



FACULTY COUNCIL

The VP/Provost News

INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT & PROVOST



A Message from Clarice A. Somersall

The fall semester has been remarkable for a number of reasons. The weather has been warm for the most part. The trees are displaying all of their colorful magnificence. As a bonus, I have had a chance to work with some pretty outstanding faculty, staff and administrators at Montgomery College's, oldest and newest campus, Takoma Park.

At the end of August, I distributed a survey soliciting input from faculty, staff and administrators regarding what is needed to create and nurture the ideal learning environment for students at Takoma Park. Students were also able to provide feedback at one of the Student Senate meetings that I attended. Additionally, they submitted comments in the Idea Boxes strategically located around the campus.

Ten people consisting of faculty, staff, and administrators indicated an interest in participating in a focus group. Three alumni were tapped by the Alumni Office to participate. The focus group was held on October 28, 2004. We had a rich exchange. Before Thanksgiving, I will compile the results from this massive effort and share them with you.

Takoma Park is a **campus on the move**, and we have many partners in this progression. The campus has participated fully in two Arts in the Park events, featuring Brazilian and Argentinean music. Thanks, *Marie Marcogliese*, from Institutional Advancement, for breathing life into the concept and coordinating the event on all three campuses. The Paul Peck Institute for American Culture and Civic Engagement, headquartered at Takoma Park, was formally launched to rave reviews. The Rockville campus graciously hosted the event that showcased the Center and its phenomenal director, our own *Prof. Francine Jamin*. Science South was demolished and resurrected, replete with new flooring, window treatments, and fully-equipped classrooms. The Social Sciences Pavilion was razed; phase one of the construction of Student Services Center is underway. A few weeks ago, at the fabulous Art Stars Awards Night at AFI Theatre in Silver Spring, the Takoma Park Art Department exhibited student art work and our brilliant stage director, *Prof. Perry Schwartz*, telegraphed to the citizenry of the region that Montgomery College can put on a world-class production.

The Montgomery College Director of Government Relations, *Susan Madden*, and our own Outreach Coordinator, *Jennie Wells*, and I have had meetings with business and civic leaders from the City of Takoma Park and Silver Spring. It is important for faculty, staff and administrators to be active and visible in the cultural, civic, business and governmental fabric of this vibrant area. As a college of visionaries, student advocates, and doers, our presence is felt and appreciated.

I've attended many special events, participated in departmental meetings, and presented the Takoma Park campus in the most favorable terms when opportunities have presented themselves. This has been an exciting, fast-paced fall. Yes, it is a new day at Takoma Park, the Teaching Place.

Clarice Somersall,
Interim Vice President and Provost

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Takoma Park Today

Campus Improvements/Beautification by Howard Stanley

Shortly after her arrival, the Interim VP/P requested that a campus improvement program be established that would :

- a) Improve the interior finishes of selected campus buildings,
- b) Feature student art work at various campus locations, and
- c) Improve lighting in interior spaces, where needed.

While the project has been sluggish due to procurement and contracting issues, significant progress has been made.

The first focus was the Commons' foyer. At first, this area received a fresh coat of paint. Now, new track lighting has been installed to highlight a variety of student artwork displayed on the walls. To accentuate the art, framing materials will be used. Indoor plants, selected for a low-light environment, have been installed to promote growth. The "steps" that host the plant display will be tiled to provide a moisture resistant barrier requiring less maintenance. Finally, new carpet is scheduled for installment during the week of October 25th.

Also, the lighting of the gymnasium and cafeteria has been upgraded. We've received several compliments about the fresher and brighter appeal of these two locations.

As you take notice of these cosmetic improvements, please inform the Facilities Department of any other campus sites that could similarly benefit from this program.

For additional information and a link to construction updates, please visit the Facilities Management website @ <http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/Departments/planttp/>



Science South Today

Web Users Group (WUG) at Takoma Park by Bernie Allen

Good day readers! As the campus expansion continues and is read about in various tabloids, we have started an effort to help keep the information on the department's web sites current. A team of twenty, represented by faculty and staff, indicated their interest in this endeavor. The team, a.k.a. the *Web Users Group*, are the Content Managers that maintain the web pages for their department sites. Furthermore, they indicated an interest in starting sites that focused on a specific program like Honors or Scholars at TP.

We've had one meeting, and a workshop that the team used to sharpen their skills, seek guidance from an Internet/ Intranet Programmer Analyst, and learn from their colleagues who support and use this medium as an information-sharing tool. In our first meeting, held on the October 11 at 2pm, we discussed the challenges expressed by the Content Managers and shared some solutions. We were joined by Ms. Clarice Somersall, Interim VP/Provost, who offered a perspective of 'first contact' and what people see or look for when they visit MC's web sites. The group is planning to meet the second Monday of each month to share tips, ideas, and to help each other. As this team develops more information, we will pass along the information to you.

SPOTLIGHT ON: The Nursing Department

With the bleep of the alarm on the IV Pump, the nursing students look anxiously at the nursing faculty, awaiting the solution to the immediate need of the patient. The state-of-the-art hospital rooms, in which they receive instruction, support Montgomery College's mission of student success. Since January of this year, hundreds of nursing students have taken their instruction in a facility which better prepares them for the real workplace after practicing skills in a dedicated practice lab.

Since 2002, there has been a 55% increase of nursing graduates at Montgomery College. This includes not only entry-level nursing students, but also the Licensed Practical Nurses in the community aspiring to become Registered Nurses. Thanks to the State and County governments, as well as the careful planning of the instructional details of the new Health Sciences Center, the community is benefiting from competent nurses who will provide better care for the citizens in our community.

" Teaching should be such that what is offered is perceived as a valuable gift and not as a hard duty".

- Albert Einstein -

What's Happening Collegewide?

ROCKVILLE: by Jacki Moffi

The Rockville Campus hosted an eight-member delegation from the Embassy of Finland on Thursday, October 28, 2004. Montgomery College was the only two-year institution requested by the delegation, along with the University of Maryland, College Park, and Stanford University. Guests included the **Minister of Education and Science**, the **Director General for the Department of Education and Science Policy**, the **Cultural Counselor**, and the **Counsellor for Higher Education** in Finland's University Division. Dr. Mary Kay Shartle-Galotto, *Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Services*, delivered the greeting. Subsequently, presentations to MC and community colleges, international students and programs, and the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) were made by the following persons: Dr. Judy E. Ackerman, *Vice President and Provost*, Dr. Gail Forman, *International Education Program Director*, Professor Helen Youth, *CTL Director*, and *International Student Coordinators*, Mr. Marlon K. Vallejo, and Ms. Heidi Russell-Kalkofen.

In recognition of the Rockville Campus opening in September 1965, the first steering committee for the Rockville Campus 40th Anniversary commemoration will be held on Wednesday, November 10, 2004. Steering committee members include representatives from the Faculty Council, Department Chairs, Rockville Administrative Team, Institutional Advancement, Information Technology, academic areas, as well as staff and student leadership. Academic, cultural, and social events planned for the internal and external community will kick-off during the fall 2005 semester. The Campus will also develop a 40th anniversary web site.

Students and faculty expressed their creativity on stage in an exciting *Poetry Slam* on Thursday, October 28, 2004, at 7:30PM in the Theatre Arts Arena. This highly successful annual event was coordinated by the same two energetic and talented faculty members who collaborated on the spring Shakespearean festival, *Will Power!*: Professors KenYatta Rogers, *Department of Speech, Dance and Theatre*, and Rachel Wilson, *Dept. of English Composition, Literature, and Professional Writing*.

"Montgomery College was the only two-year institution requested by the delegation,"

GERMANTOWN : by Dr. Hercules Pinkney, VP/Provost

Germantown Campus Awarded National Science Foundation Grant to Support Bioscience Education Continuum Activities

In May, the College received a highly competitive \$600,000 (over three years) National Science Foundation (NSF) grant to help develop a multifaceted biotechnology education and training program on the Germantown Campus. Montgomery College will lead a partnership--which includes the Montgomery County Public Schools, University of Maryland College Park, and private industry representatives--to create an innovative bioscience education and training continuum from middle school to postdoctoral studies in conjunction with the Life Sciences and Technology Park and the Germantown Technology Incubator. This partnership will ensure a broad and diverse pipeline of highly skilled workers at the technician, baccalaureate, and terminal degree levels who have the requisite skills and knowledge for the rapidly changing bioscience and technology work place.

Outreach Today

Community Outreach: Silver Spring's 7th annual Holiday parade will be held on Saturday, November 20 (Saturday before Thanksgiving). The Takoma Park Campus will have a *Macy's parade* type of balloon requiring seven students to manage! Our Student Dance Club will march and perform, with our colorful display of world flags to accompany the message. **"Montgomery College, Changing the World One Student at a Time."** The parade has grown each year; the renowned *Philadelphia Mummers* participated last year, and will return. This will be a wonderful family event.

Silver Spring Innovation Center (SSIC) : One of the newest buildings along Georgia Avenue , seemingly right "under" the railroad underpass, is the Silver Spring Innovation Center (SSIC). Located at 8070 Georgia Avenue, it was formerly opened in September. Fourteen high tech companies are in this facility which is designed to "incubate" new companies as they develop their technologies, products, and services. The College worked with the Montgomery County Department of Economic Development to welcome such a facility to downtown Silver Spring.



MEMBERS:

AJ (Tito) Baca, Chair
Maria Donahue
Sandi Schuler
Evelyn Gonzalez-Mills
Deborah Taylor
Jeffrey Hotz
Ijeoma Otigbuo

Greetings from the Takoma Park Faculty Council!

The purpose of the Montgomery College Takoma Park Faculty Council is to serve you, the faculty, and to ensure that you have a voice in campus and college-wide matters. By serving you, we hope in turn, to benefit our students as well as the entire college community. We must grow together. As per the Constitution, here is our charge:

- a) Promotes policies, procedures and a campus environment conducive to academic growth and professional development.
- b) Acts for the campus faculty in reviewing institutional policies and procedures that impact the educational process.
- c) Establishes and maintains communication with the Academic Assembly and college-wide faculty and refers appropriate matters to them.
- d) Appoints faculty as Council representatives to the Academic Assembly and to college-wide faculty committees.
- e) Designates and charges campus faculty committees and such ad hoc committees as it considers appropriate.
- f) Appoints faculty to campus committees.
- g) Convenes campus faculty meetings whenever it considers that such meetings are necessary, when requested by the provost, or when requested in writing by at least 10 percent of the campus full-time faculty.
- h) Determines the content of each campus faculty meeting's agenda and the priority of items therein.
- i) Appoints a faculty Parliamentarian, from among the campus faculty, to serve at all campus faculty meetings.

*If your plan is for one year, plant rice;
If your plan is for ten years, plant trees;
If your plan is for a hundred years, Educate children."*

- Confucius

Last year, the Faculty Council explored matters of significance to us all: designating part of the first level of the parking garage as Faculty Staff, adding a motorcycle space, and other parking solutions. We provided feedback on the food service and proposed a Cyber Café in the new Student Services Building. These issues are a small but considerable part of how we spent some of our time last year.

This year, we have been quite busy already. I am fortunate to meet with Dr. Nunley once per month as part of the Governance Leadership Team. This is for the respective Faculty Council Chairs and the Chair of Academic Assembly to speak candidly about various issues facing the College and those who make it all possible – you. Dr. Nunley and the entire team are anxious to get feedback on a variety of matters and ready to take immediate action when appropriate. This is a unique opportunity not afforded at many institutions of higher learning. As for the rest of the year, we will monitor the search for our new VP/Provost, stay involved with the construction on campus, follow the progress of campus and college-wide committees and provide a voice to Academic Assembly and the Governance Leadership Group. Additionally, we will keep you informed of the Transportation Committee and any related developments on Academic Administrative structural changes. I appreciate the opportunity to communicate with you in this way and trust that you know you can contact us anytime. Best wishes as the fall semester continues.

Events & Opportunities

◆ **Save Your Book Shopping for Dec. 15**

Borders Books & Music will host Greater Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce (GSSCC) special holiday event. During that evening from 5:30PM - 7:00PM, Borders will donate 15% of sales made by Business after Hours/Holiday Party attendees to GSSCC. The College is a member of the chamber and by extension, an employee can participate in the chamber activities.

Ideas, Comments and Submissions?

Please contact the

Senior Administrative Aide to the VP/P –

**Snami Wureh-Glay at (301) 650-1312 or
Email : snami.wureh-glay@montgomerycollege.edu**

