Communitas

MVCC Faculty/Staff Newsletter

Week of November 12, 2012

Women's soccer team wins second national championship

The MVCC women's soccer team captured its second NJCAA Division III national championship with a 4-1 victory over Gloucester Community College of New Jersey on Sunday at Tompkins-Cortland Community College. For this performance, the entire women's soccer team has been named MVCC's Athletes of the Week.

The Hawks were the top-ranked team in Division III having gone unbeaten over the last 15 games – 14-0-1 – to finish 21-1-1 and claim its second national title of the decade under Coach Steve Senior. Hawks won their first national title in 2003 and have won five Region III championships.

Meghan Gaffney and Meghan Carlo scored first-half goals, Brianna Georgia was credited with a goal when an attempted clear bounced crazily into the Gloucester net midway through the second half and Tournament MVP Mia DeGironimo sealed the victory with a 35-yard shot.

MVCC goalie Vanessa Jecko had a spectacular game between the pipes with 10 saves as Gloucester outshot the Hawks 20-9.

Senior was named the Coach of the Tournament while Samantha Getman was named Tournament Outstanding Offensive Player along with Carlo, Gaffney and Jecko being named to the all-tournament team.

Student wins mascot-naming contest

MVCC recently unveiled its new mascot, Mo the Hawk, who was named in a social media contest. Some 1,100 people took part.

David Lloyd, a photography major at MVCC with an independent study in graphic design, won the contest, which asked MVCC students to "Name Our Hawk" on Facebook. His prize was an iPad Mini.

The winning name, Mo, was also suggested by other students, so a drawing was held to determine the winner. More than 150 names were suggested were posted as part of the contest.

In his entry, Lloyd wrote: "Mo should be the name of our new mascot! Without his name being Mo we cannot call ourselves MOhawk Valley Community College. Also if you think about it, a mohawk is a very edgy haircut that lots of musically and artistically talented people have. MVCC is known for its excellent art programs as well as many other programs that help many students achieve great jobs without going to a four-year college. That's why our Hawk should be called Mo so our mascot is connected with our name and the great things we do at our school."

Lloyd, of New Hartford, is scheduled to graduate in spring 2014.

Honoring Employees for Years of Service

Kathy Kotary has had the privilege of watching MVCC grow from a local community college into a regional educational center as enrollment has nearly doubled in her time at the College.

Kathy was recognized this past week for her 30 years of service to the students, having worked on both the Utica and Rome campuses. She joined the MVCC family on November 15, 1982.

As an MVCC alumna, she began her career in the Utica Counseling Office, where she worked for five years. In 1987, Kathy transferred to the Rome Campus with a new title - Stenographer in the Student Services Office - under Denise DiGiorgio.

She continued to be a major asset to the Rome Campus until 2009 when she was promoted to the position of Intake and Process Support with the Professional Association.

Ceremony honors veterans of past and present

With the sound of trumpets playing "Taps" in the distance, MVCC held its annual Veterans Day ceremony on the Utica Campus quad as the American Flag was flown at half-staff. The event honored all the men and women who are or have served in the Armed Forces in defense of the nation.

"Men and women from every generation have stepped forward in defense of this great nation," said Commander Piper, from the Proctor High School ROTC. "The flag flies at half-staff in honor of all the fall service members who made the ultimate sacrifice."

Josh Overrocker and Jordan Montgomery from Sauquoit Valley Central volunteered to play "Taps" this year for the ceremony. Proctor's Junior ROTC performed the flag raising ceremony.

MVCC President Randall VanWagoner addressed the audience on how MVCC has played an important role in the history of the Armed Forces, having been commissioned in 1946 as a technical college to train veterans returning from World War II.

"No matter where our young men and women are called to service, we will be there to serve them upon their return home," said Oneida County Executive Anthony Picente, who is an MVCC alum.

VETERANS DAY - Members of the Proctor High School Junior ROTC (above) prepare to raise the American Flag during the Veterans Day ceremony on the Utica Campus quad on Monday. (Left) While "Taps" was played in the distance, Kelvin Soeh - a senior at Proctor - stands at attention.

WALL OF CHRISTMAS - Barbara Scantlebury, Ph.D., has a heart of gold and a stack of shoeboxes filled with toys for children to prove it. Dr. Scantlebury organized the Operation Christmas Child campaign on the MVCC campus which provides gifts for less-fortuniate children overseas.

Dr. Scantlebury collects gifts for kids overseas

The saying goes - it is not the size of the gift but the meaning behind it.

MVCC's Barbara Scantlebury, Ph.D., is a testament to this as she organized the "Shoebox" campaign this fall on the MVCC campus.

Dr. Scantlebury has been recruiting faculty and staff at the College to take a shoebox sized gift box and fill it with items which will be given to children overseas during the Christmas season.

"A little bit goes a long way for these children," said Dr. Scantlebury. "For many, this is all they will receive for the holidays."

The "Shoebox" campaign is collaboration between MVCC and Onondaga Community College to fill as many boxes as possible. Employees and students from both colleges gathered small gifts that fit in shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.

Dr. Scantlebury began collecting gifts with her students at MVCC and brought M. Lee Berg on board when she joined the MVCC nursing faculty. Now that Berg has moved on to OCC, the collaboration continues with faculty and students at both colleges working together for this wonderful cause.

On November 1, Berg at OCC did her part by hosting a Christmas in November party to accept donations for operation Christmas Child. Many people have heard about Operation Christmas Child and know that they collect shoe boxes filled with small toys, gifts, candy, and hygiene items to be delivered to children from over 130 countries at Christmas.

Classified staff: Don't lose vacation leave

This is a reminder to all classified staff that Article X11.2 of the contract indicates that a maximum of 15 days of vacation time may be carried from one year into the next. All vacation time beyond 15 days will be lost on January 1, 2013.

Employees who may be affected by this provision and who wish to take some vacation time during the remainder of 2012 should check with their supervisors early so arrangements can be made to grant the leave at a time that is mutually agreeable.

Are you on Facebook? If so, Like MVCC Study Abroad/International Education!

College recognizes best of the best

MVCC Excellence Awards recognize outstanding performance over many years by MVCC faculty and staff. The most prestigious award that can be conferred by the College during an employee's career at MVCC, MVCC Excellence Awards are made annually to recognize the many and varied contributions of faculty and staff who go "above and beyond" in their efforts to help MVCC carry out its mission of student success. Awards are available in eight (8) categories including Teaching, Professional Service, Librarianship, Classified Service, Faculty Service, Scholarship & Creative Activities, Adjunct Teaching, and Part-time Professional Service.

Common criteria for all full-time categories is that, prior to the year one is nominated, an employee must be employed three of the past five years in the position for which she/he is nominated. Candidates may not self-nominate for this award.

Nomination criteria for each employee category, lists of eligible candidates by category, and nomination forms for the 2013 MVCC Excellence Awards are available on-line at www.mvcc.edu/academics/employees-awards/faculty-staff-accomplishment. Each MVCC Excellence Award comes with a $500 cash benefit. The College Senate has charged eight Selection Committees (for each category) to review nominations and make recommendations to President VanWagoner later this spring.

The deadline for submitting nominations for the 2013 MVCC Excellence Awards to the Selection Committees is March 15, 2013.

MVCC joins Bunk-In Program to help train EMS students

MVCC will be taking part in a Bunk-In Program with Central Oneida County Volunteer Ambulance Corps (COCVAC) through collaborative efforts of Jamie Cuda, Coordinator Allied Health, Chief Steve Dziura and Community Relations Director John Nagy from COCVAC, and Tony Salce Education Coordinator from Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare EMS Center. Second-year EMS/Paramedic students seeking valuable EMS experience are eligible to apply.

Did You Know!

The estimated first year net cost for a freshman dorm student with full financial aid is $8,000?

EMS students who participate will live and work alongside experienced providers at the COCVAC located in Clark Mills. Students will receive a furnished room, kitchen, bathroom, laundry along with utilities, internet, and access to the COCVAC training classroom and equipment.

Students receive supplementary education and training on the job. If any faculty or staff member knows of an interested student, contact Cuda at jcuda@mvcc.edu.

Parker inducted into NJCAA Hall of Fame

With the fall athletic seasons wrapped up and the record books closed, one last honor needed to be bestowed upon a member of the MVCC community.

Parker

Gary Parker, who has been a pillar of the college for 36 years, was inducted into the NJCAA Cross Country and Track Hall of Fame prior to the National Championship Meet last weekend. Parker has been coaching the Hawks cross country and track & field teams since 1989.

During his tenure, the College's teams have won 17 national championships along with the women's cross country team being named "Team of the Decade" twice. Many of his athletes have won individual national championship honors and hundreds of the athletes have earned All-American status.

Following his induction at the NJCAA national championship, the women's cross country team went on to finish in second place. Sara Rifendifer earned Second-Team All-American Honors as the Hawks compiled an overall record of 49-1-1 this year.

The men's cross country team completed the 2012 season with a seventh place finish at the NJCAA Nationals. Tom Arcuri earned Second-Team All-American Honors. The Hawks finished the season with a final overall record of 40-9.

The men's basketball team split a pair of Region III contests last week. The Hawks are currently 2-2 on the season. This week the Hawks are on the road with games at Cayuga and Adirondack respectively. MVCC will host North Country CC on Sunday (November 18) at 3 p.m.

The women's basketball team improved to 4-0 this season with wins over Broome CC (72-39) and Finger Lakes CC (79-42). The Hawks are currently ranked No. 8 nationally. They travel to Cayuga and Adirondack this week before coming home to play North Country CC on Sunday (November 18) at 1 p.m.

MVCC offers study abroad scholarship

MVCC now offers at least ten $500 scholarships for matriculated students at MVCC so they can study abroad while they are earning their MVCC degree.

These Auxiliary Services Scholarships for Study Abroad require at least a 2.0 GPA, an essay, a letter of recommendation from an MVCC faculty member, and an unofficial transcript. The deadline for the spring semester is December 3.Applications are available in the MVCC Foundation (PH220); Student Services (ACC208); Rome (PCA30), and International Education (ACC224).

The scholarship is most easily applied to the homegrown, faculty-led short-term SA300 Study Abroad course that ends by going to Paris and Amsterdam. Beginning in January 2013, the course will include Hemingway's Moveable Feast, Van Gogh's Letters, and Woody Allen's Midnight in Paris. Students will do a number of reflective essays and blogs as well as a group collaborative video project. Financial aid may apply.

Check out the MVCC study abroad website (www.mvcc.edu/international-initiatives) or send email to CAAHabroad@mvcc.edu for more information!

HELPING TO FEED OUR VETS – In a campaign to support the country's veterans heading into the holiday season and in conjunction with Veterans Day, Team MVCC held a Veterans Food Drive last week. In an eight-day period, Team MVCC collected 259 non-perishable food items from collection sites throughout the Utica and Rome campuses. These food items were donated to the Feed Our Vets organization in Utica which serves veterans throughout Oneida County. Seen here are Sandy Cummings and Deanna Ferro-Aurience, co-chairs of Team MVCC.

Walking for fitness & pleasure

Did you know that doctors say that exercising just 30 minutes a day can lower blood pressure, help you to lose weight, increase stamina and help your immune system fight off viral illnesses?

Please come and join us in getting fit and healthy. Walking is the slower, surer way to stay healthy and fit.

If you have 30 minutes to spare in your day, three times a week please come join the Student Health Center in this year's **Walking for Fitness and Pleasure Program.**

If we have sparked an interest please contact the Student Health Center at (315) 792-5451 or e-mail Candace Miller at cmmiller@mvcc.edu.

Submit information for Communitas to rhaubert@mvcc.edu