MOTT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CONNECTION
FEBRUARY 2004

MCC FACULTY & STAFF NEWSLETTER

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Quote of the Month

"I was determined to achieve the total freedom that our history lessons taught us we were entitled to, no matter what the sacrifice."

--Rosa Parks

President Proposes Aid to Community Colleges' Job Training Efforts

A $250 million proposal to support job training programs at community colleges was announced by President George W. Bush in his State of the Union address delivered Jan. 20.

President Bush mentioned the plan to help community colleges as part of his administration's economic agenda.

"I propose increasing our support for America's fine community colleges, so they can train workers for the industries that are creating the most new jobs . . . . . Job training is important, and so is job creation," Bush said.

Mott Community College President M. Richard Shaink said he was encouraged by the federal government's renewed focus on vocational programs utilizing community colleges, noting that community colleges have been in the forefront offering job-training programs for many years.

"The community college system has for decades lead the way in providing affordable career training," said Dr. Shaink. "Mott Community College is a recognized leader in the workforce development arena with a track record of utilizing resources well."

Details of the President's proposal are not yet known, but any assistance would be welcome and put to good use, said Dr. Shaink, adding:

"For many years, federal money for vocational programs has been declining. When combined with recent reductions in state funding, a great deal of pressure has been placed on MCC's career training mission. Any additional resources that may come from the federal government would be well used."

Governor Highlights MCC's Mott Middle College in State of the State Address

Mott Middle College High School is a shining example of programs Governor Jennifer Granholm touted in her State of the State address as setting the standard by offering high-quality education and fostering economic growth.

In the speech entitled "Our Determination, Our Destination: A 21st Century Economy," Gov. Granholm outlined her plans to make Michigan "an economic powerhouse state" by attracting new businesses and creating new jobs, improving quality of life issues for Michigan residents and ensuring quality educational opportunities.

"As we help our schools achieve high standards, we recognize that today far too many of our students drop out," said Granholm. "These young people aren't just dropping out of school; they're dropping out of the economic life of Michigan . . . Mott Middle College has an eye-popping success rate at helping hundreds of high school dropouts earn not just their high school diplomas, but college credit as well."

Mott Middle College garnered national attention early last year when it received funding from four prestigious foundations for a new program that provides students with a seamless transition to college. The Middle College National Consortium announced a $142,500 grant provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Ford Foundation, Carnegie Corporation of New York and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation for implementation of the Early College/Middle College High School program, placing the school firmly in the ranks of 100 Early College High School programs nationwide.

The program, offered Fall 2003, offers a combined high school and college degree, giving students an opportunity to earn a high school diploma and an associate's degree in five years or less.

Around Campus

Social Sciences Associate Dean **Margaret Brainard** shares news about a prestigious honor **Sharon Eisen**, coordinator of MCC's Social Work Technician Program, has received. She has been invited to discuss Poverty and Children at Oxford University in England this spring. Congratulations, Sharon.

Office Information Systems Professor **Bettie Goodman** has been invited to attend a session of the Oxford Round Table which will be held Aug. 1-Aug. 6, 2004. The August session will address some of the major issues affecting trade and financial relations between the European Union and the U.S. Congratulations, Betty!

Women's Cross Country Coach **Kim Fonger** wants everyone to know that Men's Cross Country Coach **John Irwin** has started a TRACK CLUB (not cross country). Feel free to contact John if you know of students who might be interested in indoor track in the Spring.

Laurie LaCross-Wright, Curriculum Office and her husband are currently recording a Blues CD, which should be ready for release late spring/early summer. Way to go, Laurie!

Institutional Research Director **Gail Ives** tells us about a major athletic as well as personal achievement for I.R. Research Coordinator **Marty Goldstein**. Marty ran (and finished!) the Phoenix Arizona P.F. Chang Marathon on Jan. 11. Her time was 4 hours, 59 minutes, 53 seconds, as she noted: "It was still under 5 hours!" Added Gail, "The temps in Phoenix were in the 80s while we "enjoyed" record cold temps and snowfall here in Flint. Congratulations to Marty for successfully running her first marathon race."

Associate Dean **Jessie Sirna** has a lot of good news to report from the Fine Arts Department. The Art Area has moved into the new Visual Arts and Design Center (VADC), formerly the Trade-Tech Building, and classes are running as scheduled. "A big thank-you goes to all of the instructors, staff and many students who put in long hours over the holiday break to make this possible."

The work of MSU graduate students in Art & Design--including our art instructor **Mara Fulmer**--will be exhibited in the MCC Gallery (now located in the VADC), Feb. 2-17. The lecture on the MSU grad exhibition, titled "11 Artists, 1 1/2 Ideas" is Feb. 11 at 3 pm. The Gallery will also present an exhibition by Berkley, Mich. filmmaker Kathy Vander from Feb. 23 - Mar. 9. The exhibition is titled "Documentary Films" and will feature a series of films from the recent past. In addition, Vander will give a public presentation at 10 a.m. Thurs., Feb. 26, in the VADC. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mon.- Fri. The public is always welcome. For information, call the Art Office at (810) 762-0443. Please stop in to take a look at the building and the gallery.

The MCC Chamber Singers, conducted by music professor **Mary Nieuwenhuis**, performed on Sunday, Jan. 18 as part of the Flint Festival of Choirs, which included church choirs and UM-Flint groups as well. "Ours was the only group singled out for a solo performance within the program and they did an excellent job in representing our department and the college."

Music professor **Chuck Iwanusa** and part time music instructor **Frank Yon** attended the International Association for Jazz Education in New York City during the week of Jan. 19. Chuck is a past president of the organization.

Marketing's **Rebecca Gale**, who serves as MCC Gardening Association Advisor tells us of two upcoming events. The Wild Ones will meet at 7 pm Feb. 12. Topic: "How to Make Maple Syrup." At 6 pm Feb. 26, the Flint Urban Gardening and Land Use Committee is giving a presentation on "Fung Sheui in the Garden." Both programs will be held in the Genesee Room, Prahl College Center and are open to the public. Space is limited so please RSVP by calling (810) 762-0455.

L. Deanne Chandler has joined the Learning Center as its new Disadvantaged & LEP Services Coordinator. She started Jan. 12. Deanne holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Dillard University in English and Dance and a Master of Arts from St. Louis University in English Language and Literature. Let's all welcome Deanne to the MCC family.

Highlights of 2003

Despite the budget cuts, MCC enjoyed another exciting, eventful year. The enrollment boom continued, college milestones were set and a number of MCC faculty and staff members achieved well-deserved recognition. Here are a few highlights:

- Fall enrollment exceeded 10,000 - the eighth straight semester MCC has enjoyed double-digit enrollment increases.
- MCC's Men's Basketball Team brought home a national title, winning their first national championship. Men's Basketball Coach Steve Schmidt was named NJCAA National Coach of the Year.
- Accreditation officials with the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools gave MCC high marks during a February visit, describing the College as a "strong institution."
- MCC Trustee Ehren Gonzales was elected to serve on the Association of Community Colleges Trustees Board.
- MCC Foundation President Lennetta Coney was honored with the 2003 Athena Award
- The RTC was awarded the overall Design Excellence Award in Institutional Design in the Michigan Interior Design Excellence Awards competition, sponsored by The International Interior Design Association.

Chester D. Smith Outstanding Staff Awards

The Chester D. Smith Outstanding Staff Awards will be presented at the Spring Reception on April 15, 2004. Seven of your fellow faculty and staff members will be recognized for their excellent and dedicated performance. Nomination forms are available throughout the campus and on the MCC website. The nomination deadline is March 12, 2004 at 5:00 p.m.

MCC Helps Students Access Financial Aid at "College Goal Sunday" Feb. 8

Financial Aid Director Carlos Cisneros is spearheading MCC's participation in College Goal Sunday, a state-wide, joint effort consisting of more than 100 volunteers and a dozen organizations offering their expertise and free financial aid assistance to moderate income families and college-bound students. The MCC event is at 2 pm Sunday, Feb. 8 in the Regional Technology Center. MCC is one of 10 Michigan College Goal Sunday locations and is the only institution in Flint participating.

"College Goal Sunday was created to make the financial aid process easier for students and their families," said Cisneros. "It's also designed to increase awareness about the availability of various financial aid opportunities. We want students to know that a college education is an attainable goal and the money to pay for that education is within their grasp."

Families should bring their most recent tax returns and financial aid professionals will be on hand to help them fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Students who show up will have a chance to receive a $1,000 scholarship just for participating. Students applying for assistance at College Goal Sunday are free to attend any college or university of their choosing.

College Goal Sunday is sponsored by a start-up grant provided by The Lumina Foundation. The program relies heavily on the volunteer efforts of financial aid professionals with the Michigan Student Financial Aid Association and school counselors from the Michigan School Counselor Association and a host of other partners. The effort is coordinated by Partnership for Learning, a nationally award-winning non-profit that helps schools and communities work together to boost learning from birth to college. For more information, visit www.MiCollegeGoal.org or call (800) 832-2464.

Nursing Program Preparing for Accreditation Site Visit Feb. 25

Three officials from the National League For Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) with expertise in nursing education and nursing professional practice will be visiting the College to provide an in-depth study of the educational effectiveness of MCC's Associate Degree Nursing program. A public forum as part of the NLNAC accreditation site visit is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 25 from 2-3 pm in the Genesee Room of the Prahl College Center.

"The public is invited to provide constructive feedback to the site visitors about MCC's nursing program," said Patricia Markowicz, Associate Dean, Health Sciences.

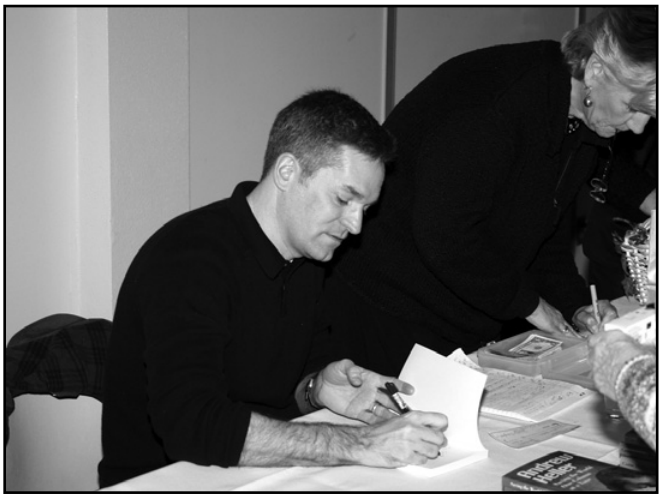
The site visit team will be evaluating the nursing program to determine its ongoing ability to meet the Commission's rigorous requirements outlined in the Standards and Criteria for Accreditation for Nursing Education.

Added Markowicz, "This accreditation process assists in program improvement as it relates to resources invested, processes followed and results achieved. The monitoring of certificate or degree offerings is correlated closely with state examination, licensing rules, and oversight of preparation for work in the profession."

The Associate Degree Nursing Program was established at MCC in 1956. The program applied for and was granted initial accreditation from the NLNAC in 1980 and has been accredited since 1980. When programs are fully and successfully re-accredited after a site visit, the next visit usually occurs every eight years. The last site visit occurred in 1996.

Special Feb. 23 Event Planned for Mott Library

A special ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the newly remodeled Mott Library entrance and the Friends of Mott Library's contributions to that renovation project is scheduled for 11 am, Monday, Feb. 23. A number of local authors have been invited and will be available for book signings at the event. The monthly book discussion will follow the ribbon cutting at noon in the Mott Library Quest Center. The featured book is *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom. For details, call 762-0408.



Flint Journal columnist Andrew Heller entertained and signed books for audience members at the January "Fridays at Applewood" program.

MCC Staffers Play Major Roles In Winter Theater Productions

A special Valentine's Day performance to benefit the ongoing restoration of historic Kearsley Park will feature Public Information Director Michael Kelly and his wife, Kay Kelly, veteran actress and director of the Kearsley Park Restoration Project. The Kellys will perform the two-person reader's theater play *Love Letters* by A.R. Gurney, a Vertigo Productions presentation produced by special arrangement with Dramatist's Play Service, at 6 pm Valentine's Day, Saturday, Feb. 14 at Broadstreet, 6378 Pierson Road, Flushing. Tickets are $50 per person, which includes dinner, the show and dessert after the performance. A cash bar will also be available. A portion of the ticket price is tax deductible. Reservations are required due to limited seating. Call (810) 760-3735 for tickets or more information.

Accounts Receivable's Karen Amore is directing the Lapeer Community Theatre production of Noel Coward's *Blithe Spirit*, described as an "improbable, hauntingly funny farce about a man, his wife, and his ex-wife (who just happens to be a ghost!)" All shows will be performed at the Pix Theatre in downtown Lapeer at 7:30 pm on Feb. 27, 28 and March 5, 6. Tickets are $12 each or $20 each for the "Dinner and A Show" package that includes a coupon good for $10 off at any of the five major downtown Lapeer restaurants. Tickets are available now and can be ordered using a VISA or MasterCard by calling 664-4824. Tickets will also be available at the door.

FEBRUARY 2004

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1 Volleyball 3:30-9 p.m. Ballenger
2 Steelheads Concert MMB Auditorium Concert at 7:30 p.m.	**3** Professional Development Activities for MCC Faculty 2:30-4:30 p.m. Genesee Room	**4** Women's basketball MCC vs. Macomb 5:30 p.m.-Ballenger Men's basketball MCC vs.Macomb 7:30 p.m.-Ballenger	**5**	**6** Women in Education RTC 1401, 1301, 1303 7 a.m.-Noon	**7** Women's basketball MCC vs. Kirtland 12:45 p.m.-Ballenger Men's basketball MCC vs.Kirtland 3 p.m.-Ballenger	**8** College Goal RTC 1401, 1003 2 p.m. Volleyball 3:30-9 p.m. Ballenger
9	**10**	**11** Professional Development Activities for MCC Faculty 3:30-6:30 p.m. Genesee Room	**12** S&M Membership Meeting Noon-2 p.m. Genesee Room Wild Ones 7-9 p.m. Genesee Room	**13**	**14** The Lost Generation MMB Auditorium 7:30-9:30 p.m.	**15** Volleyball 3:30-9 p.m. Ballenger The Lost Generation MMB Auditorium 7:30-9:30 p.m.
16	**17**	**18**	**19** Ruben Burks Community Tribute 5:30 Prahl Ballroom	**20** Fridays at Applewood 9:30 -11:30 a.m. Applewood Café The Lost Generation MMB Auditorium 7:30-9 p.m.	**21** The Lost Generation MMB Auditorium 7:30-9 p.m.	**22** Volleyball 3:30-9 p.m. Ballenger The Lost Generation MMB Auditorium 7:30-9:30 p.m.
23 Board of Trustees Meeting 7:30-10 p.m. Prahl North Ballroom	**24** Faculty Meeting 3-4 p.m. South/Center Ballroom American Assoc. of Univ. Women 7-8:30 p.m. Genesee Room	**25**	**26** MCC Gardening Club hosts Flint Urban Gardening and Land Use Fung Sheui in the Garden 5-8:30 p.m. Genesee Room	**27**	**28**	**29** Volleyball 3:30-9 p.m. Ballenger Band, Choir Chamber Singers MMB Auditorium Concert at 3 p.m.

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