

# COLLEGE BULLETIN

December 2011



## **Celebrating Students and Alumni**

Jainaba Bah, oncology nurse at Suburban Hospital and a 2003 graduate of the Montgomery College nursing program, is the 2011 recipient of the Brown Oncology Award for Excellence in Patient Care. Ms. Bah received the award for going above and beyond the call of duty as a patient advocate and for her compassion and empathy in communicating with patients and their families.

Alumni Jongsun-Jay Lee and Gongaan Kim had a two-person exhibition at the Spacewomb Gallery in Long Island City, New York.

More than 40 current and former hospitality students, with their professors, attended one of the largest hospitality trade shows in North America and learned about the hospitality management of the Marriott Marquis through a tour of the Times Square hotel.

Seven Rockville Campus students (Ebrahim Alhaeri, Zahra Alhaeri, Christina Burke, Karla Clara-Vega, Nancy Fonkoua, Isaiah Wallace, and Erika Zumaran) attended the statewide annual student leadership conference organized by the Maryland Community College Activities Directors Association.

Germantown business students Debar Allen, John Bourdeaux, Marissa Dunham, and Sumiya Raheem have earned prestigious internship opportunities with OSTGlobal, a small, fast-paced technological company in Gaithersburg that boasts such clients as AT&T and Lockheed Martin. The students are interning in the fields of marketing, research, and business development, and they are working alongside students from The Johns Hopkins University and The Catholic University of America.

2012 calendars containing artwork of children enrolled in the three Early Learning Centers went on sale at the three campus MC Books & More stores, with proceeds to benefit Child Care Services.

## **Celebrating College Faculty, Staff, and Administrators**

Counselors Dana Baker, Jamin Bartolomeo, Amanda DeMarco, Tim Kirkner, Julie Levinson, and Marcus Peanort have leadership roles for the Region Two National Association for College Admission Counseling conference in Annapolis in March 2012.

County Executive Isiah Leggett has appointed Angela Dawson, student development specialist, to a three-year term on the Community Development Advisory Committee, which makes recommendations regarding Community Development Block Grant and Emergency Shelter Grant funding.

Eric Myren, student employment services director, and Melissa Gregory, College director of student financial aid, were interviewed for the *Higher Education in Maryland* special edition of the *Gazette*. This edition can be found at: <http://www.e-pages.dk/postnewsweekmedia/116/>.

Chemistry faculty hosted the 194th Two-Year College Chemistry Consortium Northeastern Conference on November 11 and 12. The conference theme was “Designing Chemistry Courses for the 21st Century: Community Colleges as Centers of Excellence for the First Two Years.” Program co-chairs were Dr. Virginia Miller and Dr. Sripriya Seetharaman. Dr. Nevert Tahmazian handled arrangements and Dr. Rachel Ndonge served as exhibits coordinator.

The article, “Evaluating the Effectiveness of Tutoring: An Easier Way,” by Dr. Tacy Holliday, science learning center supervisor, has been accepted for fall 2012 publication in *The Learning Assistance Review*, the peer-reviewed journal for the National College Learning Center Association (NCLCA). Also, Dr. Holliday has



been selected as the new membership secretary and as a member of the executive board for NCLCA. Additionally, Dr. Holliday will be certified as a master tutor trainer, the highest tutor trainer certification by the Association for Tutoring Professionals.

Professor Sue Meiskey, program coordinator for the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus health information management (HIM) program, was named a HIM Hero of 2011 by *For the Record*, a national health care publication. To read an article about her recognition, visit <http://www.fortherecordmag.com/archives/102411p14.shtml>.

Several adjunct art professors have recently received honors. Professor Michele Harrington led a session with the Washington Watercolor Association on “What Makes Art Art” and she will address the National League of American Penwomen. Adjunct Professor Margaret Gourley gave an artist’s talk at the Pyramid Atlantic Art Center, where she is doing a residency. She will have a piece at Sculpture Now 2011, sponsored by the Washington Sculptors Group. Adjunct Professor Ruth Manchester presented at the “Utilizing the Visual Arts to Enhance Your Practice as a Parish Nurse” conference in St. Louis. Adjunct Professor Wanjin Kim’s work was shown in “Beautiful East Sea-Dokdo,” an exhibition at the Korean Cultural Center of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea.

Art Professors Sumita Kim and Komelia Okim and Adjunct Professors Wanjin Kim and Eun-mee Chung had pieces in “Bio Art: Encounter of Art & Science,” at the Baltimore Convention Center, organized in conjunction with the Korea-Maryland, USA Bio Art Expo. Professor Okim also gave a lecture at the national conference of Ewha Women’s Alumnae Association of North America, speaking about her role as a curator of the exhibit “Revival.”

Art Professor Michael Farrell’s works are now in the District of Columbia Art Bank collection.

Nine faculty and staff presented workshops at a part-time faculty professional development conference at Anne Arundel Community College, presented by the Maryland Consortium for Adjunct Faculty. The theme was “Adjuncts Teach to Complete: Helping Students Engage, Persist, and Succeed.”

David Phillips, director of the Arts Institute and associate dean for the arts, has been elected chair of the Maryland Humanities Council (MHC). The MHC is a statewide organization that promotes community conversations to “Open Eyes, Open Ears, and Open Minds” through programs such as Chautauqua, including the one hosted on the Germantown Campus.

Mathematics Professor Bill Coe gave a presentation at the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges’ (AMATYC) Annual Conference on “Fast Track – A Sure Bet to Improve Placement.”

Chris Powell, instructional assistant at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus, spoke to the Rockville Kiwanis Club on “Overcoming a Disability.” In his talk, Mr. Powell drew from his own life and experiences, particularly how education helped him to overcome many of the obstacles that he has faced.

Dr. Donna Kinerney, instructional dean for Workforce Development & Continuing Education’s adult ESOL and literacy program, represented the Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages professional organization at a meeting with the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education. She and her education colleagues discussed strategies for creating national partnerships that can maximize collective impact and change in the field of adult education.

Kenneth Nelson, director of WD&CE’s Business and Community Outreach, was reappointed to the Wheaton Urban Advisory Committee (WUDAC). The WUDAC consists of 11 members appointed by the county executive and confirmed by the county council to provide advice on all matters affecting the Wheaton Urban District area.



On November 4, English Professor Jill Kronstadt presented at the Two-Year College Association Northeast (TYCA-NE) 46th Annual Conference on the topic, “Can We Talk? Teaching English in the Two-Year College Discussion as Safe Harbor – Right Here at TYCA-NE.”

Professor Kronstadt and most of her EN 002 students volunteered as guides for people experiencing homelessness and looking for assistance at the annual Montgomery County Homeless Resource Day. This service learning project was part of a developmental English section focused on themes from Jeanette Walls’ memoir, *The Glass Castle*.

## Speakers and Events

As part of the year-long arts celebration of the new Science Center at the Rockville Campus, the exhibit “Worlds Collide: The Art of Science Fiction” drew audiences to the Communication Arts Technologies Gallery for science fiction illustrations by some of the most widely known and loved artists in that genre. Additionally, Dr. Rebecca Klemm, author of *Numbers Alive!*, gave a talk entitled “Using ‘Soft Sculpture’ to Teach Hard Numbers: Interpreting Math Concepts for Children Through Art.”

Germantown’s second National Day on Writing celebration, sponsored by Writing in the Disciplines and Student Development, gathered nearly 100 writers. Contributors included faculty, students, and staff writing in Ebo, Spanish, French, and English in all genres—poetry, prose, and prose poems. The National Day on Writing banners are currently on display in the campus library.

The planetarium held a free public show entitled “When Was Creation?” on October 22. This show discussed the scholarly attempts to pinpoint “creation day.” The theories of Bishop James Ussher, Galileo Galilei, and Leonardo da Vinci were discussed.

Professor Nathan Zook spoke in commemoration of United Nations Day 2011 on October 27. The title of his speech was “Who Are the Underdogs in the Middle East and Can the U.N. Be Their Champion?”

The Cultural Arts Center presented a performance of music from Malawi with artist Peter Mawanga, who founded Talents of the Malawian Child in 2004. The Cultural Arts Center also presented a Culture Matters Forum, “Mau A Malawi: Stories of AIDS, A Transatlantic Music Collaboration Combining Music & Humanity.”

Dr. Christina Devlin, English professor and collegewide coordinator of the Writing in the Disciplines, and Diane Cockrell, faculty outreach librarian, hosted the second annual Writers Coffeehouse for an evening of poetry, short stories, and other works written by aspiring authors.

In November, the Cultural Arts Center presented the King Street Cultural Arts Night Celebration, a series encouraging collaborative programs between the Cultural Arts Center and The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation Arts Center, combining gallery exhibitions, performances, lectures, and receptions for two exhibits.

The DESI Club Beats, a student club focused on introducing the community to Indian culture, hosted a Diwali and Eid Celebration on November 4 at the Rockville Campus. The purpose of this event was to promote peace between Hindus and Muslims, as Diwali is a major Hindu festival, and Eid a major Muslim one.

Inspired by President Obama’s Interfaith Initiative, the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus Philosophy Club, the Division of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, the Office of Student Life, the Department of Social Sciences, and the philosophy program presented the third event in the “Women in Religion” series with Ori



Soltes, professor of theology, philosophy, and art history at Georgetown University, talking about women Christian mystics.

During International Student Week, November 14-18, students educated the Rockville Campus about their cultural heritage and the benefits of international education. The event embodied this year's theme, "Celebrating Your Cultural Heritage," through cultural performances, movies, displays, and even a fashion show.

To celebrate the "International Year of Chemistry" in a lively and entertaining way, the November 16 Spectrum Lecture engaged the College's own chemistry faculty to perform some of their favorite demonstrations. Following each demonstration, faculty provided an explanation of the chemical principles underlying each experiment.

The Rockville Campus Department of History and Political Science, in conjunction with MC Books & More, sponsored a series of lectures that included David O. Stewart, author of *American Emperor: Aaron Burr's Challenge to Jefferson's America*; Edmund J. Hull, author of *High-Value Target: Countering Al Qaeda in Yemen*; and Thomas B. Allen, who wrote *Tories: Fighting for the King in America's First Civil War*.

The Montgomery College Germantown Film Series, sponsored by the Office of Student Life in conjunction with other departments on campus throughout November, featured several films during the month of November including *A Beautiful Mind* and *Pollock*. Students participated in faculty-led discussions following each movie.

## **Books That Do Not Break the Bank: Textbook Affordability Efforts**

Since July, MC Books & More has offered an online self-fulfillment program for purchasing textbooks. From July to November, nearly a thousand orders were processed, resulting in more than \$173,000 in sales. Beginning winter semester 2012, students will have the option to have their orders shipped to their homes or they may pick up them up at the campus stores.

In an effort to expand retail services to reduce the cost of instructional materials for our students, MC Books & More have implemented the following initiatives:

- Rental textbooks – The College book rental program was expanded this fall semester with 22–40 rental titles being offered at each campus. To date, students have rented more than 2,000 copies collegewide.
- Digital instructional materials sales – The store provided e-books as an alternative to paper copies for students to purchase.
- Textbook price comparison – Beginning spring semester 2012, the MC Books & More website will provide students with a textbook price comparison feature. Students will be able to compare Montgomery College's textbook prices with other online retailers, such as Amazon.com. The listings will highlight advantages such as easy returns, plus students will be able to purchase items from multiple vendors.
- End of semester buy-back – Starting with the December used book buy-back, students will have the opportunity to receive cash for their books or the buy-back amount plus 10 percent of the buy-back total in the form of an MC Books & More gift card. Gift cards may be redeemed at any of MC's retail operations for any merchandise or service.



## **Professional Development**

MC's Center for Professional & Organizational Development (CPOD) launched a new professional development initiative, a special Tech Fellows Program, which expands offerings of its signature programs.

During the past month, the College's Office of Human Resources provided informative workshops on such topics as "How to Apply to a Full-Time Faculty Job."

