

Come “hair” it all at the Women’s History Luncheon

For her new book, *Rapunzel’s Daughters*, author Rose Weitz interviewed dozens of women across the country. The topic is hair – how it affects women’s identities, how it creates conflicts and opportunities in the workplace, and how women are impacted when illness or aging causes their hair to change.

Dr. Weitz, a Yale graduate and professor of Women’s Studies and Sociology at Arizona State University, will be the featured speaker at the Women’s History Month luncheon on March 25.

The title of her talk will be “Paychecks and Power Cuts: Women’s Work, Women’s Hair, Women’s Futures.”

Dr. Weitz has been researching and teaching about women’s health issues for many years. Among the topics she has explored are AIDS, cosmetic surgery, eating disorders, depression, and childbirth. “I want to look at the day-to-day ways people deal with their bodies and the social expectations of their

bodies,” she said. “Women’s shared social circumstances make them similar in many ways, but it’s important to understand how women’s lives differ based on age, sexual orientation, health, and other factors.”

This year’s theme for Women’s History Month is “Women Inspiring Hope and Possibility.” The culminating activity is the Women’s History Month luncheon, which will take place at 11:30 in the Kirk Student Center, Navajo Room, at MCC’s Southern and Dobson campus. Copies of *Rapunzel’s Daughters* will be available or may be purchased at Changing Hands Bookstore.

For more information, contact Susan Taffer,

District cochair-elect of the Women’s Leadership Group and program advisor for Service Learning at MCC (461-7394) or Dr. Nancy Hellner, Director of Women’s Studies, MCC’s Dept. of English (461-7489).



Dr. Rose Weitz, ASU professor of Women’s Studies and Sociology, is the featured speaker for MCC’s Women’s History Luncheon.

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Grant funds available for Innovative Projects



Boulders located throughout Purgatory Flat provide learning experiences for Geology students.

It’s time once again to submit your proposal for an Innovative Project (IP) grant. The types of projects funded through the competition cover a gamut of disciplines and foci. A sculpture to grace the commons between the Arts/Communication building and the Theatre Outback; Fried Bread and

Chicken Soup – building community through shared experiences; and MAPLE – utilizing dynamic software to enhance Calculus curriculum, are just a few examples from last year’s competition.

Bob Leighty of the Physical Science Department attests to the value of the IP grants. Over the past three years, Bob has submitted successful proposals for three separate projects.

Purgatory Flat: 2001–02

Purgatory Flat, also known as the Community Gardens just east of Dobson Road, creates an opportunity for geology students to synthesize skills learned during lab through the creation of a geologic map. To create an accurate map, students must figure out geologic structures by collecting data on rock

types and orientations and using a compass.

Haloos: 2002–03

Haloos is a group of trivial pursuit style games that are used as an end of the semester study session in numerous

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Geology students recap the semester by playing Haloos, a trivial pursuit-style game created by Bob Leighty.

MCC produces Arizona's top two-year college student

One of MCC's All-Arizona Academic Team members, Joseph Luchenta, has been selected for a prestigious award. He is Arizona's New Century Scholar, the highest-ranking two-year college student in the state. The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, the Coca-Cola Foundation, the American Association of Community Colleges, and Phi Theta Kappa sponsor this award. Each New Century Scholar receives a \$2,000 scholarship.



MCC President Larry K. Christiansen (left) honors Joseph Luchenta (right) at the 2004 All-Arizona Academic Awards banquet.

A few years ago, Joseph wasn't thinking about scholarships. "I dropped out of high school," he said. "I had become involved in activities not conducive to a healthy lifestyle." At 19 Joseph went back to school, enrolling at GateWay Community High School on the campus of GateWay Community College. He registered for college classes, earned a scholarship to Mesa Community College, and became involved with Phi Theta Kappa and the MCC honors program.

Joseph credits his experiences in Phi Theta Kappa, as well as his teachers, advisors, and counselors, for contributing to a major change in his life. "I had people encouraging me, believing in me," he said. "I set a goal for myself: I wanted to work with youth."

Phi Theta Kappa and the national AmeriCorps program provided Joseph with opportunities to give back to his community. He became a mentor for Phoenix Youth at Risk and worked as a counselor for the American Red Cross International Youth Leadership camp.

Three hundred hours as an AmeriCorps volunteer offered ample opportunity to develop community-building skills, like helping young people to write grants.

Joseph's future goals are to earn degrees in Economics and Law from Arizona State University. "Economics is a good prelaw major," he said, "and a law degree is important if you want to make a social impact."

MCC scholar receives Guistwhite

All-Arizona Academic Team member Kelley Stewart has been awarded a Guistwhite Scholarship, which recognizes the top 15 students in Phi Theta Kappa worldwide. Students receive scholarships of \$5,000 each toward the completion of their baccalaureate degrees.

continued from front, Innovative Projects

geology labs. The geology department attracts a lot of non-science majors, so one of the major objectives of the game is to provide a fun learning experience for students so that they leave at the end of the semester with a positive attitude toward science.

Virtual Outcrops: 2003-04

The current project is to create a virtual field trip in geology. "Our goal is to bring some of the places we go on geology field trips home to people," stated Bob. Virtual Outcrops could be a first step toward creation of an online lab for part of an online Associate of Arts degree.

Bob offers words of advice to individuals applying for Innovative Projects grant funds: "Focus on a project that can be completed and that benefits students; the goal is to translate an idea into reality." Bob also mentioned that combining IP grants (which covers the cost of materials) with MCLI grant funds (which covers release time) has worked well for him.

Deadline for IP grant proposals is March 26, 2004 at 5:00 PM

E-mail submissions to Charles Lewis at charles.lewis@mccmail.maricopa.edu.

Innovative Project grant guidelines

- Monies are available to all employee groups.
- Monies are not meant to replace capital budget requests, Fund 1 or Fund 2 requests, or requests for EDP grants.
- Funds cannot be used to augment salary. (9-month employees may be eligible for an honorarium or stipend)
- Monies are for one-time projects.
- Requests under \$25,000 will receive priority.
- All awards are final.
- All awarded projects must be completed by the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2005.

Academy puts upcoming leaders in driver's "chair"

Whether its shaping tomorrow's leaders or helping people currently in leadership positions hone their skills, the Chair Academy offers a unique learning experience to its attendees. The Academy was developed in 1990 when a group of department chairs approached Dr. Gary Filan, then Organizational Development Specialist with the District Office, to put together a development program, hence the name Chair Academy.

That was just the beginning. Since its inception, the Chair Academy has become an international leadership development program that is committed to excellence and continuous improvement in providing training to organizational leaders. The Academy, which boasts over 4,000 graduates, holds sessions throughout the U.S., Europe, and Australia.

The Academy offers a year-long learning experience to people who desire to learn the concepts and skills necessary to become transformational leaders. The experience begins with a week-long

session where participants learn about their personal leadership style, network with other participants, and develop a personal development plan. Over the course of the year, participants work with a mentor and with other attendees to improve leadership skills and reflect on their personal style. The experience concludes a year later with a second week-long session. By the end of the experience, attendees will have focused on such competencies as complex roles of the organizational leader, behavioral work styles, effective leadership models, building effective work teams, strategic and scenario planning, and managing conflict.

Although originally designed for department chairs, the academy is open to all employee groups – the main criteria for attendance being a desire to learn and improve leadership skills. For more information about the Chair Academy, please call 461-6270 or visit www.mc.maricopa.edu/other/chair.



Congratulations to MCC's most recent graduates from the Chair Academy! Fredrick Canales, Advisement Center, and Mary Jordan, Institutional Advancement. As Fredrick and Mary end their journey, three new MCC employees begin: Gwen Argersinger, Steve Obsurn, and Nikki Stroughter.