



MCC is currently conducting the self study necessary for continuing accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association. The college is scheduled to submit their self-study report in Fall 2004 and our site visit will occur in Spring of 2005. Over 80 self-study committee members have worked together to make recommendations for evidence to be collected in support of the HLC criteria. These examples of evidence will include, among others, college reports, statistics, assessment results, surveys, and discussion groups. In response to the committees' recommendations, several self-study surveys and discussion groups are being prepared to provide opportunities for members of the college community to provide feedback and to participate in this important process. If you are contacted to participate in a survey or discussion group, please make every effort to respond and get involved.

## Employee ID badges

MCC now has employee ID badges available for all board approved faculty, staff, and active retirees. ID badges are available through the Personnel Office at Southern and Dobson or Red Mountain Monday through Friday, 9:00–11:00 AM or 2:00–4:00 PM. Please bring a photo ID and your most recent payroll statement.

Before you make the trip to Personnel, you might want to log into the MCC portal to set up a nickname so that your preferred name appears on your ID. The change can be made by logging into the MYMCC portal, and under the MYTOOLS tab, go to the NICKNAME tool. If you need

help please feel free to call the Helpdesk at 461-7217.

In addition to increasing campus security, the ID card offers the following benefits to employees:

- Ability to check out library books without having to use a community borrower's card
- Operation of proximity enabled doors and parking devices
- Use of the library print solution

For more information about the ID cards, please visit [www.mc.maricopa.edu/other/techconnect](http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/other/techconnect).

### President's lunch: Food for thought

Dr. Larry Christiansen provided the impetus for setting minds in motion at the President's Fall Semester Lunch and Conversation. To an attentive audience of more than 50 faculty and staff, the president introduced the idea of a "fourth revenue stream" for Mesa Community College. For complete details of the lunchtime presentation and discussion, visit this website: [www.mc.maricopa.edu/administration/president/brownbag](http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/administration/president/brownbag)

The *Bulletin* is published by the Office of Institutional Advancement every other Thursday from October to April for employees of Mesa Community College. Please visit [www.mc.maricopa.edu/other/employees/ia](http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/other/employees/ia) for submission deadlines and publication dates.

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# NOV 06 '03 the Bulletin



## Advisement with a click



Sandy Stultz

Even though Sandy Stultz retired from MCC more than a year ago, she continues to work as an academic advisor for the Online Advisement Services project. Sandy helped to develop the project and now provides advisement services

to students via the Internet from her home in Pinetop, Arizona.

The goal of Online Advisement Services is to enable students to complete everything from admissions to graduation without coming to campus. Students can apply, register, complete financial aid forms, and view an online orientation, all before they get to MCC in the fall. With Adobe Acrobat Reader (a free download), students can view checksheets for their respective programs of study. A course evaluation, graduation check, and unofficial evaluation of transfer credits are also available.

As an online advisor, Sandy answers questions by e-mail and also opens a chat room on Mondays and Thursdays from 6 to 8 PM. "I answer e-mails within 24 hours, seven days a week," Sandy said. It's apparent, from the volume of e-mails Sandy handles, that the popularity of the online services is growing. When the project began less than two years

ago, Sandy answered 198 e-mail questions in a one-month period; in a recent month she responded to 1,150. Sandy estimates that she answers 10,000 e-mails a year. "I'm online for a couple of hours at least four times a day," she said.

MCC's online advisement capability appeals to students from all over the globe. "The number of out-of-state students has really surprised me," Sandy said. She recounted the story of a student who went to MCC in 1976, then moved to North Carolina. The student wandered onto MCC's website and sent Sandy a note, asking if she might possibly have earned a degree while attending MCC. Sandy checked it out, and the student was awarded an AGS last December.

Another story revolves around a man serving in the U.S. Air Force in Iraq. He sent an e-mail message to Sandy, who helped him register for

*continued on inside, see Advisement*

## Cultural Science department invites you to lunch!

Substance abuse, changing weather patterns, and nutrition are just a few of the topics you'll find on the agenda for the Cultural Science department's brown bag lunch series. The series, created several years ago, is growing thanks the efforts of Jack Peterson, MCC faculty member and newly appointed coordinator for the series. "We wanted to expand the program and increase attendance," stated Jack.

A brown bag luncheon is held once a month with the goals of featuring topics of interest while providing service to the community and promoting the sharing of knowledge and information. Because of the unique combination of disciplines in the Cultural Science department, they are able to offer a variety of topics. "Cultural Science houses Anthropology, Geography, Education, Social Work, and Sociology and each of these disciplines have branches within them," stated Jack. Their efforts are paying off, with nearly 50 people attending last month's luncheon on substance abuse.

The Cultural Science department invites you to attend one of the lunches and is open to suggestions on topics of interest. Planning for the spring series is already underway. Look for a presentation on Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software and technologies!

### Upcoming topics

**Arizona's Weather: Fact and Fiction**  
**November 12, 2003, 12:00 PM**  
**Room SC24**

Join veteran meteorologist Ed Phillips as he discusses Arizona's Weather. Ed has excelled in the weather profession as a television and radio meteorologist. He has

been at KTAR in Phoenix for more than 20 years, and his forecasts are heard throughout Arizona on 11 radio stations. He holds a degree in Aeronautical Meteorology from Parks College of Aeronautical Technology of St. Louis University.

**Making Good Nutrition Decisions**  
**December 10, 2003, 12:00 PM**  
**Room SC24**

Need help deciphering misinformation from the food industry and reading food labels? Interested in guidelines for healthy eating? Presenter Lori Zienkewicz's experience includes clinical dietitian in a hospital setting, counseling outpatients and developing a diabetes education series, and working with food scientists in confectionery and pectin laboratories. This MCC Food and Nutrition faculty member holds a B.S. in Dietetics and an M.S. in Food Sciences from Kansas State University and is a Registered Dietitian.



Ed Phillips

continued from front, Advisement



"When providing online services of any kind, you must feel confident that the person providing these services is competent and knowledgeable. Sandy is a person that I feel that way about – without reservation."

– Judy Taussig, Director of Advisement, Assessment, and Specialized Student Services

classes and get textbooks overseas. He is now taking 12 credits at MCC online.

MCC's Advisement program has been recognized nationally, and the Online Advisement Services project has received kudos from grateful users and colleagues who strive to emulate the project team's achievements. The team earned recognition at MCC's 2003 Innovation of the Year awards ceremony.

"I am not totally responsible for the project's success," Sandy insists. Many people contributed to developing this valuable service for students:

- MCC's administration;
- Judy Taussig, Director of Advisement, Assessment, and Specialized Student Services;
- Melanie Kroening, Center for Teaching and Learning, who helped to create the checksheets and chat room;
- Trisha Brazda, Information Technology, who assisted in developing the website;
- Paul Hietter, distance learning coordinator at MCC; and
- MCC faculty who offer online classes.

Approximately once a month, Sandy drives from the high country to visit MCC. "It's important to stay up to date and give accurate information," she said. "By coming once a month, working a week or so, I can do that, and that's important to me."

Check it out: [www.mc.maricopa.edu](http://www.mc.maricopa.edu); scroll down to Online Student Services; pick a topic and click!



## Great gifts for the season

Handmade beaded jewelry, Swarovski crystals, ceramics, floral arrangements, items from Pampered Chef, home accessories, toys, stuffed animals, AVON, and wood work. If any of the above pique your interest, be sure to visit the Professional Staff Association's (PSA) Annual Holiday Boutique. The boutique boasts a variety of items, making it a great event for getting a jump on holiday shopping.

**November 14**  
**9:00 AM-4:00 PM**  
**Kirk Student Center, Navajo Room**

**Great Bike Deal**

**GT Palomer Mountain Bike with Front Suspension and accessories.**

The total package is \$259.95 plus tax when you present a Bike Incentive Certificate. A savings of over \$65.00!

Tempe Bicycle is offering a special bike package for all Maricopa Community Colleges Students and Employees who bike to school or work.

Contact your Campus Trip Reduction Coordinator Steve Corich (480) 461-7066 or (480) 731-8885 for certificate and details.

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