big big Call Sold FALL 2009

A Closer Look at Health Sciences

21st Century Health Care

Tops in Technology

Alumni Hall of Fame



Montgomery County Community College FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT



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Sophomore Surgical Technology Student Dara Gulotta talks with Program Coordinator Erin White. Dara will graduate from the College in December Photo by John Welsh.

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Montgomery County Community College

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PRESIDENT'S message

uring challenging economic times, much attention is paid to those career areas that are projected to be in "high demand" in the future. Careers in Health Sciences consistently top the list of high-demand jobs in both the region and country.

Montgomery County Community College has a long history of providing nationally-recognized Health Science programs. The College began offering Nursing in the late 1960s while in Conshohocken, and Dental



Hygiene was added in the 1970s with the opening of the Central Campus in Blue Bell. Medical Laboratory Technician and Phlebotomy followed in the next decade.

In 2003, in response to the U.S. Department of Labor's report of increasing demand for radiographers, surgical technologists and medical assistants, we opened a state-of-the-art Health Careers Suite, bringing Health Sciences to the West Campus in Pottstown for the first time. The laboratory established the College as one of the first community colleges in the nation to house fully-functioning Radiologic and Surgical laboratories. In addition, because of the demand for our Medical Assisting certificate program at the West Campus, the program expanded to the Central Campus this fall.

Most recently, we restructured the College's Physical Education programs to better align them with the growing Exercise Science industry. The program, based heavily in science and technology, utilizes a metabolic cart to measure athletic performance that rivals the equipment found in professional athletic training facilities.

As this issue of bigDreams was about to go to print, the Center for Digital Education named Montgomery County Community College the number one technologically-advanced community college in the nation for the second consecutive year. The state-of-the-art technology used in our Health Science programs continues to position the College as a model institution for innovation in teaching and learning.

Sincerely,

Karen A. Stout, President



Follow Dr. Stout on Twitter: http://twitter.com/drkastout







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Foundation Annual Report

College Named a Top Vet-Friendly School

This summer, the College was designated as a "Military Friendly School" for 2010 by G.I. Jobs magazine. The designation ranks the College in the top 15 percent of all higher education institutions in the country.

The ranking is based on a survey that examined an institution's VA approval of GI Bill benefits, CLEP acceptance, credit for military service, reserve and guard policies, access to flexible learning options, veteran programs, veteran student composition, and assets dedicated to recruiting military students, among other criteria.

With more than 250 student veterans enrolled, the College is focused on reaching out to veterans in the community and on providing them with support once they arrive on campus. The number of student veterans at the College will continue to increase, as education benefits outlined in the Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act of 2008, also known as the Post-9/11 GI Bill, include four years of in-state undergraduate tuition and fees, room and board, book stipends, tutoring fees, and relocation costs.

College Recognized as 'Great Place to Work'

The College was recently recognized by the Chronicle of Higher Education on its list of "2009 Great Colleges to Work For." The program is designed to recognize model institutions while compiling detailed benchmarking data about industry trends. The list is determined by the results of two surveys that were administered by the Chronicle's program in partnership with ModernThink, LLC.

The program recognizes institutions for best practices and policies in 26 categories for four-year colleges and 15 categories for community colleges. Within those categories, colleges are classified based on enrollment. Montgomery County Community College placed second in the nation among community colleges in the categories of "Health Insurance" and "Confidence in Senior Leadership," and it placed third in the category of "403b or 401k."



Cutting the Ribbon to the Second Floor of North Hall are J. Edmund Mullin, Board of Trustees; Jared Clemons, President of West Campus Student Government Association; James Vlahos, Board of Trustees; Gary Silvi, President of Vesper Realty Group; and Dr. Karen A. Stout, College President.

West Campus Continues to Grow

On August 19, Borough officials and community members joined the College in dedicating the second floor of North Hall with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Located at 16 High Street in Pottstown, North Hall is a historic site within the community, serving at one time as a brewery, shoe polish factory, mattress factory, wholesale grocery store and a knitting mill. The College moved into the first floor of the renovated facility in 2006.

With the opening of the second floor, North Hall adds 50,000 square-feet of space to the West Campus. The newest space houses seven state-of-the-art smart classrooms, faculty offices, an expanded Learning Assistance Laboratory for tutoring and supplemental instruction, an expanded art gallery, art studio space for painting and drawing, and a digital laboratory for communications, music and computer graphics instruction.

Dickinson College Partnership Benefits Honors Program Graduates

By entering into the Community College Partnership Program with Dickinson College, Honors Program graduates from Montgomery County Community College and four other community colleges in the country may be eligible to transfer to Dickinson with a \$15,000 academic scholarship. Interested students are identified early in their academic careers in order to receive academic advising from both institutions. The Community College Partnership Program merges the strengths of two different types of institutions, a community college and a private, national liberal arts college, to create a new model of higher education—one that offers students a quality four-year education at a reasonable price.

"The College's partnership with Dickinson College provides an exceptional transfer opportunity for high-achieving students who have demonstrated a commitment to learning and community engagement through our highly-competitive Honors Program," said Karen A. Stout, President. "A partnership with an elite liberal arts institution like Dickinson is a testament to the dedication and excellence of our faculty and academic achievement of our students."

Download Lectures (and More) from iTunes U

The College has partnered with Apple Education to launch its iTunes U public site. Part of Apple's iTunes Store, iTunes U features more than 20,000 educational multimedia files from universities, museums and public media organizations from around the world.

"In becoming an iTunes University partner, Montgomery County Community College is able to provide students and faculty with an innovative tool that enhances both classroom and online learning," said Dr. Stout. "It also positions our faculty globally as experts in their fields, as they are able to provide content in their respective disciplines to a global audience. Finally, iTunes U provides students who are studying communications and digital arts with another venue, along with You-Tube and the College's own website, to showcase their multi-media work, helping them to build their portfolios and to establish themselves in their chosen careers."

The College's iTunes U site currently features academic lectures and multimedia presentations by faculty; student-produced projects in audio, video and multimedia design; audio and video news podcasts; and "MC3 On the Air," an interview-format radio show hosted by College President Karen A. Stout. Officially launched on Aug. 26 with more than 100 podcasts, the College looks to grow its iTunes site over the next year and beyond.

To access the College's iTunes U library, visit www.apple.com, download iTunes and search for Montgomery County Community College.

Student and Station Manager of the College's Internet Radio Station Kerri Hughes shows Vice President of Information Technology Celeste Schwartz and English Instructor Marc Schuster how the station uses iTunes U.





Pictured at the agreement signing are (first row) Presidents Dr. William Durden (Dickinson) and Dr. Karen A. Stout; (back row) Vice President for Enrollment and Communications and Dean of Admissions Dr. Stephanie Balmer (Dickinson); Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost Dr. John Flynn; and Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Steady Moono.

Parkhouse Hall Renovation Launch

State and County officials and current and former trustees joined the College on Sept. 9 in celebration of the recent launch of a multi-phase renovation of Parkhouse Hall. The facility has served as the College's main classroom building since the opening of the Central Campus in Blue Bell in 1972. Scheduled for completion in summer 2011, the \$15 million renovation project is funded through a combination of public support from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the County of Montgomery.

Because of the College's record enrollment and high demand for classroom space, Parkhouse Hall will remain in operation during construction. As a result, renovations will take place in seven phases, with project completion slated for summer 2011. Phase I of the project began in May 2009, and the College just entered phase II at the time of the celebration.

The Parkhouse Hall renovation project includes:

- Modernizing building systems to improve energy efficiency.
- Updating and modernizing classrooms. When completed, it will house 74 classrooms and computer laboratories fully-equipped with smart technology.
- Enclosing the existing courtyard and creating atrium space with a skylight and café.
- Creating a separate entrance identity for the Workforce Development and Continuing Education division.
- Establishing a Center for Entrepreneurial Studies to encourage innovation and to act as an incubator to support start-up businesses in the area.
- Enhancing the facility's main entrances to make the building more welcoming to students and visitors.
- Enhancing space for 166 faculty offices along with a part-time faculty flex space, and increase meeting space with the addition of eight conference rooms.

Parkhouse Hall is named in honor of Russell Parkhouse, who served as a Montgomery County Commissioner from 1960-1983 and who played a key role in establishing the College in Montgomery County.



As the first POWER Program participant to graduate from the College, Mae Harding inspires others to succeed.

by Diane VanDyke

ontgomery County Community College 2009 graduate Mae Harding is pursuing her dream of helping people as they recover from mental health challenges.

"I want to work with people who are at different stages of their recovery, not just at the beginning," she said. "Everyone travels their own way at their own pace."

This 47-year old Norristown resident can relate to such challenges because she, too, is traveling on a healing journey. Mae had a painful childhood of physical and emotional abuse, mostly by family members, which created indelible scars.

"At some point, I can't recall exactly when, I was diagnosed with schizoaffective disorder and post-traumatic stress," Mae said.

Schizoaffective disorder is a condition in which a person may experience depression, mania, hallucinations or delusions, but symptoms vary with each person. Post-traumatic stress is an anxiety-type disorder that can develop after experiencing a traumatic event.

Following her diagnoses, Mae received psychiatric treatment and learned how to manage her emotions, anxiety and stress. However, she grew accustomed to her support system, and it was difficult to forge ahead to take the next courageous steps.

"I had to decide what to do with my life," Mae said. "I always loved school. It was my safe haven where nothing would happen to me. Despite everything, I had a good foundation for learning."

The POWER Program, a 14-week educational program at the College for people in mental health recovery, enabled her to progress beyond therapy.

"I tried taking courses at the College before but failed," Mae said. "POWER was my pathway to succeed."

POWER—Partnership On Work Enrichment and Readiness—provides two 90-minute weekly sessions in which participants learn skills to function effectively in the community. The program includes computer and time management skills, job preparedness, resume writing and communications skills and instruction in how to use library and financial aid resources.

POWER is free and available to any Montgomery County resident who is in mental health recovery. The program is funded by the Montgomery County Office of Mental Health, the College and several private foundations.

Harding was the first POWER enrollee when it started in 2006. Upon completion, she started taking credit classes at the College and participated in POWER Plus, a weekly program that provides transition support. During her last year at the College, Harding worked as a POWER paraprofessional mentor, and she traveled around the country with the POWER staff to give presentations on the program's success.

Mae graduated in May 2009 with an associate's degree and certificate in Human Services. She is currently enrolled at Chestnut Hill College and hopes to attain undergraduate and graduate degrees in Clinical Psychology.



2009 MLT program graduate Alicia Kuhfuss processes a specimen during last year's screening clinic.

analyzethis

Medical Laboratory Technician students practice their skills while helping those without health insurance

by Alana Janelle Mauger

ach November, students in the College's Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) program transform their classroom laboratory into a health screening clinic for one day. The activity, which provides students with realistic situations like those found in a hospital or outpatient setting, provides up to 30 patients with blood tests and urinalysis at no cost.

"We make it a point to reach out to individuals in the College community who do not have health insurance so that we might provide them with free medical tests," explained Debra Eckman, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the College's MLT program. "It's a win-win situation because it gives our MLT students hands-on experience in a simulated laboratory environment."

Patients undergo a variety of tests, including complete blood count, cholesterol with HDL, blood glucose, prothrombin time, blood type and a routine urinalysis—the cost of which totals around \$300 without health insurance. First and second-year MLT students rotate throughout the day to perform all of the specimen collection and analysis.

The College's nationally-accredited MLT program combines traditional courses in the humanities and sciences with clinical courses to prepare students

for careers in hospitals, commercial laboratories, physician office laboratories and pharmaceutical companies. Campus facilities and area hospital and commercial laboratories provide students with an authentic environment where they practice basic procedures, learn interpersonal skills, study diseases and relate laboratory medicine to other aspects of health care. After completing an Associate in Applied Science degree, graduates are eligible to take national certification examinations.

A recent study by the American Society of Clinical Pathologists (ASCP) finds that an estimated 13,200 new Medical Technologists (MT) and Medical Laboratory Technicians (MLT) will be needed by next year to meet the demand for laboratory services. ASCP also reports that only an estimated 5,000 MT and MLT students graduate from accredited institutions each year in the United States, leaving an annual shortage of approximately 8,200 positions for qualified personnel.



The College offers students a myriad of Health Sciences career programs in high-demand fields.

by Lynn Rothman

ccording to the U.S. Department of Labor, 13 of the 20 fastest growing occupations between 2004 and 2014 are related to health care. Advances in medicine, increased use of technology, an aging population, as well as anticipated increase in retirements are helping to fuel the demand for a wide range of health occupations, according to Dr. Beverly Welhan, Dean of Health Sciences at the College.

Another big change is a paradigm shift in health care itself. "We are moving as a society toward a greater wellness model, where the emphasis is on prevention, early detection and health maintenance. Holistic practices that support health and wellness are gaining wider acceptance," says Welhan.

Since its inception, Montgomery County Community College has consistently played a major role in health career education in the region. The College offers programs in traditional areas, such as Nursing and Dental Hygiene, as well as programs in high-demand fields such as Medical Assisting and Surgical Technology. Other health programs offered at the College include Health and Fitness Professional, Medical Laboratory Technician and Radiography.

Medical Assisting

Among the College's newer health career programs is Medical Assisting. Started in 2003 at the West Campus, the program expanded to the Central Campus in fall 2009. This one year, three-semester certificate program prepares graduates who are proficient in the administrative and clinical competencies necessary to perform numerous jobs in physicians' offices, hospitals, or other health care facilities. The program integrates theory, laboratory simulations and a clinical practicum experience.

Kathy Schreiner, Medical Assisting Program Director, reports that this fall, the College received a Pennsylvania Career Opportunity Grant as part of President Obama's stimulus efforts. The grant fully funds the tuition for 40 full-time Medical Assisting students, provides each student with a \$500 book voucher and covers the cost of the national credentialing examination.

Many employment opportunities await Medical Assisting program graduates. The Department of Labor names Medical Assisting as a top career through 2016 in Pennsylvania with 4,930 openings in the state, 29 percent of which are in the Southeast Region of the Commonwealth. Kathy says Medical Assistants are the "only allied health professional specifically trained to work in an ambulatory care setting." Graduates are eligible to participate in the RMA or CMA certification examination. Kathy adds that the College's graduates have had a 100 percent pass rate on the national credentialing examination in the past three years.



Surgical Technology

Surgical Technology is another high-demand health career program. The Association of Surgical Technologists projects the need to increase professionals in this field by 75 percent through 2016. Offered at the West Campus since 2004, students can choose from a 12-month certificate or 16-month continuous study associate's degree program. Both programs prepare students to work as surgical team members, including preparing the operating room instruments, and patients for surgical intervention. Students gain hands-on experience in the on-campus simulated operating room laboratory and through clinical rotations with affiliated hospitals. One-hundred percent of graduates from this program have found employment within three months of completing the program, often at the same hospitals where they perform their clinical rotation, according to Surgical Technology Program Coordinator Erin White.

MLT and Phlebotomy

Other popular programs are Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) and Phlebotomy. MLT students gain hands-on training in an on-campus state-of-the-industry student laboratory and a through clinical practicum at one of six area community hospitals or a reference laboratory. Graduates have an excellent success rate on the national certification exam, and most are employed within three to six months after graduating from the program. The College's one-semester Phlebotomy program is one of only 57 nationally that is approved by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences.

Radiography

The College not only adds programs in response to the needs of the marketplace, it retools existing programs to support changes in technology. Few colleges provide the technologically-advanced energized Radiography Laboratory located on the West Campus, which features both film/screen and computerized imaging capabilities. Radiography students in this five-semester, high-demand, continuous study associate's degree program utilize different types of radiologic equipment through classroom and hands-on experiences in four affiliated hospitals and additional imaging centers. Debra Poelhuis, Radiography Program Director, boasts that this program has a very successful 98 percent national examination pass rate.

Dental Hygiene

Dental Hygiene, one of the oldest programs at the College, begun in 1973, strives to stay technologically current says Jenny Sheaffer, Program Director. The College has recently installed digital radiography and intraoral photography equipment in its on-campus clinic, which was funded through a Perkins Grant. This fall, the clinic is adding a computerized charting system in an effort to become paperless. "We continue to accommodate the program to prepare students for the full range of practice," says Sheaffer.

Demand remains good for the Dental Hygiene Program, which has a solid reputation throughout the county. As a public service, students and faculty offer a free dental children's sealant program several times a year, funded by a grant from the North Penn Community Health Foundation.

Nursing

And yes, the College offers a well-recognized and competitive Nursing Program, including a continuous component that enables students to complete the program in 16 months. Established in 1968, the Nursing Program has grown from an initial class of 20 graduates in 1972 to more than 240 students in fall 2009. Nursing students have access to a state-of-the-art, high-fidelity simulation experiences through an on-campus nursing laboratory, which includes four high-tech simulation mannequins, virtual IV insertion and "lots of equipment similar to what students use in a clinical setting," says Nursing Program Director Dr. Maria Toth.

Program graduates consistently score high on licensing exams to earn their registered nurse (RN) credential. The RN credential enables graduates to transition directly into a career in Nursing or a seamless transition into bachelor's degree programs at a number of regional colleges and universities. Despite a tight local job market for nurses, a national shortage guarantees solid employment opportunities now and into the future.



Francisca Bve (left) consults with sophomore Kathleen McElvenney on an x-ray.

PASSIONIO X-RAYSANOPEOPL

Instructor Francisca Bye instills Radiography students with a sense of cultural awareness.

by Amanda Mandia

ontgomery County Community College's highly-competitive Radiography program has graduated 59 students over the past five years with a notable 100 percent of graduates employed at care facilities throughout the state. Francisca Bye, Radiography Instructor, has had a large hand in making the program so successful. With a global perspective and nearly 20 years of experience, Francisca trains her students with a complex combination of essential technical detail and attention to patient perspective that gives them an edge for long-term career success.

Having lived in and traveled to places such as Singapore, Cambodia, Indonesia and all over Europe, Francisca understands the importance of cultural difference when teaching her students how to relate to their patients' specific needs and concerns. Her professional career began in general radiography while she was living in San Francisco, Calif. She discovered her passion for serving trauma patients while working in an inner city trauma hospital in the Bay area. Even though she changed hospitals, Francisca continued her work in trauma saying, "I love the creativity that a trauma environment demands."

Wanting to pursue her career further, Francisca earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Management with a minor in Health Organization. Shortly after earning her undergraduate degree, she began teaching pediatric radiography at the California Mills Peninsula Hospital, where she eventually became the Program Director of the Radiologic Technology Program. In 1996, Francisca and her family moved to Pennsylvania, and then moved again to Singapore in 2001. After two years, she returned to the Philadelphia area and earned an MBA from Kutztown University.

The College began its Radiography Program in 2003, and Francisca joined the institution as a full-time instructor in 2004. As the primary instructor for the program, she has worked closely with Program Director Debra Poelhuis in shaping the academic rigor and philosophical standards that prepare students for success in the dynamic field of Radiography.

"It is essential to develop radiography students into 'critical thinkers' who can problem-solve in a multitude of situations," Francisca said. She also makes sure to teach her students how to communicate with their patients "in a caring way and to be aware of patients' different personal needs, whether they are religious, cultural or experiential."

Francisca continues to stay on top of her field through seminars, professional organizations, and relationships with clinical instructors. She remains deeply passionate about radiography and her students, and she never stops pushing either her students or herself to be the best in the field.

high-techHEALTH

State-of-the-art fitness laboratories anchor programs in the growing field of Exercise Science.

by Jan Dominik Kargulewicz

obs in the field of Exercise Science and Wellness are projected to increase by 27 percent over the next decade as increasing numbers of people spend time and money on their health and more businesses recognize the benefits of wellness for their employees. By coupling rigorous academics with to-shelf industry technology, the College's students and graduates are well positioned to emerge at the forefront of this growing field.

Montgomery County Community College provides students with transfer and career tracks in the field of Exercise Science. For students who plan to pursue advanced degrees in the field, the College's Associate in Science in Physical Education and Health degree is designed to transfer to four-year colleges or universities. It can be tailored to each student to allow for the opportunity to transfer into a variety of programs, including dance, education and sports management. Recent program graduates have transferred to Exercise Science programs at Temple, Lock Haven and West Chester universities.

"The degree is structured in a way that provides students with background in kinesiology, the whole cardiovascular system, the endocrine system, and nutrition," said Dr. Anne Livezey, Co-Coordinator and Instructor of Exercise

Science and Wellness at the College. "Students who enroll in the program can expect a challenging and rewarding science-based education."

Students who graduate with an Associate in Applied Science in Health and Fitness Professional degree, which is designed for immediate employment, have gone on to work as personal trainers, business owners and wellness instructors. Both programs utilize the College's Fitness Assessment Laboratory, adopting the high-tech tools that are standard in the Exercise Science industry. The lab's most recent addition of a metabolic cart—a machine that is more common at an Olympic training center than at a community college—enables students to measure the specifics of an athlete's performance.

In addition to the College's degree programs, the Division of Workforce Development and Continuing Education also offers a Personal Trainer certification program. For more information, visit the College's website at www.mc3.edu.

Students Chris Falcone, Amanda Criswell, Dan Garner, Dawn Lorman and Jeannie Kohler practice measuring athletic performance using a state-of-the-art metabolic cart in the "Assessment of Human Fitness" course.





TOPSIN TECH

The College is ranked as the top technologically-savvy community college in the country for the second consecutive year.

by Alana Janelle Mauger

or the second consecutive year, Montgomery County Community College has been ranked the number one technologically-advanced community college in the nation by the Center for Digital Education and Converge magazine.

The ranking was established based on the 2009 national Digital Community Colleges Survey, which examines and assesses how community colleges have progressed in using information technology to deliver services to their students, faculty and staff. Approximately 1,000 community colleges were invited to participate, and winners were grouped into three categories based on student population. The survey examines a variety of areas of technology, including online admissions, student access to transcripts and grades, information security and infrastructure, weather and campus security alerts, and online library capabilities.

According to Dr. Karen A. Stout, President, the College has ranked nationally in its use of technology over the past six years because of its "data culture," which helps administrators and faculty make informed decisions that



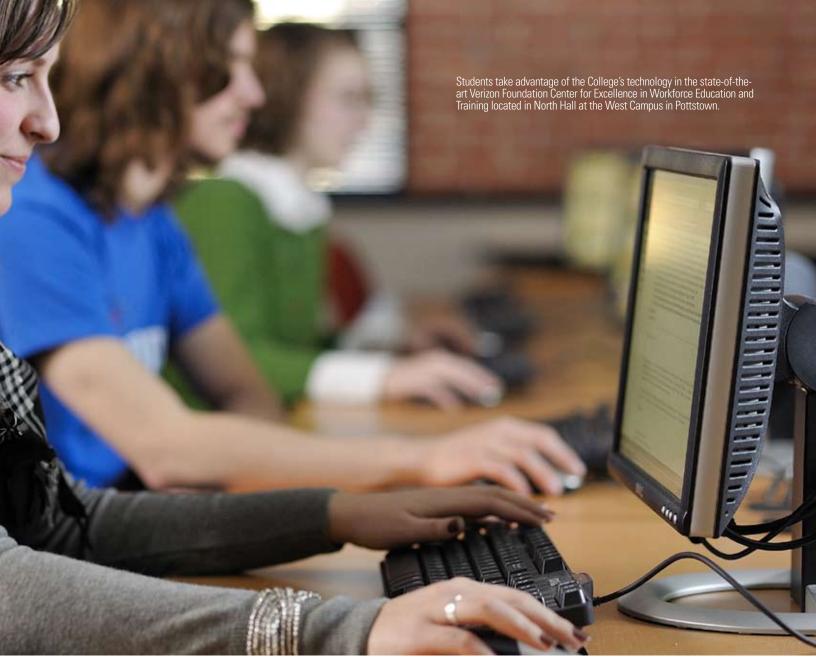
support students and the College's mission.

"The College's data-informed decision making is essential for continuous improvement because unless you have a system-wide structure that collects data, analyzes it, and makes adjustments on a routine basis, you really don't know if you're achieving your mission," said Dr. Stout. "By adapting national best practices, we are constantly assessing ourselves, always trying to make our student outcomes better by using technology as a tool to focus on teaching and learning."

The College integrates technology into its strategic plan, and it does not separate academic and administrative technologies, but rather uses a blended approach. According to Vice President of Information Technology Celeste Schwartz, the priorities of the College's Information Technology team are clear.

"We focus on student success and on supporting our technology users," she said. "Technology is used for process improvement and streamlining things so that the College can focus on educating students."

Faculty members at the College incorporate technology into their everyday classrooms. Eight-five percent of the College's classrooms are equipped with SMART technology, which includes a computer, projector, DVD player, speakers, and a touch SMART board that enables instructors to annotate and store that data on the screen. Faculty members also use



interactive classroom technologies, such as clickers and game show technology, to ensure that students interact with each other and with the subject matter to improve learning.

Students in specialized fields, such as Health Sciences, Communications, and Computer Science, use technology in emerging ways to advance them in their areas of study. For example, the College's Nursing program uses high-tech mannequin simulators that enable students to practice procedures in realistic clinical situations. The simulators, in both adult and child sizes, can be programmed to mimic a large range of medical conditions and to react with lifelike vital signs and reactions.

Students in the College's Communications program learn audio and video production in state-of-the-art laboratories with high-end equipment, dual cinema monitors, and industry-standard software and tools. A fully-functional television studio compliments the editing suites and classrooms, providing Broadcasting students with the opportunity to produce a weekly news show from start to finish. Likewise, Computer Science students learn to develop programs and applications for the latest emerging technologies—with a iPhone apps course being the newest introduction this spring.

Other technology highlights include the implementation of a new student-alert system that tracks attendance and connects the student with an

appropriate intervention; the expansion of a wireless pager system and a call center further enhance student success by reducing the amount of time students spend standing in line or on hold; the use of Web 2.0 technologies such as blogs, Twitter, Facebook, and You-Tube both inside and outside of the classroom; the availability of wireless Internet access over 100 percent of both of the College's campuses; and the ability of students and the general public to download hundreds of academic and student-produced podcasts on Apple's iTunes U.

The College has received a total of six national awards from the Center for Digital Education over the past six years. In 2003, the College's website (www.mc3.edu) was named one of the top two sites in higher education in the country. In 2004, 2005 and 2007, the College was ranked in the top five suburban community colleges in the nation for its use of technology, and it has now taken the top award for two consecutive awards in 2008 and 2009.

new academic year has started, and the activity level at Montgomery County Community College is surging again. The days are getting shorter and cooler, but weather and activity levels are not the only changes on campus.

As the seasons rotate, so does the Alumni Board membership. We are truly fortunate to have such a dedicated group of individuals, and I am thankful for their contributions. Candy Basile and Deb Rogers have completed their service to the Alumni Board, but not their dedication to the College. As employees, they help to implement the College's mission to provide quality, affordable education to the community. The Board would also like to welcome Colleen Horner as its newest member.

I am pleased to announce that Chris Boguslaw will be taking over as Chair.

Chris has served on the Alumni Board for several years, and he has the vision and experience to capably direct its future operation. Although he will introduce himself to you in the next issue of bigDreams, I can attest that he is a well-balanced individual, respected by those who know him both professionally and personally.

Serving on the Alumni Board of Directors has been a wonderful experience. Over the years, I have met people whose lives have literally been transformed because of their interaction with the College. These success stories are highlighted every year during our Hall of Fame Induction ceremony, which you can read about on page 12.

My time on the Alumni Board has come an end, and the demands of graduate school are pressing. As the foundation of my education, Montgomery County Community College has solidly prepared me for the rigors of baccalaureate and graduate studies. It is with gratitude that I have served, and will continue to support this remarkable institution.

May all of your dreams be big ones!

Sincerely,

Maurier S. Thompson

Maureen Thompson

Past Chair, Alumni Board of Directors

ALUMNI BOARD

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We want to hear from you

To update your contact information, submit a note or digital photo for publication in Class Notes, or to request more information on volunteer and giving opportunities, send an e-mail to alumni@mc3.edu.

INMEMORIAM

Charlotte A. Ott (1984) of Blue Bell, Pa. on March 11, 2009.

CLASS notes

Pamela Callahan (1981) is the Director of Insurance at NTMA in Havre de Grace, Md.

Jean M. White (1988) is working as a Certified Holistic Nurse, Certified Psych Nurse, and a Certified Healing Touch Practitioner.

Carolyn Coulter (2000) was named Faculty Member of the Year by students of Atlantic Cape Community College. Carolyn is an Assistant Professor of Sociology.

Lakshmiee B. Gosine (2004) earned a Master of Arts degree in Liberal Studies from Alvernia University in May. She is projected to start a doctoral program in Philosophy at Alvernia University this fall. She has two children.

Holly Shantz (2004) and Tom Babbony were united in marriage on Aug. 15, 2009 at the Cedarville United Methodist Church in North Coventry. Holly is a medical receptionist with Ches-Mont Medical Group in Limerick, Pa.

Christina Subers (2005) graduated summa cum laude from Thomas Jefferson University in May 2009 with a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Occupational Therapy. She was inducted into the Alpha Eta Society, which is the National Scholastic Honor Society for Allied Health Professionals, in May 2009. Christina has been accepted into the doctoral program in Occupational Therapy at Jefferson, and will begin her studies in September 2009.

Eric Sierra-Franco (2006) graduated from Temple University cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in History in May. While at Temple, Eric attained membership in three honors societies: the Golden Key International Honor Society, Phi Alpha Theta and Alpha Sigma Lambda. He plans on attending graduate school in 2 to 3 years.

Steven Henry Keatings (2008) transferred to Temple University as a History major, concentrating on Cold War historical influences on present day intelligence and foreign policy. He is currently in Northern Ireland.

Bruce McCaffrey (2009) is working as the Technician/Operations Manager for McCaffrey Fuel Oil Inc. in Horsham, Pa.

Attention Nursing Alumni from the Class of 1974! To reconnect with your old classmates, please send an e-mail to the alumni office (alumni@mc3.edu) with your current phone number. address and e-mail.

Attention Office Administration Alumni: The

Office Administration department is seeking new members to serve on its Advisory Board. Graduates of the program (formerly Computer Applications and Office Procedures) who are currently employed in the field are encouraged. The purpose is to provide input on current business trends and procedures that can impact the educational process. It also serves as an important liaison between the college and the local business community. The committee meets once each semester. Anyone interested in serving on the board may contact the Office Administration Coordinator Barbara Culbert at bculbert@mc3.edu or 610-633-4189.



Pictured from left, John Kolb, Frank Ciaccio, Lillian Caperila, Karen Jett and Richard Lesniak.

celebratingALUMNIsuccess

Meet the five most recent inductees into the College's prestigious Alumni Hall of Fame.

by Alana Janelle Mauger

ive outstanding Montgomery County Community College graduates returned "home" in October to be inducted into the Alumni Association's prestigious Hall of Fame. Held in the state-of-the-art Advanced Technology Center at the Central Campus, the event brought together old friends, past and present colleagues and current students for an inspirational evening. Video biographies of the inductees are available on the College's You-Tube channel at www.youtube.com/mc3media.

Lillian J. Caperila graduated from the College's Dental Hygiene program in 1980. She went on to earn a bachelor's degree in Dental Hygiene Education from Thomas Jefferson University and a master's degree in Instructional Design and Training from Penn State University. In her current position as National Manager of Professional Education with Premier Dental Products, Lillian travels the world as a continuing education presenter. She also teaches at a variety of institutions in the region, including the College, where she also serves on the Dental Hygiene Advisory Board. Lillian has held leadership positions with a variety of professional organizations, and she currently serves on the editorial board of the Journal of Practical Hygiene.

Frank Ciaccio is known in Montgomery County as "Mr. Norristown, and he was named the Borough's first-ever Ambassador in 2005. Frank graduated from Montgomery County Community College in 1974 at the age of 50 with an associate's degree in Police Science after first serving more than 25 years as an officer with the Norristown Police Department. In addition to police work, Frank spent time pursuing a professional boxing career before a broken hand forced his retirement. Using a name derived from his boxing title "The Cisco Kid," Frank is known to many as Hank Cisco, host of "The Hank Cisco Show," which airs on Comcast and Verizon in conjunction with the Norristown School District.

Karen L. Jett earned degrees in Accounting from Montgomery County Community College and Temple University, and she also achieved the designation of Certified Management Accountant. Karen started her own company, Jett Excellence, in 2004, where she helps companies identify their values and develop and implement strategic plans. She also developed an interactive ethics training system for small businesses, and in June 2008, she published her first book, titled *The Seeds of Greatness*:

Grow Your People, Grow Your Business. Karen is an adjunct instructor at Villanova University, and she has held leadership positions with a variety of organizations in her field. She also volunteers with the Indian Valley Boys and Girls Club and does the books for her husband's business, Jett Produce.

John P. Kolb, Jr. graduated from the College with an associate's degree in Business in 1969. He went on to earn a bachelor's degree in Business from Delaware Valley College and a master's degree in Urban Management and Labor Relations from Drexel University. John worked his way through a variety of positions with the Philadelphia Coca-Cola Bottling Company, beginning as a factory laborer in 1967 and ending as a Regional Vice President and Part-Owner at the time of his retirement in 1998. He then served as the President and CEO of the Snow Canyon Clinic in Utah. John served the College as its first-ever President of the Alumni Association and as a member of its Board of Trustees. He also taught as an adjunct instructor at both the College and at Drexel University.

Richard M. Lesniak earned an associate's degree in Fire Science from Montgomery County Community College in 1996. He went on to earn a certificate in Fire Science from the National Fire Academy, and he is currently enrolled in a graduate Public Safety Management program at St. Joseph's University. Richard currently serves as the Director of Fire Inspectors and Emergency Services for Warrington Township. He is also a part-time firefighter and EMT with the Horsham Fire Company, and he is a member of the Montgomery County Incident Support Team. Richard continues to volunteer as a firefighter with the Oreland Fire Company, where he first developed an interest in Fire Science, and he is very active in his hometown community of Springfield Township.

Art Exhibit: Annual Art Faculty and Invited Art Alumni

Wednesday, November 18 - Friday, December 18

"Meet the Artists" Reception Wednesday, December 2, 5-7 p.m. Fine Arts Center Gallery, Central Campus, Blue Bell • free admission For information, visit www.mc3.edu or call 215-619-7349.

Montgomery County Choral Society Holiday Concert

Saturday, December 5, 8 p.m.

Science Center Theater, Central Campus, Blue Bell \$18 general admission, \$10 for students/seniors, \$5 for children under age 12 For tickets and information, visit www.mc3.edu or call 215-641-6518.

Fall Student Performing Arts Showcase

Wednesday, December 9 & Thursday, December 10, 7 p.m.

Science Center Theater, Central Campus, Blue Bell • free admission. For information, visit www.mc3.edu or call 215-641-6518.



Jazz Violinist Regina Carter

Friday, December 11, 8 p.m.

Science Center Theater, Central Campus, Blue Bell \$25 general admission, \$20 for students/seniors, \$10 for children under age 12 For tickets and information, visit www.mc3.edu or call 215-641-6518.

Student Dance Performance Ensemble

Saturday, December 12, 8 p.m.

Science Center Theater, Central Campus, Blue Bell • free admission For information, visit www.mc3.edu or call 215-641-6518.

Communication Program Fall Screening

Monday, December 21, 7 p.m.

Science Center Theater, Central Campus, Blue Bell • free admission For information, visit www.mc3.edu or call 215-641-6518.

Art Exhibit: "Pieced Together" by Helen Haynes

Wednesday, January 20- Friday, February 19

"Meet the Artist" Reception Wednesday, February 3, 5-7 p.m. Fine Arts Center Gallery, Central Campus, Blue Bell • free admission For information, visit www.mc3.edu or call 215-619-7349.

Art Exhibit: "The Three Susans" by Susannah Hart Thomer, Susan E. Klinger, Susan Williamson

Wednesday, January 20 - Friday, March 26

"Meet the Artists" Reception Wednesday, Feb. 10, 5-7 p.m. West Campus Gallery, Pottstown • free admission For information, visit www.mc3.edu or call 215-619-7349.

Latin Jazz Composer Marlon Simon and Nagual Spirits

Friday, January 22, 8 p.m.

South Hall Community Room, West Campus, Pottstown \$15 general admission, \$10 for students/seniors, \$5 for children under age 12 For tickets and information, visit www.mc3.edu or call 215-641-6518.



Rennie Harris PureMovement

History of Hip-Hop Children's Show: Friday, Feb. 5, 10:30 a.m.

Performance: Saturday, Feb. 6, 8 p.m.

Science Center Theater, Central Campus, Blue Bell \$5 general admission for children's show \$25 general admission, \$20 for students/seniors, \$10 for children under age 12 For tickets and information, visit www.mc3.edu or call 215-641-6518.

Theaterworks USA: Jack Sprat Low-Fat Tour

Thursday, February 11, 10:30 a.m.

Science Center Theater, Central Campus, Blue Bell \$5 general admission For information, visit www.mc3.edu or call 215-641-6518.

Latin Jazz Saxophonist Paquito D'Rivera

Friday, February 12, 8 p.m.

\$25 general admission, \$20 for students/seniors, \$10 for children under age 12 For tickets and information, visit www.mc3.edu or call 215-641-6518.



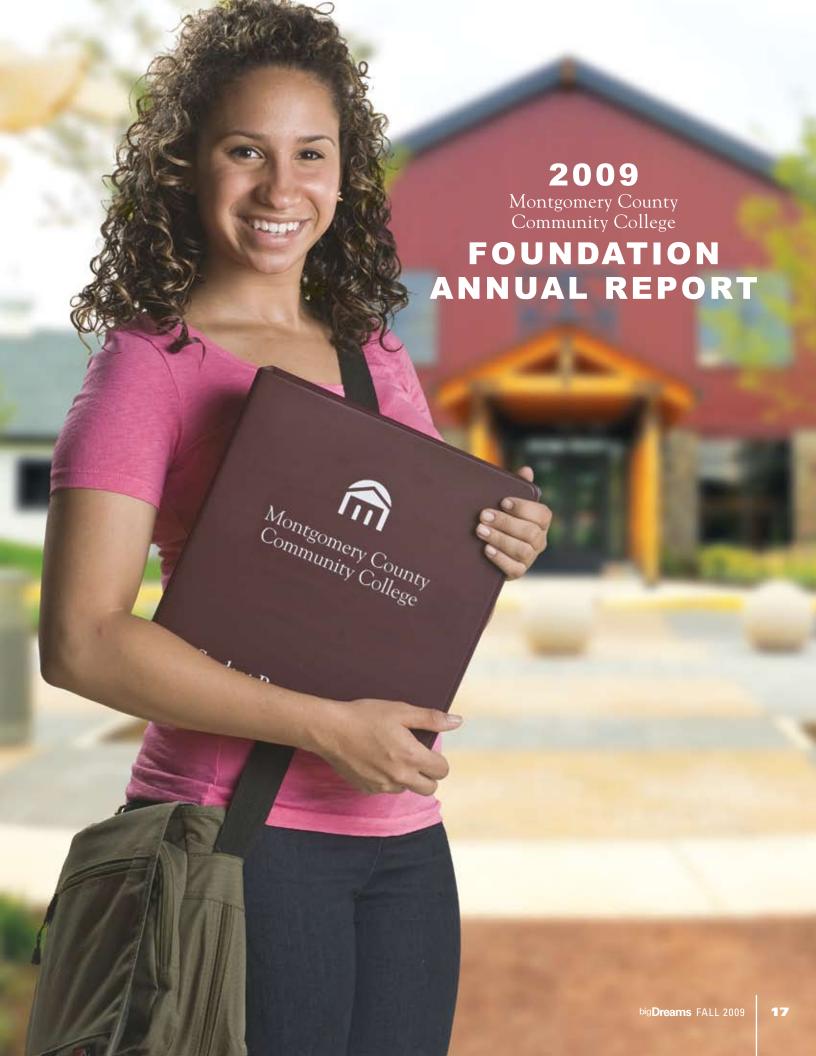
Marian Anderson String Quartet

Children's Show: Friday, February 19, 10:30 a.m. Performance: Saturday, February 20, 8 p.m.

Science Center Theater, Central Campus, Blue Bell

\$5 general admission for children's show

\$25 general admission, \$20 for students/seniors, \$10 for children under age 12 For tickets and information, visit www.mc3.edu or call 215-641-6518.





The Montgomery County Community College Foundation, Inc. was established in December 1983 with the sole purpose of supporting the excellence of Montgomery County Community College by serving as its charitable agent and securing private funds. For over 25 years, the Foundation has experienced strong growth from humble beginnings. We appreciate the generosity of hundreds of alumni, parents, community friends, private foundations and corporations, and thank you for supporting the students we serve.

MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDATION CHAIR

On behalf of the Montgomery County Community College Foundation, please accept our sincere thanks for your generous support. Your gifts go directly to helping the College achieve its mission of "Open Access of Education" for all Montgomery County residents. This past year, more than 30,000 individuals enrolled in courses, programs and services offered by the College, which is a staggering statistic.

As our enrollment increases, so too does the need for your support. Montgomery County Community College provides our community with financially-accessible college credits and workforce preparation courses that are invaluable in today's economy. Your donations help individuals obtain the education and training that will equip them to embark on productive careers and to better provide for their families. Quite simply, a gift to the College transforms lives.

My colleagues and I on the Foundation Board take seriously our responsibility to raise awareness about the College and its mission. We encourage you to learn more about our campuses, and suggest you make plans to attend some of our amazing cultural programs, or sign up for a course through our Continuing Education Program. No matter what avenue you pursue, we are confident that you will discover a rich, vibrant and exciting community, both at the Central Campus in Blue Bell and at the West Campus in Pottstown.

We truly appreciate your continued commitment of resources, financial and otherwise, to the College and its students, and look forward to working with you in the year ahead.

Sincerely,

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Geoffrey D. Brandon, Chair

Montgomery County Community College Foundation



on the cover: Patricia O'Malley '10, Student Government Association President, Central Campus and Presidential Scholarship Recipient. Photo by John Welsh

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All alumni donors in the 2008-2009 year are members of the Mustang Society, denoted by an asterisk.



Dr. Karen A. Stout, President, and Regina Lowrie, Trustee and Courage to Create Campaign Chair, cut the ribbon on the new Fine Arts Center. Also pictured (from left) are Commissioner Bruce Castor, Fine Arts Student Matt Shaw, Commissioner Chair James Matthews, Board of Trustees Chair Mike Bitner, Foundation Chair Geoff Brandon, and Commissioner Joseph Hoeffel.

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(above) Carol Crisci and Loretta Supplee enjoying a fun afternoon of golf and networking at the 2009 Leading Women Golf Tournament, held at Blue Bell Country Club.

(right) Norman Wilde, Jr., Norman Wilde III, Robert Savarese and Brian Lee as the Janney Montgomery Scott LLC Foursome at the 9th Annual Scholarship Scramble, Cebrarbrook Country Club.



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Student leaders and Fine Arts majors Katherine Saenz, Sharai Flichel, Renee Bergandino, Maley Jewell, Wibert J. Moore, Jennifer Martin, Sara Minkler and Brittany Delaware provided demonstrations and information at "Evening with the Arts."

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Celestine O'Connor⁴

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Lauren and Garret Strathearn

Kim Stroh

Marla Sturm

Katherine and

FALL 2009 big Dreams SPECIAL SECTION

2008-09 IN MEMORIAM GIFTS

In Memory of Donald J. Beale Kathleen and Arthur Miller

In Memory of Wanda Campbell

Geraldine Auman Albert Baccari Michael Billetta Susan Campbell Mary Ann Coupe Maurice Davis Phyllis and Joseph Dickert Robert Erb Friends of Wanda Campbell Jill and Peter B. Frechie Joyce and Thomas W. Galloway Cynthia and Robert Grodanz Debra Hunt Peggy Lee-Clark Joseph and Kelly W. Mancini Shelby Meng Jane Molt Mary Lou Neighbour Ann and Leonard B. Niggemann Carol Schilling and Lee Bender Celeste and Lee E. Schwartz Grace A. Spena

Margaret and Christopher C. Swisher In Memory of David L. Chomitz

Mary Chomitz Rita and Morris Chomitz William Zimmer

Grace M. Spena^

Susie Stephens

Karen A. Stout

In Memory of Elizabeth Hecker Roseanne and Charles E. Hofmann

In Memory of Jesse Hodges

Mary and Theodore S. Behrens Joyce Benedict Catherine A. and Daniel Callahan Friends of Jesse Hodges at Hereford Elementary School Roseanne and Charles E. Hofmann Charles Hungerford William Hutt Suzanne and Richard K. Kulp

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We apologize for any inaccuracies or omissions that may have occurred in publishing this Annual Report. If you discover any inaccuracies, please bring them to our attention by calling 215-641-6535 or emailing Gwen Groff at ggroff@mc3.edu

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Financial Activity Highlights July 2008-June 2009

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	EXPENDITURES		NET ASSETS	
\$ 638,277	Scholarship and other student support	\$ 216,747	Beginning of year	\$5,993,618
(1,187,315)	Program expense	561,868	End of year	4,323,388
	Development expense	45,314		
76,733	Fundraising expenditures from		Increase (decrease) in net assets	(\$1,670,230)
(\$ 472,305)	special events	110,771		
	Art Barn debt service	139,250		
	Management and general expense	123,975		
		\$1,197,925		
	(1,187,315) 76,733	\$ 638,277 Scholarship and other student support (1,187,315) Program expense Development expense Fundraising expenditures from special events Art Barn debt service	\$ 638,277 Scholarship and other student support \$ 216,747 (1,187,315) Program expense 561,868 Development expense 45,314 Fundraising expenditures from special events 110,771 Art Barn debt service Management and general expense 123,975	\$ 638,277 Scholarship and other student support \$ 216,747 (1,187,315) Program expense 561,868 Development expense 45,314 76,733 Fundraising expenditures from special events 110,771 Art Barn debt service Management and general expense 123,975 Scholarship and other student support \$ 216,747 Beginning of year End of year End of year Increase (decrease) in net assets

FALL 2009 big**Dreams** SPECIAL SECTION



The College has helped thousands of men and women — many of whom never dreamed they could go to college — find success through higher education.

Your support of the Annual Fund will enable us to meet the College's growing needs by providing scholarship assistance, conducting critical building renovations and supporting "Student Success."

To learn more, please visit www.mc3.edu/giving or call the Foundation Office at 215-641-6535.



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Nursing students participate in a "pinning" ceremony circa 1971 in Conshohocken.