

College Bulletin

October 2013



Celebrating Students and Alumni

The Association of Women in Mathematics honored Montgomery College student [Qian Shi](#) as the top female scorer—and the top Maryland scorer—of the mid-Atlantic region in the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges' Student League Mathematics Competition.

Art students Carol Moore and Iris Posner displayed prints at the [16th Annual National Small Works Exhibition](#) organized by the Washington Printmakers' Gallery in August. Moore and Posner are students of John Carr, professor of art.

Aaron Kaufman, Montgomery College alumnus and honors student, was chosen recently to serve as the [adult systems advocate for The Arc Maryland](#), a Maryland nonprofit advocacy organization supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Celebrating Faculty, Staff, and Administrators

Publications

Jill Kronstadt, associate professor of English, was recently notified by the *Los Angeles Review* that her short story, "Ephemera," will be published in the review's spring 2014 issue, and her article profiling East German writer Eugen Ruge and his debut novel, *In Times of Fading Light*, will be published this month in [Bloom](#): "Late" According to Whom?

Jennifer Haydel, assistant professor of political science and international studies, co-authored a chapter on diversity and global peace education in the recently published volume *Peacebuilding in Community Colleges: A Teaching Resource*, published by the [United States Institute of Peace](#). As an outgrowth of this project, Montgomery College hosted a four-day seminar in mid-October, at which faculty from across the country explored methods and resources for teaching about global conflict and peacebuilding.

Nancy Nyland, Germantown librarian, has joined the team of 10 contributors to [Current Cites: An Annotated Bibliography of Selected Articles, Books, and Digital Documents on Information Technology](#). *Current Cites* is a free service that provides summaries of eight-to-twelve publications of interest to the library community on a monthly basis to 2,000 subscribers.

Awards/Accolades

Several Montgomery College administrators were recently selected for inclusion in [Who's Who In Black Washington, DC](#). Who's Who Publishing held an event in September to celebrate the induction of Dr. Debra Bright, acting associate dean of student services; Dr. Tony Hawkins, instructional dean of the arts, humanities, and social sciences at Takoma Park/Silver Spring; Dr. Rodney Redmond, associate dean of humanities; Dr. Janet Wormack, interim senior vice president for administrative and fiscal services; and Dr. Brenda Williams, the director of employment services, among many other recipients this year.

Dr. Chiyun-Kwei Chiang, professor of networking and cybersecurity and faculty sponsor of the Montgomery Cyber Club and Competition Team, received the Education Cyber Award at the

2013 Symantec Government Symposium in early October. Nominated by his students, this award recognizes Dr. Chiang for his strong leadership, for his innovative approach to teaching and student mentoring, for going “above and beyond” his daily responsibilities and for making a difference in government cybersecurity.

Dr. Clemmie Solomon, dean of student engagement; Susan Sullivan, acting Germantown director of student life; Dr. Lucy Vitaliti, coordinator of the Takoma Park/Silver Spring (TP/SS) Office of Volunteerism; and Jim Walters, TP/SS director of student life, received a special recognition from President Barack Obama at the [Third Annual Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge](#) in late September. The student life team earned the honor for their dedicated participation to the Campus Challenge’s interfaith initiative.

The Takoma Park/Silver Spring surgical technology program received national recognition from the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting as a result of the program’s students achieving a minimum 90 percent pass rate on the Certified Surgical Technologist examination as well as a certificate of merit.

Conference Presentations/Invitations and Special Speaking Engagements

Jill Kronstadt, associate professor of English, presented “Much Throwing About of Brains: Student-Faculty Collaboration on Assessment” earlier this month at the northeast conference of the Two-Year College English Association.

Dr. Michael Mills, director of the College’s Office of Distance Education and Learning Technologies, recently updated the Maryland Association of Community Colleges on the College’s “Get Ready for College English” MOOC (massive open online course). This is the first MOOC offered by a community college in Maryland, which currently has approximately 500 students enrolled. The eight-week course is being taught by Emily Rosado, assistant professor of English.

Barbara Nubile, associate dean of health sciences and director of nursing, was one of only two Maryland representatives invited to participate in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Action Coalition’s education meeting, “Advancing Nursing Education Transformation,” in Chicago. The invitation was the result of the work that Ms. Nubile, and Dr. Rebecca Wiseman from the University of Maryland School of Nursing at the Universities at Shady Grove, have undertaken regarding academic progression for Maryland nursing graduates with associate degree programs.

David Sears, senior vice president for advancement and community engagement, presented in a panel discussion at the Council for Advancement and Support of Education’s Community College Advancement Board meeting in San Diego. He, alongside representatives from Clark College and Mira Costa College, advised new foundation directors and development staff about best practices in fundraising.

Sara Ducey, professor of nutrition, participated in a panel discussion focused on a report that summarized the [Farming at Metro’s Edge: Sustaining Agriculture in Frederick and Montgomery](#)

[Counties](#) Conference. Professor Ducey represented local educators in the discussion, which was held at the Universities at Shady Grove in September.

Special Assignments/Appointments

Dr. Debra Bright, acting associate dean of student services, was elected to serve as first vice president for the [Montgomery County Commission for Women](#). She will also chair the Commission's 2014 [Women's Legislative Briefing](#), an annual event that provides information on legislative issues of concern to women and families in Maryland and the local community.

Christopher Moy, director of ADA compliance, was elected [president of the Maryland Association on Higher Education and Disability](#) for 2013–2014. This professional organization is dedicated to the full participation of students with disabilities in postsecondary education.

Art Exhibitions/Performances

The Germantown Department of Art, Computer Graphics, Music, and Theatre is currently showcasing an exhibition of artwork by Dan Venne, part-time professor of art, entitled "India: An Exhibition" in the High Technology and Science Center atrium.

Beverly Ryan, part-time professor of art, recently exhibited a collection of paintings in a show with two other artists at [Gallery Plan B](#), in Washington, DC.

Sarah Stecher, part-time professor of art, joined medical illustrators at the National Museum of Health and Medicine for the [Anatomy of Sports](#) event in August, where she painted a skeleton on the human model of a rider and horse.

Maggie Gourlay, part-time professor of art, displayed her work at the Washington Sculptors Group's exhibition entitled [This Is Labor](#), in September and October.

Komelia Okim, professor of art, is celebrating the culmination of her 41 years at Montgomery College with an exhibition of her work at the Sarah Silberman Art Gallery throughout the month of October. There are two receptions along with artist talks that accompany the exhibit, which is entitled "[Komelia Hongja Okim: My Life Journey as an Artist and an Educator, A Retrospective Exhibition Spanning over 40 Years of Creative Work](#)." Professor Okim will retire at the end of this academic year.

Academic News and Notes

The Transfer Scholarship Coordinating Committee hosted its first annual [Student Scholarship Celebration](#) in June to honor the students who earned highly-competitive, College-nominated scholarships to four-year institutions. Dr. Don Pearl, senior vice president for academic affairs, and Dr. Clarice Somersall, special assistant to the senior vice president, were present to acknowledge the students' accomplishments. Honorees included Bacary Badiaga, Agness Banda, Surendra Fernando, Catherine Hoover, Min-Kyung Jung, Celestin Kane, Svetlana Kardanova, Abel Kebekabe, Meagan LeBlanc, Avi Moses, Nicholas Murphy, Clarence Pascual, Kantoniony

Rabemananjara, Mai Rabil, Antonio Reid, Catherine Soriano, Student Trustee Sasha Stone, Nelina Stoykova, Rolland Tagyen, Shannon Taruc, Winnie Tenekam, Sophia Venero, and Haoua Welsh.

In early September the College launched a new website that will house all of the institution's active articulation agreements. The [transfer agreements website](#) will provide an interactive and user-friendly list of public and private four-year institutions that have partnered with the College to facilitate student transfers.

International students created a [Wall of Essays](#) at the Germantown Campus library to display photographs and essays focused on women's rights. Joanne Bagshaw, coordinator of the women's and gender studies program, and Ann Sallie, professor of the American English Language Program, supported the students' efforts.

The Paul Peck Humanities Institute at Montgomery College was one of the co-sponsors of a book launch for *Testimonies/Temoignages: Stories of Refugee Children Rescued to Switzerland During World War II* at the Swiss Embassy this past September.

Montgomery College sponsored a University of Maryland Flu and Purified Protein Derivative (PPD) Clinic for the College's health sciences students and faculty. Over 150 students and faculty were served within a two-and-a-half-hour window—a record number. The University of Maryland and Montgomery College health sciences partnership affords students easy access to the necessary flu and PPD tests required by their affiliating clinical sites.

An RN-BSN articulation between Montgomery College and The George Washington University (GWU) nursing programs has been established. This partnership offers significantly reduced tuition for students who transfer into GWU's bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) program and who meet additional agreement requirements. GWU has recognized the need for articulation and has answered the call of the Institute of Medicine (IOM) to support the RN to BSN pathway in order to meet the IOM's recommendation that 80 percent of incoming nurses hold a BSN by 2020.

The Workforce Development & Continuing Education's youth, summer youth, and pre-Advanced Placement courses were highlighted in a video produced by Montgomery College Television (MCTV) for parents and potential students interested in enrolling at Montgomery College after graduation. The College's [youth programs](#) have increased enrollment to over 2,530 students this year.

Last spring several faculty at the Germantown Campus was awarded Innovation Grant funds to establish the Block Party, a program that builds a supportive community among the cohort of students who are enrolled in developmental English, reading, math, and study skills courses. Block Party students had their first grant-funded cohort-building activity on September 20. Faculty members Angie Lawver, assistant professor reading; Julia Pompetti, part-time professor of English; Latonia Staten, part-time professor of counseling; and Michael Thompson, part-time

professor of mathematics are supported by Christina McGill, an early alert counselor responsible for coordinating and facilitating outside-of-class activities.

In late September Joan Naake, professor of English, facilitated a discussion of the book *Half of a Yellow Sun* at the maximum security prison for women in Jessup, Maryland. *Half of a Yellow Sun* focuses on a “seminal moment in African history: Biafra’s struggle to establish an independent republic in southeastern Nigeria during the late 1960s.” The women at Jessup engaged in a lively discussion, asking probing questions about Nigeria’s history along with examining the maps of Nigeria and the African continent.

MC in the News

On a recent episode of Montgomery County’s “[County Report This Week](#)” Montgomery College students spoke about a recent study abroad trip to Europe last summer. The television program focused particular attention on the experience of MCTV student aide Dallas Howard and on the students’ service learning project that attracted media attention in Germany.

Disc jockey “Michael J” of country station WMZQ completed Workforce Development & Continuing Education’s [motorcycle safety course](#) and gave the course a [resounding endorsement](#) on his blog.

The Latest from Student Services

The Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT) at the Rockville Campus participated in a [community walk in September to benefit the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention](#). Participants included Dr. Debra Bright, acting associate dean of student services; Dr. Monica Brown, collegewide dean of student success and Rockville student services; Sue Haddad, associate professor of disability support services; Aggie Harrell, professor of counseling and advising; Marie Martin-Murphy, Germantown assessment center campus supervisor; DJ McCullough, professor of counseling and advising; and Janee McFadden, campus community coordinator.

As a result of the Rockville Office of Student Life’s blood drive efforts, the Red Cross Greater Chesapeake and Potomac Blood Region selected Montgomery College as its 2013 “[College of the Year](#).”

Interesting News to Note

Montgomery College is being recognized as Partner of the Year at the Family Justice Center (FJC) Celebration in October. The College is partnering with the FJC to support their clients with scholarships on a case-by-case basis. The two entities are also working together to support the Boys to Men programs at Springbrook High School in Silver Spring and Montgomery College to help create a better pathway to college for young African-American males. Donna Rismiller, a former MC student and now practicing attorney, serves as chair of the FJC Foundation.

The student-run newspaper, [The MC Advocate](#), is available online for the [second consecutive year](#). News, sports, and entertainment are among the newspaper’s features.

The College wellness program has a new name and slogan. Now called “[MC Wellness 360](#),” the program urges each participant to “educate your mind, exercise your body, and energize your spirit.”

Montgomery College Television has had more than 750,000 views of its award-winning educational programming on YouTube. The television staff expects to surpass 1,000,000 hits by 2014.

Speakers and Events

September

The College held its [48th Annual Faculty and Staff Exhibition](#) in September, which featured a variety of genres and visual arts disciplines at the Rockville Campus’s Sarah Silberman Art Gallery.

Luke Desir, professor of mathematics, lectured on “[Pythagorean Triples: The Marriage of Geometry and Arithmetic](#)” at a Math Talk session on the Rockville Campus in September.

Dr. Aram Hessami, professor of history and political science, spoke about the “[Philosophical Foundation of the US Constitution](#)” on the Rockville Campus in September as part of a program of events celebrating Constitution Day. These events were sponsored by the Paul Peck Institute for American Cultural and Civic Engagement and the Global Humanities Institute.

The [Boys to Men Program partnered in September](#) with the Department of History and Political Science at Rockville to present the first part of [King: A Filmed Record from Montgomery to Memphis](#), a documentary that follows Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. from 1955 to 1968.

The College celebrated [People of African Heritage Month](#) and [National Hispanic Heritage Month](#) in September. Among the celebrations was a Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus presentation on African woven cloth and its significance in African culture.

Executives from Accenture presented in September to Takoma Park/Silver Spring business and management classes on the topic of emerging markets and global influences. Sean Burke of Accenture lectured to a standing-room-only crowd of students. The talk was part of the College’s “So You Want to be a CEO?” lecture series, which was developed through a partnership between Accenture and Montgomery College.

The Germantown Campus celebrated its fifth annual [International Peace Day soccer game](#) in late September as part of the College’s Peace and Justice Studies community events. The campus event sought to raise awareness of humanity’s need for peaceful resolution of conflict through the good sportsmanship and spirit of cooperation seen in soccer play. Dr. Sanjay Rai, Germantown vice president and provost, and Dr. Benedict Ngala, assistant professor of sociology, were the featured speakers to an audience of nearly 300 community members.

In late September, former congressman Vic Fazio offered a stimulating discussion about the polarization of the US Congress to nearly 250 attendees at the Frank Islam Athenaeum Symposia..

October

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and the Germantown Campus is hosting a presentation on “Intimate Partner Violence: Myths and Realities” as well as a discussion of “[The Invisible War](#),” a documentary on the widespread incidents of rape in the US military. In addition, students of Joanne Bagshaw, coordinator of the women’s and gender studies program, participated in “[The Clothesline Project](#)” to increase awareness of domestic violence.

The 2013–2014 seasons of the [Spectrum Lecture Series](#) began on October 10 at the Germantown Campus. The first lecture featured Dr. Marc Desrosiers, a research chemist at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), who discussed the fundamentals of radiation exposure in both accidents and Cold War activities.

The Montgomery College libraries and the Office of Facilities Planning co-sponsored an October [seminar on 21st century libraries](#) at the Rockville Campus. The keynote speaker was Joan Lippincott, associate executive director of the [Coalition for Networked Information](#).

The Department of Speech, Dance, and Theatre at the Rockville Campus produced a student performance of the murder mystery farce, [Lucky Stiff](#), in October at the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center.

The Global Humanities Institute celebrated Constitution Day in early October with a special lecture entitled “Free Speech, Whistleblowing, and Peacebuilding in a ‘Wikileaks’ World: The Global Perspective” by attorney David Smith. Smith is also a community college educator whose resume includes employment and research with the US Institute of Peace, George Mason University, Georgetown University, the Fulbright Association, and Street Law, Inc. He is the editor of *Peacebuilding in Community Colleges: A Teaching Resource*. While teaching at Harford Community College, he was also a US Fulbright Scholar teaching at the University of Tartu (Estonia) Law School.