Welcome to the latest in a series of periodic publications from the Office of Grants Development. The goal of this publication is to provide basic information to faculty and staff about the grants process at Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) and to disseminate samples of the types of grant funding that are available. Future topics include the status of various pieces of legislation involving grants for community colleges and various grants applied for and received at NOVA. If you have any suggestions about topics to include or would like answers to specific questions, please contact Deborah Rosen, the director of grants and special projects, at drosen@nvcc.edu or at 703-323-3440 or Robert Henderson, college grants writer at rhenderson@nvcc.edu at 703-323-3493.

NOVA’s Own Professor Rebecca Kamen Launches Initiative to Reach Wider Audiences with Science Inspired Art

NOVA is graced with rich and deep talent on the Faculty. These educators work tirelessly for our students and for larger ideals important for education and for our communities. Artist and Professor Rebecca Kamen of the Alexandria Campus has begun a new phrase of her career in reaching out to the community of foundations interested in her work linking art to the inspirational moment of discovery in science.

Professor Kamen seeks to catalyze new ways of teaching both science and art by helping students and other faculty members to access the insights into our universe that has always driven science. She rejects the compartmentalization of disciplines and embraces teaching as learning.

Rebecca Kamen has been awarded “in residence” status in Philadelphia to draw inspiration from the collections of the Chemical Heritage Foundation (CHF) and the American Philosophical Society (APS) Library. These pillars of American Science trace their roots back through the founding of our country to the European Enlightenment and serve as anchors for the teaching of the history of science. Benjamin Franklin was the founder of the APS and his scientific sketches, engravings, and manuscripts are found along with the a first edition of Sir Isaac Newton’s Principia, the River Journals of Lewis and Clark, The Micrographia of Robert Hooke, among many others.

Rebecca Kamen’s work on the periodic table of elements, Divining Nature: An Elemental Garden, has received national recognition. She will deliver a lecture as part of the Friends of the Library Series at the American Philosophical Society in fall, 2011. The lecture will be sponsored by APS, CHF, and the Philadelphia Area Center for the History of Science. To support the research and gathering of images Professor Kamen has applied to the Virginia Community College System, the Pew Charitable Trusts, the Templeton Foundation, among others. We will continue to update the NOVA community on Rebecca’s progress in realizing her vision to help our students and College.

Submit items of interest for publication in the Grants Newsletter via e-mail to drosen@nvcc.edu
Nazanin Saidi, AN, Submits Innovative Proposal to NEH for “Enduring Questions” Competition

Another of our creative faculty, Nazanin (Nazy) Saidi, who teaches architecture technology at the AN Campus, has submitted a proposal entitled “Contemporary Architecture: Science, Culture, History and Beyond” to the National Endowment for the Humanities to develop a course engaging in extensive analysis of buildings, which are used as a vehicle to address broader issues of arts and humanities. The course will be designed to increase the level of awareness and intellectual growth of students. There would be extensive reading to foster the core question of beauty for assessment of architecture as a form of art.

Students would conduct research by visiting contemporary buildings - observe, photograph, sketch, and draw diagrams of buildings. A series of debates will be conducted following additional research of the history, present status, and future projection of the buildings in response to the enduring questions of life, government, religion, war, and peace. The physical attributes of architecture would be discussed with respect to symbolism and the inherent language of architecture. The studies would include interpretations of unfamiliar forms across cultures. Debates would be conducted with regard to the building’s regional, vernacular, and cultural imprints versus the globalization. The course would be open to students of all disciplines and will not require prior knowledge or skills.

Best of luck to Nazy in her pursuit of outside funds!

VCCS Professional Development and Mini Conference Heavily Subscribed by NOVA

NOVA Faculty and Staff were busy in late September preparing 7 proposals to the VCCS for the October 1 deadline for Mini Conference and Professional Development Grants.

Gillian Backus, Assistant Professor, and Kristyn DeMarco, Instructor of Science and Applied Technology, (LO) seek to develop Phase II: Integrated Science Course for non-Majors.

Jody Gundrum, Assistant Dean in the Physical Therapist Assistant Program in Allied Health, (MEC) hopes to use a professional development grant from the Commonwealth to put in place “…a paired student physical therapist/student physical therapist assistant clinical education service learning module in rural Costa Rica.”

Heather Jeddy, Instructor in English, (LO) believes a Developmental Writing Handbook will advance the teaching and writing for our students.

Rebecca Kamen, Professor of Art, (AL) wants to research and travel to prepare a lecture on Making the Invisible Visible: A Visual Dialogue Between Art and Science, for delivery to the American Philosophical Society in the fall of 2011. See page 1, for a special report on Professor Kamen’s work.

Monica Mallini, Adjunct Assistant Professor, (MA) sought support for her ideas on Robotics in Engineering Education.

Meena Nayak, Assistant Professor, and Bridget Pool, Instructor of English, (LO) submitted a proposal that will enhance Teaching in Black and White: Using the Newspaper as a Text in the Composition Classroom.

Jay Steere and Kerry Grannis, Assistant Professors of English, (AN) seek VCCS support for A Comparative Study of Student Learning Outcomes for Research Papers in Dual Enrollment and On-Campus English 111 and 112 Courses.

Good luck to our NOVA applicants!!!

Three Proposals Submitted on Behalf of VCCS Workforce Credentialing Initiative

Dr. Lisa O’Quinn, (AN), Mr. Chris Applegate, (AL), and Ms. Harriet Zimmerman, (MEC), all submitted proposals on behalf of a VCCS competition on workforce credentialing. The purpose of the competition was to enable colleges to increase the number of students completing an industry certification or licensure and thereby support the Achieve 2015 goal of student success.

Dr. O’Quinn’s proposal focused on the continuation of her work with the Department of Environmental Quality effort to identify and meet their professional development needs. This round of funding would be used to convert a study guide to a second online licensure class. This class will prepare students to take a licensure exam.

Submit items of interest for publication in the Grants Newsletter via e-mail to drosen@nvcc.edu
Mr. Applegate’s proposal focused on Mortgage Loan Originators, who, as a result of the Secure and Fair Enforcement for Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008, complete a pre-licensure course, pass a written qualified test; and take annual continuing education courses. NOVA is an approved education vendor through the National Mortgage Licensing System and Registry.

Ms. Zimmerman’s proposal focused on Orthotics and Therapeutic Shoe Fitters, a new program being developed for those people interested in entry level healthcare.

Best of luck to all three applicants.

Lumina Foundation Recognizes NOVA’s Accomplishments in Student Success
— a Note from the President

The following is an excerpt from an email sent by Dr. Templin to the Administration Council. “The Washington Post announced that NOVA is helping to lead two national initiatives targeting working adult students that have been funded by the Lumina Foundation. These awards point to an emerging strategic focus at NOVA regarding how we can better enable moderate-income adult workers earn credentials and advance their careers.

One of these projects is a national initiative led by NOVA, Goodwill Industries International and AACC, to foster joint training partnerships between community colleges and Goodwill operations. NOVA is the lead community college spearheading this initiative. Our nonprofit enrollment partnership model led by Provost Peter Maphumulo at the Alexandria Campus will be documented and promoted nationwide as a national best-practice. For more information about this initiative you can go to: http://www.goodwill.org/pressreleases/goodwill-and-lumina-foundation-gives-millions-of-Americans-a-second-chance-at-earning-a-degree/

The other project announced by Lumina is Project Win-Win, led by the Institute of Higher Education Policy. For this initiative, NOVA will join with 35 other community colleges in six states to identify former students who are close to earning a credential, and then help them complete their degree programs. The initiative is led by Dr. George Gabriel.

For more information about this initiative, you may go to: http://www.ihep.org/projectwin-win.cfrn

More about NOVA’s emerging strategies for working adult learners will be made available in the months ahead. These announcements demonstrate the NOVA is among the nation’s leading community colleges, and yet there is much more that we can and will do to set the pace nationally. My thanks to George Gabriel, Peter Maphumulo, Bill Browning, Rob Henderson, and Debbie Rosen for making these awards possible.”

Robert G. Templin, Jr.

Submit items of interest for publication in the Grants Newsletter via e-mail to drosen@nvcc.edu