



Honors Program Newsletter

Mott Community College

Fall Semester, 2011

Winter Retreat is February 17th



Photo from 2011 Retreat

The Honors Winter Retreat will held February 17, 2011 at the Regional Technology Center. Honors Program students as well as faculty will meet the challenge of the high ropes course. Other retreat activities offered will help attendees' develop communication, team-building, and problem-solving skills. **Additional information on this event will be forthcoming ...**

Key Dates:

December 12 — Financial Aid Drop Date for students who have not secured “*method of payment*” for fall classes (e.g., financial aid).

January 14 — MCC Classes Begin. Sign up for HP courses through the honors coordinator.

February 17 — Honors Winter Retreat. A friendly reminder: All students must attend *at least* one retreat each academic year.

Welcome to our New HP Students

Stacey Olivier	Flint	Angela Hood	Flint
Tina James	Flint	Melina Stone	Davison
Roy Cash	Gaines	Amanda Smith	Flint
Jessica Banks	Flint	Heather Shiefer	Vassar
Tichanti Sweeney	Grand Blanc	Jammie Pruett	Burton
Jason Copprue	Fenton		

Professor Spotlight: Dr. Mary Procopio



A warm welcome to Dr. Mary Procopio, one of three new MCC faculty teaching Honors Program courses this coming semester. This winter she will be offering a section of World Music Appreciation. “*MUS 183 is my favorite class to teach,*” she says. “*There are lively discussions, lots of great music, and video footage from music cultures all over the world.*” For several years, Dr. Procopio has traveled to Haiti to teach music in several locations, including a summer camp in Port-au-Prince. She will bring to the classroom, and our Honors Program students, a breadth of experience both performing and researching world music.

Dr. Procopio is in her sixth year teaching full-time at Mott Community College. She earned an undergraduate degree in music education and performance. She also has graduate degrees from Michigan State University in Ethnomusicology, Musicology and flute performance. In 2008, she released her first CD, titled *Belle Ayiti*. As for teaching Honors Program students, Dr. Procopio says she is very excited about the opportunity: “*I have a very relaxed, open classroom and want students to feel free to debate and discuss issues that arise.*” **Welcome to the Honors Program, Mary!**

MHA Conference Update: Living in the NOW!

In October, eight Honors Program students attended the annual MHA conference. The conference was held at the MacMullan Center near Roscommon, MI. Honors students from across the state came together to explore the following theme: *"MHA Unplugged."* Weekend workshops focused on simplicity, introspection and solitude. *"The honors retreat at Higgins Lake was great,"* said Joe Giacchina. *"I really enjoyed meeting people from different Honors Programs. Evening activities like the bonfire and hiking were fun and relaxing."* MHA funding was provided by the CLEF committee.



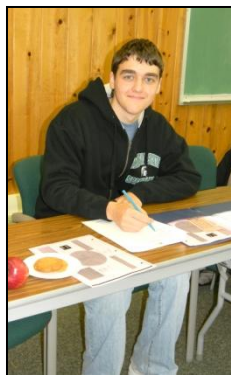
Whitney Rice, Tiffany Pavelchik & Angela Hood



MCC students at MacMullan Center



Tiffany, Angela & Jessica Banks



Joe Giacchina in a workshop



Dr. Brian Ivory, Judy Malone, Kim Pentecost & Melanie Holland

Honors Program: A Night at the Movies



Kim Pentecost, Mariana Barillas & Ryan Brown at *Incendies* movie

In September the Honors Program held a free movie outing at the Flint Institute of Arts. Eighteen HP students viewed the foreign film, *"Incendies."* Afterward, many students went to Wise Guys for pizza and discussion, including Kim Pentecost: *"Incendies is a movie that takes you through the entire gamut of emotions. The post-dinner at Wise Guys was a great way to decompress the revelations of the movie,"* she says. *"It was also a wonderful opportunity to get to know one another on a more individual basis."* Tickets were donated by Ed Bradley, Associate Curator of Film for the FIA. **Thank you Ed!**

2011 Annual Fall Honors Program Retreat

On September 23rd, the Honors Program held its annual Fall Retreat in the MCC Event Center. More than 50 students attended—a great turnout! Activities included raffles, a scavenger hunt, faculty Round Tables, *Honors Jeopardy* and *HP Speed Dating*. Student leaders, including a representative from Phi Theta Kappa, were also on hand to impart words of wisdom on those in attendance.



A Round Table with Professor Kim Giacchina



Charlene Fortner speaks on service



Jesse Counelis pulls a raffle ticket from a pink handbag

I enjoyed the whole retreat, especially the speed dating activity. The Round Tables with the faculty was great as it helped me to know what classes to take in the Winter. All of the candy on the tables made it seem like Halloween. Not to mention the pink handbag, which was hilarious.

Virginia Thomas



Jason Copprue wins a t-shirt

Loved the retreat, but you may want to rethink the candy at some people's tables. Sugar is like drugs!!!! HaHa! Thank you for the wonderful day of fellowship and friendship!

Margie Saulnier



Tina James & Courtney Lee



Dr. Procopio (right) mixes it up with students

I was nervous at first since it was my first retreat. But I liked the relaxed feel of it, which made it more comfortable. And it was nice being able to meet new people and get to know those I already knew even better. Plus it was interesting how easily Honors students are amused by candy and games!!

Courtney Lee

Honors Program Students Making News!

HONS 251 Students Apply Service Learning as the *Mott Campus Clowns*

The Mott Campus Clowns are a newly-formed clown troupe at Mott Community College. All ten members are Honors Program students enrolled in *HONS 251: Social Diversity & Civic Engagement*. As a course requirement, students must develop various clown skills, including juggling, puppetry, pocket magic, balloon animals, and face painting. In October, while in Detroit for a service weekend, the Mott Campus Clowns made appearances at Boys & Girls Clubs, Special Olympics, nursing homes and community events. On November 18, the troupe departs for Lansing for another weekend.



Mott Campus Clowns (from left to right):

Thomas Tanner
Jesse Counselis
Shane Trombley
Joshua Thompson
Jasmin Walker
Heather Ketzler
Monica Wolf
Dismond Darrough
Sally Newman and
Shane Brotherton
(not pictured)

Campus Clowns Headed to Philadelphia for Spring Break

Students enrolled in HONS 251 during Winter Semester will venture to the *City of Brotherly Love* for Alternative Spring Break from March 11 through March 18. Students will be housed at the Old First Reformed Church. Partial funding for the Mott Campus Clowns has been provided through a *Venture Grant* awarded by the **Michigan Campus Compact**.



HP Students Assist “Tale on the Trail” Event



Monica Wolf stands with husband Joe performing as Running Bear

HP students volunteered for the “Tale on the Trail” program sponsored by the SAGE organization. The event was designed to promote reading and physical activity. Courtney Lee, Judith Malone and Jennifer Carrasco were on hand to assist. Monica Wolf and husband (Joe) each entertained in the Running Bear costume. “*Monica and Joe really stepped up to the plate,*” according to Stef Diana, Economics professor. “*The Honors students filled half of the volunteer roles for this event. We wouldn’t have been able to do it so successfully without them.*”
Thanks for stepping in, Honors Program students!