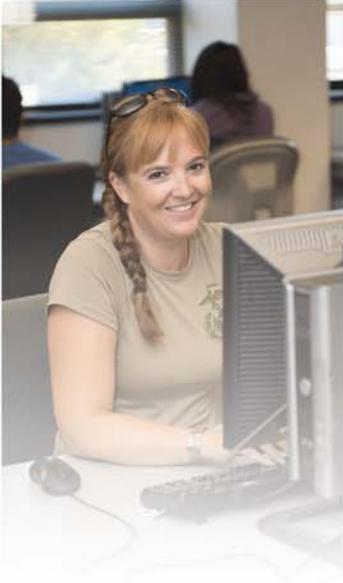


# College Bulletin

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September 2013



## **Celebrating Students and Alumni**

For the third year in a row, Montgomery College Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) scholars spent their summer at Georgetown University for a 10-week immersion program in laboratory science. This collaborative effort between the College and Georgetown exposes life science students to a variety of career possibilities in the field. Selected students first took a seminar in critical reading in biology at the Germantown Campus during the spring semester. They moved on to Georgetown to join the university's HHMI Scholars for a paid research internship, during which time they conducted original research in a Georgetown University laboratory under faculty supervision. All scholars presented the results of their summer research at the Howard Hughes Fellowship research symposium in July.

MC Cyberwatch, the student cybersecurity team, tied for fifth place in the second round of this summer's Global Cyberlympics North American competition. Although they did not advance to round three, the team did an incredible job and the scores were close. The MC Cyberwatch team is busy practicing for the Maryland Cyber Challenge Competition in October.

Student coordinators of the Spirit of Service Day, Tranetta Franklin and Manzer Hasan, helped students volunteer at the Giant Superstore in Wheaton to support a county-wide food drive for Manna Food Center in late July. Their efforts helped collect more than 1,000 pounds of food.

Eight nursing students attended the June [Sandy Spring Day](#) at the Ross Boddy Community Center in Sandy Spring, where they took blood pressures, taught visitors about hypertension, and demonstrated self-exam techniques.

Graphic design student Felipe Collazo won the silver prize for "It's a Jungle in There" at the [EDUCAUSE & Internet2 Higher Education Information Security Council \(HEISC\) Information Security Awareness Video and Poster Contest](#), while art student Derrick Douglass won honorable mention for "Link Up Safely." Both designers are students of Valerie Burghardt, part-time professor of art.

Students from the Rockville and Takoma Park/Silver Spring campuses presented 42 papers in the June [Beacon Conference](#), an annual honors conference that celebrates the work of two-year college students in research, writing, and presentation. Effie Siegel, professor of English, mentored student winners Rachel Czarniak, Kristen Emelio, Catherine Hoover, Caitlyn Maczka, Siobhan Summers, and Jennifer Yeboah. Other student winners and their mentors were Lynn Bonde (Dr. Claudia Rousseau, professor of art), Ngan Le (Dr. Eugene Li, professor of physics), Bandaranayake Weerasinghe (Jaime Miker, assistant professor of English), and Victoria Winch (Dr. Aram Hessami, professor of political science).

In addition to presenting at the Beacon Conference, bioengineering student Ngan Le presented "The Falling Raindrop in a Non-Uniform Gravitational Field" at the [Mathematical Association of America](#) undergraduate poster session, and "An Accretion Model for a Falling Raindrop" at the [American Association of Physics Teachers Conference](#) in Oregon. She also received the College's Presidential Scholar Award. Her faculty adviser was Dr. Eugene Li, professor of physics.

Four students who received computer science and engineering scholarships from the Bethesda Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) attended the association's [breakfast](#) in May. Dr. Judy Ackerman, vice president and provost of the Rockville Campus, introduced the students. AFCEA Bethesda also provided two \$20,000 grants to support the expansion of the College's Sonya Kovalevsky Day.

Nine Montgomery College students participated in the June [National Conference for College Women Student Leaders](#) at the University of Maryland. Five of these students received full scholarships to attend the conference.

Susan Wu, a 2011 graduate and [Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship recipient](#), was named a Fulbright Scholar and will be teaching English in Malaysia next year. The recent Smith College graduate was featured in a MCTV story on "[County Report This Week](#)," a county news show.

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

### **Conference Presentations/Invitations and Special Speaking Engagements**

Siobhan Quinn, director of the Cultural Arts Center, taught a master class in voice for contemporary singers in July at the Warren Wilson College at the Swannanoa Gathering in Black Mountain, North Carolina.

Dr. Michael Mills, director of the Office of Distance Education and Learning Technologies, was the keynote speaker at Wor-Wic Community College's Professional Development Day for faculty in late August. Dr. Mills' presentation, "Why Does the Caged Bird Sing?" focused on incorporating new technologies into the classroom to engage students. He featured open education resources and mobile applications as tools that can be used to increase student engagement in both face-to-face and distance classes.

Corinne Smith, associate professor of health information management, presented twice at the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) Assembly on Education in Baltimore this past July where she showcased the College's HI 226 course, Research in Health Information, and presented "Creating Partnerships with Research in HIM Education." Professor Smith is currently serving as chair of the AHIMA professional coding approval program.

Sonja Fisher, professor of education, teamed up with Jennifer Switlick, part-time professor of teacher education, to develop and lead an in-service presentation in early August entitled "Assuring Individualization of Educational Plans in Nonpublic Placements" for the DC Public Schools Division of Special Education, Compliance Unit.

Dr. Judy Ackerman, vice president and provost of the Rockville Campus, provided an update to [the Western Montgomery County Citizens Advisory Board](#) about what was happening at the Rockville Campus. She showed the campus report video, spoke about program and facility highlights, and responded to questions.

George Payne, vice president and provost of Workforce Development & Continuing Education (WD&CE), participated in a [June panel discussion](#) with leaders from the US Department of Education, the Washington Regional Area Grantmakers, and other regional community colleges. They explored the importance of collaboration among educators, government officials, grantmakers, and industry leaders for developing skilled workers.

The following faculty and staff presented “Use of 3D Printing in Teaching Engineering Design” as a collaborative paper at Prince George’s Community College’s [ConFABulation: Symposium on 3D in the Classroom](#) in June: Dr. Uchechukwu Abanulo, assistant professor of electrical engineering; Craig Garrison-Mogren, professor of physics and engineering science; Dr. Wendy He, associate professor of engineering science; Dr. Chienann Alex Hou, professor of physics; Dr. Muhammad Kehnemouyi, professor of physics; William Schuster, engineering shop technician; and Guangming Zhang, part-time professor of engineering.

Dr. Eugene Li, professor of physics, presented “Growing STEM Learning Experiences from a Physics-Based Learning Community” at the Portland, Oregon meeting of the [American Association of Physics Teachers](#) in July.

Dr. Alonzo Smith, professor of history, spoke on “[African Americans and Abraham Lincoln](#)” and introduced Stephen Spielberg’s film, *Lincoln*, at the Black Rock Center for the Arts in July.

### **Art Exhibitions/Performances**

As part of completing his master of fine arts, John Deamond, instructional associate in the Department of Visual Arts and Design, exhibited his work in “More of This, Less of Everything Else”, Parsons MFA Photography Thesis Exhibition last month. The exhibition took place at the Arnold and Sheila Aronson Gallery at the Parsons School of Design in New York City.

Art Professor Wilfred Brunner’s work was included with commentary and a reproduction in the new publication *Washington Art Matters: Art Life in the Capital 1940–1990*. His painting was also included this summer in the juried exhibition “Radius 250 in Artspace,” in Richmond, Virginia.

Komelia Okim, professor of art, will retire from the College at the end of the academic year, after [40 years of artistry and education](#) at the College. She is exhibiting her work at the Rockville Sarah Silberman Art Gallery in October. Two receptions and artist talks will accompany the exhibit, “[Life’s Journey: A Retrospective Exhibition of Komelia Hongja Okim, Artist and Educator](#).”

A major new mural will greet students returning to Paint Branch High School this fall. “[Making Connections in the Paint Branch](#),” was created by freelance scientific artist Joel Floyd, instructor in the College’s School of Art and Design noncredit program. He worked on the mural on weekends only for nearly a year. The theme of the artwork revolves around Paint Branch Creek, for which the high school is named.

## Publications

Dr. Lucy Laufe, professor of anthropology, was quoted prominently on the back cover of the new University of Toronto Press 2013 edition of *Anthropology Matters* by Shirley A. Fedorak. Dr. Laufe had written a professional review of the text.

Dr. Sanjay Rai, vice president and provost of the Germantown Campus, co-authored a journal article “[Variation of Parameters in Differential Equations \(A Variation in Making Sense of Variation of Parameters\)](#)” in the academic journal *PRIMUS: Problems, Resources, and Issues in Mathematics Undergraduate Studies*.

Mark Miller, reference librarian, received an award this past August at the 85th anniversary of the signing of the Kellogg-Briand Pact, which was known officially as the 1928 Treaty of Paris Renouncing War as an Instrument of National Policy. He earned the award for an [essay](#) he wrote on strategies for implementing the law against war.

## Special Assignments/Appointments

The Maryland Community College Activity Directors’ Association (MCCADA) recently held its leadership elections for the upcoming year. Nik Sushka, service learning coordinator on the Rockville Campus, was elected secretary for the upcoming 2013–2014 term and Mary Sierra, director of student life on the Rockville Campus, was elected chair-elect for the 2014–2015 term.

## Major Grant Awards and Gifts

The Montgomery College Foundation received a \$10,000 grant from the [Phase Foundation](#) to support its engineering program.

Montgomery College librarians Lisa Clarke, Maisha Duncan, and Metta Lash met with US Congressional Representative Chris Van Hollen in July to celebrate the College’s receiving two grants from the [American Library Association and the National Endowment for the Humanities](#). Each grant is intended to foster conversation and education about Islamic religion, culture, and history.

## Academic News and Notes

Dr. Rita Kranidis, director of the College’s Global Humanities Institute (GHI), joined Professors Marcia Bronstein and Shelley Jones, coordinators of the Global Humanities Institute, on a trip to El Salvador in July and August to [consult on the development of the first community college in the country](#), the Institute of Applied Science and Technology of the University of El Salvador (INCTAUES), which is one of five community colleges being created as part of the University of El Salvador (UES) system. Professors Bronstein and Jones, and Dr. Kranidis met with UES administrators and faculty for detailed exchanges on the vision and design of INCTAUES and about future collaboration with the GHI, and then traveled to the community college location in San Francisco Gotera, in the Morazan province. They also shared their experiences working at Montgomery College.

Jenny Liu, professor of nursing, visited the [Yangon University School of Nursing and the Yangon Hospital for Buddhist Monks in Myanmar \(Burma\)](#). The MC nursing lab donated reference and textbooks, nursing lab supplies, and examples of nursing simulations.

The Germantown Campus and WD&CE collaborated with Amarex Clinical Research, a pharmaceutical product development company, to offer a Clinical Trial Project Management course beginning in September. The course will also be available online.

Through the efforts of the Office of Information Technology and each of the campus' Departments of Education, iPad cart technology is now available to education students at the College.

Kathy Awkard, on-campus clinical nursing simulation lab staff member, and Mirna Ostchega, associate professor of nursing, accompanied nursing students to community-based health fairs, where they provided services in a largely African American and elderly community, addressing health disparities within the surrounding community.

The Montgomery College libraries began a pilot program to provide some of the most frequently used course textbooks as part of the course reserves program during the 2013–2014 academic year. This pilot textbook program will provide students with the opportunity to borrow a textbook for in-house use in the library as another way to help students obtain needed resources for their course work.

[STEMXpress](#), a half-day orientation for students considering a major in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields, was held in August. Dean Dr. Eun-Woo Chang and department chairs met with students and answered questions.

WD&CE launched three Kauffman Foundation FastTrac courses this fall. FastTrac New Venture helps aspiring, start-up entrepreneurs to evaluate and implement key strategies resulting in transforming and improving the performance of their businesses. FastTrac GrowthVenture enables established entrepreneurs to evaluate and implement key strategies resulting in the transformation and improvement of their business performance. FastTrac TechVenture, which has a curriculum similar to FastTrac New Venture, guides innovation-based entrepreneurs to move their ideas from concept to market. It helps them prepare to take advantage of potential equity-investment opportunities and provides specialized content on equity financing, intellectual property, and founder transition.

WD&CE is leading Montgomery College's effort to create a cybersecurity training consortium. When funded, the consortium is intended to provide new educational and career pathways that will result in short-term, industry-recognized credentials (six months or less), a one-year industry recognized credential, associate of applied science and associate of science degrees, and relevant bachelor's degrees all aligned to meet employer demands.

## MC in the News

Dr. Rita Kranidis, director of the Global Humanities institute, published [a front-page article](#) concerning the Global Humanities Institute in the latest issue of *The Community College Humanist*, the key publication of the same organization.

NBC4 highlighted the [Community Shred](#) event which took place at the Rockville Campus in June. Angie Pickwick, instructional dean of health sciences and a community board member at NBC4, participated in a morning show interview.

The *Gazette* also published an article in July that highlighted the College's [exercise science program](#) partnership with The Universities at Shady Grove and Salisbury University.

## The Latest from Student Services

The Red Cross will acknowledge the Office of Student Life at the Rockville Campus as one of the recipients of its Red Cross College of the Year/Donor Recruitment Award. Service Learning Coordinator Nik Sushka will participate in their late September awards luncheon.

Aided by staff from the Offices of Student Life, students from all three campuses participated in the 50th Anniversary of the March on Washington on August 24.

Montgomery College's Service Learning Program is initiating a collegewide partnership with the [Housing Opportunities Commission](#) this fall, providing service learning students as homework club tutors at the commission's Family Resource Centers.

## News from Auxiliary Services

In July 2013, the College's Auxiliary Services Retail Operations partnered with [Campus Book Rentals \(CBR\)](#) to implement an expanded textbook rental program. Beginning this fall, students will be able to rent up to 90 percent of our in-store textbook titles. With CBR performing these functions, Auxiliary Services and the Office of Business Services will save time and labor costs by not having to reclaim the books, send out multiple communications, and put students' accounts on hold.

Another textbook option debuting this semester is "Guaranteed Buyback." The College's point-of-service and inventory software provider MBS Systems, has identified more than 300 titles that they will guarantee to buyback from students at the end of the semester. Students are guaranteed at the time of purchase that their books will be bought back at the established price at the end of the semester. With guaranteed buyback, students will have another option to save on the cost of their textbooks.

Last spring, the Pepsi Company replaced many of the vending machines on the Rockville Campus with new machines that use less electricity and also turn themselves off during closed hours. The change-over of machines is in progress at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus and will continue through the semester to include the Germantown Campus.

## Interesting News to Note

The Rockville Early Learning Center recently earned accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), an accomplishment achieved by only eight percent of all preschools and other early childhood programs around the country. To earn NAEYC accreditation, the learning center went through an extensive self-study process to measure the program and its services against the 10 NAEYC early childhood program standards as well as more than 400 related accreditation criteria. All of the College's Centers have earned the accreditation and have been reevaluated. The College is awaiting the other two centers approval for reaccreditation. Notification of reaccreditation should be completed by the end of the fall semester.

[WD&CE's youth programs](#) and MCTV prepared a [video on summer youth camps](#). This summer youth program enrollments increased from 938 enrollments in 2012 to over 2,530 enrollments in 2013.

## Speakers and Events

### May

The Rockville Campus Department of Physics, Engineering, and Geosciences partnered with the STEM Academy (Excel Beyond the Bell's STEM program providers) to showcase K-14 outreach efforts at the [First Annual STEM Activity Conference](#) in May. Montgomery College students, faculty, and administrators welcomed the students, led tours of the campus' Science Center, and served as judges for the competitive STEM activities among middle school, high school, and college students.

### June

[Pablo Saelzer, professor of music, and the Rockville Department of Music](#) presented a series of three noon-time concerts at the Rockville Music Center in June. Community members, students, and College employees were treated to a wonderful mid-day interlude.

The Paul Peck Humanities Institute and the Portraits of Life: Holocaust Survivors of Montgomery County hosted a day-long workshop, "[Teaching the Holocaust with Survivor Testimony and the Portraits of Life](#)" at the Rockville Campus in June. Participants included Montgomery County Public Schools high school faculty and other educators.

The [Maryland Band Directors' Trombone Quartet](#) presented classical and jazz selections in a July concert at the Rockville Music Center.

### August

The [Rockville 48th Annual Faculty and Staff Exhibition](#), featuring a variety of genres, was on display at the Sarah Silberman Art Gallery from late August through mid-September.

**September**

Famed British folk-rock singer [Donovan](#) performed at the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center in September.

Faculty services librarians at the Germantown Campus and the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus libraries participated in the WD&CE Orientation Day in early September, and will partner with Montgomery County public libraries to present a Library Services Orientation for WD&CE's American English Language faculty later this month at the Gaithersburg Business Training Center.