

Science Faculty Takes Learning Outdoors

Neither rain nor sleet nor blistered feet can keep MCC Physical Science instructor Bob Leighty and his geology students from experiencing all the outdoors has to offer. Each year, Bob offers a variety of one-credit classes to students willing to climb to the summit of Humphrey's Peak or backpack to the bottom of the Grand Canyon in search of geological treasures.

"Teaching in the field is the ultimate for a geologist," Bob said. "It's not just going to these cool places and looking at the scenery. It's applying our knowledge and what we've learned in class to what is actually there."

Bob's upcoming four-day trip to Phantom Ranch and Indian Gardens on Oct. 27 will be the first field trip that takes students to the very bottom of the Grand Canyon. Past trips have included less strenuous hikes that didn't quite make it to the bottom. Next semester will feature trips to Carlsbad Caverns and White Sands National Monument in New Mexico.

"For me, these trips are really why I teach," Bob said. "It's not just arm waving. We do activities that actively use their brain and that's really satisfying to me."

Bob, a field trip veteran of five years, plans to take his adventures even further by incorporating images from past trips into an online science lab class. He is preparing to design the online class within the next two years. "I want to take some of this field trip flavor and translate it to the online class," Bob said. "Online can just be point and click, but I want it to be interactive so people get a sense of actually being there."

Photos of Bob's adventures can be found on the MCC Geology website:
http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/dept/d43/glg/FieldTrips/FieldTrips_main.htm

Also included on the site are photos from geology instructor Donna Benson's field trips to Trona, California.

Check Out These Other MCC Science Field Trip Adventures

- Ron Dinchak took a three-day trip with students from the MCC Environmental Action Club and his BIO 110 class to the Gray Hawk Nature Center on the San Pedro River near Sierra Vista on Oct. 14. Ron also takes the EAC to the Boyce Thompson Arboretum and his BIO 110 class to the Gilbert Riparian Preserve, Tonto Creek and Userly Mountain Park.

A video of last year's trip to the San Pedro River appears at: San Pedro River Field Trip - <http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/~rdinchak/bio109/San%20Pedro.mov>

- Bonnie Kalison offers a one-credit, one-week field course in Marine Biology in Puerto Penasco (Rocky Point), Mexico, every May to explore basic ocean ecology. The class is listed through the International Studies Department.

Photos from last spring's trip to Rocky Point appear at: Rocky Point Field Trip - http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/services/international/study_abroad/Rocky%20Point%202005/index1.htm

Dennis Wilson gives his Red Mountain biology students field experience at the Imperial Sand Dunes near Yuma, the Saguaro National Park near Tucson, the Chiricahua Mountains near Wilcox, and the San Pedro River.

Videos of these trips appear at:
Imperial Sand Dunes - http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/~dwilson/movies/dunes_ft.mov
Saguaro National Park - http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/~dwilson/movies/Tuc_Sp04_FTayers.mov

(Note: Quicktime is needed to view several of the above links. Download it for free at <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/>)



ariZoni Awards

Mesa Community College's (MCC) Music and Theatre Departments have received an astonishing 35 ariZoni nominations. The awards were presented on September 26, 2005 at the 15th Annual ariZoni Theatre Awards Ceremony held at the new Mesa Arts Center in downtown Mesa. Of those 35 nominations, MCC proudly takes home nine awards.

The ariZoni awards are given out each year to those individuals for their contribution to theatre. "These awards represent true celebrations of EXCELLENCE IN THEATRE," quote from www.arizoniawards.com/.

ariZoni awards won by the Theatre Arts Department

Overall Production -

The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940

Actor in Major Role -

The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940 - Thomas Murray

Scenic Design -

The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940 - Brian Daily

Scenic Design -

The Lion in Winter - Kara Thomson

ariZoni awards won by the Music Department, Act One Musical Productions

Original Script - Musical - 12 Princesses - Rob Gardner

Overall Production - Original Musical - 12 Princesses

Supporting Actor - Joshua Alston - The Secret Garden

Supporting Actress - Melissa Van Slyke - The Secret Garden

Lighting Design - Troy Buckey - The Secret Garden

MCC congratulates all nominees and winners.

To view all ariZoni nominations please visit

<http://arizoniawards.com/>.



The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940

The 4th Revenue Stream - What is it?



*Deb DeVore,
Assistant Director of Development*

As MCC moves forward with the 4th Revenue Stream discussions, Deb DeVore, Assistant Director of Development, describes the idea as a "new way of thinking" that will raise funds to supplement revenue provided by traditional sources.

Currently, MCC receives money from three sources: state aid, county property taxes, and student tuition. The 4th Revenue Stream is private donations or partnerships that fund non-scholarship projects beneficial to both college and community resources.

Why do we need a 4th revenue when we've been able to get by with our three revenues in the past? Future projections show that current revenue will not cover expected increases in enrollment and expenses.

"We have to be future-driven," Deb said. "If we build to accommodate where we are now, what happens ten years from now when we've outgrown it? We only have so much money and we have to search for other means of support to assist the college."

Deb cited the recent acquisition of a local veterinary hospital to enhance the college's Veterinary Technician program as an example of a 4th Revenue Stream contribution. Details are still in the works, but it's a facility that the college could not have otherwise afforded.

Working with the community to demonstrate the benefits of partnerships and donations such as this one is a charge of the Development Advisory Council. The council is comprised of seven external community members and six internal college members. The council is the "conscience of the college," for public donations. Members help establish the fundraising priorities of the college and relay those needs to the community in which MCC serves.

"A consideration for the council this year is to look at how the college might leverage bond money," said Deb, a member of the council. "We need partners to leverage bond dollars so programs can move from above average to the 'cutting edge of excellence.'"

Empty Bowls 2005



Imagine trying to create a dinner every night from whatever donated food you have in your pantry.

That's what the cooks at the Paz de Cristo food bank do every evening as they feed 200 to 250 East Valley homeless people.

And that's what Paz de Cristo cooks will do when they create soups to feed the participants of the Empty Bowls event at Mesa Community College (MCC). For \$10, shoppers can purchase a handcrafted bowl and dine on a simple meal of soup and bread in remembrance of World Hunger Day, with proceeds going to Paz, a non-profit interfaith outreach organization.

Paz will use soup recipes similar to what they serve to local homeless people. This is the first year that Paz de Cristo has donated soup to MCC's annual event.

"This adds a real awareness to the event and helps you step into the shoes of homeless people," said Michelle Ross, Paz volunteer coordinator. "No two recipes are ever the same. We are dealing with donations and whatever is in the pantry, which makes it interesting and challenging for the cooks."

Linda Speranza, MCC ceramics instructor and Empty Bowls coordinator, expects to offer shoppers more than 2,000 bowls crafted by MCC and Mesa Arts Center artists, along with one-of-a-kind art pieces, which shoppers can bid on by silent auction.

The first Empty Bowls event 14 years ago raised \$3,000. Last year's event raised \$19,000. The event is open to the public and takes place October 19 from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Navajo Room in MCC's Kirk Student Center.

Learn More About the Salzburg Seminar at Dialogue Day

Last summer, five Mesa Community College (MCC) faculty members traveled to the historic 18th-century Schloss Leopoldskron castle in Austria for an international exchange of ideas at the Salzburg Seminar.

Participating in the seminar were Shereen Lerner, Anthropology Faculty; Marlene Forney, Library Faculty; Jack Mullins, Journalism Faculty; Niccole Cervený, Geography Faculty; and Jonelle Moore, English Faculty.

On Oct. 20, this group will share their experiences at Dialogue Day, hosted by International Education, from noon-1:15 p.m. in the Kiva Room of the Kirk Center.

Shereen said what she valued most about the seminar was the chance to hear other views of global education.

"We get caught up in our own perspectives," Shereen said. "When you go internationally, you hear other perspectives that you otherwise would not hear."

That exchange of ideas is exactly what the founders of the seminar hoped to accomplish. The first seminar was held in 1947 and organized by Harvard University graduate students who wanted to create an opportunity for intellectual discussions in the years immediately following the Second World War.

For MCC participants, the seminar offered an opportunity to converse with other community college faculty.

Shereen presented a lecture titled Global Citizenship in Community Colleges. She focused on practical applications of what the Maricopa County Community College District and MCC in particular had done in regard to global awareness, citing examples such as curriculum competencies, the Global Citizenship Certificate, and the creation of the Center for Global Tolerance.

Jonelle said the experience also gave them the opportunity to create campus and district teams of faculty dedicated to global citizenship. On Dialogue Day, the group will emphasize the importance of international education for both students and faculty.

Shereen said the beautiful setting of the "Schloss," where scenes from "The Sound of Music," were filmed, helped her focus on how to apply what she learned.

"The beautiful setting allows you to take a breath and think about what you are learning," Shereen said. "Too often we all run, run, run, and we never get the chance to contemplate what we are learning and take it to the next level."



The Salzburg Seminar was held in the Schloss Leopoldskron Castle.

photo courtesy of Jack Mullins

Mesa Life Options Offers Seminar for Boomers

Mesa Community College, the City of Mesa, and Mesa Senior Services are partnering to bring an exciting new initiative to baby boomers. Funded by The Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust and supported by Civic Ventures, Mesa Life Options (MLO) invites soon-to-retire boomers to “imagine the possibilities” for the next chapter of their lives.

To let everyone know what this program is all about, MLO is offering a 2.5-hour seminar entitled “Your Life’s Next Chapter...so many choices.” Seminar presenters are Rhonda Weaver, Ph.D., and Paula Waybright, D.Min. Participants can choose one of two upcoming seminar dates:

Saturday, October 29
9:30 a.m. – noon
City of Mesa Main Library

Thursday, November 3
6:30 – 9:00 p.m.
Red Mountain Multigenerational Center

The seminar will explore a world of options for Sustaining a healthy lifestyle; Connecting with others in work, play, and community involvement; Learning for personal enrichment; and Enjoying the benefits of an “experience dividend.”

MLO’s seminar is only the beginning. For those who are uncertain about turning the page to the next chapter, peer mentors will be available to guide them through an enjoyable and satisfying time of self-discovery.

To register for the seminar, call Mesa Community College’s Center for Community Education, 480-461-7493. Charge for the seminar (and the inspiration): \$32.



Race for the Cure

The Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD) Women's Leadership Group recently sponsored involvement in the "Race for the Cure" on October 9, 2005. “We had over 20 Mesa Community College (MCC) participants from Red Mountain and Southern and Dobson,” stated Joni Grover. “Overall, over 350 people from Maricopa registered to race.”

The Susan G. Komen race helps to support Breast Cancer Research and Awareness. In 2004, nearly 38,000 participants raised over \$1 million for the cause.





Trick or Treat! Halloween Fun at MCC!



Halloween “Happy Hour” to Benefit Mesa United Way

Thursday, October 27, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Southern and Dobson, Kirk Student Center,
Employee Lounge

Enjoy fantastic food, drinks, entertainment, and your colleagues dressed in wacky accessories and costumes.

The event includes a pumpkin carving contest and costume contest.

RSVP to Lora Lassitter at 480-461-7475 or email lassitter@mail.mc.maricopa.edu.

Cost: \$5 admittance

\$1 Costume Contest

\$1 Pumpkin Carving Contest

Face painting

Monday, October 31, 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Theatre Building make-up room,
TH3 (west hall of the theatre building)

Students in MCC’s make-up class will offer face painting to faculty and staff in room TH3.

All Employee Social sponsored by the Faculty Senate

Monday, October 31, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Southern and Dobson, Elsner Library, room 145

Faculty Senate invites all employee groups to get to know each other a bit better. During the social, the Faculty Senate will honor Dr. Ann Ewing and award her with the first Faculty Senate Distinguished Faculty Award. Dress in your costume if you like! Refreshments will be served!!

The Origins of Halloween

Monday, October 31, 4:30 – 5:30 pm.

Southern and Dobson, Elsner Library, room 145

Presenters: Dr. Mary E. Aldridge, English Department Faculty, and Dr. Barry F. Vaughan, Philosophy Department Faculty

Mary Aldridge and Barry Vaughan will discuss the origins of Halloween and various celebrations related to the holiday.

The presentation will include the reading of excerpts from a variety of literary and children’s works. Students from the Theater department will come in costume. Everyone is welcome to attend, including children and don’t be afraid to wear your costume.