

## *Political Perspectives*



Election 2004 brought many notable public figures to MCC

## Associate Deans Trade Spaces



Thunderbird sparks spirit at Homecoming 2004



Boutique features marshmallow shooters, unique items



### Faculty Excellence Award

#### **Dr. Richard Malena**

*Nominated by the Cultural Science Department*

Dr. Richard Malena serves in a dual capacity in the Cultural Science Department, as Education faculty and as the Director of the School of Education. Four years ago Dr. Malena developed the idea of a School of Education, recognizing the need to provide MCC students with a variety of options toward pursuing their degrees in Education. The School of Education has developed into a comprehensive program that serves high school students, college students, and professional teachers and teacher aides.

Rich is dedicated to providing meaningful learning experiences. This is exemplified through his continuous efforts to create and refine his course assignments to respond to students' feedback. He personally contacts and collaborates with local schools to facilitate his students' placements into their field experience sites. To ensure his students' successful completion of their coursework and programs of study, Rich also generously provides hours of advisement.

Rich has established a valuable network of resources within and outside the District which greatly facilitates communication between institutions, creating many opportunities for creative collaboration. His connections, built on decades in the education world, have proven to be a unique asset to our programs. Rich's commitment to quality performance is demonstrated through his continued participation in committees and advisory boards where he participates in – and often leads – ongoing dialogues intended to ensure quality performance at all levels. We applaud his ongoing active involvement in improving our world.



### M & O Excellence Award

#### **Tim Matyas and Dan Newkirk**

*Nominated by Walt Wahlgren*

Tim Matyas and Dan Newkirk from the M & O Crafts Electrical Department have been upgrading the exterior lights around the Southern and Dobson campus. Tim and Dan initiated the project a couple of years ago, when they noticed that the globe lights placed on buildings around campus did not provide sufficient lighting for the many people on our campus after dark. They launched a couple of test areas to determine the best lamps and light fixtures, then extended the project to other areas of campus. To date, lighting has been changed around the following buildings and areas: Social/Cultural Sciences, Math, English, Financial Aid, the Bookstore, and the Welding Shop.



The projects can be rather extensive, requiring new conduit and wiring before the light fixtures are installed. They have done an excellent job, and the relighting has made a major difference in the safety of students, employees, and visitors to campus.

# Focus on

### Service Excellence Award

#### **Valerie Vigil**

*Nominated by Diane Goldsmith*

Valerie Vigil exhibits exemplary leadership as the Director of Veterans Affairs and Assistant Director of Financial Aid. Valerie goes above and beyond to help students receive their veteran benefits and works with all Financial Aid students to help them obtain financial aid. There have been occasions where upset students have become disrespectful and, at times, even threatening. Valerie beautifully handles these situations, doing everything possible to calm the student and get to the bottom of the situation in hopes that the student will receive the benefits and resources they seek.

Valerie has been instrumental in organizing and pursuing an area in the MCC Rose Garden for veterans to enjoy and played a key role in organizing activities related to the dedication of the Veterans Rose Garden. She has collected items to send to U.S. soldiers stationed in Iraq and Iran. Valerie was also involved with the veterans who were interviewed before the nationally televised Presidential Debate at Arizona State University.

Valerie's service extends to other areas of Student Services as she works tirelessly to resolve problems and lighten others' workloads. She is an outstanding leader who deserves the highest recognition.



### MAT Excellence Award

#### **Margaret "Boots" Hunt**

*Nominated by Nancy Hellner*

Margaret "Boots" Hunt is an expert in Transfer Services. When the Friends of Women's Studies sponsored a "Think-In" to discuss a new certificate in Women's Studies, Boots attended because she wanted to know how she could help our students. With the goal of offering a Women's Studies AAS that would transfer to various institutions, Boots researched current WST transfer courses within MCCCCD and suggested that we offer certain courses because of the values ascribed to them. Boots then connected me with representatives from the District's Articulation Task Force who reviewed and unanimously supported my request to start a Women's Studies Articulation Task Force.

Wonderful things are happening in Women's Studies, and although I am receiving credit for them, Boots is the person who should be getting the credit. I am not surprised by her anonymity, however; like most excellent employees, she doesn't care who gets credit - she cares about what gets done. The Transfer Services webpage lists various questions and statements for students to consider. Two of them – "How can we better serve you?" and "Please let us know how we're doing" – reflect Boots' dedication and attitude superbly.



### PSA Excellence Award

#### Tina Anderson

*Nominated by Hans Silberschlag and the Fire Academy faculty and staff*

Tina Anderson exemplifies customer services skills that are second to none. As the secretary for the MCC Fire Academy, Tina works with an external customer base that is rather unique since we cater to current firefighters, future firefighters, fire departments, and even state agencies. I have received numerous compliments about Tina's willingness to personalize each interaction with those we serve.

Tina routinely drives from the William's Education Center to our partner site with the Phoenix Fire Department's Command Training Center (located on 27th Avenue and Northern) to drop off instructional material, pick up time cards, and find out if there is anything that we can help with to improve the quality of the training program. Tina has also been a key person in the Educational Agreement we have with the Phoenix Fire Department, graciously accepting additional duties to assist with the smooth enrollment of 1,259 firefighters, which is a task in itself!



Every time a firefighter academy begins, Tina orders, picks up, and distributes the recruits' uniforms in order to save the students from having to do this. There have been countless times when Tina has been seen washing soot stained firefighter gear between academy classes so the students don't have to put on dirty, smelly gear. Tina represents herself, the fire science program, and Mesa Community College in a way that even Disney would envy!

# Excellence

### Outstanding Adjunct Faculty

#### Annalisa Alvrus

*Nominated by the Cultural Science Department*

Annalisa Alvrus brings a passion and excitement to the Anthropology classes that she teaches. She has a willingness to try new things and takes the initiative to enhance her classes. She works well with her students by explaining technical information in a very understandable manner. Throughout her tenure with us, Annalisa has received very positive student evaluations. Not only is she in command of the subject matter, but she is also able to use her knowledge to excite students about the topics at hand.



In addition to her work in the classroom, Annalisa participated in an Educational Development Project grant with Rick Effland and Shereen Lerner. The grant created an activity and assignment manual for four anthropology courses. She was asked to participate because of her familiarity with the course content and her strong emphasis on interactive learning. She is a colleague who is always seeking to improve her classroom methodologies and content and always willing to help others. She has been an excellent mentor to new adjunct faculty and is an extremely valuable asset to our department.

## Democrat? Republican? Independent?



*(Photos courtesy of Mesa Legend)*

Whatever your political affiliation, opportunities to learn from the "experts" abounded in the months preceding Election 2004. Among our guests were Senator John McCain and Robert F. Kennedy Jr. as well as Matt Salmon and Jim Pedersen (not pictured).

### Bringing home the votes for dad

On the campaign trail for the Kerry/Edwards ticket, Cate Edwards talks about relevant issues and the importance of voting during her pre-election visit to MCC.



## Clubbing at MCC

MCC's Clubs Carnival at Southern and Dobson attracts prospective club members to its "Paradise in the Desert" event.

### Sweet queens rule at Fall Bash

Cotton candy and campaigns for Homecoming royalty were featured at Fall Bash. Other highlights included musical entertainment and booths by various MCC clubs.





## Silent sit-in supports victims

Psi Beta clubs at Southern and Dobson and Red Mountain simultaneously held sit-ins to represent victims of domestic violence. Donations were collected to help My Sister's Place and create a scholarship for a domestic violence victim.

### A bonding experience

Elementary students learn about hydrogen bonding while making homemade silly putty out of glue and starch.

engages students



## Wacky science

## Face-to-Face



MCC students connect face-to-face with future employers at the Fall Career Expo.



### MCC International Raceway

In a fun and competitive environment, students learned engineering concepts while designing rocket cars at Science Day.

## Gettin the lowdown



### FYI day at Southern and Dobson

Students add dimension to their college experience with information on clubs and activities.



What?  
A naked camel!

No it's Carol Czerniski and Phyllis Petty from Naked Food-Juice and Amanda Berg from KMLE Country Radio at MCC's Red Mountain FYI Day.



### Veterans Rose Garden salutes patriotism

Five circular rose beds were dedicated to honor veterans. Each circle represents a branch of the U.S. Armed Forces: Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard.



## Mamma Mia! A Tuscan lounge!

Fifteen students in Cheryl Blankenship's Interior Materials class converted a classroom at Red Mountain's Acacia Village into a student lounge with Italian flair.



## Wait Until Dark

The victims of three murderous con artists, Sam and his blind wife, Susy, struggle to survive. When Susy realizes that she is the victim of a bizarre charade she starts to play by her rules to survive – in the dark.



## The Secret Garden

Orphaned in India, an 11-year-old girl returns to Yorkshire to live with an embittered, reclusive uncle and his invalid son. The locked magic garden on the estate is the backdrop for this tale of regeneration.



## "ImagineAir"...destination dance

Travelers waiting for their flight pass the time by exhibiting their expertise in a variety of dance styles. The fall dance concert featured jazz, tap, ballet, modern, and hip-hop.

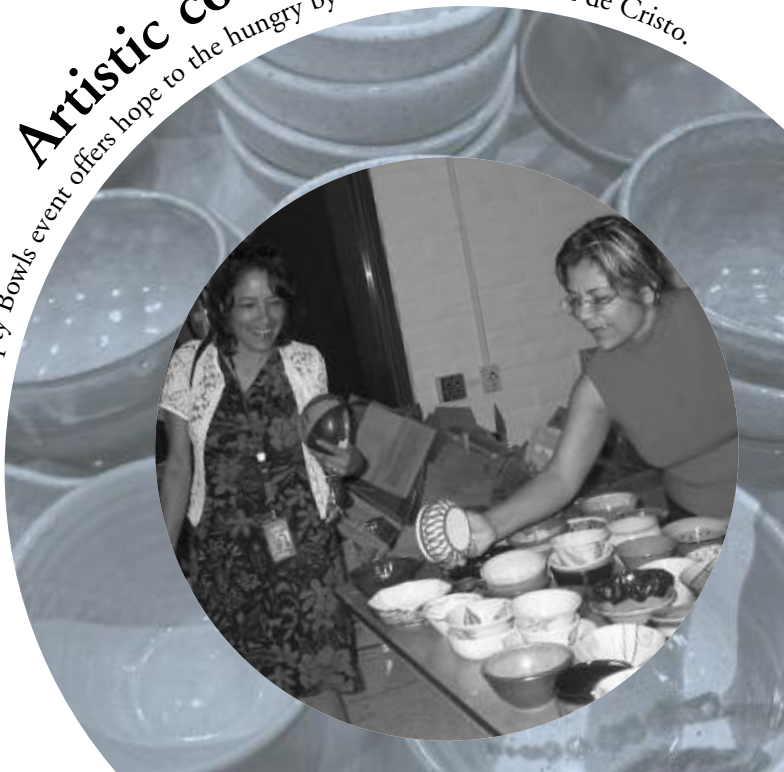
## The Lion in Winter

King Henry II of England has three sons by Eleanor of Aquitaine: Richard, Geoffrey, and John. He wants his kingdom to stay united after his death, but each of his sons wants to rule. Let the trouble begin.



## Artistic compassion

The annual Empty Bowls event offers hope to the hungry by raising funds for Paz de Cristo.





## Mixin it up

PSA added a new twist to the Employee Social this year with traditional ice cream treats getting a fresh spin as a smoothie surprise. Those participating in the lively Karaoke Contest competed for fabulous awards and prizes including their own smoothie making machine.

## All that glitters



Handmade crafts, jewelry, and art work adorned the Kirk Student Center lobby for the PSA Holiday Boutique.



## Convocation & conversation

Convocation speaker Ted Marqueses (pictured at left) listens intently as faculty and employees discussed academic issues facing MCC and suggestions for inventing the future.

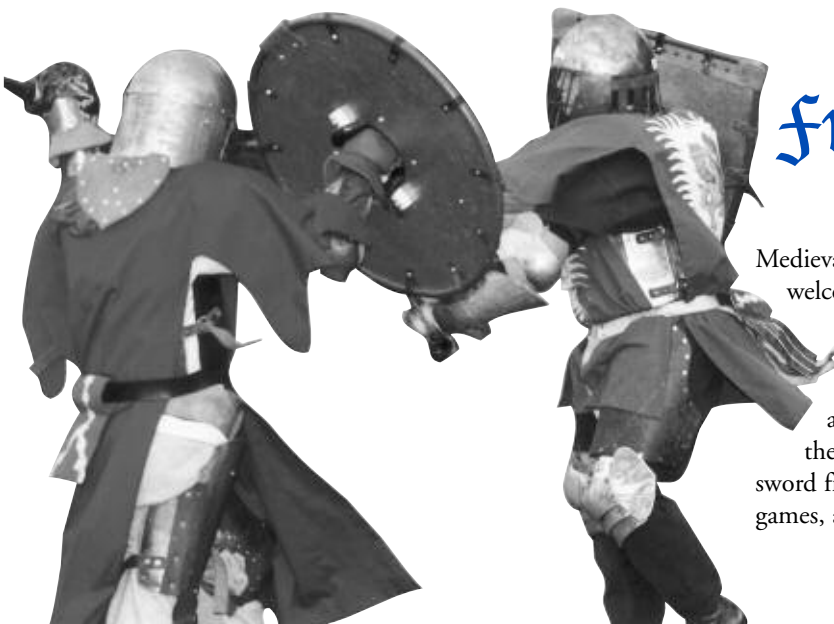


## Opening doors

Red Mountain faculty crowd around the door at the ribbon cutting and dedication of the new Red Mountain Center for Teaching and Learning.



Cashier Services took on an eerie appearance as Halloween drew near. These hardworking employees also let their morbid side show in an office that is known to really embrace the *spirit* of the holidays.



## friend or foe

Medieval themed festivities welcomed guests at MCC's Homecoming 2004. Guests enjoyed a BBQ feast, silent auction sponsored by the Alumni Association, sword fight demonstrations, games, and more.



# A FACULTY SHOW

## ART



Sandra Luehrsen  
*For Laura*  
Ceramic vessel



Beth Shook  
*Just a Story of a Kid*  
Clay and mixed media



Karolyn Snarr  
*Stages*  
Stoneware, glass, and organic matter

Art faculty showcase their work at the annual Art Faculty Show. Faculty members are encouraged to show their artistic and creative side or to “think outside the box.”

## Trading



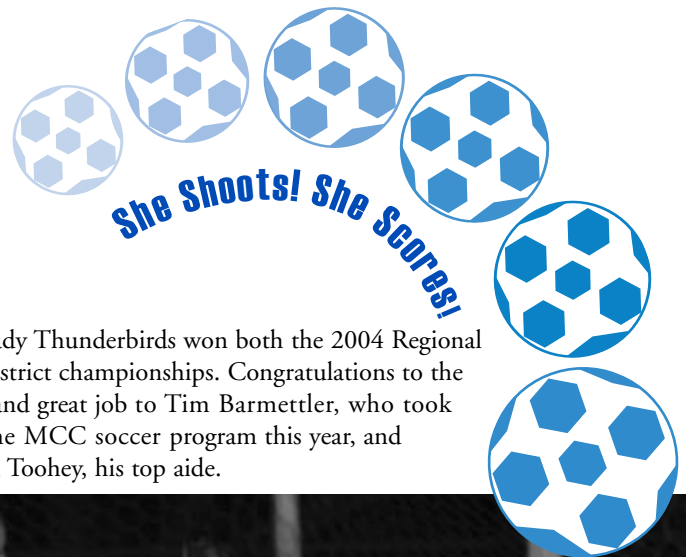
## Spaces

Red Mountain faculty and staff gathered to celebrate with Associate Deans Jesse DeAnda and Joni Grover as they switched campuses to take on new responsibilities and challenges. Employees thanked Jesse as one of the founding administrators and wished him well at Southern and Dobson and welcomed Joni Grover into the Red Mountain family.

• *MCC SnapShot* is published by the Office of Institutional Advancement every fall and spring semester for employees of Mesa Community College. Please contact any member of the Communications team to submit items for next semester's issue.

• Coordinator, Communications and Alumni Relations, Marcy Snitzer, [marcy.snitzer@mcmil.maricopa.edu](mailto:marcy.snitzer@mcmil.maricopa.edu), 461-7792; Assistant, Communications and Alumni Relations-Lead Photographer, Jennifer LaForge, [jenner@mail.mc.maricopa.edu](mailto:jenner@mail.mc.maricopa.edu), 461-7794; Contributing Writer, Karen Peters, [karen.peters@mcmil.maricopa.edu](mailto:karen.peters@mcmil.maricopa.edu)

• Mesa Community College, 1833 West Southern Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85202



The Lady Thunderbirds won both the 2004 Regional and District championships. Congratulations to the ladies and great job to Tim Barmettler, who took over the MCC soccer program this year, and Darren Toohey, his top aide.



(Photo courtesy of *Mesa Legend*)

# Years of Service

## Twenty

20 years

Richard E. Cluff  
Ann M. Cox  
Loretta Damon  
Patricia F. English  
Gary L. Filan  
Margaret Fridell  
Arunee Grow  
Karen Hardin  
Roger H. Harlow  
Elizabeth M. Hertzler  
Richard F. Malena  
Carole D. Saccoccia  
Kathryn I. Sheffield  
Larry A. Wiggs

15 years

John Bentley  
Sarah L. Capawana  
Rodney D. Christian  
M. Patricia Colbert  
Kurt W. Conover  
Harold W. Cranswick  
James K. Dusek  
Betty W. Earp  
Richard W. Effland  
Janet O. Felton  
Donald Gawronski  
Delaine D. Gilcrease  
Shelvie A. James  
William B. Kincaid  
Florence P. Landon  
Terri D. Martinez  
Charles T. Moore

15 years continued

Brenda L. Nielsen  
Frances Aileen  
Ormiston  
P. Spencer Peterson  
Penny A. Powell  
Denise Quintrall  
Nina T. Robinson  
Kelli R. Santistevan  
Gloria K. Scott  
John M. Sims  
Loan N. Tabar-Gaul  
Donald H. Yee

10 years

Antonio Cardenas  
Victor M. Cornell  
Deana C. Gahn  
Diane L. Gunkel  
Mangala Joshua  
Joan Massey  
Susan McAleavey  
Rhonda R. McCanless  
Barbara O. McGaughey  
Ana M.O. Murphy  
Gayla Preisser  
Bernie Ronan  
Robert D. Simms  
Louise M. Udall  
Mary Kay Whysong

5 years

Yolanda Bencomo  
Charles C. Bertke  
Connie Booth  
Diana E. Breed  
Daniel M. Camargo  
Tina Denise Clark  
Keith J. Crudup  
Pamela O. Cyr  
Christine DeRosa  
Constance M. DeRosa  
Brian Dille  
Sherman P. Forbes  
Bibi Hassani  
Matthew P. Healy  
Tia L. Hoyes  
Linda B. Hughes  
Craig B. Jacobsen  
Mehrzaad Khorsandi  
Edmund R. Lipinski  
Maria L. Mavis  
Paul McCollum  
Megan C. McGuire  
Johnny Murrietta  
Lea M. Neibarger  
Christine M. Osgood  
Roberto J. Palacios  
Ban Phung  
Daphne A. Rossiter  
Yvonne Schmidt  
Mona C. Scott  
Meredith H. Smith  
Phillip Paul Waclawski  
Erika L. Wren



Jack H. Peterson  
35 Years  
Hired in 1969



Myrna Eshelman  
25 Years  
Hired in 1979



Janice Reilly  
30 Years  
Hired in 1974



Darlene L. Swaim  
25 Years  
Hired in 1979

# RETIREMENT



Betty O'Neill



Sandy Elias



Rachael Leyva



Ann Barrett

...retirees bid fond farewell