



Honors Program News For MCC Honors Students

Mott Community
College

Volume 5 Issue 3

February 2004

Need a Break from Studying? Five Fun Events Planned

The MCC Honors Program will be sponsoring five events this semester. The Steering Committee has developed a calendar with a variety of local events that allows a greater number of honors students to join instead of the former spring break trip that accommodated just a few. We hope this will encourage more participation while keeping the costs low.

To kick off the season, honors students enjoyed the first of three "Open Mic Nights" at The Good Beans Café on Wednesday, Feb. 18th. The evening provided a great

venue for talented Honors Program students, as well as an off-campus opportunity to just chill and get to know each other better. We'd like to thank Ken Van Wagoner of Good Beans who gave the exclusive use of their cool facilities at 328 N. Grand Traverse St. in Flint. This was patterned after a series sponsored by UM-Flint for its students.

There will be two more "Open Mic" events March 17th and April 14th. Feel free to bring a friend or family member. Musicians, comedians, poets, magicians, and even visual artists (cont. page 2)

LAND Conference To Feature Work of MCC Honors Students Again!

Matthew Thick and Carolyn Scott will be recognized for their fine writing at the February 26-27 LAND (Liberal Arts Network for Development) Conference in Traverse City.

Matthew Thick won second

place for short fiction with his thought-provoking story entitled "An Old Man's Conversation With a Seven Year-old Genius." This year, the competition drew seventy-six submissions from seventeen

Two Honors Program Students Named to All-USA Academic Team

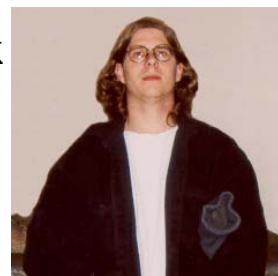


Jessica Safran and Elizabeth Seavey have been chosen to represent Mott Community College in the 2004 All-USA Academic Team scholarship competition, jointly sponsored by PTK and *USA Today*.

Each participating college nominated two students per campus for the All-USA Academic Team, which annually selects 60 of

the nation's most outstanding students. Brenda Zicha, assistant professor of Sociology and Phi Theta Kappa advisor at MCC, organized the selection of nominees for the All-USA Academic Team.

Jessica Safran is a full time MCC student pursuing a degree in English. She is currently secretary of the Alpha Omicron Iota chapter or the PTK. Jessica helped organize and participated in the American Cancer Society's Breast Cancer Walk for Life. In addition, she worked on Operation Dress-up, where clothing items were collected for Good Will Industries, and she also participated in the Hurley Medical Festival. (cont. page 2)



Michigan community colleges. All entries in the categories of poetry, fiction and essay were sent to the judges (cont p2)

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Five Fun Events Planned – cont.

can share their talents. In addition, the Good Beans Café is known for its fabulous coffee drinks and desserts. Word to the wise: carpool, since parking is limited.

Two cultural events are also planned. First will be the Flint Symphony Orchestra performance at Whiting Auditorium on Saturday, March 17th. Chuck Iwanusa, professor for Honors Music Appreciation this semester, is organizing this event. Students enrolled in the class are required to attend, but a limited number of additional tickets will be available to other Honors Program students on a first-come, first-served

basis.

The second cultural event will be *Mousetrap*, a play by Agatha Christie, performed by UM-Flint's Theatre Department on Sunday, April 4th. This date was selected because the 2:00 PM matinee performance is followed by a special Theatre Enrichment event. Members of the production give "behind the scenes" details that will enhance your theater experience.

A grant was approved by the CLEF (Student Life Enhancement Fund) Committee, so the Honors Pro-

gram can provide the symphony and play performances to honors students at NO COST. Thanks CLEF! However, to make sure students reserve a spot for the number of tickets available (and also actually use the ticket), honors students will deposit \$5.00 for each event and receive a "pass." An actual ticket will be issued and the \$5.00 will be refunded at the door of the event. Passes can be purchased from Tammy Irving CM 1001 in the Vice-President's office on a first-come first-served basis (available in March).

All-USA Academic Team – cont.



Elizabeth Seavey is what the college community calls a non-traditional student who has

Returned to college to pursue college to pursue a degree in English. She served as an intern for State Representative John Gleason, was on the Community Foundation for Flint, and served as PTA presi-

tary School. She now serves as Vice-President of Fellowship for Mott Community College's Alpha Omicron Iota chapter of PTK.

Congratulations, ladies!

ference ! – cont.

hor or college identifier judge is a published author. Matt's work is published in the anthology, also earned writing pays off! Take heed!

tt, an MCC Honors Program alumna, will present her

research project "Beauty and the Media Beast," since she was among the winners of the Fall Student Scholars competition. Carolyn now attends UM-Flint's Honors Scholar Program and will be able to use her conference experience toward her Honors requirement.

Honors Coordinator Heather Sisto will accompany the students as their mentor and will also present a session for Humanities faculty on "Using Classic Literature to Understand Argumentation." Prof Sisto will showcase concepts used in her Honors English 102 class.



Flint Institute Of Arts:

Unique Location for 2004 Winter Retreat

The Flint Institute of Arts was the site of the Honors Program's 2004 Winter Retreat. On January 23rd, new and returning Honors Program students enjoyed the docent-led tours of the special exhibit of "American Scene Painting in Upper Midwest" and the highlights of the permanent collections. Many had never been to the FIA, one of the jewels of Flint's Cultural Center. Unfortunately, the FIA is about to begin an 18-month renovation project, so we won't be able to return until 2005.

In addition to the tours, guest speaker Robert Frasier talked about "following your passion." Mr. Frasier is a counselor and teacher for Mott Middle College and is part of the exciting EXCEL Program for selected students who will complete their high school and associate degrees in 5 years. The program would like to use MCC Honors Program students as mentors for those selected students, and Mr. Frasier would like to match students by area of interest, major or hobby.

Please contact Heather if you would like to serve as a mentor.

A delicious lunch was catered by Dutchman's Deli, and the retreat provided time for the new and returning students to get acquainted.

The retreat closed with tips on portfolio preparation led by Honors Program Coordinator, Heather Sisto.

Mark your Calendar for these events!

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| Feb. 29 | PTK orientation | (optional for Honors Program students Contact Brenda Zicha) |
| March 17 | St Patrick's Day "Open Mic" Good Beans Café 7-9 P.M. | Free Admission |
| March 27 | Flint Symphony Orchestra 6:30 Pre-concert Lecture 8:00 Performance | (\$5.00-pass) |
| March 22 | Deadline for MCC writing contest: research papers, essays, poems or short stories must be submitted to Humanities office CM 1101 | |
| April 4 | UM-Flint Play <i>The Mousetrap</i> | (\$5.00 pass) 2:00 Performance |
| April 14 | "Open Mic Night" Good Beans Café 7-9 P.M. | Free Admission |

All ticketed events: Contact Tammy Irving at 762-0237 and pick up passes at CM 1001. First-come first-served! See page 2 of this newsletter for details.



Tips for Honors Program Graduates

Students planning to graduate in May 2004, must contact Heather ASAP as graduation events require a great deal of planning.

1. Apply for graduation. Fill out form and return to MCC registrar.
2. Tell Heather if you plan to graduate, so she can check if you have fulfilled Honors Program requirement. Supply major, associate degree sought, and college or employment plans.
3. Sign a Request for Release of Best Approximation of Final Grades and return to Heather by March 24th. These will be mailed to you soon.
4. If you have not already done so, sign a Waiver and Release Form so that we can use your photo from graduation activities.
5. The Vice-President's office is in charge of printing programs and will send names for commencement and honors breakfast to printers by March 26th. They get the Honors Program students names from Heather.
6. Apply to your transfer college ASAP and look into financial and scholarships. Good idea to actually VISIT the campus and schedule advising session. Remember that special programs such as Education, have limited enrollment and their own deadlines for application AFTER you are accepted by the college.
7. Education majors need to take the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification PRIOR to applying for College of Education at their chosen university.
8. Caps and gowns are soled 2 weeks before Commencement (approximately April 16) in the lower level of the Prael College Center. PTK members must purchase their own regalia. Honors Program Medallions are supplied at the graduation dinner.
9. April 23, 2004 Honors Program Graduation Dinner and Medallion Ceremony 6-9 P. M. in the Applewood Café of College Center. Each graduate receives one free ticket and additional tickets are available to purchase.
10. April 30, 2004 Honors Breakfast for entire college. Any student who received 3.0 GPA or better is invited plus ONE guest. Tickets are available from Dolores Sharp in CM 1001 in April. Honors Program grads are expected to wear their medallions and are recognized as a group.
11. May 1, 2004 Commencement at IMA. Medallions must be worn. Line up in FRONT ROW as you receive your diploma as first MCC group (after Ferris State group) DO NOT exit the auditorium as group photo is taken immediately after the ceremony.
12. Any questions, call 232-3058 or email : hsisto@mcc.edu