



## MVCC students recognized for exceptional work in business fields

Over the past two years, MVCC has emerged as a top academic contender in New York State for excellence in business programs.

As a chapter member of Phi Beta Lambda, the national educational association for students preparing for careers in business, entrepreneurial or business-related fields, MVCC has participated in the New York State Regional Competition during this time.

Competing in this year's event were students Steven Gray, Stephen Cope, Ryan Kessler, Christopher Cleveland, Jonathon Doolittle, Michael Young and Sonia Tal.

For the 2013 results, business students placed first, second, third, fourth and fifth in Accounting, first in Networking Concepts, first in Macroeconomics, and first in Business Decision Making. Last year's participants delivered a similar outcome, placing first in Financial Concepts, Macroeconomics and Business Decision Making and second in Accounting.

The FBLA-PBL National Awards Program recognizes and rewards excellence in a broad range of business and career-related areas. At the State Leadership Conferences, students compete in events testing their business knowledge and skills. Top state winners are then eligible to compete for national awards at the National Leadership Conference each summer.

## Study Abroad visits Amsterdam, Paris and London

Van Gogh and Hemingway have come alive this week as MVCC students tour cultural setting in Europe during the Spring 2013 Study Abroad trip which began on May 18 and returns to Central New York on May 27. This year's Study Abroad trip has students traveling to Amsterdam, Paris and London.

The students will explore Hemingway's "A



**BUSINESS CONTEST** - Front row are David Maxwell, Professor Jack Susenburger, Sonia Tal, Vice President for Learning and Academic Affairs Maryrose Eannace, Jonathon Doolittle, and Dean of Social Sciences, Business and Information Sciences Marianne Buttenschon. Back row are Stephen Cope, Steven Gray, Ryan Kessler, Christopher Cleveland, and Michael Young.

Other New York State colleges that have competed in the past include: RPI, Binghamton University, SUNY-Geneseo, Herkimer County Community College, Morrisville State College, Cayuga Community College, Hilbert College, and Briarcliff College.

These exceptional results reflect the impressive quality of teaching that oc-

curs at MVCC. Receiving an education from this institution provides a rock solid foundation for students upon graduation. Whether they choose to continue on to a four-year institution, or immediately join the workforce, the knowledge gained here is proven to be just as good, and at times better, than a larger, more expensive four-year college or university.

Moveable Feast" and Van Gogh's personal letters as a gateway to understanding how these great minds created unique windows into these European capitals. Rich with art, music and culture, they will uncover treasures such as Anne Frank's house, the Van Gogh museum, the Rembrandt museum, the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame, Arc de Triomphe, Louvre, Big Ben and the Tower of

London on this comprehensive tour of Amsterdam, Paris and London.

This spring semester course will pair an introduction of creative communication, poetry and literature from these great countries with a 10-day trip to provide a contextual background. Students will create a collaborative project to the College based on research during this trip.

# Honoring Employees for Years of Service

Ever since MVCC kicked off its longevity recognition program, one person has witnessed just about every recognition event. Last Friday, after shooting more than 130 recognitions and countless other events in the life of Mohawk Valley Community College, Special Projects Coordinator Sharon Kane Zohne '87 was out from behind the camera to be recognized for 15 years of service.

Zohne's connection to MVCC stretches back to her time as a student, after which she earned a BFA from Rochester Institute of Technology. She has toted a camera across MVCC's campuses for more than a quarter of the College's history. Through her lens she has recorded most of the college's faculty and staff, tens of thousands of students and some of the most noteworthy events that have occurred here.

"Sharon makes this college look great," said Director of Marketing and Communications Matthew Snyder. "She has a great eye for news as well as human interest and she knows how to draw the audience in. She can do that with the camera, or by staging a great public event, or by maintaining strong relationships across campus and in the community. Sharon's a great contributor to team spirit and whenever we need to show our best side, we count on her to lead the way."

Zohne's talents were first recognized by the initial search committee and supervisor, past Director Robert Lacell, who brought her to MVCC from the Rome Sentinel's newsroom. She has been recognized with the MVCC Award for Excellence and the 2004-05 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Professional Service, and not just for her work behind the camera. Her other roles include engaged committee service, news-release writing, support of graphic designers, focus group and Core Workshop facilitation, teaching photography, and much more. She has served the Professional Association's Internal Communications and Non-Teaching Promotion Review Committees and holds Level IV non-teaching professional rank.

With her event-planning and team leadership expertise Zohne is deeply engaged at the intersection of MVCC and the community. She served on the board of directors of the Women's Employment Resource Center for 12 years and on the Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency's Development Committee. She organizes the College's participation in the Boilermaker and, perhaps most visibly, leads all marketing efforts for the Great American Irish Festival. She is also proprietor of a small photography business specializing in event and portrait photography.



**SAY CHEESE** - Sometimes the most experienced photographers find it hard to get out from behind the camera! Here, Special Projects Coordinator Sharon Kane Zohne and President Randall VanWagoner find a way to mark Zohne's 15 years of service.

## Pulquerio, Soe named academic gold scholars

Carlos Pulquerio and Paw Ser Soe, students of MVCC, have been named a 2013 Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team Gold Scholars. The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation sponsors the Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team program by recognizing 50 Gold, 50 Silver and 50 Bronze Scholars, and providing nearly \$200,000 in scholarships annually. Each Gold Scholar receives a \$1,500 scholarship and a special medallion.

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society administers the Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team Program and recognizes Coca-Cola Community College scholars during All-State Community College Academic Team Recognition ceremonies

held in 38 states. Student scholars also receive recognition locally during ceremonies held on campus and internationally for those who are able to attend Phi Theta Kappa's Annual Convention.

Community college presidents or their designated nominators may submit no more than two nominations per campus for this award. An independent panel of judges considers outstanding academic rigor, grade point average, academic and leadership awards, and engagement in college and community service in the selection process. Pulquerio and Soe were selected from a pool of 1,800 applicants.

"We thank the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation for their vote of confidence in community college students by invest-

ing in their futures," said Dr. Rod Risley, Executive Director of Phi Theta Kappa. "Their support is especially welcome during this challenging economic climate, as more and more community college students need additional resources to help them complete their degrees."

"The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation has a long history of providing financial assistance to outstanding students at community colleges," said J. Mark Davis, President of the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation. "We are proud to partner with Phi Theta Kappa and make it possible for deserving students to achieve their educational goals."

PTK Honor Society is the largest honor society in American higher education.