

Mercer Rolls Out the Red Carpet for Board of Trustees' Report to the Community

On Dec. 4 the college rolled out the red carpet at its elegant Conference Center for approximately 300 community guests. They came out to celebrate a year of success and learn more about the educational and cultural opportunities at Mercer. In addition to honoring three of MCCC's special community partners, the event, whose theme was "Creating the Future," provided a showcase for student achievement and faculty contributions.

Among the visitors were prospective students and their families, who had a chance to talk with alumni and current students about majors, learn about extracurricular activities, and listen to live music performed by the MCCC Jazz Band. Faculty and students presented interactive displays including blood pressure checks by nursing students, a demonstration of online classes by The Virtual College, and a sampling of desserts prepared by Hospitality Club students. Also serving up treats were culinary students from the James Kerney Campus' Career Training Institute and MCCC Conference Center staff.

The event made it to the airwaves with a live broadcast on WWFM's Jazz on 2. Host Winifred Howard interviewed the evening's honorees and several alumni. Mary Jane Harris ('07) is now a medical student at UMDNJ; Helen Fadeyi ('08) is an Advertising Design grad who now works for MWH Advertising in Princeton; and Gina Marisi ('08) is an Energy Utility Technology grad who moved directly from Mercer to an

(continued on page 9)

Teaching Assistant Frank Benowitz and Hospitality Club student Jackie Cephas prepare servings of Bananas Foster.



Outstanding community partners honored Dec. 4 are pictured with MCCC President Patricia C. Donohue, left. They are Ana Berdecia, Ellen Guarnieri and Greg Tornquist. At right is Board Vice Chair Mark Matzen.



One-Stop Student Center/Library Construction Update



Construction scene from the back of the Student Center.

Anticipation is mounting as the college community watches construction of the new One-Stop Student Center/Library, designed to greatly enhance student services. A new two-story entrance will link the Student Center and Library, and a new second floor is being added to the Library in space that was previously open. Both buildings will be completely remodeled while also being brought up to current building code standards. Designed by the Spiezle Architectural Group, the project will add 7,000 square feet to the previous structures, and the total renovated space will equal 70,000 square feet.

In late December, two new offices housing the student radio and newspaper were completed in the Student Center. The new bookstore, Learning Center and Testing Center are set to be completed in mid-February. "It's exciting to see this all coming together," said MCCC President Patricia C. Donohue. "The renovated areas are spacious and well designed. This will really change the face of the college."

The new two-story entrance, along with the first floor of the Library, are expected to open in April, while the remaining areas of the Student Center's first floor and the administrative offices on the second floor are set to begin serving students in May. By September, the entire Student Center should be completed. For more construction information and updates visit www.mccc.edu/renovations.



SHORT TAKES



Student Endorses Trenton Parole Program

MCCC Criminal Justice student James Caldwell, left, pictured with Trenton Mayor Doug Palmer, spoke at a press conference at City Hall on Nov. 24. Trenton has received a \$500,000 federal grant to help released convicts successfully return to work during their parole and beyond. Caldwell drew from his personal and family experiences as he endorsed the program: "Prisoner re-entry initiatives can be extremely important to the family unit. Breaking this cycle needs participation from all parties involved. Ex-offenders must be willing to participate, and the system itself must allow for these second chances to take place."

Felician College Offers Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree at MCCC

Mercer welcomed 15 students to campus in January under a new agreement with Felician College of Lodi, NJ, that makes it possible for nurses to earn their Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree right on MCCC's campus in West Windsor. The fast-track RN to BSN program can be completed one day per week in 19 months. The 60-credit program consists of 30 credits of nursing courses and 30 credits of liberal arts and science courses.

Specifically designed for those who work full-time, the program prepares nurses for leadership roles in client care and management. Felician College accepts New Jersey licensed registered nurses who have an associate degree in nursing from an accredited institution, or a diploma in nursing if additional college credits have been completed.

Felician College offers scholarships to qualified students, ranging from \$100 to \$250 per credit. Students who have graduated with a 3.8 to 4.0 grade point average, and those who are members of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society, qualify for the higher amount.

According to MCCC Dean of Science and Health Professions Linda Martin, the program is much needed in the region. "We constantly encourage students to get their bachelor's degree. The fact that Felician offers the program on our campus is an amazing help to our students and graduates, as well as all area nurses. Most are working and have family obligations, so they need the flexibility this program provides. It's a good partnership for all involved."

Informational open houses are scheduled for March 25, May 7, June 16, July 27 and August 18 from 4 to 7 p.m. at MCCC's Student Center, Faculty Dining Room. For more information contact Admissions Representative Mark Baldwin at Felician College, (201) 559-6077, or Director of Off-Campus Services Jennifer Kostic at (201) 355-1113, or e-mail adultandgraduate@felician.edu.

MCCC Hosts Presidential Debate and Town Hall Meeting

In a "Presidential Forum" held at Kelsey Theatre on Oct. 16, representatives from the Obama and McCain campaigns described their candidates' positions before a full house that included students, faculty members, and staff. Mark Alexander, a law professor at Seton Hall University who headed Obama's New Jersey campaign, and Robbinsville Mayor David Fried, who chaired the McCain campaign in Mercer County, answered questions posed by MCCC Professor Linda Bregstein Scherr, who served as moderator.

Among the topics addressed were health care, the economy, and the war in Iraq. A portion of the program was devoted to a vigorous question-and-answer period. At the conclusion of the debate, student reporters from the *College Voice* and Mercer's cable television station interviewed Alexander and Fried.

Dean Robin Schore praised the students who attended. "Kelsey Theatre was filled with attentive, engaged students. The questions they asked the two presidential surrogates were on a level of sophistication as high as any posed by big-name pundits on Sunday morning television panels." The event was covered by Chris Sturges, a reporter from the *Times of Trenton*.



Mercer students voiced their concerns during a lively question-and-answer period.

PNC Bank Renames Conference Center Atrium

A new PNC Bank sign was recently installed in the MCCC Conference Center to rededicate the atrium and affirm the bank's support of the college after acquiring the former Yardville National Bank. Pictured from left are PNC Bank's Client and Community Relations Specialist Peggy Iucolino and Regional President, Central NJ, F. Kevin Tylus, with MCCC President Patricia C. Donohue and Vice President Beverly Richardson. Tylus said, "PNC Bank is pleased to continue the tradition of Yardville National Bank and its longstanding relationship with the college."



MCCC Marketing Team Wins Nine Design Awards



The college's innovative postcard series won a silver award.

Mercer's Marketing and Publications staff received nine awards at the annual conference of the National Association of Marketing and Public Relations, Region I, held in Saratoga Springs, NY, in October. The awards, including one gold, four silver and four bronze, were accepted by Director of Marketing and Public Information Lynn Holl, Senior Graphic Designer Francis Paixao, and Graphic Designer Tracy Patterson.

In Region I the college competes against East Coast community colleges from Maine to Virginia, eastern Canada, Scotland and the United Arab Emirates.

Frank and Lydia Bergen Foundation Renews Support to WWFM The Classical Network



**General Manager
Peter Fretwell**

WWFM The Classical Network of MCCC has received renewed support from the Frank and Lydia Bergen Foundation of Summit, NJ. The \$37,500 grant will enable the station to expand its listener base for five locally produced radio programs through the Public Radio Satellite System, live stream and webcast media formats.

Each of the five programs – The Dress Circle, The Lost Chord, Sounds Choral, Cadenza, and Distant Mirror – brings a unique aspect of music and the arts to listeners across New Jersey and around the world.

A Bergen Foundation grant of \$10,000 last year enabled the station to launch its Dress Circle program nationally and to improve the station's website capabilities to offer local on-line programming. The Sounds Choral program recently was picked up by a station in northern Michigan and will be syndicated through the satellite service.

According to WWFM General Manager Peter Fretwell, "The five New Jersey-produced programs focus on areas of classical music access and education that are in danger of being lost as many classical music stations narrow their playlists and become more homogenous in their programming." Expansion of classical and jazz programming listenership has been Fretwell's major goal since he joined the station in June of 2007. Very recently the station joined iTunes, which resulted in a huge increase in listeners.

WWFM The Classical Network (89.1) is licensed to MCCC, and its main studios are located on the college's West Windsor campus. The network is New Jersey's only classical music network providing programming 24 hours a day. "Jazz on 2" was launched on Sept. 1, 2008, and airs on 89.1 HD2, one of 89.1's new digital channels, as well as online. "Jazz on 2" can also be heard as the background music to MCCC's announcements on Cable Channel 26 and Verizon Channel 20.

WWFM relies on diverse sources of funding for its operating budget, with the largest source of income generated through annual support from its listener-members. For more information, visit www.wwfm.org or call 1-800-622-9936.

"Views and Voices" Webcasts Now Online



Rachel Katz

WWFM The Classical Network now offers its weekly 30-minute public affairs broadcast online. "Views and Voices," which airs on WWFM Saturdays at 7 p.m., invites local and state officials and community representatives to discuss issues of interest to listeners. Guests from MCCC are also invited to talk about college programs and the college's role in the larger community. To hear the shows online, visit http://www.wwfm.org/webcasts_katz.shtml.

Dear MCCC Alumni and Friends,

The current economic downturn is affecting everyone, and our students are among the hardest hit. Some have lost jobs; some have parents who have lost jobs; and all are dealing with higher costs of living. These are the students who need us the most. In the aftermath of state budget cuts, the college is also facing the challenge of maintaining our programs and our buildings, and equipping our campuses with the technologies necessary to prepare our students for the workforce.

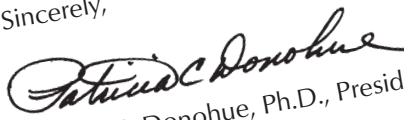
To meet these critical financial needs, the college has embarked on an annual fundraising campaign. All dollars raised will provide valuable unrestricted operating support that may be put toward covering instructional equipment and technology as well as scholarships through the General Scholarship Fund and the Charlotte W. Newcombe Endowment for the Health Professions challenge grant.

Perhaps Mercer County Community College provided the start to your college education or helped you retrain or change your career direction. Remember what Mercer did for you and please consider joining the other members of the MCCC family in contributing to The Annual Fund at Mercer. We've gotten a great response from staff, faculty, trustees and Foundation Board members, but not nearly enough to meet the ongoing need.

You can make your donation easily by using our new secure online giving form at www.mccc.edu/give (click on the "Annual Fund at Mercer" link), or by sending your donation with the form below. More information about the campaign is available by calling College Advancement at (609) 570-3607.

Please give as generously as you can. Together we can serve today's and tomorrow's students and provide the learning environments that support their success.

Sincerely,


Patricia C. Donohue, Ph.D., President

To donate online,
go to
www.mccc.edu/give

Yes! I wish to join the college family in supporting the "Annual Fund at Mercer."

Check enclosed in the amount of \$_____ or charge my credit card \$_____.

Card Number _____ Visa Mastercard American Express

Exp. Date _____ CVV 3-digit # _____ Cardholder Signature _____

Name (print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____

Return to Barbara Prince, Office of Donor Relations, AD 111
Mercer County Community College, PO Box B, Trenton, NJ 08690.

Students Design Wine Labels for Terhune Orchards



Pictured, from left, are Ad Design Program Coordinator Tina LaPlaca, Dean Judith Ehresman, Senior Adjunct Faculty Member Patrick Lyons, MCCC President Patricia C. Donohue, Gary Mount, and the students with the top designs: Karen Steimle, Michal Labno and Matt Rybinski.

When Gary Mount began planning a vineyard at his family farm, Terhune Orchards in Princeton, he thought about the importance of a great wine label, and asked Ad Design students at MCCC for help. Designing a label for the "Terhune Orchards Vineyard and Winery" became a class project during the semester just completed for instructor Patrick Lyons' Typography class.

Gary, his wife Pam, and the Mount family were very pleased with the results, and brought the designs home for their family to evaluate. The Mounts gave each winning student a \$50 gift certificate to the Terhune Orchards store, where they plan to display the entire class's designs. If one of the student designs is ultimately selected for the Terhune label, the student will be professionally compensated. The orchard hopes to begin making wine next fall, and has planted four varietals: cabernet franc, chambourcin, vidal blanc and traminette.

Culinary Students Dazzle Panel of Judges in Cook-Off



Culinary students with instructor Bill Conrad, far left.

With course after course of exquisite dishes artfully presented, MCCC's Advanced Culinary Arts students wowed a panel of 14 judges that included chefs, caterers and culinary instructors in the program's first ever "Hell's Kitchen" cook-off Oct. 15. Four teams of students, under the direction of instructor Bill Conrad, created gourmet soups, appetizers and entrees, introducing each dish with a description of ingredients and preparation techniques.

According to Conrad, the student chefs were nervous when they began their food preparation hours before the guests arrived. Some even brought their own equipment.

With themes including seafood, the Caribbean and French Provencal, each student prepared a signature dish. Conrad explained that the recipes were inspired by famous chefs, and were tweaked and refined over a number of weeks until they reflected students' personal tastes. The energy in the kitchen was focused and intense as each delectable item was plated and sent out to the tasters. Among the dishes were sweet potato corn chowder; butternut squash, apple, and onion galette; barbecued jumbo shrimp and andouille sausage; Cherry Grove filet mignon; sherry and shrimp risotto with mascarpone cheese; crab cake with ginger apple slaw; pecan crusted mozzarella over spring greens; and lobster quesadillas.

Judges awarded students high marks for their culinary efforts. Said Chef Bill Byer, a culinary instructor at Mercer, "They did a truly admirable job." Byer has plenty of background for comparison. A former restaurateur, his father was the executive chef at the Waldorf Astoria.

Students seemed to agree about the event's success as they enthusiastically took their bows following the meal. Holly Trump, chef/owner of the Gallery Café group, even handed out sponges, a symbol to encourage students to "absorb learning like a sponge, to take what you learn here and continue to grow every day as a chef."



In the kitchen with Raymond Palazzo and Rebecca Kahme.

Now Serving: MCCC Cafeteria Expands Menu and Upgrades Services



Staff member Filomena Vasta displays a shrimp boat in a tortilla shell. At right is student worker Melba Ansley.

professional staff members in stylish burgundy shirts and black pants.

DiBella, who has served as manager of the MCCC Conference Center since 2005, assumed management of the college cafeteria last fall. Before implementing improvements, he and his staff visited other colleges to compare menus and prices, and conducted a survey on campus.

Panini anyone? How about Mongolian Grill? These are just two of the new menu items introduced by the MCCC cafeteria in recent months. Along with an expanded menu, the staff has placed a renewed emphasis on customer service. According to Frank DiBella, general manager of Conference and Dining Services, customers can expect service that is fast and friendly, delivered by pro-

The feedback was loud and clear. "We found that people wanted more deli options, faster service, and additional ethnic dishes that reflect the diversity of our West Windsor campus," DiBella said.

With those requests in mind, the cafeteria staff has expanded its menu significantly to include a variety of ethnic dishes, "eat light" specials, breakfast fare, pizza specials, an extensive salad bar, soups, vegetarian items, and a deli counter. In the "to go" category are pre-made salads, sandwiches and fruit salad, and hot items such as hamburgers and steak sandwiches. Hoagies and whole pizzas can be pre-ordered for group functions.

With the cafeteria now under the umbrella of Conference and Dining Services, the college's entire food service operation has become more efficient, according to DiBella. There is a larger labor pool, better buying power because of bulk purchasing, and more consistent quality standards. The Conference Center's executive chef, Joe Chell, oversees both eateries, assisting senior staff members Jackie Dunn and Bill Downs with menu development and food purchasing.

With most entrees priced at around \$4, cafeteria customers are not likely to find a more economical, tasty or varied menu anywhere.

Acting On Stage and Behind the Scenes at Kelsey Theatre



Marc Flicker

With his expressive eyes and trademark tresses, work as an extra has been steady for Kelsey Theatre House Manager Marc Flicker.

In the climactic scene of the holiday movie "Elf," starring Will Ferrell and James Caan, Santa's sleigh comes crashing down into Central Park. Look closely and you'll see a bearded man in the crowd who happens to be Flicker.

After many years working in the human resources field, Flicker, who earned his M.B.A. from Rider University, decided it was time to pursue a second career in his first passion – acting. "It was tough at first. I was inherently shy, but I bit the bullet and did it," he says.

After taking acting classes and gaining experience in many roles at Kelsey Theatre, Flicker turned his sights to auditioning as an extra on projects in New York. He has compiled 50 film and TV credits. Among them are ABC's hit show "Ugly Betty," the film "Wanted" starring Angelina Jolie, and "The Good Shepherd" starring Matt Damon. Living in Yardley, PA, and commuting to New York by train, Flicker must rise in the wee hours of the morning. "During shooting, there are 12-hour days. I get almost no sleep. You have to really want to do it," he said.

In his most recent role, Flicker played a transit passenger in the remake of the film, "The Taking of Pelham 1-2-3." To prepare for the role, he was required to attend an intense three-day safety course offered by New York's Mass Transit Association. He learned about the subway system's third rail, which can cause electrocution, and faced down claustrophobia. The actors also learned how to get into a "niche" between sets of tracks as trains approached. "In two nights of shooting we were running down the tracks with rats nearby and trains whizzing past. We were separated from passing trains by inches on either side. It was wild," he recalls.

Some of the actors dropped out. But not Flicker. What wouldn't he do if they asked him? "I know I wouldn't jump out of a plane," he said.

Clearly, the theater bug has hit Flicker hard. In addition to his on-stage roles at Kelsey, he has volunteered as an usher. And now, as house manager, the theater has become a second home. In the course of a weekend he may oversee up to five productions. "I like to watch people watch the play," he said. "It is very satisfying to hear people leaving the theater saying, 'I haven't laughed like that in a long time.'"

With many subscribers and many regulars, "there's a warm feeling at Kelsey," Flicker said. "I have found my bliss."

For Kelsey Theatre's program schedule for spring, visit www.kelseytheatre.net.

MCCC's Center for Continuing Studies Serves as Career Resource

An uncertain economy is bringing adults back to college, and many are choosing Mercer's short-term noncredit classes offered through the Center for Continuing Studies to get up to speed in new areas. Career enhancing and career changing programs include options in business, education, computers, the health professions and even construction and fitness.

Classes are designed for everyone from beginners to those with advanced degrees and are taught by professionals in their fields. New classes begin each month, and most take place at Mercer's West Windsor campus.



Carol Clark, left, and Nancy Nicholson of MCCC's Center for Continuing Studies.

This spring, in the business arena, the Center is offering classes in event planning, marketing, communications, real estate, nonprofit leadership, grant writing, finance, project management, leadership skills, human resources, and small business management.

A full slate of computer application courses includes computer basics, web design and development, Dreamweaver 8, JavaScript and DHTML, and Microsoft applications. Mercer's popular Alternate Route Teacher Training program, which has provided a successful transition for many career changers, will host an Information Session on Feb. 24 at 5:30 p.m.

For those interested in health professions, Mercer is offering noncredit certificate programs in gerontology, drug development and clinical research, pharmacy technician, medical billing/coding, and certified nursing assistant.

The Center continues to expand its online training options, with hundreds of courses that run for six weeks and can be completed at any time of day or night.

The current noncredit course bulletin is available online at www.mccc.edu/ccs. For further information or to register for noncredit courses, call (609) 570-3311 or e-mail comed@mccc.edu.

Student Takes to Road as Wildlife Foundation Intern

Science student John Braun was a natural pick for an internship offered for the first time last summer by the Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey (CWF), an organization working to preserve the state's wildlife and natural habitat. In addition to his passion for science, Braun's professional background includes environmental remediation and organic farming.

The Aquila Internship spanned ten weeks beginning in early June. Each week Braun explored a different aspect of CWF's work, often traveling the roads of New Jersey with the group's staff members. His assignments included working with farmers in North Jersey to develop habitat for rare and imperiled species, spending time at the beach on a project to conserve and protect shore birds, visiting Sedge Island off the coast of Island Beach State Park to meet student winners of an environmental art and essay contest, and assisting with the creation of habitat along the bays and rivers of southern New Jersey.

"This experience was absolutely incredible for me," Braun said. "I did things I never thought I would do. Working with animals like bald eagles, ospreys, rattlesnakes and bog turtles was fascinating and I learned a great deal from the biologists who study them. I only wish I could do it all over again."

In addition to his field work, Braun got hands-on experience in the office and the community. He helped organize and mail correspondence and participated in other fundraising tasks. He represented CWF at the Burlington County Earth Fair and at the Northern Open House meeting to promote the state's Wildlife Action Plan. He also kept a weekly blog: www.conservewildlifenj.blogspot.com.

Braun expressed his appreciation to his professors, Linda Gaylo, Diane Hilker, and Amy Iseneker, for introducing him to the internship



John Braun with eagle chick in Swedesboro, NJ.

program and writing glowing letters of recommendation. "I think it's great that Mercer is involved in creating these kinds of opportunities for students," he said. He discussed his internship in a special presentation at Mercer in October, presenting photos of the natural places he visited, the wildlife he worked with, and the friends he made who share his passion for conservation.

Margaret O'Gorman, CWF's executive director, was equally pleased with the internship experience. "John's enthusiasm for the work and his willingness to jump in and help out with all tasks endeared him to our biologists and the other partners whom he interacted with along the way. We wish him well in his career and hope that he continues on his path towards working in the conservation community."

Braun, who is completing his associate degree in Biology, encourages other students to pursue internships to broaden their background and meet people who share their interests. He notes that he will be able to add the experience to his resume as he seeks employment in either wildlife or agricultural resource conservation.

"Mouthworks" Oral Interpretation Troupe Performs for Children



Nearly 100 children enjoyed an interactive performance by MCCC's talented Mouthworks oral interpretation troupe at the Mercer County Library, Lawrence Headquarters, in December. Calling themselves the "Mud Pie Players," the students presented the fairy tales, "No More Sheep" and "The Red Truck," to a very engaged group of children, who squealed with laughter and responded to funny questions.

Honors Program Enjoys Steady Growth



Honors Program history students Brian Kaplan, left, and Daisuke Katsumata presented their research on Alexander the Great during a symposium on Dec. 10. Mercer's Honors Program has been growing rapidly, from 15 students when it began in spring, 2007, to 60 students in fall, 2008. Graduates find greater opportunities for transfer, and are well prepared to meet the challenges of honors programs at four-year colleges.

MCCC's Distinguished Lecture Series Addresses Homeland Security



Richard L. Cañas, third from left, director of the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness, spoke at MCCC on "Homeland Security Matters in New Jersey." Cañas' career has spanned 34 years in law enforcement, intelligence, counterterrorism and policy making. He is pictured with MCCC Criminal Justice Professor Peter Horne, County Executive Brian Hughes, and MCCC President Patricia C. Donohue.

MCCC Golf Classic Raises Funds for Student-Athletes

Clouds gave way to beautiful sunshine as the MCCC Athletics Department welcomed 84 golfers to the Mercer Oaks West Golf Club in West Windsor on Oct. 6. The 17th Annual MCCC Golf Classic provided college supporters and friends a chance to enjoy a day of golf and celebration while raising approximately \$15,000 for the college's athletic scholarship program.

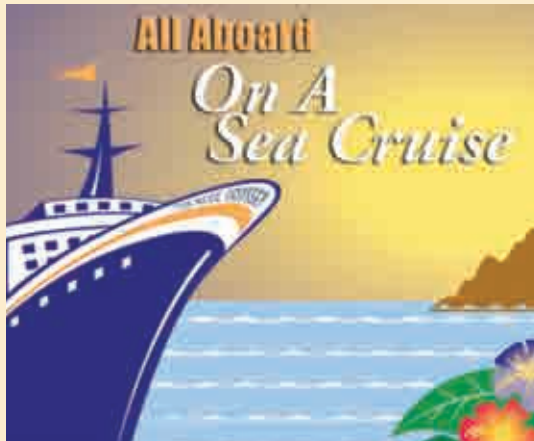
In her greeting to the assembled golfers, MCCC President Patricia C. Donohue emphasized the college's gratitude for their participation. "Your commitment gives our student-athletes the message that the community is behind them and it enables Mercer to continue to provide a quality education for this special group, which represents the college with distinction on regional and national playing fields," Dr. Donohue said. Fourteen MCCC athletes came out to the tournament to assist on the course.

The day of golf concluded with an awards banquet. The winning team included Tom Perrino, Gary Houghton and Phil Voorhees. The second-place team was Bob Klee, Joe Sudol, John Sinagra and Shawn Rooney. Adding to the festivities was a silent auction and gifts donated by a long list of supporters.

Community members who served on this year's committee included Doug Borden of Borden Perlman Insurance, Dave Fraytak of Faridy, Veisz, Fraytak, Michele Siekerka, Esq., president and CEO of the Mercer Regional Chamber of Commerce, Ken Stout and Steve Ritzau. The event is held in memory of Mr. Ritzau's wife, Dr. Cynthia Schaffer, a local physician who served on the MCCC Foundation Board. A true community leader, Dr. Schaffer was dedicated to giving back to the community, focusing her efforts on children's health and youth sports.

Among the tournament's top sponsors were Mr. Fraytak and Mr. Ritzau, along with Spiezle Architectural Group, Borden Perlman Insurance, Waters and Bugbee, Inc., Great Eastern Technologies, LLC, and Architectural Window Manufacturing Corporation. Other sponsors included Security Dynamics, Clarke Caton Hintz, NAPCO Inc., Roma Bank, Church Brick, Metropolitan Technologies, LLC, Inc., CMX Community Foundation, French and Parrello, Kucker Haney Paints, Griffith Electric Supply Co., Pisauro, Levy & Palombo CPAs, Effinger's All Seasons, and Hill International.

Join MCCC "On a Sea Cruise" for Scholarships



Supporters of MCCC can set sail "On a Sea Cruise" as the Foundation Board hosts its 20th Annual Scholarship Dinner Dance on March 7 at the Hyatt Regency, Princeton. The

annual event raises needed scholarship dollars for deserving students.

This year the college will honor three community partners who have been long-time supporters of education. "Spirit of Education" awards will go to Faridy, Veisz, Fraytak Architects and Janssen LP. A "Spirit of Service" award will go to Richard Kisco, owner of LeFleur: The Princeton Flower Shop, for his years of volunteer service to the college.

Individuals and businesses are invited to participate in the Scholarship Dinner Dance through corporate sponsorships, advertisements in the program book, silent auction donations, and/or tickets to the event. For more information contact Jeremy Parry at (609) 570-3617, e-mail parryj@mccc.edu, or visit www.mccc.edu.



Planning the 2009 Scholarship Dinner Dance are committee members, from left, Jeff Cafiero, Ruth Rosser, Jim Faridy, Ehab Abousabe, Chairperson Nina Melker, MCCC Vice President Beverly Richardson, and MCCC Director of College Advancement Kay Eaton. Jim Faridy, a long-time supporter of student scholarships, presented a \$5,000 check to kick off the event.



Some of Mercer's student-athletes helped out at the Golf Classic. Proceeds from the event are for athletic scholarships.



MCCC's Flight Team Takes Top Spot at Regional Competition

Mercer's Flight Team took first place at the Region VII Safecon competition of the National Intercollegiate Flight Association in October. Marc Schambers won first place in the "Top Pilot" category, while the one female member of the team, Judy Galayda, took second place. Schambers won the "Top Male Pilot" award and Galayda won the "Top Female Pilot" award.

Pictured, from left, are Judy Galayda, Bill Dripps, Luis Robles, Jason Fox, Ricky Vetick, Rich Patterson, Marc Schambers, Chris Moyer, Chris Ali, and team coach Judith Stillwagon, an MCCC senior technical assistant in the Aviation Flight Technology program. Mercer competed against Bridgewater State College and Schenectady Community College.

Focus on Faculty

Professor Dori Seider Publishes



What can we do to keep not only our teaching but also our lives more deeply meaningful, vibrant, restorative and exciting? Professor of Education and Psychology, Dr. Dori Seider, answers these questions in her new book, *Teach Me Something Real*.

Dedicated to teachers and learners, Dr. Seider says her book “gives to new and experienced teachers and learners alike a gift of power and permission to be every ounce of what you want to be – with vigor and determination, courage, respect and passion.” Dr. Seider joined the MCCC faculty in 1970. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of Vermont, and two M.A. degrees, from the University of Rochester and New York University. For more information, visit www2.xlibris.com.

Fiction for Cat Lovers by Associate Professor Ed Carmien



“I Am King!” by faculty member Edward Carmien is one of 17 stories included in the new anthology, *Catopolis*, which celebrates the mysterious world of cats. The book is published by DAW Books, a subsidiary of the Penguin

Group (<http://us.penguin.com>).

An author of numerous stories in the fantasy genre, Carmien chronicles the tale of a feral cat’s battle for survival against all manner of foe – a predatory bird, a dominant alley cat, an endless horde of rats. He was inspired to focus on the lives of cats after he and his family took in two tabbies from a local shelter. “Watching the two cats fight, playfully yet fiercely and with total devotion to their cause, sparked the idea behind this story,” Carmien said.



Fine Arts Faculty Member Lights Up MCCC Gallery



Kyle Stevenson

Fine Arts faculty member Kyle Stevenson was one of three featured artists in the MCCC Gallery show, “A Light Without – A Light Within,” on exhibit from Nov. 11 through Dec. 18. Musing on light, Stevenson ponders “what happens when negative space is treated as positive, the nature of light, the Void, and what *really* occupies space.”

An associate professor who began teaching at Mercer in 2002, Stevenson earned his M.F.A. from the University of Delaware and his bachelor’s degree in Studio Art from Houghton College. Also included in the show were artists Robert Beck and Joseph Gyurcsak.

Rattlesnakes: Friends Not Foes

The fascinating world of the timber rattlesnake (*crotalus horridus*) received close scrutiny when MCCC Assistant Professor of Biology Ron Smith presented “Rattlesnakes and Military Operations: Friends or Foes?” at a lecture on Dec. 4.

Growing up in north-central Pennsylvania, Smith was drawn to his region’s natural environs, often catching reptiles and amphibians for fun. Over the past five years, he has conducted research on rattlesnakes at the Warren Grove Gunnery Range in the heart of the Pine Barrens in Burlington County.

According to Smith, human disturbance and encroachment into natural habitat are affecting wildlife throughout New Jersey. In his study, he examined the impact of human disturbance on rattlesnake movement patterns and habitat. To reduce negative impacts on the snake population, he has established guidelines for the military when it carries out operations in the Pine Barrens. Smith’s research has been accepted for publication in a forthcoming book, *The Biology of Rattlesnakes*, to be published in 2009.

“These snakes play a critical role in the ecosystem and there are steps that need to be



Assistant Professor Ron Smith, right, with Chemistry Professor Michael Dorneman.

taken to prevent them from becoming extinct,” Smith said. “They have a long history of persecution because they are venomous and believed to be aggressive, but typically they only strike as a last resort when they are harassed. Their bad reputation is unjustified.”

Smith notes that these rattlesnakes offer us a rare opportunity. “I want people to know that they have a chance to explore a globally rare ecosystem right in their back yard. The New Jersey Pine Barrens is the perfect place.”

Student’s Internship Experiences Add Real World Rewards

When MCCC student Gerald Johnson was considering how to spend the past summer, he decided against pursuing a mundane job simply to put money in his pocket. Instead, he focused on building on his future by seeking an internship with the City of Philadelphia.

A member of MCCC’s Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society, Johnson was one of 30 interns chosen to participate in the highly selective eight-week Mayor’s Internship Program, which was developed to cultivate future government leaders. Interns typically provide research and administrative assistance to high-level city managers.

According to Johnson, each intern was assigned to a different department of city government. “I was placed in the Philadelphia Prison System,” Johnson said, “sometimes talking and mingling with the prisoners themselves. I gained valuable insight into how socio-economic, racial, and sexual forces shape our paths in life and eventually came to be grateful to learn all that I did about prisoners’ rights, jail overcrowding, and programs for reintegration.” He earned kudos from his supervisor for his role in organizing prison employee blood drives.

In addition to department placements, the interns broke up into small groups to conduct summer projects. Johnson was part of a group aimed at assisting in Philadelphia’s newly reopened Office of Arts and Culture. An added treat were weekly discussions with city leaders including Mayor Michael Nutter, Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey, and District Attorney Lynne Abraham.

Johnson notes he felt especially prepared for the public speaking aspects of his job after taking a communications course at Mercer. “I used the experiences and strategies I learned in that class when I had to present a group research project to executive-level city officials,” he explained.

While continuing his studies at MCCC, Johnson has remained committed to the intern experience. He currently works for two organizations – as an editor/copywriter for *Where* magazine and in a paid administrative position with the Pennsylvania Humanities Council, which awards grants to those who work in the humanities.

Johnson’s short-term plans include transferring for his four-year degree, while his long-term goals are to work to improve lives and inspire people to think about the human condition through his writing.



MCCC student Gerald Johnson is pictured lower right. Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter is standing, middle.

ALUMNI FEATURES

From Hungary to Mercer to Drexel: Network Engineering Technology Student Geared for Success



Peter Korosi

A trip to the United States in 2003 was a life-changing event for Peter Korosi '08 (A.A.S., Network Engineering Technology). A native of Godollo, Hungary, he had long yearned for adventure and he found it in America, traveling through New Jersey, Washington, D.C., and New York state.

After returning to Hungary, Korosi graduated from a technical high school and vocational school specializing in machine engineering and

computers. He gained hands-on professional experience at several large companies, including the Bosch Group and Caterpillar.

Determined to come back to the United States, he returned to New Jersey in 2006, settled near family friends, and began taking classes at MCCC. Since he did not speak English, Korosi started with ESL classes. He is extremely grateful to his English teachers. "They were very patient," he said. "All of my instructors were on hand to answer my questions and help me with academic work."

Korosi learned his English well. In December he completed his A.A.S. degree in Network Engineering Technology and will continue his studies at Drexel University with a generous scholarship. A Dean's List student and member of the Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society, Korosi said, "Mercer is a great place. It was easily accessible and affordable for me."

"I still have a lot to learn, but this country offers more opportunity and freedom than any other country in the world," Korosi continued. "Obtaining an education is the most important thing. Being successful is a long, hard road, but here everyone has a chance to try it. I will never give up!"

Doctorate in Physical Therapy Prepares Nicole Brenna to Transform Lives

Not many teens spend their free time volunteering at a physical therapy clinic, but for Nicole Brenna '02, that experience gave her a close-up perspective on the joys and challenges of helping others and confirmed her career direction.

"Watching a physical therapist teach a patient how to walk again after a stroke really sparked my interest," Brenna said. "I decided to pursue this career path because I find helping patients regain their prior functional status very rewarding. I am fascinated by the rehabilitation process."

After earning her associate degree at Mercer in Biology in 2002, Brenna transferred to Kean University. She pursued a joint program with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) for students interested in physical therapy, earning her bachelor's degree in Biology from Kean in 2004 and her doctorate in physical therapy from UMDNJ in 2007.

Now working at an outpatient facility in Hamilton, Brenna is putting her knowledge and skills into practice. "I love working in all settings, from outpatient to acute care to rehab. It's a great feeling to help people transform their lives," she said.

She also feels great about her decision to attend Mercer. "Besides being highly affordable, Mercer made the transition from high school to college easy for me. I didn't want to go to a big college and get lost in the crowd." Appreciative of the solid foundation Mercer gave her in science, Brenna said, "I believe I was better prepared than the majority of my classmates when it came to science classes as both an undergrad and graduate student. The anatomy, genetics and microbiology courses at MCCC are excellent, and so are the professors. My experience at Mercer was great. I recommend it highly to everyone."

Fire Science Alum's Burning Mission Is Prevention

Whenever he gets the chance, James Kettler '98 (A.S., Fire Science Technology) spreads the word about fire safety. From the time he was young, he heard stories of bravery from a friend whose family members were firefighters. He joined his local fire department in Fairless Hills, PA, as a junior member at age 14.

"When I found I could pursue a degree in a field that I had loved since I was a teenager, it was a natural path," Kettler said. "The fire service field has been my passion. I have the opportunity to help reduce the incidence of fire, build safer buildings and improve the overall safety of our community."

"At the time I enrolled, MCCC had one of the area's only Fire Science Technology programs," Kettler said. "Career-specific electives allowed me to focus on my areas of interest: hazardous materials and fire code enforcement. My instructors had strong backgrounds in fire and emergency services, and the classes provided fundamentals and, more importantly, 'real world' application."

While working toward his degree, Kettler served as fire marshal for Plumstead Township, PA, receiving the Community Environmental Excellence Award from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. After graduating from Mercer with highest honors, he joined the Bucks County Hazardous Incident Response Team, serving as chief and deputy chief, and completing the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program. He is currently an instructor for the Bucks County Public Safety Training Center, an associate instructor for the Pennsylvania State Fire Academy, and a contract instructor for the U.S. Fire Administration's National Fire Academy.

Seeing the destructive power of fire firsthand, Kettler works tirelessly to protect the community. "If we are careful and follow some basic safety precautions, we can prevent fires from occurring in the first place," he said. "I always tell people, 'Don't let a fire be your fault!'"

Local Chef Enjoys Bounty of Mercer Experience



Justin Kaplan

Justin Kaplan's second home is a little blue house on East Broad Street in Hopewell. The Blue Bottle Café is off the beaten path, but legions of people have found it nonetheless.

As the restaurant's sous chef, Kaplan, a 2006 graduate of MCCC's Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management (HRIM) program, delights in whipping up entrées with chef/co-owners Aaron and Rory Philipson, and Rory's mother, Joyce MacKay.

Kaplan, who also earned his bachelor's degree on Mercer's West Windsor campus through a program with Fairleigh Dickinson University, assists with ordering food, developing menus, cooking and food presentation. As local farmers meet him in the kitchen to present their goods, he selects the finest organic herbs, produce and meats.

Hailing from a family of "adventurous diners," Kaplan traveled extensively as a youngster and always enjoyed cooking. Unclear about his direction after high school, on a whim he took a job as a cook at the Lawrenceville Inn, and soon after enrolled in Mercer's HRIM program. "At Mercer, I was always encouraged to do more than I thought possible," Kaplan said. "I learned all aspects of the food industry including accounting, law and marketing."

Kaplan's on-the-job training also continued. He worked at several upscale establishments, including a country club and a four-star restaurant, and learned from colleagues who had studied at leading culinary institutes across the country. Today, Kaplan thrives on creating dishes with a global influence. "There are so many great flavors out there; I don't want to limit myself to traditional seasonings," he explained.

The business is tough and demanding, but Kaplan finds it exhilarating. "It's a great feeling to walk out in the dining area and see smiling people with their empty plates on the table."

For information on the Blue Bottle Café, visit www.thebluebottlecafe.com.



James Kettler

For more alumni features, visit www.mccc.edu/success-stories

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY *(continued from page 1)*

engineering job with PSE&G.

Following the two-hour open house, guests were invited to a formal program in the Conference Center auditorium, when Board Vice Chair Mark Matzen introduced the three honorees. Alumna Ana Berdecia, director of the Center for the Positive Development of Urban Children from the Watson Institute for Public Policy at Thomas Edison State College, was selected for the Alumni Leader Award. Berdecia was founder and president of the Latina Women's Council, the first organization of its kind in Mercer County. She also serves as an adjunct faculty member at Mercer. "I believe a leader is someone who sees a need and figures out a way to address it. If I am guilty of that, I accept this award proudly."

Greg Tornquist received the Corporate Partner Award on behalf of Cenlar FSB in recognition of the bank's long-term commitment to employee training through MCCC's Center for Training and Development. Tornquist expressed his gratitude, noting that the partnership has been highly beneficial for the bank, "helping us continue to grow and be successful."

Ellen Guarnieri, president and CEO of Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Hamilton, accepted the Partner in Learning Award, presented in appreciation of the hospital's educational support of students in Mercer's Nursing and other Health Profession programs. "We incorporate learning into every facet of our work, so we love having students around," Guarnieri said. "It's exciting to consider what



Faculty member Jeff Weichert guides a prospective student through the steps of building her own virtual computer network.

we can do together in the future."

At the conclusion of the ceremony, New Jersey Assemblyman Reed Gusciora presented the honorees with proclamations congratulating them for their highly productive relationships with MCCC. "It takes a whole community to fulfill one's goals. Mercer is an outstanding laboratory for acquiring an education in this state." Recognizing the important role of community colleges, he pledged continued support for Mercer's mission.

Following the awards, MCCC President Patricia C. Donohue presented her Annual Report to the Community, in which she outlined Mercer's successes throughout the 2007-08 academic year. "In my second year as president, I continue to be struck by the vitality and talent of our faculty and staff and their high expectations for our students. This was a banner year by any measure," she said. Her narrative was accompanied by a PowerPoint scrapbook of the year's highlights.

The college's Annual Report and Foundation Annual Report can be accessed online at www.mccc.edu/news_annual-reports. A printed copy may be requested by calling (609) 570-3608.

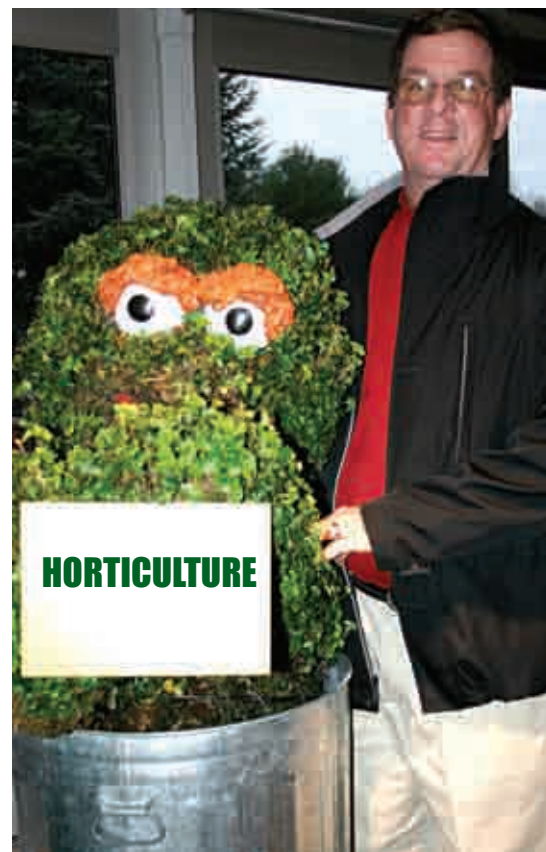
MCCC Theatre Students Unleash Angels and Demons of Henrik Ibsen

Students from the Theatre program staged two of the most influential and lasting plays of modern theater in November. Students embraced the early-feminist themes and complex characters of Henrik Ibsen's "A Doll House," directed by Louis Wells, and "Hedda Gabler," directed by Theatre Program Coordinator Jody Person. Assistance with lighting and sound was provided by Entertainment Technology students.

Stephanie Landau played Nora Helmer and Tommy Searl IV was her husband Torvald in "A Doll's House."



"Hedda Gabler" featured, from left, Deena Jiles as Hedda, Solomon Mason as George Tessman, and Tamara Ramos as Aunt Julia.



Alumnus Chris McCarron '76 participated in the community event with Oscar the Grouch, a topiary that resides at Sesame Place in Langhorne, PA, in the summer and in the MCCC Greenhouse in the winter. McCarron earned an A.A.S. in Horticulture and has been landscape manager at Sesame Place for 28 years. Oscar is one of several topiaries that are tended to by MCCC students during the winter months.

Men's Soccer

What a difference a few seconds makes. With the score deadlocked at 1-1 in the Nov. 21 semifinal game between MCCC and San Jacinto College (TX) at the National Junior College Athletic Association Championships in Phoenix, AZ, San Jacinto scored with just 28 seconds remaining. And the Vikings' hopes for a national title were quashed. Mercer was trailing 1-0 at halftime, but evened the score midway through the second half. According to Head Coach Charlie Inverso, who had hoped to bring home Mercer's ninth national trophy, the Vikings dominated the game but were unable to find the goal in the critical minutes as the clock wound down.

In the previous day's quarterfinal against CCBC-Essex (MD), the Vikings cruised to a 4-1 victory. Mercer's 3-2 loss to Essex in late September was the team's only regular season defeat, so the victory was particularly satisfying.

Mercer finished the tournament by playing for third place, beating Garden City (KS) 5-4 on Nov. 23. This was the ninth consecutive year that the Vikings have participated in the national tournament. The team completed its season with a 20-2 record.

According to Coach Inverso, the team sets its sights high at the beginning of each season. "We start with the goal of winning a national championship and when you fall short of your goal it is a bitter disappointment. We played our best soccer of the season in the final two weeks when it really mattered," Inverso said. "I believe that the top three teams in the country were extremely close. Our entire program should be proud of everything that we accomplished this season."

Getting to the nationals was a focused effort by the whole team. The Vikings won their



The men's team won Region XIX and the Northeast District and finished third nationally.

Region 19 final against Essex CC (NJ) 6-1 on Nov. 1. With four goals, Roy Vissers was named the Offensive Player of the Game and Chuck Svenson was named Defensive Player.

The men continued their impressive post-season performance with two decisive wins during the Northeast District Tournament, held at Mercer Nov. 7-9. First, Mercer defeated Massachusetts Community College 5-1 in the semifinal round. The following day the Vikings won a hard fought match against Bryant & Stratton 2-0.

Offensively the Vikings counted on numerous players, with Vissers totaling 20 goals, Amit Abudmad totaling 19 and Luke Stedmond totaling 14. Also key were Frank Tweneboa, with

7 goals and 9 assists, and Rob Cabrera with 8 goals and 7 assists. Anchored by Sheldon Parkinson in goal, the defense recorded nine shutouts. The NJCAA selected Abudmad as a first team All-American. Abudmad, Vissers, Cabrera, Stedmond and Parkinson were named to both the All-Region XIX and All-GSAC teams.

Coach Inverso is now in his 23rd season as the Viking head coach. With 420 victories under his belt, he surpassed the legendary Pete Sorber of St. Louis Community College at Florissant Valley and now has the second best soccer record in NJCAA Division 1 history. He was assisted by Larry Povia, Bill Daily, John Pietrowski and Brian Rostron.

Women's Soccer

From their opening contest against Dean College, which the Mercer women won 8-0, it was clear that this team was going places. They made good on that promise, ending the season 17-4-1 and earning the best record in the women's soccer program since 1989. In the Region XIX championship, the women's team defeated the County College of Morris 1-0. Mercer's unrelenting offense, which combined for a total of 26 shots, was kept at bay by Morris goalie Celia Ward, who was named the Defensive Player of the Game. The game was decided by a hand ball in the box, which set up the goal on a penalty kick by MCCC striker Kasey Kenny. Kenny was named Offensive Player of the Game.

After a bye in the semifinal round of the Northeast District Tournament, played at Mercer Nov. 7-9, the Vikings faced Monroe Community College (NY) in the final. Mercer was down 1-0 at the half, but came back with two quick goals. The Vikings held off an aggressive attack by Monroe until the last two minutes, when Monroe scored, forcing the game into overtime. Then, with seconds remaining, Monroe scored the game winner.

Despite the heart-breaking loss, second-year Head Coach Jodie Ricciardi is proud of her players and the team's final record, which was an impressive turn-around from last year's 8-11 season. "The difference was a strong freshman class that meshed well with the sophomores," she said. "A number of our freshmen came in with a true passion for soccer. They want to move on to play at four-year schools."



The women's team had its best record since 1989.

Key to the offense was forward Kasey Kenny, who totaled 29 goals and 12 assists. Other offensive play makers were Erica Juricic, Sammi Raymond, Tina DeAngelis and Carolyn Walters. With nine shutouts, defenders Kristen Vincent, Angelica Modica, Brittany Ucarwicz, Kelsey Capuano and goalie Heidi Summers contributed significantly to the team's success.

Kenny was named a second team All-Amer-

ican, while Kenny, Juricic, and Chotkowski were chosen for the All-Region XIX team. Kenny and Chotkowski were also selected for All-GSAC honors and were named the top two players in the region.

Ricciardi was assisted this season by MCCC alum and former goalkeeper Michelle Brown, trainer Mike DeAngelis, and former MCCC men's player Tommy DeStefano.

Coch and Alumnus Are Inducted into NJCAA Hall of Fame

MCCC Assistant Men's Soccer Coach Larry Povia and alumnus Bill Andracki '89 were inducted into the 2008 National Junior College Athletic Association Hall of Fame during the national tournament in November. One of only two assistant coaches ever to be inducted, Povia just completed his 23rd season with the Viking men's soccer team under Head Coach Charlie Inverso.



**Assistant Coach
Larry Povia**

Andracki was an All-American goalkeeper for Mercer's 1988 national championship team. He went on to play at Rutgers, where he led the Scarlet Knights to the national final and received NCAA All-American honors. After his college career, he played for several professional teams.

Former Goalie Returns as Assistant Coach

Michelle Brown, a 2003 alum of the college and the women's soccer team, has returned to serve as an assistant coach for women's soccer. A former standout goalie for the Vikings, Brown says she is delighted to return to the Mercer soccer field, "one of my favorite places in the world."



Michelle Brown



Attention Basketball Fans

The second half of the MCCC men's and women's basketball season is in progress. As of January 27, the record for the men's team was 10-9, while the record for the Lady Vikes was 14-8.

For the Vikings' game schedules for the remainder of the season, visit www.mccc.edu/sports.

Women's Tennis

With no. 1 and no. 2 players Hilary Gall and Rebecca Wolf leading the effort, the MCCC women's tennis team was back in the win column in fall, 2008 with a record of 4-3, an impressive regrouping after last year's 1-9 season. The Vikings finished second in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) Northeast Regional and Region XIX tournaments, earning the points to secure their place at the nationals in May, 2009.

According to Head Coach Marc Vecchiolla, every member of the team improved her game. Gall and co-captain Katrina Brophy (no. 4), both sophomores, have been joined by talented newcomers, including Wolf, Kristina Holsman (no. 3), Emily Dow (no. 5), Maria Eldridge (no. 6), and Emma Johnsson (no. 7).

Gall's and Wolf's performances at the ITA Northeast Regional Tournament at the new Mercer County Tennis Center in October earned them a trip to Alabama later that month to compete against tennis players from both two- and four-year schools. According to Vecchiolla, the trip was extremely beneficial. "The

competition at that tournament was extremely high caliber. Their confidence grew upon their return to regional play."

Gall, who has been at the no. 1 spot for two years, has turned into a "big match" player, Vecchiolla noted. She captured the Region XIX first singles crown as well as first doubles with Wolf, won the Harford (MD) Invitational Tournament early in the season, and, at the ITA Championships, was runner-up at the top singles flight and won first doubles with Wolf.

While Gloucester Community College came in first in the region, Vecchiolla is confident that when the two teams travel to the nationals and meet up with other schools from across the country, Mercer will be a better team. "We are just beginning to tap our potential," he said. "With hard work and the desire to get into top physical condition, this team will be a serious threat to the competition in Tucson."

Vecchiolla was assisted this season by Ralph Bencivengo, Barbara Pleva, and Stan Dlugosz.

Grad Jorunn Evju Selected as CAANJ Student-Athlete of the Year



Jorunn Evju

May grad Jorunn Evju has been selected for the 2008 Outstanding Student-Athlete Award from the Collegiate Athletic Administrators of New Jersey (CAANJ). The award was announced at a ceremony during the organization's annual conference in Somerset in October. She was selected from among all female student-athletes who attend community colleges in New Jersey.

A Dean's List student who majored in Education, Evju played soccer for two years on the MCCC women's team, serving as team captain during her sophomore year.

A native of Norway, Evju has transferred to Kean University, where she is continuing her studies in Elementary Education.

Howard Levy Selected as Head Coach for MCCC Men's Basketball

Howard Levy, whose basketball resume includes championship success as a player and coach on both the Division I and international levels, is currently in his first season as head coach for Mercer men's basketball. Levy served as assistant coach for men's basketball at Princeton University from 1996-2007 and is an alumnus of Princeton, where he was a center for the Tigers for four seasons.

MCCC Athletics Director John Simone praised the selection of Levy as a real asset for the Mercer program. "Howard has an in-depth understanding of the game and the elements that contribute to team success. He comes to Mercer with a wealth of experience that includes his many years as a player and a coach. Through his work with student-athletes, he truly understands the importance of excelling both on the court and in the classroom."

Levy takes over from Kelly Williams, who served nine years as the Vikings' head coach and is now head coach for men's basketball at The College of New Jersey. Levy said, "I am excited for the opportunity to bring all that I have learned over the years to Mercer and to continue the great work that Kelly has done here. We are going to work our hardest to reach our potential as a team and in the classroom. If we do that, I know that plenty of victories will come."

During his basketball career at Princeton,



**Coach Levy with MCCC Athletics Director
John Simone.**

the six-foot-ten Levy contributed to Ivy League championships in 1983 and 1984, and achieved a school record for career field goal percentage (.647). He earned a gold medal as a member of the U.S. team that traveled to Israel for the 1985 Maccabiah Games. After a tryout with the New Jersey Nets, he played for the Continental Basketball Association's Albany Patroons, where he was coached by the legendary Phil Jackson. He turned next to coaching, spending a season at Trenton State College and then three years as an assistant coach at The George Washington University while pursuing his law degree. While coaching at Princeton, Levy's teams appeared in four NCAA and three NIT tournaments.

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the VIKING

Check out MCCC's website, www.mccc.edu, with its easy online registration. Browse open sections of credit and noncredit courses. Previously registered students can view their grades and course history.



2009

Kelsey Theatre Spring 2009 Calendar "We're All In This Together"

Full-Length Productions

Man of LaMancha

Feb. 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15

The Sunshine Boys

Feb. 20, 21, 22, 27, 28; March 1

The Wiz

March 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15

Godspell

March 27, 28, 29; April 3, 4, 5

Angels in America (Part 1)

April 17, 18, 24, 25, 26

Disney's High School Musical on Stage

May 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10

Mercer Dance Ensemble - Reunion

May 16, 17

Sweeney Todd

May 29, 30, 31; Jun. 5, 6, 7

The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told

Benefit Performance: June 19, 20, 21

Kelsey Kids Series

If You Give a Pig a Pancake (and other storybooks)

Feb. 14

The Striking Viking Story Pirates

Feb. 28

Little Red Riding Hood

March 21

Songs From the Soul

March 28

The Frog Prince

April 25

Junie B. Jones

May 30

Events at MCCC's Gallery

As Seen By Hand

Jan. 13 - Feb. 19

Mercer County Artists

March 10 - April 9

MCCC Visual Arts Student Exhibition

April 28 - May 14

The Distinguished Lecture Series

West Windsor Campus, Communications Building

For more visit www.mccc.edu/news_events_lecture

Biotechnology - Science of the New Millennium

Feb. 24, 12 noon

Dr. Esther Biswas-Fiss

Image of America

March 10, 12 noon

Joe Szabo

Police Suicide: Lessons Learned

March 26, 12 noon

Cherie Castellano

Seven Modern American Realists

April 2, 12 noon

Professor Mel Leipzig

MATTHEW KEMP
Criminal Justice '06

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