



SPRING 2006



FACULTY COUNCIL

The VP/Provost News

Parking at Montgomery College's TP/SS Campus

Contributing Writer: Howard Stanley

It's been a tough year trying to find available parking on campus. Our parking crunch is the price we pay for beautiful new buildings, energy efficient systems, and changing infrastructure. Hopefully, the state-of-the-art structural designs and the modern styles will make this parking inconvenience more palatable. Unfortunately, it will probably get worse before it gets better.

In the upcoming fall semester, we will most likely lose the west campus gravel lot to construction. To give you a better idea, this is the lot located on the site of the new Cultural Arts Center. To compensate for losing that lot, the Facilities Department, specifically the Office of Safety and Security, will lease parking spaces from nearby public lots. They will also operate a shuttle bus to and from campus for all of our faculty, staff and students who use the public lot. The cost of the rental and the shuttle will be included in the annual parking fee.

In addition, guests attending scheduled campus events will be required to park at the leased public lot and they will also be shuttled to campus. The Office of Safety and Security will no longer reserve spaces on campus for visitors. In some cases, event sponsors will be required to pay a minimal fee not to exceed \$5.00 per day for leased public parking spaces used by their respective participants.

We are currently in negotiation with park officials regarding the use of the parking facilities at Silver Spring Park, just east of the Campus at Chicago and Philadelphia Avenues. If we are successful, we will be able to use their lot at no charge for special event parking.

Forthcoming, we anticipate construction of a 350 space parking garage located behind the King Street Art Center (KSAC) on the west campus. This garage will serve the Cultural Arts Center, Health Sciences Building, KSAC and Jessup Blair Park. Its anticipated completion should alleviate the endless search for parking in close proximity to the campus, at least until the next expansion project.

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Upcoming Events & Opportunities

Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus

- ◆ Career Information/Job Fair - 04/05/06
- ◆ Academic Awards Celebration - 04/20/06
- ◆ Part Time Faculty Celebration - 05/04/06
- ◆ Campus Closing Meeting - 05/16/06
- ◆ Campus Picnic - 05/16/06

Collegewide

- ◆ Rockville's 40th Anniversary Gala - 04/04/06
- ◆ Dr. Harry Harden Jr. Black & African American Awards - 04/04/06
- ◆ WDCE Graduation - 05/12/06
- ◆ Annual Faculty/Staff Retirement Reception
Collegewide Closing Meeting
Collegewide Luncheon
Discipline Meetings - 05/15/06
- ◆ Commencement—05/17/06

A Message from our Vice President and Provost



Dr. Brad J. Stewart

A Report from the Retreat

I'd like to take this opportunity to brief you all about the Academic Master Plan Retreat held on March 2 and 3, 2006. I'm sorry that not all of you who wished to attend were able to do so. Here are what I think were the high points from the two days that 17* of your campus colleagues and 80+ folks from other parts of the College spent in woods of Western Montgomery County (or was it West Virginia?).

During the first day of the retreat, we heard presentations on MC's strategic planning process, enrollment projections, and County demographics, indicators of student and institutional success research on student engagement, course enrollment patterns, and the results of recent Academic Area Reviews. The reports provided by "Data Bob" Lynch and Arlean Blaylock were especially informative and entertaining to boot. Even the continental breakfast and box lunches were pretty darn good.

The second day of the retreat kicked off with John McLean's presentation on the College's Facilities Master Plan. Even though he gamely attempted to spend an equal amount of time talking about facilities on each campus, what was even more apparent is that the phrases "wonderful new facilities" and Takoma Park/Silver Spring are synonymous. It is clear that the TP/SS campus will soon have one of the best physical plants of any community college in the country.

The TP/SS contingent spent the next four hours of the retreat digesting additional information from Dr. Shartle-Galotto, "Data Bob" Lynch, Sherm Hellberg and others, producing a vision statement for the campus, and brainstorming some preliminary ideas about goals and objectives for the upcoming strategic planning process for AY 2007-08. Dr. Shartle-Galotto shared her thoughts about the future of the TP/SS campus. She talked about the intimate and friendly climate of the campus and the ability of the faculty and staff to deliver a quality education despite huge facilities constraints. Her vision for TP/SS is that we will grow to challenge the Rockville campus in the scope of our offerings by providing a comprehensive array of programs with a special focus on the Health Sciences and the Visual and Performing Arts. She added that from her point of view, the sky is the limit as far as planning and acquiring new resources. "Data Bob" Lynch provided data which show that the general education and transfer programs at TP/SS account for the majority of our student credit hours and that there is substantial potential for growth. Sherm Hellberg shared with us that the demographics for growth are favorable at TP/SS especially since our new and expanded facilities will enable us to attract students from the District.

"We are an urban, neighborhood campus that celebrates and embraces diversity while responding to community, regional and national needs..."

Armed with optimism and data, Dean Paula Matuskey led our merry band in a spirited discussion which produced the following draft vision statement for the TP/SS campus:

"We are an urban, neighborhood campus that celebrates and embraces diversity while responding to community, regional and national needs by offering a comprehensive educational experience with unique signature programs in Health Sciences and the Visual and Performing Arts".

Now I happen to believe that producing such an excellent vision statement was more than a full day's work, but our intrepid group forged ahead and began to brainstorm a number of planning objectives related to the goals contained in the Academic Master Plan. Some of the more interesting ideas (in my opinion) that were raised included finding ways to help students who repeat courses be successful, ensuring our general education offerings are easily transferable, and better identifying the professional development needs of faculty and staff. All of the objectives we discussed will be incorporated into the unit planning process which will kick off very soon.

For the rest of the retreat, each campus and WD/CE shared vision statements and some general planning objectives in a rather raucous and humorous manner. The retreat was deemed a success by Dr. Shartle-Galotto and the planning committee and it will become an annual event.

We're planning to follow up on the good work done at the retreat in two main ways. First, for those of you who would like a more detailed briefing on the events of the retreat, I plan to hold an open discussion session or two in the next couple of weeks to discuss some of the information distributed by "Data Bob" Lynch and others at the retreat. Second, the planning objectives discussed by our group will be used by the Deans as part of the planning process in each campus unit.

This ends my report from the retreat. If you have any questions about anything described above, please feel free to stop me on campus or drop by my office. I think I've recovered enough to talk about our experiences in the wilds of Western Maryland (that's a joke).

*: Jennie Wells, Rosser Farley, Dehlylly Porras, Wil Brunner, Tito Baca, Karen Marshall, Esther Schwartz-McKinzie, Laura Gardner, Max Nam, Paula Matuskey, Amy Gumaer, Kim McGettigan, Charles Marcantonio, Sharon Hauge, Brad Stewart, Ellen Mansueto, Angie Pickwick

What's Happening Collegewide?

GERMANTOWN by Hercules Pinkney

Germantown Plans a Rebirth of Its Lost Symbol

On August 11, 2005, the Germantown Campus lost its nearly 100-year-old symbol: an old gum tree. The tree literally saw the birth and growth of the College's youngest campus. Even though the tree completed its life cycle and had to be removed and chipped, the memory of the tree will not be forgotten that easily. According to George Zamora, President, Germantown Student Senate, students from the Student Senate have started giving life to an ambitious project: planting a new gum tree to replace Germantown's lost symbol.

The task has not been easy. First, the Student Senate had to find a new tree. Thanks to the support of the Landscape Technology and Campus Facilities Departments, a new tree and a location at the heart of the campus have been provided. A ceremony and reception are being planned for Friday, April 28, 2006, at 1 p.m. in the center of the campus and will be open to all Montgomery College students, faculty, administrators, and staff as well as to members of our supporting community.

The idea of preparing this event is to leave a legacy for future generations of Montgomery College students who will attend an expanded and newly-renovated campus in the coming years. The new tree will symbolize the connection between the origins of the Germantown Campus and its path to the future.

ROCKVILLE by Judy Ackerman

Dr. Judy Ackerman to Host an Off-Campus Retreat

As a follow-up to the two-day collegewide Academic Retreat on March 2 and 3, 2006, academic and student development faculty and staff at the Rockville Campus will meet on Friday, April 21, to continue work on a variety of key topics that include strategic planning and refining the Rockville Campus' vision statement. Hosted by Dr. Judy E. Ackerman, Vice President and Provost, with support from the expanded Rockville Administrative Team, the one-day campus retreat held off-campus will provide an additional opportunity for chairpersons, deans, program coordinators, support center staff, and other campus leaders to share information about unit and campus priorities.

Being AWARDED for "CIVIC ENGAGEMENT"

On Friday, May 17, 2006, Montgomery County Executive Doug Duncan and Paul Peck, founder and benefactor of the College's Paul Peck Institute, briefed a large audience on the values of "Civic Engagement" and its importance in shaping America during a kick-off event announcing the new program sponsored by the Paul Peck Institute for American Culture and Civic Engagement. This program will present MC students with an opportunity to earn either a "Gold" or "Silver" Civic Engagement award. Gold awards recipients will have completed at least 120 hours of involvement in civic engagement activities and each individual will receive a monetary award of \$150. Silver award recipients will have completed 60 hours of involvement in civic engagement activities and they will receive a monetary award of \$75.

Among those present were Dr. Mary-Kay Shartle-Galotto, Executive Vice-President for Academic and Student Services, Ms. Paula Matuskey, Instructional Dean for Arts/ Humanities/ Social Sciences and our very own Vice President and Provost, Dr. Brad J. Stewart.

For further information on this endeavor, please contact the Office of the Instructional Dean for Arts/Humanities/Social Sciences at 301-650-1365.



SPOTLIGHT ON: *The Planetarium*

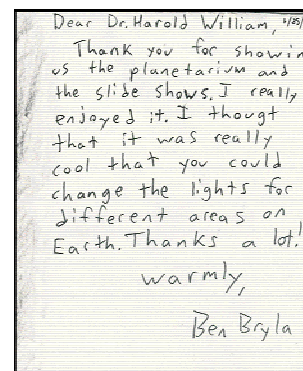
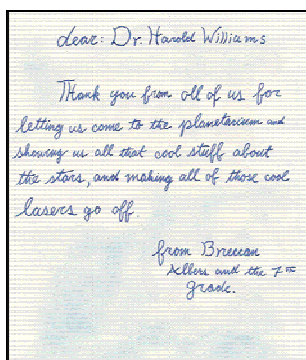
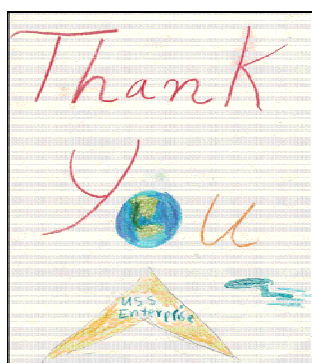
ASTRONOMY: The Oldest Science That Welcomes Amateurs

Did you know that the Planetarium at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus of Montgomery College is the only place in the Washington Metro area that offers a college astronomy course in a planetarium? Well, there is even more that this facility has to offer. Wikipedia defines a **planetarium** as “a theater built primarily for presenting educational and entertaining shows about astronomy and the night sky, or for training in celestial navigation.” With this primary focus, Dr. Harold Alden Williams, director of the Montgomery College Planetarium, continues to host numerous educational and fun activities at the campus Planetarium that leave an incredible impact on thousands of individuals in our community-at-large who visit this facility. According to Dr. Williams, astronomy is the oldest science and one of the few sciences that welcomes amateurs and everyone who looks up at the stars with wonder is an astronomer.

"astronomy is the oldest science and one of the few sciences that welcomes amateurs and everyone who looks up at the stars with wonder is an astronomer."

Those activities include monthly Public Planetarium astronomy shows, grade specific shows for school groups, scout, and other youth group programs, senior citizen and other adult group programs, monthly music/laser light shows, cultural astronomy shows (Havdalah, Whisper of Creation, Islamic Astronomy, Star of Bethlehem, etc.), college astronomy courses, special shows for college classes on many astronomical subjects, summer teacher workshops, and summer youth courses - all from within a planetarium. The list does not end here. Going even further, you may schedule other educational performances for children and have some fun honoring a child's birthday with cake and ice cream, outside and not inside the planetarium. For more details, you may contact Maria Davidson at maria.davidson@montgomerycollege.edu.

Here is a taste of the wonderful feedback Harold Williams receives on a regular basis:



To learn more about the planetarium , please visit the URL at www.montgomerycollege.edu/Departments/planet/ or call Dr. Harold Williams at 301-650-1463.

MEMBERS:

AJ (Tito) Baca, Chair
Jeanann Boyce
Laura Gardner
Evelyn Gonzalez-Mills
Jeffrey Hotz
Ijeoma Otigbuo
Deborah Taylor

"**Learning** is finding out what you already know, Doing is demonstrating that you know it, Teaching is reminding others that they know it as well as you do. We are all learners, doers, and teachers."

Greetings from the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Faculty Council!

The Faculty Council here at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus has had a busy and productive semester. We have explored a broad range of issues such as inclusiveness across the college, The Learning College Initiative, printing fees for students in our labs and libraries, MC student email accounts, new academic initiatives for student athletes, the campus recycling program, registration policies and procedures, and the habits of our students through this process among many others.

It is safe to say that our voice as faculty is a powerful one and that the administration is listening. We are on the front lines and we interact with our students daily. It is important that we are involved with issues like the aforementioned, which affect us and our students and make sure that our voice continues to be heard. Not only do we make a difference in the lives of our students but we can clearly make a difference in the daily workings of the college. I hope we can continue to make good use of that opportunity and that faculty and staff look to the Faculty Council in the future to ensure that their voice is heard.

IN THE NEWS



Montgomery County Executive Douglas Duncan announced on Jan. 17, 2006 that he will provide additional funding in his FY 2007 Operating Budget that will accommodate a **tuition freeze** at Montgomery College. According to President Nunley, the County Executive's announcement that he will provide the funding is "simply phenomenal news for all of the hard-working students we serve." This will tremendously ease the burden on most students and parents who have to weigh the costs of tuition versus housing costs, childcare, etc.

Ideas, Comments and Submissions?

Please contact the

Senior Administrative Aide to the VP/P,

Snami Wureh-Glay at (301) 650-1312

or by Email at

snami.wureh-glay@montgomerycollege.edu

