Loudoun Campus Hosts Governor Kaine, Cabinet

While campaigning last fall, Governor Tim Kaine promised to take the state government on the road, and he’s fulfilling that promise. On November 27, the Loudoun Campus hosted Governor Kaine and his cabinet for a meeting in the Waddell Theater which was attended by local government officials, business leaders and community members. NOVA President Robert G. Templin, Jr. and Loudoun Campus Provost Anthony Tardd each spoke at the meeting where administration officials briefed the Governor and the public about issues and initiatives in their departments. Two key topics were healthcare and transportation.

The morning meeting was only the start of a busy day for Kaine and his cabinet. After leaving the Loudoun Campus, the group headed to Fairfax to visit an Inova long-term care facility, then went to smart growth sites in Reston and Arlington and ended the day with a reception at the Medical Education Campus.

Financial and Administrative Services Announces New Appointments

The financial and administrative services division recently announced new business manager appointments at the Loudoun and Medical Education Campuses. Mitch Markon, who had served as the MEC’s business manager since 2004, moved to the Loudoun Campus in July, while the MEC welcomed their new business manager, Ina Dimkova, in August. Dimkova was born in Bulgaria and came to the United States in 1994. In Bulgaria, she participated in gymnastics at the international level and then served for eight years as the marketing and international relations director of the Bulgarian Sports Association. In 2001, she joined Stratford University as its director of financial and student services and was later promoted to director of the Falls Church campus. While in that position she guided the University’s management team through the accreditation process.

Dimkova has a bachelor’s degree in sports management from the National Sports Academy in Sofia, Bulgaria, an M.A. in marketing from the French University of Marketing and Management and an M.B.A. from the University of Metz, France. She is fluent in English, French, Spanish, Russian and Bulgarian. NOVA welcomes both Ina and Mitch to their new positions!
Annandale Offers “Taste of the World”

Annandale’s hospitality management program hosted its third annual “Taste of the World” on November 8. Culinary arts students volunteered to participate, showing off their kitchen wizardry and highlighting dishes of special interest - whether old family favorites or new international recipes.

Faculty and staff circulated among the tables, admiring the decorations and sampling dishes ranging from baklava and chocolate mousse to crab cakes and ham biscuits.

With the tasting well underway, all in attendance enjoyed watching four installments of Chef Mike Herbert’s video podcast “The 60-second Chef” (which can be viewed online at http://www.nvcc.edu/annandale/chef), produced by NOVA’s Television Center.

Assistant Dean Janet Sass and Chef Mike Herbert with culinary arts students Vicky Page and Lloyd Moss.

Photo by Tricia Holser

Alexandria Campus Hosts Shirley Brown Gravette Scholarship Luncheon

The humanities and social sciences division scholarship committee will host a holiday luncheon in memory of Shirley Brown Gravette, a division secretary on the Alexandria Campus for more than 20 years, on December 8 from 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. in room AA158 of the Bisdorf building.

Join the committee members as they remember Gravette, meet this year’s scholarship recipients and enjoy a lunch catered by Kitchen Gourmet. Recipients of the Elaine C. Niner and Honors Program Scholarships will also be introduced at the event.

Space is limited, so sign up early. The cost is $35 and the proceeds will be divided between the Shirley Brown Gravette Endowed Scholarship Fund and an account for future scholarships.

Anyone who is unable to attend but would like to contribute to the fund should send their checks to the Northern Virginia Educational Foundation, in the Brault building, and indicate the name of this scholarship in the memo section. For information or to make a reservation, e-mail Jean Braden at jebraden@nvcc.edu.

Taylor Attends National Math Conference

Linda Taylor, mathematics (WO), recently attended the annual conference of the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC) in Cincinnati. The event featured more than 200 workshops and presentations designed to improve mathematics education in two-year schools. Dr. Wade Ellis, a noted mathematician, delivered the keynote address as part of the celebration of the release of AMATYC’s curriculum and pedagogy standards, Beyond Crossroads.

More than 1,000 mathematics educators from the United States and Canada attended the conference. Taylor represented Virginia as president of the Virginia affiliate, VMATYC, and was one of 21 VCCS faculty in attendance.

AMATYC is the only organization exclusively devoted to providing a national forum for the improvement of mathematics instruction in the first two years of college. For more information, visit http://www.amatyc.org.

Rebhan Portrays Aging at Art Center

Giclee prints by Woodbridge photography professor Gail Rebhan are on exhibit at Pyramid Atlantic Art Center in Silver Spring. “Aging” is a critical graphic portrayal of the mental and physical deterioration that often accompany the end of life.

The opening reception is on December 2, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., with a gallery talk on December 7 at 7:00 p.m. The show continues through January 14. For more information, contact Rebhan or go to http://www.pyramidatlanticartcenter.org.

Who writes Intercom?
YOU do!

See the Intercom submission guidelines at: http://www.nvcc.edu/pip/guidelines.htm
Library Staff Attends Conference

Three staff members of the Alexandria Campus library gave presentations at the Virginia Library Association’s annual conference in Williamsburg earlier this month. Librarian Matt Todd presented “The Power of Library Marketing: Advertise, Merchandize and Publicize on the Cheap!” which highlighted marketing initiatives the Campus library has undertaken in the past year.

LRS Director Sylvia Rortvedt, Todd and Library Specialist Brandee Worsham offered the interactive program “Boomers, GenXers and Millennials: Use Their Differences to Power Your Library,” highlighting their own generational differences and work experiences and suggesting ways to make the most of them in the workplace. Evaluation comments for this presentation included “Best seminar of the day!” and “Wish my boss (a baby boomer) could have been here.”

High School Outreach Concert a Success

On November 14, the NOVA music program presented “An Aaron Copeland Birthday Concert” at the Alexandria Campus. The concert included choirs from Edison High School, Falls Church High School, JEB Stuart High School with the Annandale Chorale, the NOVA Community Chorus and the Washington Metropolitan Youth Orchestra. The concert was conducted by Dr. Mark Whitmire (AL), Robert Webb (AN) and Ulysses James. There were 345 musicians on stage, including 260 students from local high schools, and more than 750 parents and friends in the audience.

Woodbridge Cleans Up Local Road

Last month, the Woodbridge Campus partnered with Freedom High School to clean up Neabsco Mills Road. Students and staff enjoyed the day as they picked up trash and shared in the camaraderie. LouEllen P. Brademan, administrative coordinator for the Center for the Environmental and Natural Sciences (CENS) program at Freedom, began the program with the Woodbridge student activities office.

“Students in the CENS program enjoy participating in these types of activities and work hard to accumulate 100 hours of activity/community service points over their four years in the program,” said Brademan.

Kevin Rollins, Woodbridge student activities coordinator, points out the benefits of the two schools working together. “It is an important partnership because it strengthens the connection between Freedom and NOVA.”
Annandale Offers New Degree in ASL Interpretation

Last spring, the Annandale Campus languages and literature division began offering an associate in applied science degree in American Sign Language (ASL)-Interpretation. The program, which prepares students to take the state and national certification exams for ASL interpreters, is overseen by Assistant Dean Paula Debes, who hopes to eventually offer a degree in deaf studies as well.

“Starting next summer, candidates for Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf certification will be required to hold a two-year degree in interpretation,” she notes, adding that this is the “gold standard” for interpreters. “Interpreters are in high demand in this area,” Debes explains.

In addition to the A.A.S. degree, the department offers career studies certificates in ASL and ASL Interpreting.

Assistant Dean Paula Debes (seated, right) with students Julie Clinch (standing) and Julie Crawford; both will graduate in December with associate degrees in interpretation.

VCCS Offers Chancellor’s Professorship Award

Each year, the VCCS offers the Chancellor’s Commonwealth Professorship award, which provides funding and reassigned time to pursue a self-directed project. The grant includes a stipend for two summers of $3,000 and a one-time payment of $7,500 for reimbursable expenses. Applicants must obtain Executive Vice President John T. Dever’s signature on a self-written letter demonstrating teaching excellence. In addition, applicants must also submit a proposal outlining a two-year project of personal and professional development related to community college teaching and learning. A detailed budget for the $7,500 is required as well as a statement of how the project will benefit other VCCS faculty.

The submission deadline to the College awards committee is January 5. Nominations are due in the VCCS Systems Office on February 1. The chancellor will then appoint the professorship in April for a two-year period. Up to four applicants will be selected. For more information, contact the co-chairs of the awards committee, John Min at jmin@nvcc.edu or Nelson Nester at nnester@nvcc.edu. Submit the nomination packet, consisting of five copies, plus a disk to Min at the Alexandria Campus.

Band, Chorus Get into the Holiday Spirit

The 80-member Alexandria Campus Concert Band and the 85-voice NOVA Community Chorus (under the direction of Dr. Mark Whitmire) will present their 30th Holiday Concert on December 8, at 8:00 p.m. in the Schlesinger Concert Hall on the Alexandria Campus. The concert is free and open to the public.

In addition, the NOVA Community Chorus will be joined by the Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic to present the Christmas portion of Handel’s “Messiah” on December 3 at 5:00 p.m. at the Church of the Epiphany (1317 G Street NW, Washington, D.C.) and on December 10 at 5:00 p.m. in the Schlesinger Concert Hall. Soloists include NOVA voice instructors Jennifer Hughes-Lopez, Jon Lackey and Aurelius Gori. Tickets are $5 at the door. Performances will be held in the Colgan Theatre at the Manassas Campus. For more information, call 703-845-6097 or e-mail mwhitmire@nvcc.edu.

Manassas Presents “Next Stop… Life”

The Manassas Campus drama department will present “Next Stop… Life: A Festival of New Works,” a series of plays written, directed, acted and designed by students in the playwriting/screenwriting class. These productions showcase some of the best works from the last few semesters.

The plays will be presented in two groupings with the first set presented on Friday, December 8 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, December 9 at 1:30 p.m. The second set will be presented on Saturday, December 9 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, December 10 at 1:30 p.m. Each grouping will contain three 10-minute plays and one one-act play.

Tickets are $5 at the door. Performances will be held in the Colgan Theatre at the Manassas Campus. For more information, contact Kathryn O’Sullivan at kosullivan@nvcc.edu or 703-257-6595.
Retirement Celebration for Dr. Mary Harrison

When: Thursday, December 7, 2006
2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Where: First Floor Atrium Outside Campus Theater

Who: The entire campus community is invited to celebrate Dr. Mary Harrison’s many years of service as a distinguished Professor/Counselor at Northern Virginia Community College

Join us for refreshments and fellowship!

Woodbridge Campus
Northern Virginia Community College
15200 Neabsco Mills Road
Woodbridge, VA 22191
(703) 878-5760
The Ceramics Program will hold our

**Annual Pottery Show & Benefit**

at the Schlesinger Center on
the Alexandria Campus
Saturday, December 2
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

100% of monies raised are deposited in
the NVCC Educational Foundation
to be used to purchase supplies and
maintain equipment.

You can help with donations of pottery or helping
with the benefit.