



# **MOTT COMMUNITY COLLEGE CONNECTION**

**OCTOBER 2004**

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## **MCC Voices Heard by Cherry Commission**

In March, Governor Jennifer Granholm appointed Lt. Governor John Cherry to head a commission focusing on the future of higher education and its role in Michigan's 21st century economy. The Cherry Commission on Higher Education and Economic Growth has two main charges: 1) doubling the number of Michigan college graduates over the next 10 years, making Michigan the national leader in producing college graduates; and 2) ensuring that Michigan's system of higher education furnishes our citizens with the general and specific skills they need to embrace the jobs of the 21st century.

On Sept. 13, the Commission held a public hearing at Saginaw Valley State University to receive public input. Not only did President Dick Shaink sit on the panel receiving public testimony, MCC was well represented among presenters. The delegation from MCC included students and community leaders who were able to talk about the impact of the community college experience in their lives.

MCC student Lupe Blankenship was among the first called to testify. The former migrant worker told the panel, "For me, the meaning of Mott Community College is best described by the Spanish word *esperanza*. English would translate *esperanza* by saying 'hope.' The experiences I have had at Mott Community College give hope to me, but not just to me. It is providing hope to my children and to my grandchildren."

Vice President Scott Jenkins pointed out that "While the granting of a degree is always satisfying, we need to understand that the work of community colleges must be measured against the intent of each student." Jenkins laid out a series of concrete proposals to improve collaboration between K-12, community colleges and universities.

Alumnus Sixto Olivo, raised the issue of reverse transfer students when he asked, "Why do we only talk about successful students transferring from community college to university? Why do we not have the same transfer system for less-successful students to transfer from university to community college where they could get a second start?"

Beverlie Ringle, Director of Project Breakthrough, praised the work of MCC: "The atmosphere at our local community college was so supportive and nurturing that I have seen clients go from the shelter into the community college and then into productive careers."

Clara Blakely, Coordinator for Transition and Support Services at UM-Flint, encouraged the completion of the associate's degree at MCC: "We find that when a student has already earned a college degree, they arrive at the university more confident and more focused than many students who have entered the university as high school graduates."

MCC student Carlos Amos testified that "It was extremely easy to access Mott College, it is a very student-friendly place and I think other colleges and universities could learn a lot from the way MCC welcomes and nurtures its students. I feel that I am treated as a person, not a number."

Trustee Jimmy King raised the issue of funding: "We cannot expect community colleges to expand their student populations in the face of flat and even declining state funding. They already do more with less but you cannot expect them to do even more with even less."

Student Ellen Walker had attended but was unable to stay long enough to testify. Her prepared comments were placed on the record: "It was my good fortune to come to Mott Community College. There I found a place where different kinds of people and cultures could blend and work together."

Lt. Gov. Cherry praised the MCC representation, telling President Shaink that MCC had "raised the bar" for other colleges.

## **Mott Library Annual Art Auction & Book Club Discussion**

The Friends of the Mott Library Art Auction, "A Change of Art" is set for Thursday, Oct. 14. A preview begins at 5 p.m. with the auction following at 6:15 p.m. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served and door prizes awarded. Admission is \$10 per person with proceeds benefiting the Mott Library. For tickets or details, call (810) 762-0408.



From Institutional Research Director **Gail Ives**: "Several of the employees in the Curtice-Mott Administrative Complex got together recently, to share food, clothes and fun. A potluck lunch was planned, and employees were asked to bring in clothing and other donations that could be used to benefit Ellen's Closet at MCC. Ellen's Closet is a business clothing resource operated out of the McKay Business Coop Center, and is designed to provide MCC students and graduates with the opportunity to obtain business clothing for job interviews and other career events. Some great items of business attire were donated by the staff members, and over \$40 in donations were given. These items were delivered to the Business Division on Friday, Sept. 3 -- it was a great way to celebrate the end of summer, clean out closets, and benefit our MCC students! Special thanks to Research Data Technician **Michele Traver**, the event organizer, and the many MCC staffers who brought food, clothing and other items, and cash!"

Social Work Professor **Sharon Eisen** reports that **Kay Melet** of the Social Work Technician Advisory Board won the Peppy Rosenthal Award for Community Service. This award is given to a leader in the community by Jewish Community Services. "Kay said in her speech that the only thing she ever wanted in life was to get a degree in social work," Sharon added.

Genesee County's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer event begins at 9 am

Saturday, Oct. 9 right here on the MCC campus. Marketing's **Rebecca Gale-Gonzalez** tells us that 108 people have signed up to walk for MCC. If you are interested in joining MCC's Making Strides team, contact **Desiree Londrigan** (810) 686-9703, **Cindy Sanders** at 762-0566 or Rebecca at 762-0455 for more information. You can always support the effort by making a pledge. Please contact any one of these individuals to make a pledge.

Grant Development Executive Director **Judith Cawhorn** tells us that Counselor **Celia Perez-Booth** has been selected to receive the 2004 Libby Award from the Flint Women and Girls Fund of the Community Foundation of Greater Flint. The award was established in honor of Libby Maynard, University of Michigan regent and is given to a woman in the community who has demonstrated her commitment to empowering women and girls through her work and life. Celia is the third recipient of the award and will be honored at the 2004 Libby Award ceremony and dinner on Oct. 14 at the North Bank Center. Keynote Speaker is Mary Sue Coleman, President of the University of Michigan. For information about the event, call the CFGF at 767-8270. Congratulations, Celia!

Fine Arts news from Associate Dean **Jessie Sirna**: Painting Instructor **John Dempsey** has an exhibition of his work at SUNY College at Oneonta, NY through Oct. 29. The exhibition is entitled *Duets* and is shared with **Yolanda Sharpe**, whose works are also on display in the MCC Visual Arts and Design Center (VADC) Fine Arts Gallery through Oct. 12.

From Oct. 18-Nov. 2, the photographs of **Marilyn Zimmerman** will be on display. She will be giving a public lecture on her work on Wed., Oct. 27 at 11:30 am in the VADC. The Gallery is open M-F, 9-4:30 pm. in the VADC.

Sculpture Instructor **Cathy Smith** will have an exhibition of her collection of original photographs used for her book, *Women In Pants*, on display at the Andy Warhol

Museum in Pittsburgh from Oct.3-Jan.2.

Don't forget to join us for the VADC grand opening, Wed., Oct. 13, 5:30 -7:30 pm for a short program, tours, music and refreshments.

The Music Department will be presenting a concert on Sunday, Oct. 24 at 3 pm in the MMB Auditorium. It is free and open to the public. Details will be announced. The MCC Jazz Combo performed for the grand re-opening of the MCC Bookstore on Monday, Sept. 20.

Here's a thank-you note from MCC Lapeer Extension Director **Wanda Dowdall** regarding the 14th Annual Lapeer Learner Scholarship golf outing held Sept. 10 at the Devil's Ridge Golf and Country Club. "A most sincere thank-you to all Mott employees who supported this scholarship effort. When you work off-site of the main campus, it is easy to adopt an "out-of-sight-out-of-mind" mentality. I was truly gratified to see the number of employees, especially faculty, supporting this event - many of whom don't even teach at the Lapeer site. To all of you - my heartfelt thanks."

Health Services' **Sharee Tolbert** reminds us that the Flu season is fast approaching. Flu shots will be offered in Health Services on Wednesday Oct. 13 from 10 am-2 pm. The cost is \$18. For those requiring a Pneumonia shot, the cost will be \$26. Also, please note the college physician is available on Thursdays from 1 pm-4 pm. For additional information, call Sharee at 762-0541 or 762-0333.

On another good health note, Athletics' **Donna Yon** had this to share. "Mary Meeker and I have lost something: Mary lost 26 lbs and I have lost 17 lbs. since February on the Southbeach Diet." Way to go, ladies!

Marketing's **Michael Tews** was in front of the camera for a change. Tews was hired for an international commercial for Ford Lincoln Mercury which features Detroit Tigers catcher Pudge Rodriguez. The commercial is scheduled to air during the 2004 Major League baseball playoffs.

## MCC Students Crossing Oceans, Sharing Art & Culture

Participants in the 2004 Mott Community College Fiji Study Tour were able to experience more than a tropical beach this past June. In this third overseas program lead by Graphic Design Professor Mara Jevera Fulmer, 11 college students spent two weeks engaged in cross-cultural activities that included three days in workshops with the Center for Oceania Culture and the Arts based at The University of the South Pacific. The students' majors are in various fields, ranging from Graphic Design to Business. They worked side by side with resident student artists at the Oceania Centre who shared an interest in maintaining an interrelationship between their native arts and community lives. Fulmer said the two groups collaborated in painting, dance and music presented at a traditional lovo dinner.

Added Fulmer, "Mott students trekked to the original 3000 year old Lapita landing site along Sigatoka Sand Dunes and discovered skeletal remains estimated to be 2,000 years old. They also traveled the Navua River to a traditional village and headed further up river into the rainforest to a 300-foot waterfall. And they did get some beach time! They are now working on projects addressing the impact their experiences have had on their lives. Projects already received show an awe-inspiring reaction to their experiences."

Photos can be found at: <http://edtech.mcc.edu/~mfulmer/fijistudy-tour04/FST04-Photos-www/>

# **MCC's Lenore Croudy Elected to State Post**

Lenore Croudy, Chair of the Mott Community College Board of Trustees, has been elected Vice Chairperson of the Michigan Community College Association (MCCA).

Croudy has served as chair of the MCC Board since 1995. She has served as State Chair and Central Regional Chair of the National Association of Community College Trustees and on its national board of directors. The Michigan Community College Association is organized to achieve the collective legislative and other state-level goals of its member colleges and to advocate the benefits of community college services for the citizens of the State of Michigan.

"Lenore Croudy has long been a leader for community colleges on the local, state and national level," said Dr. Shaink. "Her election as state vice chair is one more recognition of that leadership."

# **MCC Produces Replica of Flint Arches**



The Flint Area Convention & Visitors Bureau showed off a portable model of Flint's new downtown arches at a Sept. 9 press conference held at the Mott Community College Regional Technology Center. Jerry Preston, director of the convention bureau, had

approached MCC President M. Richard Shaink and asked if MCC students could help build a replica of the arches that could be used as a marketing tool. Dr. Shaink then passed on the task to the RTC. Tom Crampton, Executive Dean of Regional Technology Initiatives, recruited a team that included two former MCC students, Jim Jennings - now a technician in MCC's Technology Division and Shane Atkinson, who is now teaching in the Kearsley School District, to help with the creation of the replica. The 8-foot-tall aluminum model was designed to be assembled by hand. Preston said the replica is easy to assemble and carry and was used at the American Society of Association Executives Convention in August.

# **MCC Foundation Events**

October is a busy month for the Foundation for MCC. Following is a list of activities:

- Peace & Dignity Ceremony, 10 am, Oct. 4, Behind Curtice-Mott Complex
- AC and Dorothy Lee Scholarship Dinner, Prah Center Ballroom, 6 p.m., Oct. 18
- Visual Arts & Design Center, Oct. 13, Noon - Women's Summit (special invitation only), 5:30pm Open House (Public reception)
- MCC Alumni Room Unveiling & Trustee Memorial Courtyard, 5:30 pm, Oct. 19, MCC Prah Center & MMB Courtyard
- Third Annual Distinguished Alumni Awards, 6 pm Oct. 19, Prah Center Ballroom
- Shem Mitchell Jazz Concert, 6 pm Oct. 22, Prah Center Ballroom

Call the Foundation at 762-0425 for more information.

# **Regional College Fair**

The number of institutions participating in MCC's annual Regional College Fair continues to grow every year. Nearly 60 colleges are expected at this year's event, scheduled for 6 to 8 pm Thursday, Oct. 21 in the Prah College Center. The event is free and open to the public.

The Regional College Fair provides current, prospective college students and their parents the chance to obtain comprehensive information about choosing a college or university. Representatives from a variety of Michigan and out-of-state institutions will be available to answer questions. Information on financial aid, admission requirements, programs of study, college life and career opportunities will be available. Participants can also attend the following workshops: "Financing Your Education," "How to Choose a College" and "Careers of the Future." For more information about the MCC Regional College Fair, call (810) 762-0022.

# **MCC Environmental Club Program**

The MCC Environmental Club and the Nepessing Group of the Sierra Club are sponsoring a public education tour on current threats to America's public lands. The "Threats to America's Wild Lands" slide show presentation by Clayton Daughenbaugh, Sierra Club National Conservation Organizer, will be 7 pm Wednesday, Oct. 27, in the Genesee Room, first floor of the Prah College Center. The program is open to the public.

For more information, call Suzanne Lossing, Advisor MCC Environmental Club at (810) 762-0520, Denny Crispell, (989) 624-5038, or Clayton Daughenbaugh at (708) 795-0514 or (cell) 708-408-0214.

# **Avon Burns to Receive Prestigious Honor at MSU**

Avon Burns, professor and coordinator of the criminal justice program at Mott Community College, has been selected for induction into the Michigan State University School of Criminal Justice Wall of Fame. Dr. Burns will be honored during a formal induction ceremony Oct. 17 at the Kellogg Center on the MSU campus. The MSU Criminal Justice School's Wall of Fame is a special recognition given to faculty and alumni of the program "who have distinguished themselves within the field of criminal justice, while maintaining the highest standards of integrity and character." Joe Jaksa, vice president of customer service and marketing with Teachout Security Services and President-Elect of the MSU School of Criminal Justice Alumni, who also serves on the advisory board for MCC's Criminal Justice program said: "Avon is extremely deserving of this honor. MCC's Criminal Justice program is widely recognized in this field due to her hard work and dedication. She is a significant asset to Mott College, the students and this community."

# **VADC Open House**

MCC's new Visual Arts and Design Center open house is planned for Wednesday, Oct. 13 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. A short program begins at 6 pm, refreshments will be served and there will be tours of the building to celebrate the art departments move into the new facility. Music will be provided by Tony Owen, a graphic design student. The event is free and open to the public. An open house for MCC's Transitions School of Cosmetology Careers, now located in the VADC, is scheduled for 6 to 8 pm, Monday, Nov. 1. Details are forthcoming.

# OCTOBER 2004

| Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday | Thursday   | Friday  | Saturday  | Sunday |
|---|--|-----------|--|---|---|--------|
|   |  |           |  | 1   | 2   | 3      |
| 4<br>Peace & Dignity<br>Ceremony<br>10 am. Behind Curticce<br>Mott Complex  | 5  | 7         | 7  | 8   | 9<br>Making Strides<br>Against Breast Cancer<br>Walk • 8 a.m.-1 p.m.<br>Outside Visual Arts<br>Building | 10     |
| 11  | 12   | 13        | 14<br>Friends of Mott Library<br>Art Auction<br>5 pm. Ballroom<br>Prahl College Center | 15<br>Fridays at Applewood<br>9:30 - Noon<br>Applewood Café                     | 16  | 17     |
| 18<br>AC & Dorothy Lee<br>Scholarship Dinner<br>6 p.m.<br>Prahl Center Ballroom   | 19<br>MCC Alumni Room<br>Unveiling & Trustee<br>Memorial Courtyard<br>5:30 p.m.<br>Prahl College Center<br>MMB Courtyard | 20        | 21<br>MCC College Night<br>3-6:30 p.m.<br>Prahl College Center                         | 22<br>Sherm Mitchell Jazz<br>Concert 6 p.m.<br>Prahl College Center<br>Ballroom | 23  | 24     |
| 25<br>Friends of Mott<br>Library Book Club<br>Noon-1 p.m.<br>Quest Center<br><hr/> Board of Trustees<br>Meeting<br>7:30-10 p.m.<br>Prahl Ballroom | 26   | 27        | 28   | 29  | 30  | 31     |



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