and physical education and full professor at Mohawk Valley Community College.

"Stay committed to your core values and remember it's not about the wins and losses. Someday those will fade away

and be irrelevant," Broadhurst said. It's more important you set an example of integrity and leadership that others will want to emulate, he said.

And in the middle of the hectic, challenging schedule, keep everything in perspective. "Understand that rarely is anything as bad as it seems, nor is it ever as good," Broadhurst said. "Things have a way of working out."

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## Women's basketball team off to a 10-0 start

The women's basketball team improved to 10-0 on the season with an impressive win over Onondaga CC, 74-56, and a win by forfeit over Genesee Community College. The Hawks are currently ranked No. 4 in the NJCAA's national poll. Stevie Ray (Fabius) had a stand-out game against OCC, dishing out six assists and adding four steals to go along with 15 points.

The men's basketball team split a pair of contests last week. The Hawks took down previously unbeaten Columbia Greene CC, 70-56, behind 16 points from Laz Martinez. MVCC then

dropped a close decision to Division II Genesee CC, 75-72.

The ice hockey team is still looking for their first win this season after losing a close 8-5 decision to Broome CC.

Submit information for **Communitas**  
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