



SUMMER 2006

# A Changing Landscape at the TP/SS Campus



FACULTY COUNCIL

# The VP/Provost News

It has been a remarkable summer here at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring (TP/SS) campus. I know I'm certainly thankful to be at such an exceptional academic institution and to be part of the Montgomery College family - sentiments I believe we all share. This summer, we successfully completed a sphere of moves into the impeccably constructed Student Services Center at TP/SS. This new building heightens the College's presence in downtown Silver Spring and it epitomizes the best in community college building design.

Elegantly styled, this building induces a welcoming and student friendly atmosphere which centralizes the core services that facilitate their academic success: Admissions, Records, & Registration, the Assessment Center, Cashier, Counseling, Disability Services, Financial Aid, Student Life and Student Development offices. The building also houses other amenities like the modern cafeteria which accommodates a buffet style service and deluxe student lounges. Simply put, one student feels **"It adds to the prestige of being a student here at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus."**

It's been yet another wonderful and enriching summer here at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus and we invite you to be present at Montgomery College's Opening Celebration of the Student Services Center on Tuesday, August 29 at 11 a.m.



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## Upcoming Events & Opportunities

### Takoma Park/Silver Spring

- ◆ New Student Orientation - 08/22-23
- ◆ New Faculty Orientation - 08/23
- ◆ Campuswide Opening Mtg - 08/24
- ◆ Campus Picnic - 08/24
- ◆ Community Ice-Cream Social - 09/08

### Collegewide

- ◆ New Faculty Welcome Breakfast - 08/25
- ◆ AAR Fall Orientation Meeting - 08/28
- ◆ Grand Opening: Student Services Center - 8/29
- ◆ Collegewide Fall Meeting - 09/05
- ◆ Honorary Reception (NISOD Awardees) - 09/05
- ◆ Welcome Reception (Dr. Deborah Preston) - 09/05



Dr. Brad J. Stewart

## **WELCOME BACK!**

**Welcome to a new academic year.** Working here reminds me that “the more things change, the more they stay the same.” There have been lots of changes in our facilities over the summer. Many of you worked really hard this summer moving your offices into our gleaming new Student Services Center while managing to deliver the same high quality service to students that makes the Takoma Park/Silver Spring campus such a special place. Thank you for all your efforts. Watching the faces of our students as they visit the new building for the first time has become one of my favorite pastimes. Please plan to join us for the formal dedication of the building on August 29 at 11 a.m.

You may have noticed a few other changes around the campus. Construction on the King Street Arts Center is moving forward quickly so that the faculty from the Art Department and the School of Art + Design can move in next fall and the Parking Garage is currently receiving a face lift that includes fresh paint, new lighting and some exterior beautification. And we plan to start construction on both the new Cultural Arts Center and the renovation of the Commons Building sometime yet this year.

While change is good, the most important thing about the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus has remained the same. Your dedication to our mission to “change students’ lives” makes this a very special place and I can’t wait for another great year to start.

I look forward to seeing you at our campus meeting on August 24 in Science North 100. Please join us for a light breakfast at 8:30 a.m. followed by the campus meeting at 9 a.m. and please note that the Collegewide Fall meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 5. Susan Stafford will be the keynote speaker. Classes begin on Wednesday, September 6. Please visit MyMC for a complete calendar of Collegewide events for Professional Week.

See you all on August 24!

### **THINGS TO NOTE:**

The Campus opening meeting is August 24, 2006 in SN 100. There will be a light breakfast at 8:30 a.m. followed by the campus meeting at 9 a.m.

The Student Services Opening Celebration is on August 29 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

The Collegewide Fall Meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 5 at Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center in Rockville. Susan Stafford will be the keynote speaker.

## SPOTLIGHT ON: *First Year Experience*

### Summer Bridge: Bridging the Gap or Taking That 'First Year Fork' in the Road

Senior year in high school can be a heady time and it is quite easy to feel overconfident about one's ambitions. Then comes the first day of college classes and one's confidence quickly melts away - exposing the raw vulnerabilities of balancing work, classes, assigned readings, papers, unstructured time blocks, friends, and family. Of course, our friends and family certainly mean well but usually have not made the adjustment to a student's new life and they unknowingly erode time and energy away from a confused student who can't "Just say no." What ever happened to transitions? Interestingly so, this is why we have Summer Bridge.

Perhaps, you're wondering what is Summer Bridge? Summer Bridge is a high school to college transition program that has been offered at MC for many years. It helps students 'wade' into the sweet water of Montgomery College relieving them of that end of August and early September "trial by fire" plunge. Summer Bridge is more than a course. It truly is an all inclusive summer experience where recently graduated high school seniors interact in a meaningful and personalized way with our faculty, staff, and other students.

*" The Summer Bridge experience and connections empowers our students with a detailed Educational Plan that includes courses, career and transitional steps, and resources. "*

Let's take a look at some of the paths our students traveled this summer:

- \* One student whose parents wanted her to become a nurse since it runs in the family, through the Summer Bridge experience redirected her pursuit to fashion design.
- \* A cluster of nursing student hopefuls listened to nursing coordinator Sylvia Lackey discuss her journey into nursing as she escorted them through an emergency room simulation in the state-of-the-art Health Sciences Center at Montgomery College.
- \* One student was working with Gregory Wahl in front of the class on editing strategies and eureka - there it was!

Now, here's a snapshot of those individuals who make the Summer Bridge experience fruitful.

- \* Francine Jamin, who introduces students to "think about how they think" – or critical thinking skills
- \* Kathy Swanson, who assists students as they enter cyber research domains
- \* Jim Walters, Valerie Forbes, and Rolf Barber, each of whom open the doors to outside of the classroom experiences that comprise Service Learning and the Collegewide Cooperative Education & Internship Program (CO-OP).
- \* Roberta Buckberg, who assists students interpret their profiles from the Self Directed Search: A Guide to Educational and Career Planning
- \* Barbara Thorn demystifying "My MC"
- \* James Hall, who shows students interested in Health Sciences the steps and resources available during the application process
- \* Veteran students La' Tarsha Kelly and Tosha Green who offered students the inside scoop on the Montgomery College scene
- \* Joseph O'Hare offering resume and interview tips for students looking for employment
- \* Elena Saenz Welch, who oversees administrative functions of the Summer Bridge partnership with Montgomery County Public Schools and enabled us to stage a wonderful send-off luncheon.

All of these efforts that deliver wonderful results were pulled together by First Year Experience Coordinators: Professors Terri Bailey, Jackie King, David Jean-Julien, and Jay Marciano deliver wonderful results. The Summer Bridge experience empowers our students with a detailed Educational Plan that includes courses, career and transitional steps, and resources. As faculty, staff, and veteran students make connections with each other around a common purpose, our first year student benefits. There is nothing complicated about how this works. As the New York Yankee catcher Yogi Berra said: **"When you come to a fork in the road, take it."**



**Dr. Jeff Chyatte**

## Curative & Cultivating Scientific Research

KUDOS! Dr. Jeff Chyatte, associate professor of Anatomy & Physiology represented the Montgomery College, Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus at the Sixth Triennial Canadian Computational Chemistry Conference with special emphasis on Materials and Life Sciences along with other highly respected research institutions from over 21 countries including:

- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Oxford University
- The Scripps Research Institute
- Ben-Gurion University
- University of Pennsylvania
- Cornell University
- Columbia University
- Princeton
- Duke

Dr. Chyatte served as Session Chair and two of his research projects were accepted for presentation. Here is a brief synopsis:

### Restricted Visceral Green Florescent Protein Expression Patterns in Transgene Mice

His research includes Stem Cell transplants in chimeric (hybrid) mouse models and is being done at The National Institutes of Health. Concentrating on which Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP) variants will produce the best quantitative results and distinguish donor, recipient and hybrid transgene expression in Stem Cell allografts implanted into hypoxic host neural tissues. The overall purpose of the research is to determine how to prevent apoptosis (programmed cell death) in neurodegenerative diseases. Applications include developing novel therapeutic approaches for treating stroke, Alzheimer's, and Parkinson's diseases.

### Utilizing Vertically Integrated Partnerships in Science Education to Develop Future Scientists

The benefits of integrating continuity between elementary, high school and college-level science curricula are clear. These programs are effective in nurturing science interest at an early age sequentially building critical thinking skill sets while maintaining rigor and retention. Therefore, we must continue to cultivate these programs to develop an informed and well conceived approach and better focus educational agendas to successfully obtain tangible results.

For more information on Dr. Chyatte's scientific research, please contact him at (301) 650-1453 or by email at [Jeff.Chyatte@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:Jeff.Chyatte@montgomerycollege.edu).



# What's Happening Collegewide?

## GERMANTOWN

### On Germantown Professor Jacqueline Middleton Speaker at The Day of the African Child Conference

Professor Jacqueline Middleton, Germantown Campus Accounting/Business Administration/Management/Legal Studies Department, was selected by the United Nations African Mothers Association to be a speaker at the Day of the African Child Conference on June 16, 2006, at the United Nations, New York, New York. Professor Middleton spoke to 150 high school students from all over the world on the topic, *A New Leadership for a Changing World*. Mr. Kofi Annan of Ghana, Secretary General of the United Nations, kicked the conference off with his remarks on *Future Human Rights and Universal Values of Equality*. Other presenters included Miss Patricia Gatling, Chairperson and Commissioner, Human Rights Commission, City of New York; Miss Evelyn Chidyausiku, wife of Ambassador Boniface Chidyausiku of the Republic of Zimbabwe; Dr. Bertrand Brown, superintendent of the Village of Central Harlem School System; Ambassador Dumisani Kumalo, South Africa's representative to the United Nations; Elizabeth Mahiga, wife of the Ambassador of the United Republic of Tanzania. Miss Mampela Mpela, radio producer of the United Nations, Department of Public Information, was also in attendance.

## ROCKVILLE

### Rockville MOVES AHEAD with Planning

Planning for the new Science Center is moving ahead. During the week of July 10, 2006, Rockville Campus faculty and staff in the Science, Engineering, and Mathematics (SEM) Area, under the direction of Dr. Sanjay Rai, Instructional Dean, participated in planning meetings related to the design phase of the new Science Center. Also in July, the SEM Area submitted a Department of Education FIPSE proposal to implement a program designed to double the transfer/graduation rates of women and minority students in Engineering over a three-year period. If the grant is awarded, high school seniors and select four-year universities will participate with Montgomery College in a comprehensive program that focuses on key gateway courses in math, physics, and engineering. Selected students will receive academic coaching, mentoring, supplemental instruction, academic and career advising; and exposure to research. Ms. Miriam Carter, Assistant to the Deans, worked with Dr. Rai on the ambitious and timely grant proposal.

## IN THE NEWS

### Greater Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce (GSSCC) names a new Chair

Congratulations to Dr. Brad Stewart, our campus Vice President and Provost on being installed as chair(2006-2007) for the GSSCC Board of Directors. GSSCC held its annual Awards and Installation Luncheon on June 29, 2006. He serves under the leadership of Jane Redicker, GSSCC Staff President. His predecessor, Carmen Camancho of Bud Miller Associates, Inc., served with distinction and Brad is "eager to continue the important work done this past year and develop some new initiatives that further Silver Spring's commercial success." Other newly installed members are:

**Lawrence (Larry) Bolton**, EagleBank  
**Paul DiPiazza**, Lerch, Early & Brewer, Chtd.  
**M. Genevieve (Genny) Hardesty**, Trizec Prop. Inc.  
**Jawed Khan**, Consolidated Theatres – The Majestic  
**June Mickens**, Social & Scientific Systems  
**Roscoe M. Moore, Jr.**, PH RockWood Corp.  
**Jere Stocks**, Washington Adventist Hospital  
**Stacey Wahlert**, Chevy Chase Land Company  
**Scott Wallace**, Linowes and Blocher LLP

**Valerie D.Day**, St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church  
**Alyssa Friedrich**, United Therapeutics Corp.  
**Barbara Henry**, Discovery Communications, Inc.  
**Jay Knisley**, Eggspectation  
**Jerry Miller**, Minuteman Press  
**Frederick Samuels**, Cahn & Samuels, LLP  
**Dewey Thomas, Jr.**, Encore Management Corp.  
**James Walker**, Adams National Bank  
**Stephanie Warlick**, Colorworks Promotions



**MEMBERS:**

TBA, Chair  
Ijeoma Otigbuo, Vice- Chair  
Jeanann Boyce  
Muswamba Kadima-Nzuji  
Karen Marshall  
Nora Ryan  
Miriam Simon

**WELCOME BACK FACULTY AND STAFF:**

Our newly elected Faculty Council Chair decided over the summer that her existing duties at the College would require too much of her time and felt it best to resign her position on the council. She asked that we replace her when appropriate. So you are stuck with me for one more opening meeting and I will do my best to get that position filled so the Council can elect a new chair and be on their way.

This year promises to be one of the busiest ever. Here is a brief overview of what you can expect to be hearing about and perhaps even involved with as the new academic year gets rolling. As Academic Assembly Vice-Chair and a Steering Committee Member of the Middle-States Review, I will be active on many fronts and hope I can count on you to be engaged in these matters as they concern and affect us all.

Here is a brief overview:

- \* **Middle States Self Study:** All faculty and staff will be asked to participate and provide candid responses to survey items related to your area. Please provide timely responses and be as honest and thorough as you can.
- \* **President Search:** When candidates are brought to the college for Q & A's please be sure your area is represented and come prepared with questions that will challenge our candidates.
- \* **Governance Review:** Dr. Nunley has asked that we re-examine our governance structure at the College and you may be asked how we can change what we do from Faculty Council to Academic Assembly and so on. If you feel we can improve this structure, please offer prepared and specific strategies for improvement.
- \* **Campus Construction:** This will be a way of life for a bit longer but as we can all see, the new additions to our campus are beautiful and are worth the inconvenience. Please be patient and watch for parking updates as this will be a huge challenge for us in late fall to early spring.
- \* **Committee Participation:** It is critical that we have proper representation on various campus and Collegewide committees. Otherwise, those who do attend make decisions on our behalf with little or no input as to our needs. Please do what you can to be engaged at MC.

I know the Council will be anxious to get started on these matters and others to do their part on your behalf. Let them know you appreciate them and let them know your concerns. I am also happy to help from the Academic Assembly.

**Have a great year!**

*"There are two kinds of gratitude: the sudden kind we feel for what we receive, and the larger kind we feel for what we give."*

Edward A. Robinson

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**Ideas, Comments and Submissions?**

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