



# The Globe

*A Student Life newspaper*

Montgomery College - Germantown Campus

**UPCOMING  
EVENTS:**

- April 25 **Student Government Elections (Quad Area)**
- April 26 [Germantown Baseball](#)
- April 27 [Jefferson Cafe](#)
- April 28 [Germantown Baseball](#)
- April 29 [Germantown Baseball](#)

## STUDENTS WANTED FOR MC-INDIA INITIATIVE

by Hilary Sacks

The United States State Department has helped expand the MC-India initiative, and students have become increasingly active in helping the program grow since a trip to India this past winter.

MC President Dr. DeRionne Pollard and Germantown Provost Dr. Sanjay Rai now are looking for a way to bring students into the MC-India Initiative.

The Initiative began with three main priorities: coordinating a national college symposium in India in March 2011, developing an exchange program for both faculty and students with three partner technical institutions in India, and creating a program to promote fac-

ulty development and training.

An equal amount of money came from the U.S. and India, granting MC the \$195,000 to begin this initiative, hopefully promoting an increase in the amount of students studying abroad from both countries.

The United States-India Educational Foundation ([USIEF](#)) is supported by political figures such as U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, and [address the MC-India initiative in videos](#).

USIEF has a foundation called the Obama-Singh 21st Century Knowledge Initiative, which awards

grants to those who are really helping in this two-sided expansion of knowledge. The seed money for the initiative came from them.

MC History Professor Kelly Rudin has been very involved in this initiative from the beginning of its development, as an avid lover of India since her own studies there in 1989. On the subject of the MC-India Initiative, Rudin stresses, "Right now we [MC] are focused on India, but really this [student awareness] becomes the corner stone of a whole push to global awareness and international awareness in the school."

## MC GRADUATION SLATED FOR MAY 18

by Gayahto Fahnbulleh

On May 18, MC will celebrate the achievements of all graduating students who have completed their degrees after semesters of hard work and dedication to their studies. Graduation ceremonies for MC students from all campuses will take place that day at 10 a.m. in a tent erected on the Rockville campus athletic field.

The ceremony will feature remarks by Dr. Hercules Pinkney, former interim MC President and Provost of the Germantown campus, and by MC President Dr. De Rionne Pollard. In addition, Ryan Burke, a theater arts major, will sing the national anthem. Four outstanding students, representing each campus, will address the graduates, faculty, administrators, families, and guests.

Prior to the ceremony, a morning concession will open at 7 a.m. and a formal reception will follow the ceremony in the commencement tent.

Each graduate receives four guest tickets, which should have been picked up at the Germantown Grad Finale, held April 17 in the bookstore. If graduates need extra tickets, they can visit ([here](#)) and click on "Tickets" during the week of April 30 - May 4. If none are available, space is provided on the day of graduation in the Rockville Theater Arts Arena, where the ceremonies can be viewed on TV. They will also be broadcast on Montgomery County Cable Channel 10.

Additional information can be found at ([here](#))

## HUNGER BANQUET: COME EAT (OR NOT)

by Hilary Sacks

How much food will you eat tonight? During an OxFam Hunger Banquet, don't bank on eating much.

At an OxFam Hunger Banquet, a random drawing will decide where everyone is seated. Of the guests, only 15% will have a full meal at a nice table, 35% will be served beans and rice at mediocre tables, and 50% will be seated on the floor with rice and water for their meal. This is to show the actual percentages of food eaten worldwide. World hunger isn't due to a lack of food; it's an issue of proper dispersal.

There will be MC, speakers, as well as student scholars' projects from the India trip. In conjunction with the smokeless stove fundraiser, bags from the women's sewing programs at Help-Kids-India will be available to order,

Each campus is having its own OxFam Hunger Banquet. At Germantown, it will be in the Cafeteria on May 4 from 5:30-7:00 pm. On April 24<sup>th</sup>, banquets will be held at Rockville and Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campuses. The price of entry is \$5 per student, with reductions for bringing canned goods to donate to local warehouses, and \$10 for faculty members. Family members are invited.

Amid the poverty in India, there is a light. People care deeply for the children and families who fall victim to discrimination and poverty in India. Ann and Bruce Peck (friends of Professor Ronald Nunn, a Germantown Anthropology Professor) have built a program to save lives, called [Help Kids India](#).

The daycare programs for the children (crèches) had such an impact on the members of the MC



Crèches provide Indian children with enriching day care and special programs.

trip to India, that Earth Day celebrations this year are using a tri-campus approach to fundraise and spread awareness of this program.

The price to send one child to a crèche for an entire year is \$250. The programs offer educational,

*(Continued on Page 3)*

## SMOKELESS STOVES FOCUS OF EARTH DAY

by Hilary Sacks

What is the last item on which you spent \$32? That money could save the lives of an entire family.

During Earth Day celebrations at all three campuses this year, stoves will be a main focus, as a fundraiser for Help Kids India. Germantown's celebration will take place on April 24 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Quad area (in case of rain, it will be in the bookstore lobby).

The sponsors of the tables (one at each campus) are the Offices of Student Life, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, The Nutrition Club, The Engineering Club, and The Peace and Justice Studies Committee.

Two million people die each year from respiratory illness due to smoke inhalation. The majority of those deaths are women and children. The reason for this is that there are no chimneys on the mud stoves on which many women cook or heat their tiny homes. The smokeless stoves



Hilary Sacks with the smokeless stove she built during last winter's trip to India.

can end this.

During the MC trip to India this past winter, two student scholars were invited by Ann and Bruce Peck with [Help Kids India](#) to help build a smokeless stove, Bryan Arneja and myself.

We were excited to be a part of this project. In just over an hour, we had built the base of a smokeless stove. The chimney was all that was

left to make, setting piping through the roof. We helped save the lives of a family using water, dirt, cement powder, clay, and brick.

The cost of building a smokeless stove is \$32. Most Americans spend more than that on a new pair of shoes. (Shoes are one item these families may never own.) Donating that amount could save the lives of an entire family.

Each of [Help Kids India's](#) stoves has been used, with only thanks and no complaints. Stoves many programs use do not use materials that conform to Hindu religion (the stoves have to be facing east and they will not cook on metal – which many stoves are made from).

If Ann could stress one point about international aid, it would be that you must spend time with the people, living with the culture you want to help.

## SPOTLIGHTING GRYPHON BASEBALL STARS

by Benjamin Parker

Germantown's traditionally strong baseball team has been about equal with their wins and losses this season.

Coach Dan Rascher explained that the team managed to beat the third-ranked teams in Florida and other tough teams. However, the Gryphons have lost to some challenging teams as well. Overall, the team has a 15-16 (win-loss) record.

Coach Rascher mentioned a few freshmen who are doing extremely well: Travis Smith, who has a .385 batting average; JP Hoover, who is an great left-handed pitcher; and Greg Turlik, a center fielder with a .325 batting average.

Star players Shawn Hendon and Kevin Taney are heavy hitters; Matt Milner is a great pitcher, and Chris Kyser is a great catcher. He gave the team 20 RBIs this season. All were mentioned in a recent *Damascus/Clarksburg Gazette* article.

Matt Milner explained that Montgomery College gave him the chance to play sports after completing a stint with the Military. Just playing baseball keeps Matt motivated. Being a big baseball fan, Matt started playing at an early age.

Kevin Taney said he would play "anywhere [he] can." Kevin told me that playing for MC helped him to mature, to learn to lead, to learn new skills, and to become a better athlete and student. Kevin started playing at age four, with his dad as his mentor.

Shawn Hendon said that he is going to play on scholarship at the University North Carolina of Greensboro.

Family, self-motivation, and success motivate Shawn. He began playing baseball as a high school freshman. His father coached at Montgomery College in 1989.

Chris Kyser hopes to play for either George Washington University or George Mason University. Coach Rascher and the team have helped Chris grow. Chris has been playing since age four.

The team completes its season on April 29. It plays Rockville next Thursday. (See below)



### THE FINAL CHAPTER

Come Thursday, April 26 to cheer on the Gryphons as they take on the Rockville Knights one last time. The game starts at 3:00 p.m. Attending students will be eligible to win prizes and a \$500 spring 2012 scholarship. Next semester, there will be only one baseball team for all MC campuses. Its home will be at Germantown.

## STUDENT INDIA PROJECTS ON DISPLAY

by Hilary Sacks

On Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm at the Science West Building on Rockville Campus, the student scholars from the Germantown-based trip to India will share their projects.

These projects will be included in a link on the United States State Department website, as it has taken an interest in these students' work, particularly in helping expand education in India.

Students Lyudmila Anderson, Bryan Arneja, Hilary Sacks, J.C. Hon-sou, Aimee Rose, and Alexis Martinez will present topics they have been working on since the fall semester of 2011.

These students were granted partial scholarships to join the trip to India last year by outlining plans to create these presentations.

The U.S. State Department has become more involved since student scholars' projects have come to light. These presentations will be shared with students and faculty members, and also with MC President Dr. DeRionne Pollard and Germantown Provost Dr. Sanjay Rai as well

as the entire country via the state department website.

These presentations are being shown in partnership with MC Study Abroad Program, MC Student Senate, MC Peace and Social Justice Committee, and the MC Office of Student Life.

## HUNGER IS NO GAME

*Continued from page 2*

spiritual, and nurturing environments for impoverished preschool-aged children in an impoverished village of India, and have since expanded to include a smokeless stove program, a sewing program for the women of the village, and medical clinics for the kids.

Students are working from many clubs to create a tri-campus ap-

proach to provide support for Help Kids India. Food and Nutrition Club, Do Something Now, the International Studies Club, Phi Theta Kappa, the members of the study abroad trip, and more.

For more information and/or disability support, contact [Patricia Ruppert](#). To volunteer at any event, please contact [Kelly Rudin](#).

## MC'S DIVERSITY SMOOTHES THE WAY FOR ARAB AMERICAN

By Mehreen Khan

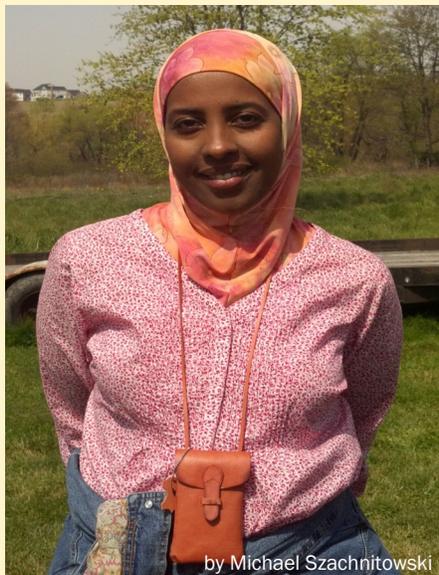
In honor of Arab American Heritage month, MC is offering the opportunity to better understand and honor Arab Americans in this diverse community. MC has planned a great [Month-long event schedule](#) based on the theme "Let's Give Peace a Chance: Building Cultural Bridges Towards a Shared Future Through Dialogue, Inclusion and Mutual Understanding."

Hiba Mohammad offers a personal perspective of an Arab American attending MC. She is a busy woman with a lot of strength and determination. She came to the U.S. from Somalia for marriage, and has a very busy family life. Her home life revolves around her six children; she home schools two of them, four are in public schools, and she drives all of them to and from sports activities.

MC has given her the opportunity to have a flexible learning schedule, and she has been selected to be a part of MC's Renaissance Scholars Program, which allows her to take rigorous courses and helps her to continue her education while meet-

ing her family's needs.

MC's diverse environment makes her feel very comfortable, "I fit in with the other students. It is a diverse college and I like that about it." She says that in nearly every class she takes at MC, she has someone else in the class who is also a parent.



by Michael Szachnitowski  
Hiba Mohammad

She adds, "There is religion, race, and age diversity in Montgomery College," and she says this makes her feel really comfortable.

Hiba says her professors have assisted her by explaining the material, as well as encouraging her along the way. She has also joined the MC book club to share her interests with other students on campus.

"Every time I take a new class," says Hiba, "I realize how limited my knowledge is and how much more I need to learn." Hiba hopes to complete her degree in fashion design. She aims to have her own design business and would also love to teach, "I believe teaching is one of the most rewarding things a person can do." She stresses the importance of encouraging others to crave knowledge and to learn.

Hiba's experience at MC has been wonderful, so far with no problems. During her time at MC, Hiba feels she has been given countless opportunities to succeed in a comforting environment and inviting atmosphere.

## HONORS PROGRAM OFFERS UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES

by Ingrid Duran

The Renaissance Scholars Honors Program at MC Germantown Campus offers an excellent atmosphere for high-achieving students and an opportunity to take challenging academic courses. The selective program is designed for full-time or part-time students who have at least 12 or more credits and have achieved a 3.2 grade point average or higher.

The classes are at night, fitting the schedule of working students. All the honors classes are paid for by the program. An important aspect to the program is encouraging students to become involved within their community of other honors students.

During fall semesters, students take one-credit interdisciplinary seminars. A few of Fall 2011's seminars included literature in the arts

with mythology, natural sciences and mathematics, and a class on transitional justice across the globe.

In the spring semester, students take a dyad, the program's core feature. A dyad combines two courses taught by two professors. These range from 6 to 7 honors credits. Dyad subjects range from literature, to sociology, to different sciences.

Meg Dillon, a student in the science dyad says, "It has pushed me to strive harder for the goals that I have and to accomplish them."

The students are also given assistance in transferring to prominent colleges and encouraged to apply for merit scholarships. Scholars also are encouraged to apply for special internships.

The Renaissance program hosts several social events outside of the

classroom. This year, students saw an exhibit at the Folger Shakespeare Library, were invited to listen to speakers from prestigious schools, and coffee talks are routinely scheduled in order to meet other professors and students in the program. A study abroad program also is offered; this July scholars can travel to Appalachia.

Director of the Renaissance Honors Program and Professor of Political Science, Jennifer Haydel said, "The Renaissance Scholars has three special aspects: Interdisciplinarity, community, and an emphasis on meeting the needs of non-traditional students."

The benefits students receive from this enriching program will enable them to get further in life after Montgomery College.

## *The Globe*

Produced by students, for students of  
Montgomery College Germantown

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## **PINK LADIES DISRUPT MC TRUSTEE MEETING**

More than a dozen senior citizens, attired in bright pink t-shirts, appeared at the MC Trustee Meeting on April 16, protesting possible changes to MC classes popular with the over-60 set.

Armed with a logo, "Save Our Seniors," the protestors were questioning proposed changes in the senior waiver program that allows students 60 or older to waive certain class costs.

The program is mandated by law for all schools in the University of Maryland System. However, the College has discovered that some art and physical education classes have a disproportionate number of students using the waiver as compared to those taking the course for credit. This was keeping those classes open when under normal procedures, they would have been closed because of low enrollment.

Therefore, the College has been discussing not offering courses unless a certain number of credit students are enrolled, but that would result in a cancellation of many of the programs used by seniors.

The college claims it is still debating what, if any, changes will be made to the classes or to their fees.

## **BALANCE ON ONE LEG**

by Katy Wheaton

Literally and figuratively, I struggle with balance. In yoga, I work on my Tree pose and the Three-Legged Chair. I find when I can clear my mind and focus just on these poses, I succeed. The possibility of falling over ("timber!") is always a hair's breadth away.

As a full-time student, mother, wife, daughter, and home-owner, I struggle with life-balance. My tendency is to jump into the deep-end of any pool, and school is my latest pool. I have stopped doing nearly everything in my life in order to excel in my classes. My family sees little of me. My house should be condemned. I haven't visited my mother since last summer.

I used to work-out at my gym five days a week. I attended services at my synagogue weekly. I read novels, sewed my own clothes, made my own jewelry, and tended my flower garden. I hiked Sugarloaf Mountain with my family and rode bikes along the C&O Canal with my husband. I

ate out with friends. I baked cookies and did crafts with my daughter.

No longer.

I realize my life is completely out of whack. I will be a better student if I get back to the gym. (My MC counselor, Tameesha Robinson, told me to keep up with my fitness regime to do better in school.) My involvement with my family and in all the non-academic areas of my life are very important to me. As James Garfield said, "Man cannot live by bread alone; he must have peanut butter." I cannot exist solely as a full-time student; I must have balance.

We all need balance in our lives. So, shut the book, turn off this computer (alright, you can finish reading "The Globe"), get off campus, and live a life. Your grades will improve, your happiness quotient will go up and you will discover both energy and peace. Just remember to do your homework and return to class.

### In recognition of Arab American Heritage Month **BEYOND BORDERS: ARAB FEMINISTS TALK ABOUT THEIR LIVES**

Thursday, April 26

6:00—8:30 PM

HT216

Free Admission

Discussion led by Barbara Petzen, Educational Director of the Middle East Policy Council, to follow the film.

In the Arab world, women are fighting a two-front war against repressive internal constraints and intrusive Western interference. In this program, a feminist delegation composed of author Nawal Saadawi and other renowned activists from the Middle East and North Africa gathers at the UN, on college campuses, and in church basements to speak out about the deterioration of women's rights in the Arab states in an effort to heighten awareness of the Arab feminist struggle for equality— and the effects of U.S. foreign policy in their efforts.

## **GOOD LUCK WITH FINALS**