

# THE Bulletin

April 3, 2002

## Biotechnology—Brave New World at MCC



*Dr. Denise Clark (pictured on left) gives instruction during a Biotech Lab session as classmates Katherine Robinson and Biotechnology Club president Jim Pruitt listen attentively.*

Three years ago, **Dr. Denise Clark** left her teaching position at Metropolitan State College in Denver to develop a two-year technical program in Biotechnology at Mesa Community College. Currently MCC is the only two-year college in Arizona that offers a degree program in Biotechnology, but this may change in the very near future. Phoenix is one of four cities being considered for the new headquarters of the International Genomics Consortium, a nonprofit group headed by prominent scientists involved in genetic research. If the Consortium chooses Phoenix, the 21st century scientists who come here to work will require an army of BIOTECHnically trained employees to help them reach their goals.

Even if the Consortium chooses a city other than Phoenix, Biotechnology is *not* going away in Arizona. Its impact will become increasingly more apparent. “Biotechnology is going to revolutionize the way we approach the treatment and diagnosis of disease,” Denise said. “It will completely change the face of medicine.”

To progress in this scientific arena, Biotech companies must have well-trained workers. “The trend in the industry is changing from four-year degreed technicians to two-year technically trained

technicians,” Denise said. “The industry needs technicians who will *stay* technicians.” Denise estimates that 50 percent of her students will want to transfer to ASU for more training. She would like to see a majority of her students remain technicians because the need is going to be so great.

MCC’s program is just beginning to attract attention, so the size of Denise’s current class is small. “My goal is to get 20 students in the fall,” she said. Denise has already been contacted by at least as many potential students who read about the program in local newspapers, discovered it in a schedule of classes or visited the MCC web site.

Denise’s student entourage is an enthusiastic group with a strong commitment to building the program. **Jim Pruitt**, for example, has accepted the challenge of starting a Biotechnology Club to attract new students. He and his classmates also have promoted MCC’s Biotech program by contacting news journalists and media reps to help spread the word.

*To learn more about MCC’s Biotechnology program and how this industry touches all of our lives, visit this web site: [www.mc.maricopa.edu/~tdclark/html/at\\_mcc.html](http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/~tdclark/html/at_mcc.html). Spend some time exploring this site and its links for an incredible glimpse of the future.*

## Assessment Week 2002 Another Resounding Success



MCC's 6th Annual Assessment Week took place from February 25 through March 1. One hundred ten faculty members from 19 departments volunteered to administer an assessment in one or more of their classes during that week. A total of 3,226 students enrolled in 175 sections participated.

One of the participating faculty members was **J.D. Neglia**, who teaches Technology and Programming. He enticed students in his ELE181 class to participate by giving them extra credit equivalent to a quiz. "I think it went really well and it wasn't at all obtrusive," J.D. said. "It was easy to do—just one 50-minute class period—and I think we're going to get some good feedback from it."

Assessments were given in the following areas: numeracy, problem solving/critical thinking, scientific inquiry, information literacy, cultural diversity and workplace skills. The performance of students beginning their studies at the college is compared to that of students completing their studies. The assessment data will be processed and analyzed by staff in the MCC Office of Research and Planning, and an annual report will be prepared. As in previous years, results from the assessments will be widely disseminated in the fall and will be used for planning by individual faculty members, by departments and by the college as a whole.

Special thanks are due to many people who worked diligently to make Assessment Week 2002 a success. These include the members of the Faculty Senate Student Outcomes Committee, chaired by **Jeff Andelora**; members of the student outcomes clusters; **Beth Hunt Larson**, **Pat Colbert**, and **Isabel Bayardo** from the Office of Research and Planning; and **Anna Stepanova**, an MCC art student who designed the poster. The continuing commitment of **Dr. Gail Mee**, Dean of Instruction, the MCC Faculty Senate and the faculty at large all are critical to the success of the program.

**Andrea Greene**, from Research and Planning, noted that the collaboration between her department and the faculty members works well. "After six years, we are at a point where student assessment is a normal part of what we do here," Andrea said. "Faculty and students understand what we are doing and why we are doing it. We've gotten good at this."

Results from the assessment program provide clear evidence of student learning at the college. Spring 2001 results showed that students completing their general education studies significantly outperformed students beginning their studies. MCC's student outcomes assessment program is a cornerstone of MCC's academic program and has been recognized as a model for colleges across the country.

### CONGRATS TO MCC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM—7TH IN NATION!

After claiming the title of Region I Champions, the **Mesa Community College Women's Basketball Team** competed in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division II National Playoffs in Hagerstown, Maryland, beginning March 20. The team placed 7th in the Championship Tournament, boasting two All-Tourney award recipients: **Katie MacDonald** and **Erin Yiakos**. Congratulations to all of the team members, coaches **Pam Olerich** and **Kori Hoff** and manager **Sam Stevens**!



Erin Yiakos

Katie MacDonald

### RED MOUNTAIN CAMPUS PARTICIPATES IN BLOOD DRIVE

Donor Care Specialist **Kandi Cerqua** prepares first donor of the day, **Judie Walker**, for her blood donation. (Judie just happens to be "Mom" to **Krista Walker**, who is in charge of Student Activities at MCC's Red Mountain campus).



## MCC Recognizes Exemplary Employees for February



From left to right, top to bottom: Shereen Lerner, Tawn Hauptli, Nina Robinson, Mary "Corki" Stewart, Richard Malena, Nora Reyes (Marjaneh Gilpatrick not pictured).

### *Team of the Month, Education Faculty in Cultural Science*

All the team members are constantly going above and beyond to meet the needs of our students, college and community. They work together to accomplish a variety of goals, which include

- providing quality advisement for education majors;
- articulating courses and programs between school districts, colleges and universities;
- collaborating with colleagues (within and outside our discipline) to enhance our students' comprehensive learning experience;
- providing outreach services to our students and community through off-campus course offerings and service learning experiences; and
- creating a strong network of support for MCC's education faculty to ensure that the joint expertise of both full- and part-time faculty is tapped to create more enriched teaching and learning opportunities for ourselves and our students.

Team members include **Corki Stewart, Rich Malena, Tawn Hauptli, Nora Reyes, Nina Robinson, Marjaneh Gilpatrick** and **Shereen Lerner**.

Nominated by **Nora Reyes**.



Sandy Stultz

### *Employee of the Month, Sandy Stultz*

Sandy is an administrative assistant in the Advisement Center who recently retired (at the end of March).

Sandy spent more than 20 years as an athletic specialist at MCC, retired once before, couldn't stand it, and has been working in the Advisement Center for 3 years. She has just finished an extraordinary series of advisor training classes in the last 2 weeks. There have been 81 students from all over the District and employees who are either currently advisors or who aspire to become advisors. Why do they come here for this? Because no one else in the District is doing it as well as Sandy.

In order to do this, Sandy spends time on weekends and early morning hours to prepare the excellent materials. This week's sessions were in the evening, and Sandy worked more than 12 hours a day to do it. Her last PowerPoint slide reads: "Characteristics of a good program advisor: Resourceful, Caring/Patient, Knowledgeable." Sandy is all of those.

Nominated by **Judy Taussig**.



Marie receives award at 2001 All-Arizona.

*Catch of the Month, Marie Allen*—for her work as Chair of the 2002 All-Arizona Academic Award Recognition event.

Marie is a half-time employee who spent countless hours of her own time as she chaired this event. The personal attention that she provided to students, faculty, advisors and administrators from around the state resulted in a recognition event, attended by more than 350 people, that honored Arizona's best and brightest students.

Her ability to interact with the national, state and college Phi Theta Kappa advisors and staff to identify the 61 students to be honored was crucial to the success of the event. Her interaction with the Governor's Office, Board of Regents, State Community College Board and the state universities ensured that all were present and represented at the event. She arranged for the guest speaker and MCs and wrote the script. Every student will receive a picture of himself or herself standing with the student's college president after receiving the award plus a video of the entire event—thanks to Marie's efforts.

Nominated by **Barbara Thelander**.

Other nominees for February's awards were **Nancy Navarrete, Dwayne McIntosh, Programming Group (Wade Harris, Jon Baney and Ron Harry), Jennifer Broaddus, Jennifer LaForge** and **Rita Covert**.

# CALENDAR

## Wednesday, April 3

### MCC Reception for Gateway

**President, Dr. Eugene Giovannini**

2 p.m., Employee Lounge, S&D campus

## Wednesdays, April 3, 10 and 17

### Advanced PowerPoint

2 to 4 p.m., CTL Training Room

To register, call 461-7331

## Thursdays, April 4, 11 and 18

### Advanced PowerPoint

2 to 4 p.m., CTL Training Room

To register, call 461-7331

## Thursday, April 4

### Presentation by Jeffrie Murphy,

Lincoln Public Ethics Scholar, Regents' Professor of Law and Philosophy, Affiliated Professor of Religious Studies at ASU and author.

"Responding to Evil: Vengeance, Forgiveness and Reconciliation"

1 p.m., Library Reading Room, S&D campus

## Friday, April 5

### Deadline for Submitting

### Applications (faculty and student internship) to the Diversity Infusion Program

For faculty applications, visit <http://www.sc.maricopa.edu/sbscience/gray/facApplication.pdf>

For student applications, visit <http://www.sc.maricopa.edu/sbscience/gray/sipApplication.pdf>

## Friday, April 5

### Deadline for Submitting

### Applications to Become Faculty Intern for the Faculty in Progress Program (FIPP)

Contact: Marybeth Mason, 480-731-8295

## Monday, April 8 through Friday, April 18

### Student Art Show

Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Navajo Room, Kirk Center, S&D campus

Reception/Award Ceremony

Wednesday, April 10, 6 to 8 p.m.

## Tuesday, April 9

### Arizona Issues Forum: Domestic

### Violence—Where are the Men?

11:30 a.m., Pulliam Auditorium, Phoenix Public Library, 1221 N. Central

Arizona Issues is a community partnership between the Maricopa Community Colleges Center for Civic Participation and KPHO TV5 that seeks to convene the public for thoughtful discussion of important policy issues. This forum is cosponsored by the Men's Anti-Violence Network (MAN), the Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce and the City of Phoenix.

RSVP to the Center for Civic Participation, 480-517-8885.

## Tuesday, April 9

### Governing Board Strategic Conversation

Contact: Gloria Smith, 480-731-8889

## Tuesday, April 9

### Spring Bash/ASMCC Elections at Red Mountain

10 a.m. to 1 p.m., second floor, Mesquite Bldg., Student Life

## Wednesday, April 10

### Spring Bash/ASMCC Elections at Southern and Dobson

10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Center Courtyard

In celebration of National Week of the Young Child

## Friday, April 12

### Vehicle Day

9 to 10:30 a.m., Southeast Field (near Longmore entrance to S&D campus)

Children get a close-up look at all kinds of vehicles: hot air balloon, street sweeper, fire truck, garbage truck, SRP truck and more. Vehicle Day is presented by the Children's Center and the Evelyn H. Warren Child Development Lab at MCC in collaboration with the Valley of the Sun Association for the Education of Young Children. Everyone is invited.

## Monday, April 15 through Thursday, April 18

### Multicultural Week at S&D campus

## Monday, April 15

### President's Spring Lunch and Conversation

"Changes in the Faculty Hiring Process"

campus

Lunch will be served.

Discussion questions will include the following:

- What does the change in the hiring cycle mean for faculty and staff?
- How has this shifted District financial priorities?
- How will this improve participation in the hiring process?

RSVP to Donella Eberle: [deberle@mail.mc.maricopa.edu](mailto:deberle@mail.mc.maricopa.edu)

## Wednesday, April 17

### "Year of the Rose" Celebration and Proclamation

10 a.m. to noon, MCC Rose Garden, S&D campus

Governor Jane Hull and East Valley mayors are invited to the MCC Rose Garden to proclaim for their respective groups the year 2002 as the Year of the Rose. Guided tours of the garden will be provided. This is one of many activities that will take place during 2002 to celebrate and proclaim the Year of the Rose.

MCC's Rose Garden is the largest in the Southwest Desert. More than 4,600 rosebushes, including more than 450 varieties, extend a visually appealing welcome to campus visitors.

## Wednesday and Thursday, April 17 and 18

### MCC's Annual Library Book Sale

9 a.m. to noon and 2 to 6 p.m.

Main Lobby of the Library, S&D campus

## Tuesday, April 23 and Wednesday, April 24

### Multicultural Week at RM campus

## Wednesday, April 24

### Water Safety Day

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Activities near the Theatre Outback and Clock Tower.

Visit this web site: [www.mc.maricopa.edu/water-watchers](http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/water-watchers)

Contact: Carol Achs, 461-7742

*The Bulletin* is published on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, during the fall and spring semesters, for employees of Mesa Community College. Deadline for submissions is the Monday after publication (for the next issue). Send articles for submission to the Office of Institutional Advancement, e-mail [ia@mccmail.maricopa.edu](mailto:ia@mccmail.maricopa.edu), phone 480-461-7445.

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