Honors Program News For MCC Honors Students

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HP Students Attend MHA Conference

This year's Michigan Honors Association Conference drew great interest from the MCC Honors Program as evidenced by eight students in attendance.

Accompanied by Heather S. Sisto, Honors Program Coordinator, the group drove to Roscommon, Michigan, to attend the October 1-2 conference at the MacMullan Center on Higgins Lake. Conference participants stayed in cabins and enjoyed a lakeside bonfire with students who hailed from several two and four-year college honors programs around the state of Michigan.

Two incredible speakers, Dr. Paul Patton, from Spring Arbor University and Dr. David Pilgrim from Ferris State University had the audience enthralled from the beginning session Friday night to the closing session Saturday afternoon. The focus of the conference was "Call to Action: Confronting Intolerance."

MCC Honors students enjoy a nature walk before dinner.at MHA Conference. From L-R: E. Putney, A. Antonova, K. McLeod, A. Aikins, S.Arakelyan, J. Fockler, K. Dawson and A. Riegle

Dr. Patton warmed up the group of 60 students & professors. As a dramatist, he engaged small groups by challenging them to recall early school memories which led to discussions of our first awareness of assumptions we make and injustices that are perpetrated knowingly as well as unknowingly. This set the stage well for the Saturday sessions. (see p2)

All-USA Academic Team Wants YOU!!

USA Today, the American Association of Community Colleges, and Phi Theta Kappa seek to honor 60 outstanding two-year college students from across the nation.

It is NOT necessary to be a PTK member, but you must be obtaining an Associates degree by August 2005. An essay of 500 words or fewer must be submitted by November 8, 2004 to Brenda Zicha, PTK Advisor.

MCC will nominate 2 students based on the (cont p2)

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Important Dates:

- **Nov. 1** Winter registration starts.
- **Nov 8** Deadline for submission of Essay for All-USA Scholarship
- **Nov. 15** UM-F application for admission due (to be considered for University Scholar Award).
- **Nov. 16** HOST mentor day at Bunche Elementary
- **Nov. 17** "Clips and Chips" 7-9:30 PM

Honors Program Sweatshirts Ongoing Sale !

Honors Program sweatshirts are available to purchase throughout the Fall semester. Profits will be used for upcoming Honors Program events. We don't make a profit until inventory is sold!

Regular and hooded sweatshirts that display our unique MCC Honors Program Logo are available in black and gold.

Hooded are $ 38 Black with gold logo.
Regular are $ 28 Deep gold with black logo.

Procedure:
Checks payable to Mott Community College with Honors Program on memo line. Pick up shirts from Heather in Advising CC218 or give check to Dolores Sharp in CM1001. She will send a receipt to Heather who will leave your shirt in the "Pick Up" folder at the Advisement desk.

Honors advising hours: Tues 10-1 and Thurs 12-3.

Students Attend MHA
(cont. from page 1)

On Saturday, Dr. Pilgrim shared his thought-provoking documentary on the Jim Crow Museum he established at Ferris State Univ. This exemplified how our current honors topic, "Popular Culture: Shaping and Reflecting Who We Are," can be used to explore how everyday artifacts and popular media often promote stereotypes. Groups discussed contemporary examples that still perpetuate racist attitudes, and then each college designed an "action plan" for their campus. Representatives from each campus will report at next year's conference.

MCC honors students received compliments about their friendliness and eagerness to contribute to the discussions. In addition, Anya Antonova, Svetlana Arakelyan & Evan Putney were elected as 3 of the 11 who will serve as student reps. for the statewide organization this year!

Prof. Sisto has served MHA as community college rep. for 2 years, and is now Vice-Pres-elect. Many thanks to the College Life Enhancement Fund for making this trip possible.

ALL-USA Team Wants YOU !! (cont. from page 1)

the essay contest, 3 letters of recommendation, and a subsequent application.

Selected students will be eligible for trophies, cash awards & scholarships. Achievement levels include All- State academic teams, as well as first, second and third All-American teams. Jessica Safran an Honors alumna, was honored on the All-Michigan team for 2003-04.

Content of essay must describe your most significant endeavor while attending community college in which you applied your academic, intellectual or leadership skills to benefit your school, community or society.

Application forms include information on campus and community activities, honors and awards , reasons you chose to attend a community college and a discussion of time management of college, job and family obligations.

Judges will consider originality and initiative, degree of difficulty, results and impact of experience described in the essay.

For further details please contact Ms. Brenda Zicha, MCC Phi Theta Kappa Advisor, by phone at (810) 232 - 8021 or email: bzicha@mcc.edu.

Upcoming Events!

Honors students came back from the MHA conference determined to translate into action the focus of the conference which exemplified our current honors topic, "Popular Culture: Shaping and Reflecting Who We Are."

To implement their "Campus Action Plan" the Honors Program will host 2 events this Fall that will focus on popular culture and its connection to racist or sexist stereotypes.

Event # 1 "Clips and Chips: Watch What You're Watching!" 7-9:30 PM Nov.17

Student Life Lounge , College Center.

Clips of popular family movies will be shown, followed by a discussion of blatant or hidden stereotypes that promote racism or sexism. "Remember the Titans" will be shown in its entirety to promote diversity and healing. Event is Free, includes refreshments, and is open to all MCC students and their families.

Event # 2 is still in the planning stages, but we hope to have the "Opening Reception" for the traveling Jim Crow Museum Exhibit 5:30-7:30 PM Dec1st in the MCC Library.

A short documentary film on the Jim Crow Museum, curated by Dr. David Pilgrim of Ferris State University will be shown at 5:30 and again at 6:30.

Dr. David Pilgrim, Professor at Ferris State University, was MHA keynote speaker on Jim Crow Museum.

Artifacts from the museum will be on display and refreshments will be provided. Honors HIST 155 & HREL 151 will see course concepts in action!

Impressive Turnout at Fall Retreat

Turnout for the Sept 17, 2004 Fall Retreat was quite impressive. Thirty students attended the event, held for the first time at Kearsley Park. Heather S. Sisto, Honors Program Coordinator, welcomed the attendees.

A scavenger hunt was designed to give the students an opportunity to get to know each other while introducing this year's honors topic. After an hour of hunting in the park's perimeter for artifacts related to "Popular Culture: Shaping and Reflecting Who We Are," they regrouped to discuss and expound on their "hunt." There was a lively exchange of ideas.

The Honors Program was considering applying for club status, but due to some misunderstandings during the election process, the Steering Committee decided not to pursue it this year. Per the election, student reps. for the Honors Steering Committee for 2004-05 are: J. Bright and Anya Antonova.

Guest students from UM– Flint's Honors Scholar Program shared tips about the transfer process. Some highlighted their plans or experiences related to the unique Honors Thesis Project. Therese Long did her thesis project on the SARS epidemic in Toronto and traveled to Hawaii to present on Post-traumatic Stress Disorder in the Construction Industry. Nick Perry (MCC grad) plans to do research on artificial intelligence! Other UM-F students included Brian Proffer and MCC grad, Jessica Safran.

Overall, a great start to Fall Semester.

Reminder: Enroll Early !
Winter 2005 Registration Begins Nov. 1st

Winter 2005 registration starts Nov. 1st. You must register with the Honors Program Coordinator to enroll in any honors courses and to receive the honors scholarship.

Honors courses offered Winter 2005:

PSCN 171 (soc) MW 9:00-10:55 AM
(This is a time change for PSCN)
MUS 182 (hum,wac,mes) MW 12:30-1:55 PM
PSYC 281 (soc, smc) TR 9:30-10:55 AM
ENGL 102 TR 1:00-2:25 PM
ENGL 299 (sac, wac) F 9:00-11:55 AM

* ENGL 299 is the Honors Colloquium. This year's topic will be "Popular Culture: Shaping & Reflecting Who We Are."

Remember, in order to graduate with an Honors Diploma, you must complete the Honors Colloquium plus 3 other honors courses.

Non-Honors Program students with a cumulative 3.25 gpa may also enroll for honors courses (other than the Colloquium), but must have the permission of the Honors Coordinator.

Non-Honors Program students are NOT eligible for the scholarship, however.

Honors Advising Hours Oct-Dec 2004:

Tues: 10-1:00 and Thurs: 12-3:00

Call 762-0331 to make an appointment . Also notify Heather if you plan to graduate in May.

Mentors Wanted

Four Flint elementary schools: Bunche, King, Washington, and Carpenter Road, will be participating in a "Mentoring Awareness Week."

Celebrities will visit each school and representatives from local colleges, parents, high schools, churches and other community groups will be present to learn about the HOST reading mentoring program.

Several of the MCC Honors Program students and PTK chapter members have participated in HOST in the past and found it very rewarding. UM-Flint, Baker, Kettering and MCC were asked to provide student mentors.

Each college will partner with a particular school and MCC will be teamed with Bunche Elementary. Contact Principal Tony Sitko or HOST coordinator Linda Bean at 422-0151. Mentor Day at Bunche is planned for Tuesday, Nov. 16.

Ideas for Courses 2005-06

We need your feedback! Please email Heather Sisto regarding courses you'd like to see offered in Honors next year. Suggestions should include courses that would benefit most major fields of study, meet a gen. ed. requirement and/or transfer well to other colleges.

Email: hsisto@mcc.edu

Some courses being considered:

PHIL-295 Ethics, PHIL-251 Religious World Views, SCI-101 Scientific Inquiry, BIOL-107,General Biology, ENG 221 Intro to Lit.

Also include if you would prefer (or don't mind attending) at least one evening class.