Schedule Set for 2006 Fall Convocation

The professional development committee invites all faculty and staff to attend the 2006 Fall Convocation on August 17 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Ernst Community Cultural Center. An agenda is attached to this edition of Intercom with details.

This year’s event features a Knowledge Fair where faculty and staff share their expertise, best practices and emerging ideas on a variety of topics that promote teaching and learning. Building on nearly a year of institutional study and reflection, NOVA is preparing to initiate a comprehensive effort to promote student success throughout the College. The plan includes a broad range of activities designed to impact students prior to and during enrollment. More than 30 topics relating to student success will be presented through demonstrations, discussions, exhibits and handouts in the Ernst Center gym between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

For those not able to attend, a live Webcast of the Convocation will be available beginning at 9:00 a.m. on the TV Center home page at http://www.nvcc.edu/tvcenter/. Faculty and staff will need to make sure they have Windows Media Player 9 or higher to play the video. A LAN username/password is also required and a broadband connection is needed if watching from home. The entire event will be archived for on-demand playback for later viewing. Please RSVP by contacting Geri Dolan at gdolan@nvcc.edu.

NOVA Partners with Purple Heart Foundation to Provide Job Training for Veterans

Northern Virginia Community College's Annandale Campus is partnering with the Military Order of the Purple Heart Service Foundation in the development of virtual Internet job training for homebound combat-wounded and disabled military veterans. The Veterans Business Training Center, launched by the Purple Heart Foundation, provides job training for the young men and women who have served our country and returned with physical limitations.

The Call Center Management Training program consists of 600 hours of lectures, exercises and hands-on training over the course of 15 weeks. Trainees follow a detailed curriculum, attending virtual classroom discussions and accruing real-time work experience. At the completion of the program, each veteran receives certification by the Veterans Business Training Center.

The Purple Heart Service Foundation has provided assistance to veterans and their families for more than 45 years and prides itself on adapting quickly to new and unforeseen changes in the programs and services needed by combat-wounded and disabled veterans.

Richard J. Gallant (left), executive director, Military Order of the Purple Heart Foundation and Dr. Robert Vaughn, director of workforce development and continuing education for NOVA's Annandale Campus.
Alexandria Library Blog Celebrates Successful First Year

July 29 marked the first anniversary of the Alexandria Campus library blog. In the last year, the blog has received over 1,000 visits while providing readers with library news, staff updates, research tips, book reviews, reports of library events and more.

The Alexandria library staff would like to thank everyone who has visited the blog and promises an exciting second year, with plenty of new surprises in store. The library blog can be found at http://alexandrialibrary.blogspot.com.

Important Information for NOVA Salaried Faculty Members

Retirement plan advisors will be at the College soon to meet with interested participants. Fidelity representative Jim Cahill will be available at the Annandale Campus on August 23 from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. in seminar room A in the Ernst Center. Appointments are needed and should be made by calling the Fidelity reservations center at 1-800-642-7131. NOVA faculty who are using Fidelity for their pension plan investment are encouraged to take advantage of this free consultation.

For faculty who are thinking of setting up a pension investment with TIAA-CREF, or who already have an established pension plan with them, Mike DeSpirito will be at the Annandale Campus in room CG202 in the Godwin building on September 18. DeSpirito looks forward to meeting with both new and continuing subscribers in the NOVA pension plan for an individualized review of pension benefits. Reservations are required and can be made by visiting the TIAA-CREF Web site at http://www.tiaa-cref.org or by calling 202-637-8901.

Golding Recognized by NACUMS

The National Association of College and University Mail Services (NACUMS) presented John P. Golding, NOVA’s warehousing services manager, with the Lou Eichler Award of Excellence for lifetime achievements in the college and university mailing industry on July 24 during their annual conference in Portsmouth, Virginia.

The highest honor acknowledged by NACUMS, the Lou Eichler Award is named for the now-retired director of the University of Iowa Central Mail System who was instrumental in getting the U.S. Postal Service to recognize college and university mail services as a major contributing industry. In the mid-nineties, Eichler united the industry by creating CUNIMAIL, a national list service for college and university mail managers. Congratulations, John, on your latest achievement!

Wilhelmi Elected Board Treasurer

Charlotte Wilhelmi, director of College government affairs and community relations, was elected treasurer of the 30-member board of directors of the Health Systems Agency of Northern Virginia at their July 27 meeting. The agency is a non-profit organization established under Virginia law to plan for the balanced and orderly development of health care facilities and services in the Northern Virginia service area.

Mark Your Calendars for a Very Special Event!

Constitution Day
September 11

Come meet “Dr. Benjamin Franklin” (a.k.a. actor Dean Bennett)
CE Forum — Annandale — 12 noon

Watch for details in a future issue of Intercom!

The next edition of Intercom will be published on August 25. The submission deadline is Friday, August 18 at 5:00 p.m.
Kofi Mitchual, who serves as technical support staff for the Workforce Development Center and the Center for Employee Development (AN), was invited to speak at the first annual Immigrant Professional Conference at the Johns Hopkins University Montgomery Campus last month. Over 110 working professionals from Africa, Asia, Europe and Central and South America attended the event sponsored by Annandale’s Technology Retraining Internship Program (TRiP).

TRiP is designed to provide technical skills to experienced non-IT immigrant professionals who are unable to find work in their chosen profession once they are residents in the U.S. Mitchual is an immigrant professional from Ghana and a graduate of TRiP. He also teaches in the program.

The event was organized by Lesley Kamenshine, longtime friend of Annandale’s Workforce Development staff. Kamenshine is the author of the 2003 book Career Guide and Directory for Immigrant Professionals.

Maggie Lin and Andrew Zhang of the Beijing Century Peace International Culture and Education Exchange Center recently met with Heidi Adamson, Cindy Langguth and Ron Buchanan at the Manassas Campus.

“The organization is planning a trip for a group of middle school teachers to come to the United States, and we met with them to discuss the possibility of the teachers taking some of our TÉSOL classes,” says Langguth.

“They also want to observe our ESL classes and meet with area school officials. Our meeting was successful and many exciting possibilities were discussed, including a teacher exchange. The visit might happen next spring,” Langguth reported.

Mitchual Recognized for Work with TRiP Program

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Local Students Get a “Cyber Experience”

Recently, a group of school-age students participated in the “Cyber Experience” sponsored by the College for Kids summer program at the Annandale Campus. Students from age 10 to 17 attended two-week sessions of fun-filled hands-on experiences where they learned to build a PC from the component level, develop and publish personalized Web pages and build programmable robots able to navigate terrain and respond to light intensity. Under the tutelage of Dr. Christopher Grimm, students used their creative decision-making and critical thinking skills to navigate the cyber landscape.
Fall 2006 Convocation

Student Success at NOVA
Living the Mission and Telling the Story

8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.
Continental Breakfast, Meet and Greet
*Ernst Cultural Center Lobby*

The NOVA Quest for Excellence

9:15 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.
Student Success – the Early Experience
*Ernst Cultural Center Theater*
Dr. Robert G. Templin, Jr., President
Northern Virginia Community College

The NOVA Quest for Student Success

9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.
Stories of the Student Experience
*Ernst Cultural Center Theater*
Student Panel: Crispin Gregoire, Clara (Kaya) Ford and Elizabeth Richardson

The NOVA Quest for Quality

10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
2005 – 2006 Sabbatical Award Recipient Presentations
*Ernst Cultural Center Theater*
Introductions by Dr. John T. Dever, Executive Vice President
Academic and Student Services
Northern Virginia Community College

Nannette K. Haid, Art
*A One-Person Show*

Margarita Hodge, Spanish
*A Learning Module of Spanish Online Materials for LD Learners*

Dorothy U. Seyler, English
*William Bankes, Early 19th Century Traveler to Lost City of Petra*
Fall 2006 Convocation

11:00 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.
Faculty and Staff Recognition
Recognition of SCHEV Award Recipients
Ernst Cultural Center Theater
Introductions by Dr. John T. Dever, Executive Vice President
Academic and Student Services
Northern Virginia Community College
Patricia Daron, Biology, 2006 Recipient
Laura Franklin, French, 2003 Recipient
Marion B. Lobstein, Biology, 1993 Recipient

Presentation of Outstanding Service to the College Awards
Presented by Patrick Dexter (ExxonMobil), President
Northern Virginia Community College Educational Foundation, Inc.

Teaching Faculty Awards: Robert T. Brunner, Thomas W. Hardy and Alice E. Reagan
Administrative Faculty Award: Barbara S. Hatheway
Classified Staff Awards: Janet E. Bush, Susan W. Liller, Paul L. Loving

11:20 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Welcome to the New Academic Year from the College Senate Chair
Ernst Cultural Center Theater
Elizabeth Harrison, Chair, Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Religion

The NOVA Quest of Strategies for Student Success

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
The Knowledge Fair
Ernst Cultural Center Gym

12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m
Lunch — Grab and Go Boxes
Ernst Cultural Center Forum

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m
Cluster Meetings
Ibsen’s classic of modern realism,

A DOLL’S HOUSE

Friday & Saturday,
August 11, 12, 18 & 19, 7:30 p.m.
and Sunday matinées
August 13 & 20, 2 p.m.

Tickets available at the door
$4 students, NVCC faculty/staff, children, & seniors
$6 all others

In the Theatre at the Woodbridge Campus of Northern Virginia Community College
15200 Neabsco Mills Road
For information, call (703) 878-5750
V/TDD: (703) 680-7942
or e-mail etrumbull@nvcc.edu

Make reservations online at:
http://www.nvcc.edu/home/etrumbull/ADH-Reservations.htm