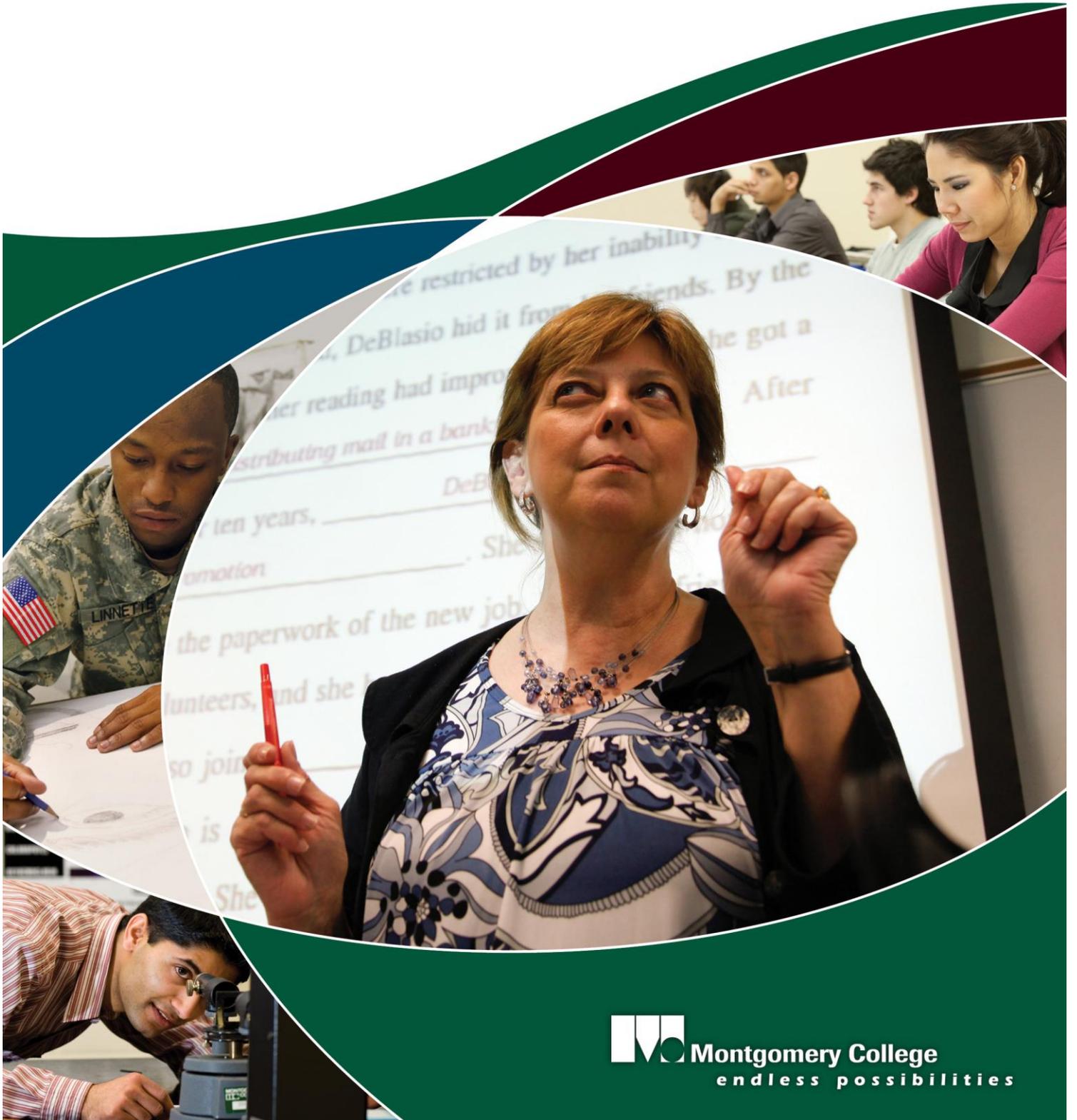


COLLEGE BULLETIN

October 2011



Celebrating Current and Former Students

Alumnus Greg Toomey recently played the lead role in Xanadu at Toby's Dinner Theatre in Baltimore. He is now in rehearsal at Olney Theatre for 12 Angry Men.

Theatre alumnus Brad Nacht is on the national tour of The Addams Family. Prior to this role, he was in the Broadway company of Billy Eliot.

Electrical engineering alumnus Franklin Nouketcha participated in the Maryland Engineering Research Internship Teams program, specifically in biosystems for engineers, at the James Clark School of Engineering. Paired with a University of Puerto Rico student, they researched microrobot control and coordination.

Alumnus Fardad Golshani received a \$4,000 scholarship from the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA), which he will apply to his studies at the University of Maryland.

Yoseph Feseha traveled to NASA's Johnson Space Center to study the development of robotic rovers.

Mark Harmon, an MC alumnus, returned to the Rockville Campus in late September to discuss computer gaming work that he is doing for the Secret Service. Harmon is the director of the Secret Service Simlab.

Celebrating College Faculty, Staff, and Administrators

English Professor Jill Kronstadt had a short story published in September. Her story, "Palimpsests," appears in the autumn 2011 (4.2) issue of New South, Georgia State University's Journal of Art and Literature. In addition to her publication, Professor Kronstadt also had a proposal accepted for the upcoming Two-Year College Association – Northeast Conference.

Sally McClean's EN 102 class has been studying Gustav Niebuhr's book, Beyond Tolerance: Searching for Interfaith Understanding in America. Through panels, students have presented their ideas and their own experiences with tolerance. The book is being used as a pilot for the College Partnerships for Interfaith and Community Service, which is a part of President Obama's Office of Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships. Class results will be presented at a Maryland's Association of Faculties for Advancement of Community College Teaching conference in January.

Teresa Petro, part-time English professor, had several poems published in August and September. Two of her poems were published with the online literary magazine Radioactive Moat. Another of her poems was published in Cave Moon Press's anthology, Broken Circles. With each purchase of the anthology, a percentage goes toward helping hunger banks.

Geography Professor Tanya Allison and Geography Professor Emeritus Terry Dyroff completed a new edition of GEOGRAPHY: Quick Study Guide published by BarCharts, Inc.

Judy Carver, Workforce Development & Continuing Education health sciences program director, serves on Montgomery County's Advisory Committee on Community Service Day, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary by stretching a day's service into a week of service to the community.



Jackie Middleton, paralegal studies professor and chair of the accounting, business administration, paralegal studies, and management department, is well-known for her motivational speaking in the areas of business, management, and legal studies. On September 1, she gave a presentation on leadership to the managers of the Community Services Pretrial Agency (a federal agency) in Washington, D.C. On September 8, she led a strategic planning session for members of Voice of America in Washington, D.C., and on September 15 she gave a presentation on civility and professionalism to a division of the Department of Commerce in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Azi Aalai, psychology assistant professor, has been invited to develop a blog for Psychology Today, one of the leading monthly magazines where prominent scholars and practitioners discuss contemporary issues in their print magazine and rapidly growing online blog presence. Dr. Aalai's blog will be a wonderful complement to the Cultural Psychology class she teaches. Her first article is "The First Impression, Cultural Identity & Calorie Consumption: There's a Mouthful!"

Dr. Abanulo Uchechukwu, assistant professor of electrical engineering, served as undergraduate advisor and mentor to MC engineering students who performed research in the field of signal (speech) processing.

Dr. Nawal Benmouna, assistant professor of physics, worked a second year with the National Science Foundation Course, Curriculum, and Laboratory Improvement grant "Bridging the Expert-Novice Problem-Solving Gap with the ACCESS Protocol" in collaboration with The George Washington University. The ACCESS Protocol develops students' problem-solving skills in introductory algebra-based physics.

Dr. Alan Cutler, geology assistant professor, participated in a four-day NASA workshop on teaching climate change. The workshop focused on a software package (EdGCM) that enables students to perform experiments to see how different factors, such as greenhouse gases, affect climate.

Philosophy Professor Dan Jenkins is presenting his paper "Implications of Experimental Philosophy for Normative Ethics" at the Mississippi Philosophical Association conference. His paper responds to the work of Stephen Stich, who was awarded the prestigious Jean-Nicod prize for lifetime achievement in interdisciplinary work in the philosophy of mind and in cognitive science.

Theatre Assistant Professor Ken Yatta Rogers is playing the role of Walter Lee in *A Raisin in the Sun* at Everyman Theatre in Baltimore.

Laurie Newton, part-time theatre professor, choreographed *Xanadu* at Toby's Dinner Theatre in Baltimore.

Theatre Professor Sasha Olinik is performing in *Savage in Limbo* at the Metro Stage in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Percy North, professor of art, attended a July symposium titled "Challenging 1945: Exploring Continuities in American Art from the 1890's to the Present" at the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Art Professor Komelia Okim is the curator of the American Pavilion at this month's International Craft Design Exhibition in Taipei, Taiwan. She joined Art Professor Kevin Hluch, who also exhibited his work.

Assistant Art Professor Judy Stone lectured on photography, performance, and the body at the Maryland Institute College of Art. She was also the juror for the Annual Juried Art Exhibition at the Mattawoman Creek Art Center in Marbury, Maryland. During July and August Professor Stone was an artist-in-residence in Edola, Chiapas, Mexico.

Adjunct Art Professor Margaret Gourley was awarded a Keyholder Artist Residency at the Pyramid Atlantic Art Center in Silver Spring, Maryland.



Nina Chung Dwyer, part-time art professor, is exhibiting her work in “Figures: Seen and Unseen” at the Betty Mae Kramer Gallery in the Silver Spring Civic Center.

In Germantown’s High Technology and Science Center Galleria hangs an exhibit of large linoleum prints. This exhibit, “Steve Prince – The Word Made Flesh,” by Germantown art faculty member Steve Prince, will remain up through mid-November.

Dr. Alonzo Smith, professor of history, recently authored a limited-edition coffee table book entitled *Empowering Communities, Changing Lives: One Hundred Years of the National Urban League and Black America, 1910-2010*. The book was published by Donning Company.

Dr. Nathan Zook, assistant professor of political science, wrote the chapter “SpongeBob as Royal Candidate” in a book called *SpongeBob and Philosophy: Soaking Up Secrets Under the Sea* published by Open Court Publishing. The book makes philosophy more accessible to a broader audience. Dr. Zook's chapter focuses on critiques of democracy through contrasting political philosophers such as John Stuart Mills, Aristotle, and Plato.

Dr. Syed A. Wasif, adjunct faculty in political science, was a panelist on October 1 at Trinity Washington University's public forum “Unfinished Revolutions: The Struggle for Rights in a Turbulent Region.” Dr. Wasif has published extensively on the Middle East, has served as the president of the Society for International Reforms and Research, and served as a consultant with Interbilim, NGO Resource Center, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, and with the National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) - Pakistan.

Dr. Ed Palaszynski, senior program director of the Information Technology Institute, presented on certification programs and workplace digital literacy skills at the RExO Kick-Off Conference. The conference was held in Washington, D.C., for 60 national grantees of the Reintegration of Ex-Offenders – Adult program. This program is designed to strengthen urban communities through an employment-centered program that incorporates mentoring, job training, and other comprehensive transitional services. The presentation was part of the College’s participation in the federal Department of Justice Second Chance Technology grant.

The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy produced a video in partnership with the American Association of Community Colleges featuring footage of community college faculty talking about how they have incorporated the issues of unplanned pregnancy and college completion into their courses. Four Montgomery College faculty members participated: Lauralyn McWilliams, assistant professor of speech; Dan Jenkins, assistant professor of philosophy; Anthony Ball, instructor of speech and communication; and Christopher Koch, professor of arts technologies. The other colleges represented in the video are Chattahoochee Technical College (GA), Georgia Perimeter College, Hennepin Technical College (NM), and Mesa Community College (AZ).

Rose Sachs, disability support services counselor, has been appointed to the Advisory Council of Montgomery County’s Serving Together: Troops, Veterans, and Family Care Project.

This past summer, Rebecca Razavi, part-time English and Gateway to College professor, participated in the StoryCorps initiative that is supported by PBS and the Library of Congress at the Gateway to College Peer Learning Conference. This included two conversations that were taped and will be archived in the Library of Congress as part of an initiative to capture the stories of educators and students at risk of not graduating from high school. One conversation was with an English faculty member at Riverside Community College and one was with a Gateway resource specialist and MC staff member, Yvonne Hu-Cotto.



International Visit

Dr. Brad Stewart, vice president and provost of the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus, and Instructional Deans Angie Pickwick and Dr. Tony Hawkins were pleased to host a visiting director of admissions from Loyola University in India at the campus on September 27. Dr. Stewart gave him an extensive overview of the American community college system and the deans and academic administrators gave the admissions director a tour of the campus and answered his many questions about open access and experiential learning.

Speakers and Events

Ambassador David T. Killion, U.S. permanent representative to UNESCO, spoke at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus on September 14 about “The Role of the United Nations and UNESCO in Building Peace.” Ambassador Killion was instrumental in the U.S.’s re-entry to UNESCO in 2001. After his standing-room-only lecture, he fielded questions from the audience, and had a lively discussion about freedom of the press and educational opportunities for developing nations.

In celebration of the religious and cultural diversity at the MC campus and in the community, the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Philosophy Club, Office of Student Life, Philosophy Program, Department of Social Sciences, and the Division of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences presented a guest lecture by Rabbi Barry Freundel on “Women in Judaism” on September 14. Additionally, post-denominational female Rabbi Gilah Langner, the Jewish Chaplain at Georgetown University Hospital and adjunct professor of Judaic Studies at GWU and Catholic University, offered a different perspective on Women in Judaism. In November, Ori Soltes of Georgetown University will give a talk on women Christian mystics. Other talks are forthcoming. These talks are part of the MC response to President Barack Obama’s call for interfaith dialogue.

On September 16, the Germantown Campus was the scene of the first of four lectures in the “Skills to Succeed” program, a College-sponsored program that ensures that students have the “Skills to Succeed” in the workforce and in life. Future lectures are scheduled for Takoma Park/Silver Spring, for the Gaithersburg Business Training Center in October, and for Rockville in November.

The Germantown Film Series had its first film of the academic year on September 21. This film *Invictus* told the inspiring and true story of how Nelson Mandela joined forces with the captain of South Africa’s rugby team to help unite their country. Political Science Assistant Professor Jennifer Haydel led a lively discussion following the screening. The Film Series is sponsored by the Office of Student Life in conjunction with other departments on campus.

On September 28, the Germantown “Peace and Justice Studies Community” celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Peace Corps by organizing a Peace Corps panel with local writer Susi Wyss, who has written a book entitled *The Civilized World: A Novel in Stories*. Among the panelists of faculty and staff was Debi Higbie-Holmes, the mother of a current Peace Corps volunteer. Professor Chip Gladson, who has completed two Peace Corps tours, served as the moderator.

Julia Alvarez’s *In the Time of the Butterflies* was chosen for discussion at the Germantown Library on September 28. The book, inspired by a true story of the three Mirabal sisters who participated in the overthrow of Trujillo and the revolution, was set in the Dominican Republic during the Trujillo dictatorship.

In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus hosted a special documentary and discussion on September 28 entitled *Giving Up Is Not An Option*, which was about an undocumented MC student’s journey to access post secondary education. The student herself, as well as representatives from the



youth leadership organization the Gandhi Brigade, whose members produced the documentary, led a discussion after the film.

On October 3, the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Women's Studies Program hosted a showing of the 2008 documentary film *Who Does She Think She Is?*, about women artists struggling with the conflicting demands of art, motherhood, and womanhood. About 50 students, faculty, and staff attended and participated in discussion afterward.

Germantown's popular Spectrum Lecture Series held its first lecture of the 2011-12 academic year on October 11 in Globe Hall with Dan Stout of the Tennessee Valley Authority talking on "Spent Nuclear Fuel Management."

Germantown's brand new three-part speaker series, Athenaeum Symposia, made its debut on October 12 with Ira Berlin, Fulbright professor, who spoke on "Slavery in America". The October 24 lecture welcomed Lise Bruneau and Marcus Kyd as they performed scenes from Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. On November 2 the campus will welcome Lilly Ledbetter, social justice advocate and political activist. The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act was the first bill that President Obama signed into law in 2009. This series is hosted by Germantown's Humanities, Social Sciences, and Education Division.

"Intersections: Where Art Meets Science," the collegewide arts celebration of the new Science Center at the Rockville Campus, began in September with the lecture, "The Science of Sculpture." More than two dozen art exhibits, plays, concerts, dance programs, and special lectures have been developed by the arts faculty on all three campuses. A special faculty exhibit on the theme will be at the BlackRock Center for the Arts November 30–December 1.

Dr. DeRionne Pollard, president; Dr. Brad Stewart, Takoma Park/Silver Spring vice president and provost; Angie Pickwick, instructional dean of health sciences, held a breakfast meeting with area hospital administrators to discuss challenges related to the changing health care landscape as the College prepares the workforce for health care providers in the D.C. Metro area. Dr. Pollard welcomed them and thanked them for their continued support in their collaborations with us to provide them with a competent workforce. Dr. Stewart and the health sciences administrative team participated in the fruitful discussion, which resulted in very productive feedback that will assist the health sciences in future workforce development and will help the hospitals with the continuing education of their current employees.

