



Marymount Manhattan

a college of the liberal arts

The Academic Affairs Update

April 2005 Volume 2 Issue 4

Twenty-Eighth Annual Honors Colloquium: A Day of Excellence

On Thursday, March 31, The College hosted the 28th Annual Honors Colloquium. With events beginning at 10:00 am and continuing through 7:00 pm, the full day provided an excellent opportunity for inter-departmental interaction. The day included presentations of thirteen student projects, sponsored by nine different faculty members that covered subjects in all five divisions.

The Dean's Award of Excellence went to **Elisha Blond** for her piece "Mom as Medium: A Daughter Discovers Her Mother Through Postmodern Performance" sponsored by **Professor M.J. Thompson**. Honorable mention went to **Matthew Pascarella** for his paper "The Privatization of Brazil's State-Owned Enterprises and its Effect on Labor" sponsored by **Dr. Radhika Balakrishnan** and to **Matthew Lengel** for his paper "A Cartoon Homage to Jay Ward and 'Rocky and His Friends,' entitled 'The Magic Mirror'" sponsored by **Dr. Scott Stoddart**.

In addition to excellent student work, faculty members presented work of their own in which they had collaborated with students. **Professor Elizabeth Higgins** and **Dr. Alister Sanderson** presented their short dance film "Chase Games" to a receptive and packed crowd in the Regina Peruggi Room. The film featured **Shannon Bramham, Erin Carpenter, Itsuko Higashi, Christing Iisije, Carrie Linehan, and Anthony Morigerato** performing Professor Higgins's choreography in locations around Central Park. **Dr. Jason Rosenfeld, Dr. Mary Fleischer, Julie Saunders** and **Ashley Stewart** discussed the impact of studying art and theatre in London as part of a three-credit course offered in January 2005. This experience led students to organize a student group that coordinates trips to art galleries and museums in New York City. **Dr. Radhika Balakrishnan, Sydney Alexis Krauss, Jessica Lewis, Matthew Pascarella** and **Christopher Perry** discussed their experience in traveling to Brazil for the World Social Forum. **Dr. Mary Fleischer** and **Michael Candela** spoke about their collaborative experience as director and student designer for the recent production of "Crimes and Crimes" in the Theresa Lang Theatre.

Faculty Recognized for Excellence

The 2005-2006 Teaching Excellence Award will be presented to **Dr. Martha Sledge**, Assistant Professor of English. The award is presented annually at Baccalaureate. This year's recipient is **Dr. Mary Fleischer**.

At the Honors Day opening ceremonies Teaching Recognition Awards were presented to adjuncts who had been nominated by their Divisional Chairs for outstanding work in the classroom. They were:

Joe Bratcher, Critical Thinking
Patricia Catterson, Fine and Performing Arts
Nancy Frieden, Social Sciences
Scott Sibbald, Accounting/Business Management
Deanna Twain, Natural Science/Math
Estha Weiner, Humanities
Congratulations to all!

New Faculty Hired in Humanities, Business and Math – Searches Continue in Other Divisions

As of this printing nine new faculty members have been appointed to tenure-track positions to begin in Fall 2005:

Professor Corinne Crawford, Accounting
Dr. Cecelia Feilla, English
Dr. David Gandolfo, Philosophy
Professor Anastacia Kurylo, Communication Arts
Professor Philip Ording, Mathematics
Dr. Matthew Paldy, Management
Dr. Vladimir Pashkevich, Marketing
Dr. Sejal Shah, English
Professor Morgan Schwartz, Communication Arts

Searches continue in Costume Design, Physics, Photography, and Teacher Education. A special thanks to the many faculty members who served on faculty search committees!

Reception to Honor the Achievements of the FT Faculty

Academic Affairs has once again collected, edited and bound a record of the **Faculty Achievements in Scholarship and Service**. The book will be distributed at the annual Faculty Achievement Reception scheduled for **May 16 at 4:00 pm** in the Regina Peruggi Room. It is hoped that the reception will offer Faculty a chance to congratulate each other on recent accomplishments and to discuss their plans for the summer in relaxed and celebratory atmosphere. We look forward to seeing you there!

A special thank you is extended to **Colleen Cariello** for her work on the publication!

Invitation to Teach a First Year Mentoring Class

For those of you who may not be familiar with the First Year Mentoring course (FYM 101), it is a one-credit graded course designed to assist all incoming students in making the successful transition into the intellectual community of MMC. Students discover the value of a liberal arts education and learn about the curriculum. **Judith Slisz**, Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs, is currently teaching a section of FYM comprised of a mix of traditional age students, first time at MMC, transfer students, and adult students. “One of theirs and my favorite projects,” Slisz says, “is for the students to interview a professor with a liberal arts background. Afterwards, they write up the experience and share it with the rest of the class in an oral presentation. Doing so accomplishes more than one goal: students develop their appreciation for the value of a liberal arts education by hearing of different perspectives from various faculty *and* the students share with their peers a positive experience with a particular faculty member that often encourages the other students to take a course with that instructor.”

In another class session of FYM, students have a guided tour of the Shanahan Library with **Henry Blanke**, Reference Librarian, or **Mary Brown**, Archivist. The students complete an assignment to provide evidence that they can conduct basic research using online databases in our Library as well as MamaCat, the electronic catalog system. Students also benefit from a presentation by **Dr. Diana Nash** or **Susan Ach** of the Career Development Office on internships and resume writing, as well as a presentation on program requirements, course selection, and online registration by **Heather Wotton** or **Lisa Moalem** of the Academic Advisement Office. In

the fall of 2005, a presentation by a Financial Aid counselor will be added as well as a large-group meeting at mid-term to give the first year class as a whole a sense of identity.

The syllabus for FYM 101 was designed by the Committee on FYM and undergoes periodic revision based on the results of midterm and end-of-term assessment. Faculty teaching the course are expected to adhere to the syllabus so all students taking the course have a similar experience. Fall sections are being staffed this spring and training sessions for faculty will take place this spring also. Any faculty interested in teaching FYM should contact program Director, **Michael Salmon** (msalmon@mmm.edu).

Update on Technology

The Technology Steering Committee (TSC) is working to transform six classrooms on Nugent 4th Floor into Technology-Enhanced Classrooms (TECs) as a result of a grant from the Booth Ferris Foundation. Each classroom will be outfitted with a podium housing an Intel-based computer, with a provision for a Macintosh, mounted projector, retractable screen, and wireless environment for student laptops. One of the classrooms will also be equipped for video conferencing. There will be one or two document cameras as well. Teams comprised of faculty and staff are visiting installations of this equipment this spring prior to the purchase of the equipment for implementation in Fall of 2005.

The classrooms on Nugent 4th Floor will become “a wireless environment.” What that means is that students can bring battery-operated laptops to class. While laptops are not required of students, Vice President for Student Affairs **Jim Hundrieser** reports that this past fall, seventy percent of the incoming students came to campus with a laptop. Increasingly, students preparing to come to MMC are asking what sort of laptop to purchase. In response to these requests, the TSC generated a flyer for students with specifications on an Intel-based computer or a Mac computer. Gradually, more and more students will have laptops and faculty can begin to incorporate student access to computing in their classroom instruction.

What we anticipate for fall 2005 is that faculty teaching FYS, quantitative reasoning, and accounting and finance classes will especially appreciate using the TECs and having students complete work on their laptops as part of the learning activity. Faculty teaching those courses or any other courses who would like to have their classes scheduled on Nugent 4 are encouraged to contact **Luz Torres** in CSS (ltorres@mmm.edu) to make those arrangements.

Training sessions for faculty will take place at the outset of the fall term so all users of the equipment will be fully trained.

Members of the Technology Steering Committee include **Paul Ciraulo**, Chair; **Jim Hundrieser**, **Peter Baker**, **Pat Hansen**, **John Walter**, **Jason Rosenfeld**, **Erin Sauer**, **Donna Hurwitz**, **Carla Bromberg**, **Judith Slisz**, and **Melissa Wiener**.

Communication with Students and Faculty

The Student Affairs Office is now presenting news items and information to students via two electronic newsletters. **Rose Ampuero**, Director of Student Activities, receives news on activities from faculty and students and issues a weekly publication called “What’s Happening at MMC?” and **Ron Jackson**, Dean of Students, compiles a list of due dates for students in an “In The News” publication that also goes out weekly to students. We encourage faculty to send items of interest to students to Rose (rampuero@mmm.edu) or Ron (rjackson@mmm.edu) rather than

emails to the entire student body as we are finding that many more students read these weekly publications than read email from individual sources at the institution.

We are also trying to streamline information to our PT faculty by bundling it into periodic memos as opposed to frequent broadcast messages. We want to be sensitive to the fact that our PT faculty may be connected to other institutions of higher education and have to check email at various institutions in the course of a week. The Office of Academic Affairs is happy to receive information designated for PT faculty and send it out from our office periodically. Please send such announcements to **Judith Slisz** (jslisz@mmm.edu).

Posting Information about Texts and Materials for Summer Terms

In an effort to better serve our students who may want to purchase their textbooks in advance of the start of the summer terms, we have created a webpage that lists course textbooks and other required materials alongside the basic course listing (“Latest Course Info” on the MMC Homepage). We would like to encourage faculty to send us textbook and materials information for the summer terms as students have indicated that they very much appreciate this information ahead of time so they can explore various sources.

In order to have your textbook information posted to this webpage, please send the following information to **Pat Hansen** (phansen@mmm.edu).

Course Number and Section (i.e. ART 250. 01)

Course Title

Instructor

Name of Textbook(s) and edition (or ISBN Number) and other Required Materials (up to 4 titles per course may be submitted)

Please submit your textbook information every term even if you are using the same text and materials. You will want to save this information so you can edit/resend without recreating.

Increase in Faculty Compensation

We are very pleased to announce that the compensation for part-time and overload teaching has been increased from \$700 per credit to \$775 per credit. What this means is that starting with Summer II, which coincides with the start of the new fiscal year at MMC, the stipend for a three-credit course is \$2,325. We appreciate the dedication of our PT faculty and our FT faculty who are willing to teach an overload course load to meet the demands of our extensive course schedule.

Outcomes Assessment

Members of the Outcomes Assessment Committee (OAC), comprised of **Dr. Carol Camper, Dr. Linda Solomon, Dr. Leslie Levin, Dr. Panama Geer, Dr. Rosemary Nossiff, Professor Andy Warshaw, Dr. Read Schuchardt, Dr. Peter Baker** and **Assistant Dean Judith Slisz**, will present assessment activities at the program level, conducted this year or to be conducted between now and the end of the academic year, at the faculty workshop scheduled for May 25. The OAC has completed design of an Outcomes Assessment Record (OAR) which provides a uniform way for all assessment activities at the program level to be reported on at the end of the academic year.

For Summer 2005 courses, the OAC will ask faculty to include learning goals at the course level on the syllabus for each course. To that end, the OAC has designed a guideline entitled “Suggested Elements for Student Syllabus.”

Grants and Gifts

Social Sciences Chair to work with Mellon Foundation

Kent Worcester has been awarded a grant to serve as a consultant for the Mellon Foundation to assemble data on financial aid available to graduate students in the humanities

Theresa Lang Theatre 30th Anniversary Benefit Celebration

\$78,315 was raised by Theatre Arts alumni, faculty and friends to upgrade the theatre's sound and lighting equipment and insure that theatre and dance classes and productions are supported with a professionally equipped facility. **Professor J. William Bordeau, Dr. Mary Fleischer, Professor Kevin Connell, Professor Ellen Orenstein, Professor Robert Dutiell, Ross Chappell (Theatre) and Kerry Donohue (Admissions).**

Anonymous Donor

\$25,000 funding in support of the Bedford Hills College Program.

Events

MMC Dance Department Spring Repertoire & Gala

This season the MMC Dance Department will present distinguished works by leading choreographers in the dance arena. This season's Spring Repertoire features Twyla Tharp's *Torelli*, excerpts from Jacquelyn Buglisi's *Requiem*, Robert Battle's *The Hunt*, and an innovative new work by William Soleau. A special gala benefit will be held on **Friday, May 6 at 7:30 pm**. Tickets are \$60 in advance; \$65 at the door. Proceeds from the gala go to benefit the MMC Dance Company, a not-for-profit student performance company. Call (212) 517-0610 for reservations and information. **Performances:** Thur., Apr. 28 & Fri., Apr. 29 at 8:00 pm; Sat., Apr. 30 at 2:00 pm & 8:00 pm; Thur., May 5 at 8pm; Sat., May 7 at 2pm & 8pm. **Tickets:** General admission: \$12; senior citizens and students with ID from other schools: \$8. Admission is free for MMC students, faculty, and staff with **valid MMC ID card**. ***Gala Benefit tickets:** \$60 in advance; \$65 at the door (Friday, May 6 at 7:30 pm) **Reservations & information:** (212) 517-0610; (Reservations begin Mar. 31.)

Ongoing Exhibits in The Hewitt Gallery of Art:

For information on The Hewitt Gallery of Art call 212-517-0690

Naughty

4/04/05 - 5/26/05

The works in this exhibit might cause discomfiture or annoyance. Perhaps they might be thought of as indecent or improper. Some might deem them wicked or immoral. Relax and lighten up! These artists are just having fun and being Naughty. Opening Reception Thursday, April 7, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm.

Commencement Day

On the morning of May 20th at 9:30 a.m., the faculty, administration and graduating class of Marymount Manhattan will line up in front of the College on 71st Street and process to Saint James Episcopal Church at Madison Avenue for Baccalaureate exercises. We hope you will join us for this festive start to the day. Please note that Baccalaureate is being held at a different venue than in years past.

Commencement exercises will take place at 3:00 pm in Avery Fisher Hall. In addition to conferring degrees on the Marymount Manhattan College class of 2005, the College will confer honorary degrees upon Commencement speakers **James E. Buckman, Ron Chernow, and Hillary Rodham Clinton**. Faculty should report at The Charles Dana Lounge

Attire will be available for all full-time faculty members who have responded by the deadline date of March 18th to **Tatum Thomas** tthomas@mmm.edu that they will be attending the proceedings. Attire pick-up is scheduled to happen in the 8th floor multi-purpose space on May 2 & 3. Due to limited seating at Avery Fisher Hall, faculty wishing to attend must be in academic attire and process to the stage for seating. There is no additional in house seating available.

Baccalaureate Procession lines up at **9:30 am** on 71st Street **in front of the College**.
Baccalaureate begins at **10:00 am** at **St. James Episcopal Church** (71st & Madison)

Faculty should arrive at **Avery Fisher Hall** by **2:00 pm** to robe and line up. Use the Stage Door on the south side of West 66th Street, and proceed to the Charles Dana Lounge.
Faculty Line Up will begin at 2:40 pm.

Commencement begins at 3:00 pm.

The Academic Affairs Update will be published five times during the academic year: September, November, February, April and July. We invite you to suggest topics for future newsletters.