

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE ♦ ROCKVILLE CAMPUS

# 2005 ANNUAL REPORT

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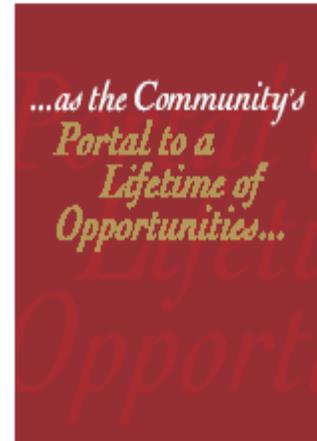
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## INTRODUCTION

During the past year, the Campus community made progress on several major initiatives, including plans to commemorate the Campus' 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary during the 2005-2006 academic year. Starting with an enrollment of 2,489 students in 1965, during the past forty years, the Campus has grown phenomenally. With almost 15,000 students each semester, we remain the largest among the College's three campuses. Despite severe shortages of space resulting in overcrowded conditions, fiscal restraints, and other limited resources, we met myriad challenges and celebrated numerous accomplishments.

If we embrace the words of the computer science visionary Alan Kay, the best way to predict the future is to invent it. At Rockville, we are eager to respond to our students and to chart our destiny, one based on the highest aspirations. We know that strong advocacy efforts and community support will enhance academic opportunities for the Campus



community as we prepare for a future that includes stronger student services, a new Science Center and additional parking. We also recognize the importance of skilled personnel to support a large, vibrant campus. Just this year, along with providing leadership opportunities for students and hiring additional staff, we welcomed twenty-eight new faculty during fall 2005 and hired two Associate Deans—one for Humanities and one for Student Development. We will also hire an Instructional and College Dean for the Arts.

Professor Florence H. Ashby and Dr. Duane C. Ellison served as mace bearers at the 40th Anniversary Fall Academic Convocation on August 24, 2005.

## CAMPUS MISSION AND VISION

At the Rockville Campus, our vision is born of the College mission statement:

### ***Changing Lives***

We offer access, opportunity, and support for students, faculty and staff.

### ***Community's College***

We create and offer a rich cultural, intellectual, and health-promoting environment and are committed to contributing to the education and economic life of the larger community.

### ***Accountability***

We strive for excellence and are proud of our community.

Our vision for the next decade is to become the educational community of choice for recent high school graduates and adults changing careers, as well as to provide a venue for those who are intellectually curious, interested in building new skills and abilities, or simply want to pursue personal enrichment opportunities. To achieve this vision, the Rockville Administrative Team has committed to seven key result areas to guide the progress of the next several years: Growth, Student Learning, Curriculum and Program Initiatives, GITE and Career Programs, Partnerships, Professional Development, and Healthy Campus.

## **CAMPUS DEMOGRAPHICS**

The Rockville Campus is home to approximately 15,000 students each semester along with more than 300 full-time and 450 part-time faculty members. In fall 2005, the total Rockville Campus population of administrators, full-time faculty, part-time faculty, and associate and support staff was more than 980 people, including personnel in Central positions. Approximately, 25% of full-time faculty members are minority, and of 11 administrators and administrative associates, five are male and five are minority. Students come from Montgomery County, other counties in the State of Maryland, the District of Columbia, Northern Virginia, and 161 different countries (spring 2005). In spring 2005, 14,337 students were enrolled, an increase of 1% over spring 2004 that is primarily attributable to enhanced retention efforts. Of these students, 18% were Asian, 22% were Black, 16% were Hispanic, and 44% were White. In addition, 31% or 4,379 were international students, with the largest numbers of students coming from South Korea (226), India (186), Peru (178), El Salvador (177), Vietnam (163), Ethiopia (160), Cameroon (157), Iran (156), China (142), Brazil (123), Russia (102), and Ghana (100).

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **Business, Hospitality Management, and Information Science**

The Area initiated a number of curricula changes so that courses and programs reflect area employment trends and needs. Computer Applications faculty developed a new, interdisciplinary gaming and simulation certificate and degree, to meet the needs of a growing industry in Maryland. The Hospitality Management program now has more than 100 majors, and the Marriott Hospitality Center expanded its programming and provided more than \$20,000 in scholarships to hospitality students. The Macklin Business Institute graduated its sixth class.

### **Fine, Performing and Visual Arts and The Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center**

The Area offered a variety of programs in all of the arts. A new Associate of Fine Arts degree was established. Numerous exhibitions were held in the Art Gallery and the Communication Arts Technologies Gallery. The Communication Arts Technologies Gallery exhibited *Portraits of Life*, a photographic exhibit about community Holocaust survivors. Theatrical productions included student productions and two Summer Dinner Theatre shows. The Music Department's programs featured the Chorus, Orchestra and Jazz Ensemble. In addition to student productions, a professional and children's series was offered by the Performing Arts Center.

### **Social Sciences, History, Education, Health Enhancement, Exercise Science and Physical Education**

The Area strengthened partnerships with local institutions to support transfer and career programs. Enrollment in education courses increased, and new courses were developed in history. The Area secured two grants totaling \$40,000 to support archaeology instruction. Psychology initiated a new student advising project to help students when they transfer. Health Enhancement, Exercise Science, and Physical Education added new lifetime activity courses. Departments collaborated to develop an Ethnic Studies Associate of Arts concentration.

### **Humanities**

The Humanities area served 15,000 enrollments in 16 disciplines, increased distance learning offerings, provided flexible course scheduling, and hosted the 9<sup>th</sup> annual F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference, the 2005 Beacon Honors Conference, and the *Will Power*

Shakespeare festival. The Writing and Reading Center/Language Lab recorded over 105,000 visits. Montgomery Scholars graduated its fifth class, International Studies completed a two-year curriculum review, and Women's Studies organized the Mid-Atlantic Region Women's Studies Association conference.

### **Science, Engineering and Mathematics**

Funding was secured for the design phase for the new Science Center. The Area received Federal funds of \$406,000 for two mobile engineering computer labs and a renewal grant of \$639,420 for the Biomedical Scholars Program. A new, non laboratory genetics course was approved and a chemistry course for engineers was redesigned. Associate of Arts in Teaching (AAT) degrees in chemistry, life sciences, mathematics and physics were approved. The greenhouse was renovated, and the Area hired new faculty and an evening/weekend biology lab coordinator. The Math/Science Center tutor training program received national certification.

### **Student Development**

Counseling Center staff handled 25,000 student appointments, and the Assessment Center established "on demand" testing for student walks-ins. Student Development course enrollments increased as did enrollment in the summer bridge program for June high school graduates. The \$1.2 million Student Support Services TRIO Grant was renewed, and Disability Support Services (DSS) was awarded a \$29,300 Grace and Jerome Murray Foundation grant for assistive technology hardware and software. Student Life coordinated three times as many events than in the last two years combined. Athletics received several National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) awards.

### **Applied Technologies and The Gudelsky Institute for Technical Education**

There was a 27% increase in student enrollment in this area. Printing faculty collaborated on the interdisciplinary Associate of Arts degree in Computer Game Simulations. Several classrooms were renovated in the GITE and the Technical Center to address space constraints and new computer labs were provided for the Interior Design and Construction Management programs. Four Interior Design students received top honors in a scholarship contest, and a team of four Construction Management students came in first place at the annual National Associated Builders and Constructors' student competition.

Collegewide programs supported by the Rockville Campus include the **Arts Institute of Montgomery College**, the **Paul Peck Humanities Institute** and the **MC/MCPS Partnership** including the Gateway to College program and the College Institute.

Included in this Report are the 2005 Campus Highlights, Academic Area Overviews, and a section entitled Challenges, Actions and Celebrations. The Annual Report is amended by a special Rockville Campus 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary publication, "40 for the 40<sup>th</sup>," which profiles forty outstanding faculty and staff members chosen for their contributions to the Campus. Also included are Selected Student Information (2002-2004) and Selected Employee Information (fall 2004) provided by the Office of Institutional Research and Analysis.

**Judy E. Ackerman, Ph.D.**  
**Vice President and Provost**  
September 19, 2005

## **CHALLENGES, ACTIONS, AND CELEBRATIONS**

Challenges, actions and celebrations are derived from seven key result areas for the Rockville Campus: Growth, Student Learning, Curriculum and Program Initiatives, GITE and Career Programs, Partnerships, Professional Development, and Healthy Campus. Collegewide initiatives overseen by campus personnel are also included in this section.

### **GROWTH**

#### **Challenges**

- Supporting enrollment projections in limited facilities without an increase in personnel and instructional supplies
- Recruiting and hiring well-qualified, student-centered faculty (adjunct and full-time) and administrators
- Providing adequate numbers of student, employee, and visitor parking spaces

#### **Actions**

- Increased use of alternative course scheduling including late-starting classes, distance learning classes and blended classes
- Advocacy with State and County officials to support funding requests for new facilities
- Sought outside funding to augment budget
- Provided additional parking by using spaces at the Rockville Swim Center and transporting people back and forth with a parking shuttle van

#### **Celebrations**

- Increase in enrollment (foreign language by 14%), the number of engineering majors (500 to 725 in two years), and education majors
- Allocation of planning funds for new Rockville Science Center

### **STUDENT LEARNING**

#### **Challenges**

- Addressing the needs of first generation, re-entry and traditional age college students
- Facilitating student transition from high school to college
- Improving process for assessment and placement of entering students whose first language is not English

#### **Actions**

- Designed and planned for implementation of a multi-option First-Year Experience program at Rockville
- Piloted new computer based assessment test (LOEP) for entering students whose first language is not English
- Sought and obtained certification of Math Center tutoring program

#### **Celebrations**

- Offered additional sections of summer bridge course (DS 107) for new high school graduates
- Successful pilot of Outcomes Assessment strategies in EN 102

### **CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM INITIATIVES**

#### **Challenges**

- Implementing a new collegewide structure for the arts at Montgomery College
- Using the Academic Area Review and Outcomes Assessment processes to improve discipline and program offerings
- Coordinating honors programs with regard to standards, practices and resources
- Revising technical curricula such as Automotive Technology to meet industry and certification standards

### **Actions**

- Developed an A.A.S. degree in Computer Graphics
- Used external reviewers to augment academic area review process for Information Technology, Printing, and the Gudelsky Institute of Technical Education
- Formed Collegewide Honors Program Curriculum Committee

### **Celebrations**

- Approved new degrees and courses: certificate in gaming and simulation, new Associate of Fine Arts degree, new non-lab genetics course (BI 222)
- Completed major curriculum revisions for Construction Management
- Completed and offered online, redesigned Fast Track to Math Success

## **GITE AND CAREER PROGRAMS**

### **Challenges**

- Maintaining and growing programs that are responsive to workforce needs
- Responding to program requests for Perkins Grant support

### **Actions**

- Published articles about career programs in MC/MCPS newsletter, *Prep Talk* and distributed promotional materials to high school counseling departments
- Revised Tech Prep articulation process so that MC/MCPS articulations are reviewed more frequently and remain current

### **Celebrations**

- New Child Development Associate (CDA) credential training program
- New Commercial Driver's License (CDL) partnership provides training
- Growth in apprenticeship training
- National Kitchen and Bath Association certification for Interior Design program

## **PARTNERSHIPS**

### **Challenges**

- Providing reading certification professional development for MCPS faculty for salary credit
- Meeting the needs of transfer students when the requirements in specific majors are different among four-year colleges and universities
- Providing cooperative/internship opportunities for engineering students

### **Actions**

- Developed technical theatre partnerships with Blake High School
- Collaborated with UMES/Shady Grove on Construction Management program
- Participated in statewide discussion regarding articulation of two-year engineering programs to four-year programs

### **Celebrations**

- Gateway to College program completed successful first year
- College Institute expansion to two additional high schools, Kennedy and Seneca Valley
- National Gallery of Art internships

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

### **Challenges**

- Need to retrain faculty in declining Information Technology disciplines
- CTL programs are heavily utilized

### **Actions**

- Increased funding was made available to permit faculty and staff to participate in internal and external professional development activities throughout the year

## Celebrations

- *Spring Quest*, a new, half-day, end of semester professional development activity for Rockville faculty and staff
- Hosted the 2005 Mid-Atlantic Region Women's Studies Association Conference and the 2005 Beacon Honors Conference

## HEALTHY CAMPUS

### Challenges

- Creating a healthy environment in units that utilize chemicals and power equipment
- Inadequate compliance with College smoking policy

### Actions

- Move towards using less toxic materials and replacing mercury containing devices
- Lab Safety Institute presented one-day seminar/workshop on laboratory safety
- Researched how other colleges have moved to smoke-free campuses in order to identify new strategies to use at Montgomery College

### Celebrations

- Provided displays on health issues at health fair and student activity days

## 2005 ROCKVILLE CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS



Ms. Frances Breakfield (left) and Professors Susan King and Hilda Smith served as 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee chairs.

- Ms. Gabby Molinolo was named to the First Team of the 2005 All-USA Community and Junior College Academic Team, and was the 2005 Presidential Scholar. Ms. Sara Owens received the 2005 Board of Trustees Scholar Award.
- Professor Denise Simmons Graves was named the 2004 Maryland Outstanding Educator in the adviser/mentor category by the Maryland Association for Higher Education.
- The Macklin Business Institute (MBI) Distinguished Lecture Series hosted broadcast journalist and author Chris Matthews, and author Grace Paley was honored at the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference.
- The Campus received a \$30,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, a \$10,000 grant from the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Fund, and continued funding from the Marriott Foundation for the Marriott Hospitality Center.
- The Montgomery Scholars honors program graduated its fifth class – including the 2005 Rockville Board of Trustees scholar – with a 96% completion rate.
- Science, Mathematics and Engineering received \$406,000 of federal funding for two mobile classrooms for engineering courses and \$639,420 from the National Institutes of Health for continued support of the Biomedical Scholars Program.

- The Campus hosted the Mid-Atlantic Region Women's Studies Association conference, the Beacon Conference, and an Embassy of Finland delegation.
- *Spring Quest*, a new professional development activity for Campus faculty and staff, offered workshops on the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary theme "Capturing Memories."
- A \$1.2 million Federal TRIO grant was renewed for the next five years.
- The Campus held a Game Expo showcasing gaming and educational simulation.
- A team of four Construction Management students won a first place award at the 5<sup>th</sup> annual National Associated Builders and Constructors' student competition.
- The Paul Peck Humanities Institute's Holocaust Commemoration program was attended by 400 people and featured the photography exhibit "Portraits of Life: Holocaust Survivors of Montgomery County."
- The College Institute program expanded to Seneca Valley and Kennedy High Schools this fall and the MC/MCPS/UMBC partnership program at Wheaton High School was created.
- Information sessions and site tours to update State officials on Campus needs and priorities, particularly regarding Science facilities, were held during the year.

## ACADEMIC AREA OVERVIEWS

### Business, Hospitality Management, and Information Science

A number of curricula changes designed to keep pace with emerging employment trends were initiated. The Academic Area Review process contributed to revisions in Java developer, object-oriented software development, and computer programming certificate programs, as well as two transfer degree tracks in the Computer Science (CS) department. The Hospitality Management department revised its degree program and developed a new course in customer service, which attracted students from hospitality, several other majors, and Workforce Development and Continuing Education. The Computer Applications Department completed development of a new, interdisciplinary gaming and simulation certificate and degree program to meet demand in one of the fastest growing technology and entertainment businesses in Maryland.



Hospitality Management Professors Alyson Escobar, Janet Saros and Sara Ducey enjoy the Convocation.

The Macklin Business Institute (MBI) graduated its sixth class of honors students. As part of its Distinguished Lecture Series in the fall, the MBI hosted broadcast journalist and author Chris Matthews. MBI students continued to manage and monitor the MBI Café, which completed its second year in operation to provide Starbucks coffee on campus.

The Department of Hospitality Management grew to more than 100 majors and offered general education and nutrition courses for over 1,000 students. Faculty improved the

transition for transfer students via articulation agreements with the University of Maryland at Shady Grove (UMSG) and *L'Academie de Cuisine*. In the two years that the UMSG has graduated students with a B.S. in Hotel/Restaurant Management, 50% of the graduating students had transferred into the program from Montgomery College. The Marriott Hospitality Center (MHC), a successful public-private partnership funded by the Marriott Foundation, continued to expand students' cultural and career horizons through field trips to local hotels, restaurants, and the D.C. Convention Center. Students, faculty, and the general public also attended lectures and hands-on cooking demonstrations. The MHC provided more than \$20,000 in scholarships to hospitality students.

The Campus' first annual Game Expo Day held this spring included a presentation on the future of gaming by Stuart Moulthrop (University of Baltimore), an exhibition of student flash animations, *Pac-MC* developed by Professor Deborah Solomon's gaming class, and a discussion on career opportunities in gaming featuring area faculty.

### **Fine, Performing and Visual Arts and The Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center**

This area offered outstanding educational and training opportunities for students and the community. Adding vitality to campus life, area faculty and staff shared their skills and passion for artistic expression and inspired students to realize the full extent of their own creativity.

A variety of innovative programs were offered including guest artists in music, theatre, dance, and photography. The Art Department exhibited student and faculty work along with the *National Juried Drawing Show* and *Fiberology*. The newly named Department of Communication Arts Technologies (formerly Visual Communications Technologies or VCT) sponsored *Portraits of Life*, a photography exhibit about Holocaust survivors produced in conjunction with the Paul Peck Humanities Institute, and *The Montgomery Farm Documentation Project*. The eRadio/WMCR station broadcasted its first live remote feed from *Spring Fling*. Student productions from the Speech, Dance, Theatre, and American Sign Language Department included *Pippin*, *The Laramie Project*, and the *Spring Dance Concert*. Summer Dinner Theatre produced *Annie Get Your Gun* and *The Music Man*. The Music Department offerings included *We the People*, an interdisciplinary celebration of music and the spoken word; the spring Orchestra and Chorus concert of music by Mozart; and the Jazz Ensemble. The Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center (PAC) presented the St. Petersburg State Ballet Theatre's production of *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Color Me Dark: A Story of the Great Migration* as a Black History Month event co-sponsored by the Kennedy Center.

The Area continued to raise funds for special projects with grants: a Perkins Grant supported the installation of new digital video editing and field equipment in the Communication Arts Technology Department, grants from the Arts and Humanities Council, and the County Council funded a video projection system for the PAC; the Webber Family Foundation and the Maryland Humanities Council co-sponsored *Will Power 2005!*, a Shakespeare festival; and a grant from the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County supported the *World Arts Festival*, which celebrated music and dance.

An Associate of Fine Arts degree was established, and new computer graphics and graphic design classes were created to keep up with web and gaming technology. Faculty and staff incorporated digital technologies in all departments, enhanced the audio production studios, and enhanced computer labs to ensure high quality, state-of-the art educational experiences.

### **Social Sciences, History, Education, Health Enhancement, Exercise Science and Physical Education**

Responding to student and community needs, the Area continued to grow and foster academic excellence within its disciplines. Partnerships with local schools, colleges and

universities were strengthened to support transfer and career programs. The new Associate of Arts in Teaching (AAT) degree programs in physics, mathematics, early childhood education, reading, chemistry, and Spanish contributed to significant enrollment increases in the Education Department. More than 150 students were placed in Montgomery County Public Schools for field experiences. New courses continued to flourish, rivaling those of two- and four-year schools: seventeen different health courses, thirty-nine different physical education courses, and a variety of advanced psychology courses offering the most extensive choice available at any Maryland community college.

History's International Studies concentration attracted increasing numbers of students. The department also developed several new courses: Women in World History; History of Sport in America; International Conflict Resolution; East Asian Civilization; History of Asian Americans; African History to 1800; and African History from 1800.

The Area was awarded a \$30,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to support the development and implementation of an archaeology workshop for K-12 teachers to enhance their "hands-on" knowledge of local history for curricular improvements. In addition, a \$10,000 grant was received from the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Fund in support of an archaeological excavation in the Piedmont Area of Montgomery County. The Psychology Department, which enrolled 2,877 students over the past academic year, created a new student advising project to improve student transition to transfer institutions. The Department of Health Enhancement, Exercise Science, and Physical Education added new lifetime activity courses, including fencing and personal fitness, to entice students to take elective physical education courses.

The Departments of History, Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice collaborated with faculty in English, Reading, Philosophy, and ESL to explore the viability of an Ethnic Studies concentration. Students participated in professional conferences and employment prospects through field trips, service learning projects, and experiential learning activities, and faculty and staff remained involved in programs such as the First Year Experience, the College Institute, internationalizing the curriculum, Women's Studies, the Holocaust Commemoration, and the Paul Peck Institute for Civic Engagement and Public Policy.

## **Humanities**

Humanities faculty and staff, who comprise the largest academic area within the College, served more than 15,000 student enrollments in sixteen disciplines, generating approximately 67,500 credit hours. In response to the diverse academic interests of a multilingual and multinational student population, Humanities curricula expanded to include courses in Arabic language, Asian American literature, and Open Topics in Literature with a study travel option. Courses in Africana studies, introduction to Linguistics, Women in Philosophy, Reading at the Elementary Level (teacher certification), and Honors Research Methodology are in development for 2006. In addition, the Philosophy, English, Honors, American English Language Program, and Reading disciplines participated in the Academic Area Review process, resulting in significant curricular revisions in speaking and listening for non-native English speakers, developmental reading, and literature courses.

The area increased its distance learning offerings with new online courses in British literature, the creative writing of poetry, and English composition. Intensive, 7-week courses in languages and composition, as well as literature, women's studies, and philosophy courses taught through the MC/MCPS College Institute, contributed to the area's goal of meeting student needs through flexible course scheduling. The area dedicated one full-time position in reading and writing to the new Gateway to College program as part of the MC/MCPS partnership. Finally, the Writing and Reading Center/ Language Lab supported student learning by expanding its tutoring programs to include grammar-based language

tutoring. The Center/Lab also celebrated the Year of Foreign Languages with an extensive renovation project that will soon include a state-of-the-art digital language lab. The Center recorded over 105,000 visits from the Campus alone; an increasing number of students from other campuses also used its services.

Humanities fostered several collegewide programs that provided rich academic and cultural experiences to the entire College community: the 9<sup>th</sup> annual F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference; the annual Women's Studies Scholarship Breakfast, the regional Mid-Atlantic Women's Studies Association conference; and the 2005 Beacon Honors Conference. The English department collaborated with the Speech, Dance, and Theatre and American Sign Language department on a student Poetry Slam and the *Will Power* Shakespeare festival.

### **Collegewide Initiatives within the Humanities Area**

Humanities faculty led many Collegewide committees and programs, including Academic Assembly Chair, Curriculum Committee, The Paul Peck Humanities Institute, Honors, Women's Studies, International Education, and Study Travel /Study Abroad.

### **Honors Program**

The honors curriculum process changed from a campus-specific to a Collegewide model, ensuring consistency of quality and learning outcomes throughout the program. The Montgomery Scholars honors program graduated its fifth class – including the 2005 Rockville campus Board of Trustees scholar – with a 96% completion rate; accompanied its sixth class in their studies at the International Summer School at Cambridge University; and welcomed the class of 2007, the most diverse class to date.

### **International Education**

The International Studies program completed a two-year review of the College's efforts to internationalize the curriculum, concluding a project funded by an American Council on Education grant. A global learning strategic plan will be implemented this fall. The Study Travel/Study Abroad program placed seven students with study-abroad institutions in England, France, Italy, Spain, and Costa Rica. Students visited Vietnam and Cambodia, and toured Jane Austen's countryside in England for a course in British history.

### **Women's Studies Program**

The Women's Studies program organized two student performances of *The Vagina Monologues*, the very successful annual Women's Studies Scholarship Breakfast, and for the second time, the Mid-Atlantic Region Women's Studies Association conference with participants from higher education institutions and associations from areas including Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

### **Science, Engineering and Mathematics**

The past year was full of exciting developments for the Science, Engineering, and Mathematics (SEM) Area. Support from SEM faculty and the Vice President and Provost helped to secure funding for the design phase of the new science building. The Area received \$406,000 in federal funding for two mobile classrooms for engineering related courses and \$639,420 over three years from the National Institutes of Health for continued support of the Biomedical Scholars Program.

The Area embarked on narrowing the gap between research/industry biology and classroom biology. A new course in genetics was designed along with bioinformatics and polymerase chain reaction-based labs for introductory biology courses. The Area purchased digital microscopes, smart boards, a new autoclave and models for Anatomy and Physiology. The

greenhouse was completely renovated. These efforts bring SEM closer to an interdisciplinary approach to teaching biology, a recommendation contained in *BIO 2010*, a National Research Council study of undergraduate biology education.

With more than 700 students, the Area has one of the nation's largest engineering programs, featuring state-of-the-art facilities. To meet significantly increasing enrollments, the Area added nearly 30 new sections of lectures and labs, and new faculty were hired in biology, mechanical engineering and chemistry as well as an evening/weekend biology lab coordinator. Partnering with the College Institute, the Area offered three engineering courses in local public schools. A redesigned mathematics course (MATH 115A) enabled students to cover intermediate algebra in addition to covering the objectives of MA115, Mathematical Ideas in one semester. Students received ongoing support through the Math/Science Center whose tutor training was certified by the College Reading and Learning Association. A general chemistry course for engineers was redesigned to meet UMCP transfer requirements.

Professional development for faculty remained a priority. The Area worked with the Center for Teaching and Learning to offer content-based workshops in Graph Theory, Differential Equations and Statistics. Seventy faculty and staff members attended a one-day seminar on Laboratory Safety presented by the Laboratory Safety Institute. The Area successfully recruited outstanding faculty with impressive teaching records and doctoral degrees.

### **Student Development**

During the past year, Student Development faculty and staff improved several services for students. Counseling Center staff handled over 25,000 student appointments, and the Assessment Center established "on demand" testing that significantly reduced the amount of time between applying to the College and registering for courses. Counselors increased the number of Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) tests administered to help undecided students in identifying a major. Student development (DS) course enrollments increased and the summer bridge program offered additional courses this summer.

The Area received external funding for two programs. The Student Support Services project, a Federal TRIO Grant Program designed to help students remain in school until graduation or transfer to a four-year institution, received a \$1.2 million grant renewal for the next five years. Disability Support Services (DSS) was awarded a \$29,300 grant from the Grace and Jerome Murray Foundation to purchase assistive technology hardware and software for collegewide use.

DSS faculty and staff met the needs of special students. The number of reported disabilities increased 7.5 % over the previous year. Requests for readers increased 38%, accessible format course material production increased 25% and electronic format course material production increased by 67%. Additionally, DSS coordinated a collegewide effort to assist students enrolled in Workforce Development and Community Education classes.

With a record 55 student clubs, the Office of Student Life coordinated three times as many events this year than in the last two years combined. The annual *Student Life Recognition Awards Banquet* attracted the largest number of attendees ever in MC history. Student Life held its first annual Transitional Leadership Summit that included leadership skills workshops for club officers and interested students. The Athletic Department received several National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) awards, including the Division III individual golf championship and three regional championships in men's soccer, women's tennis, and women's basketball.

## **Applied Technologies and The Gudelsky Institute for Technical Education**

The Area continued to be the program of choice for the local business sector, providing credit and non-credit courses that meet the diverse needs of an ever-changing workforce. With a 27% increase in student enrollment from FY04 to FY05 and stronger corporate partnerships, the Institute remains a leader among community colleges that provide apprenticeship training. Currently, 14% of the total construction trades apprentices registered in the state of Maryland receive training through the Institute.

To keep pace with industry changes, curriculum revisions were approved for several programs, including a new interdisciplinary Associate of Arts degree in Computer Game Simulations, and a Management of Construction curriculum that complements the University of Maryland Eastern Shore's four-year program. Two new courses were developed: Energy Conservation, and Sustainable Design in Architecture and the Environment. The Area also rolled out a new Commercial Driver's License program.

During the past year, several classrooms were renovated in GITE and the Technical Center to address space constraints. The Interior Design and Construction Management program acquired new and upgraded computer labs for instructional purposes.

The Area garnered several prestigious accolades this past year, including internships, research positions and academic scholarships ranging in amounts from \$500 to \$7500. Four interior design students received top honors in a scholarship contest by the Network of Executive Women in Hospitality. Students gained valuable experience and feedback presenting their work at various events, including the 2004 National Symphony Orchestra Decorator's Show House, the Architectural Technology Annual Student Design competition, and the Geographic Information Systems open house. Winning the highly coveted Construction Management first place award, a team of four Construction Management students received the highest score among 22 colleges and universities during the 5<sup>th</sup> annual National Associated Builders and Constructors' student competition.

## **COLLEGEWIDE RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **The Arts Institute of Montgomery College**

The Arts Institute made significant increases in programming for arts students and developed a funding stream to support programming activities for the foreseeable future. In fact, during the past two years, The Arts Institute coordinated and funded more than 200 arts events, with activities scheduled at all campuses. Students have engaged with professional artists in a variety of fields: painting, drawing, sculpture, music, dance, theatre, graphic arts and photography. Institute-sponsored events created links with the area's artistic community and enhanced public awareness of college art programs. In 2005, a \$40,000 grant from the Webber Family Foundation provided support for Master Classes, Artists-in-Residence, the World Music Festival, and the annual Shakespeare Festival "Will Power!" Additional Webber Family Foundation grants of \$30,000 and \$20,000 are anticipated in 2006 and 2007, respectively. The Art Stars celebration inaugurated in October 2004 at the AFI Silver theatre will be held again this October, with proceeds supporting initiatives such as the ongoing internship program at the National Gallery of Art, the Arts Study Abroad Program, and Artists in Healthcare training.

In the coming year, the Arts Institute will focus on improving and expanding the promotion of college arts events and activities, and on developing the Arts Study Abroad Program, such as the pilot program at the Il Perugino Institute in Italy (Umbria).

## **The Paul Peck Humanities Institute at Montgomery College**

The Paul Peck Humanities Institute (PPHI) integrates the humanities into the daily lives of students, faculty and Montgomery County citizens. The Institute's outreach efforts were funded through two cultural program grants from the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County for *Books and Ideas* and the annual Holocaust Commemoration. Advocacy efforts involved educating elected officials about the value of the humanities for students. This spring, the PPHI director and Congressman Van Hollen's staff met to plan a fall information and discussion session for student interns.

Other accomplishments during the year involved the partnership with the Smithsonian Institution. Twelve Smithsonian Faculty Fellows participated in the "Preservation of Culture: The Role of Museums" seminar, and more than 1,000 students enrolled in courses with a Smithsonian museum component. Smithsonian student interns had interesting assignments, such as assisting in conservation at the Aeronautics Division of the National Air and Space Museum. *Books and Ideas* brought area writers to three major literary events at the Rockville, Takoma Park and Germantown campuses. Three College students received the Mark Curtis Award for excellence in the humanities, with awards of \$500 each in recognition of their work. The fall/winter issue of *Potomac Review* paid tribute to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education and featured work by MC photography students. A major PPHI achievement, the Holocaust Commemoration program was attended by 400 people and debuted "Portraits of Life: Holocaust Survivors of Montgomery County," an exhibit that will travel to the County Executive Office Building gallery and to the national Community College Humanities Association conference this fall.

## **The MC/MCSP Partnership (Office of Academic Initiatives)**

A major component of the programs of the Office of Academic Initiatives is to maximize high school students' access to higher education. The College Institute, an innovative program for highly achieving high school students, provided opportunities for identified seniors at Wootton and Gaithersburg high school to earn college credits during their regular school day in their high school. These Montgomery College courses are taught by College faculty. This year, one of the Gaithersburg College Institute students was inducted into the Rockville Campus chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the two-year college honorary society. This student had taken other Montgomery College courses in addition to College Institute courses. The program expands to Kennedy and Seneca Valley high schools this academic year.

The Gateway to College program completed its first year serving at-risk youth, 16 to 20 years old who have stopped attending high school and for whom high school completion is unlikely. This program is based on a program at Portland Community College and was provided with initial partial funding from the Gates Foundation. Students were referred to the program by parents, counselors, friends, agencies or case managers. They earn credit towards high school graduation and towards an associate degree or certificate. The task of articulating coursework in the Gateway to College program facilitated productive discussions between College faculty and MCPS teachers.

The partnership is working with Wheaton High School and UMBC to develop a Global and Cultural Studies Institute to open in the fall of 2006 at Wheaton High School. This program will be part of the options available to students in the down-county consortium of high schools.