



# Alumni AND FRIENDS

Fall 2001

1833 W. Southern Ave., Mesa, AZ 85202

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## MCC Alumnus, League for Innovation President

Dr. Mark Milliron '88 is President and CEO of the League for Innovation in the Community College. The League is an international organization dedicated to promoting the advancement of community colleges. Dr. Milliron has authored numerous books, articles, and presentations on issues such as technology and instruction in the community college. According to Dr. Milliron, his passion for the community college began when he was a student at MCC – an experience that provided a “pathway to possibilities.”



*Dr. Mark Milliron '88*

Dr. Milliron is the first in his family of nine children to receive a college degree. In reflecting on his

experience at MCC, he noted several faculty members who influenced positively his educational experience:

Jim Mancuso, Speech and Communication, taught him to love learning for the sake of learning – not to focus on grades; Rick Meyers, Math, taught habits of success such as discipline and dealing with details; and Charles Evans, Theatre Arts, showed him the importance of keeping the spark of creativity. The combination of experiences at MCC left Dr. Milliron well prepared for his studies at Arizona State University.

Dr. Milliron graduated summa cum laude from ASU with a B.S. in Organizational Communication and Masters in Organizational Communication. He received his Ph.D. in Educational Administration from the University of Texas at Austin where he was a Kellogg Senior Research Fellow.

Dr. Milliron will be accepting MCC's graduating class into the alumni association on May 10, 2002. Thank you, Dr. Milliron, for your continued support of Mesa Community College!

## MCC Student Assessment Program Recognized as National Model

Mesa Community College faculty have developed a nationally recognized, comprehensive program to assess student learning outcomes. The assessment program enables the college to measure and document the degree to which students achieve certain learning outcomes valued and defined by the faculty. The program is built around three primary assessment areas – general education, career and technical education, and developmental education. In general education, learning outcomes such as written and oral communication, scientific inquiry, and problem solving are assessed, while outcomes such as ethics, organization, and personal and

professional responsibilities are assessed in the career and technical program.

The assessment program provides clear evidence of student learning at MCC! Results show that students completing their general education significantly outperform students beginning their studies. The assessment program has become a cornerstone of MCC's academic program, allowing the college to document the impact of the college experience on student learning and to use results to improve current programs.

Based on the success of the assessment program, MCC

*Continued on page 2, see Assessment Program*

# Thunderbird Athletes Win Top Honors

Mesa Community College football player Rashad Armstrong was recently recognized as the 2001 Offensive Player of the Year by the National Junior College Athletic Association. Rashad, a 5'9" 205 pound running back from Miami, Florida, joined the Mesa team in 2000. Limited due to injuries during his first season, Rashad exploded onto the NJCAA football scene in 2001. Over the ten game season, Rashad scored 16 touchdowns and gained



1,373 yards on 221 carries, breaking a 31 year old rushing record at MCC previously held by Jimmy Smith. Rashad gained an additional 260 yards in pass receiving, giving him 1,633 yards in total offense. MCC finished the 2001 season with a 5-5 record, with four of the five losses being one touchdown or less. Rashad is currently majoring in sociology and plans to go into social work upon graduation. He is considering offers from Ohio State, Auburn, Oregon, USC, Clemson, Oklahoma and Florida for the 2002-2003 academic year.



Other fall sports include Men's and Women's Soccer, Track and Field, Cross Country, and Volleyball. The Men's Soccer team concluded the 2001 season with an overall record of 17-3 and won 2nd place in the Arizona Community College Athletic Conference (ACCAC). Jamon Lifsey was named ACCAC Player of the Year and NJCAA 1st All-American. The Women's Soccer team concluded the 2001 season with an overall record of 21-2 and are the 2001 ACCAC and Region 1 Champions. Melissa Miller was 2001 ACCAC and Region 1 Player of the Year. Melissa was also named 1st team NJCAA All-American, making 2001 the 3rd consecutive year that a Mesa player has won the award (Shannon Tenney 1999 and



Top: Rashad Armstrong, Middle: Jamon Lifsey, Bottom: Melissa Miller.

Krista Hecker 2000). Danny Sanchez, coach of both the Men's and Women's Soccer team, was named ACCAC Coach of the Year for both teams.

## **Congratulations to all our athletic teams**

for their superb seasons! Spring sports are underway. Schedules are available at <http://mcweb.mc.maricopa.edu/stuserv/athletics/> or <http://mcweb.mc.maricopa.edu/calendar/>.

## **Assessment Program continued from cover**

is one of sixteen colleges chosen to participate in the *21st Century Learning Outcomes* project sponsored by the League for Innovation in the Community College. The *Learning Outcomes* project is designed to foster collaboration among community colleges with the intent to move the assessment initiative in a positive direction for community colleges. MCC's assessment program has been widely disseminated on a national scale at conferences and workshops, and colleges both locally and nationally have sought consultation and advice about outcomes assessment from MCC faculty and administrators.

## **Music major receives the prestigious Maxi Award**

Sabrina Bissett Bodine maintains a busy schedule representing MCC in a variety of musical productions. While pursuing a double major in music and education, Sabrina found time to choreograph *Fiddler on the Roof* for the Gilbert Fine Arts Center, an activity for which she received the Maxi Award for Choreography. The Maxi is a prestigious award typically received by professional companies, making its receipt by a community theatre quite an accomplishment.

Sabrina has participated in several of MCC's musical productions, including choreographing *Nunsense* in Spring 2001 and starring as Audrey in MCC's Summer 2001 *Little Shop of Horrors*. Sabrina is currently choreographing *Closer Than Ever*.

Congratulations to Sabrina on her Maxi Award! Please join us at the Theatre Outback for other outstanding productions by MCC's music, dance, and theatre students.

# **MCC Thanks Retirees for Years of Dedicated Service**



Congratulations to MCC's most recent retirees! Pictured (left to right, top to bottom) are Richard Clement, Foreign Language; Ron Arnold and Harry Vesely, Drafting Technology; Doyle Burke, English; Vera Friend, Records and Registration; Allen Galliard, Physical Science; Fern Conaway, Math; Linda Wegener, Life Sciences; Vincent Moran, College Security; and Rebecca Hernandez-Rodarte, Counseling.

Not pictured is Patricia Maurer, who retired in September.

Thanks to an active retiree program that allows retired individuals to work part-time, the campus will continue to benefit from the expertise of our retirees in the years to come!

**Alumni & Friends is published two times a year for the 25,000 alumni and friends of Mesa Community College**

Larry K. Christiansen, *President*  
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480-461-7792  
Web Site, <http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/other/employees/ia/departments/alumni.htm>



**Alumni Relations**

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# Music, Dance, Art, and Theatre Schedule

MCC hosts a variety of music, dance, art, and theatre performances and events throughout the academic year. Mention that you are alumni when purchasing tickets to receive a discount! Detailed information can be found at <http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/dept/d55/thp/perform/>. All events are on the MCC Southern and Dobson campus in the Theatre Outback unless otherwise noted.

**February 28 - March 3**

**Fool's Paradise**  
A Comedy by Peter Coke  
Theatre Arts

**March 7 - 8**

**Wish You Were Here**  
Spring Dance Concert

**March 28 - 30**

**Closer Than Ever**  
Lyrics by Richard Maltby, Jr.  
Music by David Shire  
Act 1 Musical Productions

**April 8 - 18**

**Annual Student Art Show**  
MCC Southern and Dobson  
Campus, Kirk Student Center,  
Navajo Room  
Opening Reception and  
Awards Ceremony:  
6:00 - 8:00 pm,  
Wednesday, April 10

**April 25 - 28**

**Cat on a Hot Tin Roof**  
A Drama by Tennessee Williams  
Theatre Arts

**May, Date To Be Announced**

**I Love You, You're Perfect,  
Now Change!**  
By Jimmy Roberts and Joe Dipietro  
Black Box Venue to be announced  
Act 1 Musical Productions

**May 1 - 2**

The Stagedoor Players present  
**The Director's Showcase**  
Theatre Scholarship  
Fund Raiser

**May 4**

**Broadway Bound -  
A Musical Revue**  
Music Theatre Scholarship  
Fund Raiser



The Maricopa Community College District is an EEO/AA institution.