Chronicle Now Available Through NOVA Libraries

NOVA libraries recently announced that The Chronicle of Higher Education - the number one news and information source for college and university faculty members, administrators and students - can now be accessed by all College faculty and staff for free from any campus computer. Simply go to The Chronicle's home page at http://chronicle.com and click on any of the news updates which are normally only available to individual subscribers. There is also a link under the “Education” heading on the library database page (http://www.nvcc.edu/library/databases.htm). Access to the full-text of Chronicle articles is IP-authenticated and paid for by NOVA libraries. This new agreement also allows off-campus access and includes several additional features.

Don’t miss the weekly community college e-mail newsletter. This message features news articles that might be of interest to community college personnel. Anyone can sign up for the free newsletter by visiting http://chronicle.com/cc. Or, to receive a daily update from the Chronicle’s headline service, go to http://chronicle.com/help/rss.htm to learn more about RSS (real simple syndication) feeds.

NOVA Bids Farewell to Gladys Watkins

Colleagues, students and friends gathered on November 30 for a retirement tea in honor of Dr. Gladys M. Watkins. A mainstay of the music program at the Annandale Campus, Watkins retires this month after a 32-year teaching career at NOVA.

Provost Barbara Saperstone spoke of Watkins’ graciousness, generosity and many contributions to the College. Also making remarks were music professors James Fay, Robert Webb and Herb Smith, as well as Dr. Bruce Mann, Annandale’s liberal arts dean.

At the ceremony, it was announced that the Annandale music program has established “The Watkins Prize,” an annual award for outstanding performance or contribution by a pianist or organist. In addition, English professor Jenny Sullivan announced that Watkins has been selected to receive this year’s Mary Mott McCampbell Award for her energetic promotion of the arts.

Watkins was also honored by the Reunion Music Society, Annandale’s partner in presenting concerts, during intermission of the sold-out NVCC-Annandale Symphony Orchestra concert on November 17. Dr. Claiborne T. Richardson of the Reunion Board read an appreciation of her services to the orchestra.

Best wishes, Gladys. You will be missed.
The United States Postal Service (USPS), the Washington Metropolitan Postal Customer Council (WMPCC) and the Mail Systems Management Association (MSMA) recognized Northern Virginia Community College at their 2006 Holiday Event on December 5 at the USA Today headquarters in McLean. Accepting the “Large Mailer of the Year” award on behalf of NOVA were John Golding, manager of postal and distribution services and Sue Davis, coordinator of public information and publications. Each year, the USPS, Capitol area and the WMPCC honors small, medium and large-sized organizations who utilize mailing services most effectively in their marketing and outreach efforts. Since 1972, the WMPCC has served as a leader and pioneer in assisting mailers, vendors and customers of the USPS to have a voice in the design, acceptance and delivery of their mail.

**Sue Davis and John Golding** (center) accept the "Large Mailer of the Year" award from Jerry Lane, vice president, USPS Capitol area operations and Susan Plonkey, vice president, USPS Capitol area customer service.

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**New Leave Option Available for NOVA Administrators**

The State Board for Community Colleges has approved a new annual leave option for presidents, executive/senior administrators and administrative/professional faculty, effective January 10. Designated faculty have an election period effective immediately to either choose the new plan or remain in the current one. The choice must be communicated to human resources by January 9, using the election form that was attached to an e-mail that NOVA President Robert G. Templin, Jr. sent to eligible employees earlier this month. Once an election is made, it may not be reversed. Eligible faculty are encouraged to review the summary of the new leave option and compare the differences between the current plan and the new plan using the comparison tables. The entire leave policy, including the VCCS summary, comparison tables and election form, can be found on the HR Web page at [http://www.nvcc.edu/hr](http://www.nvcc.edu/hr). Contact any member of the HR benefits team for questions or assistance.

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**Online Parking Permit Registration Now Available for Faculty and Staff**

Online parking permit registration is now available for all full-time faculty, adjunct faculty and P-3 classified staff. This new service allows you to obtain permits online and eliminates the need to visit the parking office in person or submit paper applications through your unit.

After you place your order, permits will be mailed directly to your home address. One new feature of the program is the availability of a printable seven-day pass for immediate use while waiting for your permit to arrive. Click on the appropriate button, print out your pass and follow the instructions.

You must be in the NovaConnect system and have an EMPLID to use the online service. Units will need to process hiring packages promptly for new hires in order for them to take advantage of this new service. This is especially important at the beginning of each semester.

You will still need to visit a parking office if you already have two vehicles registered and need to add a third or if you want to turn in a permit to remove a vehicle from your account. Employees who are eligible to obtain permits online and who choose not to do so will have to submit individual applications, approved by their supervisors, to their campus parking office. Permits will no longer be issued to departments.

Community service and P-14 employees cannot use the system at this time. The parking services Web site ([https://nvceparking.t2system.com/cmn](https://nvceparking.t2system.com/cmn)) continues to accept parking citation appeals and payments.
Dancing With the Stars?

Well, they may not be Hollywood stars, but the stars of NOVA’s ballroom dance class recently put on quite a show. In the photo at left, students David Shull, Brittany Herr, Justin Ostling and Tara Staley demonstrate the Tango Dip learned in their Loudoun Campus class. The class is taught by Sandi Nicholson, who also teaches the course at the Manassas Campus.

The photo was taken on the final day of class when students are encouraged to dress up in their finest ballroom attire and “trip the light fantastic” as the class runs through a review of all the dances they have learned throughout the semester, including the foxtrot, waltz, swing, cha-cha, rumba and the tango. It sure makes for an entertaining final exam!

“NOVA Idol” Contest Picks Design Winner

Posters are already up all across the College announcing the upcoming “NOVA Idol” competition. The designer of the posters is NOVA student Junella Williams, who majors in both interactive design and graphic design at the Alexandria Campus. Williams was one of the students in Lisa Hill’s typography II class who competed for a cash prize. She wanted her design to be “modern and not dated, yet appeal to all ages.”

Williams was born in Trinidad and has lived most of her life in Prince William County. She recently received an internship in graphic design at Accurate Printing, located in Woodbridge. Her career plans include owning a stock photography company, becoming a creative director or designing store front windows.

Auditions for “NOVA Idol” will be held in late January, with the finals set for April. For more information and a peek at Williams’ design, see the flyer attached to this edition of Intercom.

Woodbridge Campus Gets in the Game

Last Saturday, NOVA had football fever. Freedom High School, located across the street from the Woodbridge Campus, hosted the state championship football game between Chantilly and Osbourn high schools. When Provost Sam Hill learned about the game, he immediately offered the Campus parking lots to Freedom High School Activities Director Brad Qualls. Not knowing what to expect, Qualls replied that the Campus would be used for “overflow” parking only.

On game day, more than 9,500 people (some estimates say 12,000) turned out to watch the two local teams battle for the state title. By kickoff, every parking slot on campus was full, with more cars parked wherever space allowed. From all accounts, the crowd enjoyed an exciting game with a final score of Osbourn Eagles 42, Chantilly Chargers 20. Honorable mention goes to the Woodbridge Campus for its community-minded gesture.

Reminder from Human Resources Regarding New Employee Approval

All new hires must go through an approval process before they can physically begin working at the College. If you have recently sent in a hiring packet to human resources for a new employee, please wait until the paperwork has been approved before he or she starts their job.

This Week’s Television Center Link - “The 60 Second Chef”

Producer/Director Richard Attix sends along the latest link from the Television Center - the next set of four “60 Second Chef” videos starring Chef Mike Herbert. Click on the link to view the episodes: mms://NOVAMEDIA.NVCC.EDU/public_videos/chef/chef_brining_stream.wmv.
NOVA Offers Professional Development Opportunities for Faculty in January

This is a reminder about upcoming professional development opportunities in January.

- **Power Up Your Pedagogy** - January 3, 4 and 8 from 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the Ernst Center
  This three-day teaching and learning conference features more than 50 concurrent sessions presented by fellow NOVA faculty members. No pre-registration necessary. Light refreshments and door prizes. Review the schedule at [http://www.nvcc.edu/annandale/tlc/](http://www.nvcc.edu/annandale/tlc/).

- **Cross Campus Day 2007** - January 11 in the Ernst Center
  For details, go to [http://www.nvcc.edu/hrdfaculty/](http://www.nvcc.edu/hrdfaculty/).

- **Faculty Resource Fair** - January 12 from 10:00 a.m. - noon in the Ernst Center Forum
  Find out more about the resources and support services that are available for all teaching faculty by visiting more than 24 booths staffed by College experts.

- **NOVA New Faculty Orientation II** - January 12 from 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the Ernst Center
  For all full-time faculty hired since August 2006.

- **NOVA New Faculty Orientation III** - January 5 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the Ernst Center
  This is the final orientation session for all full-time faculty hired in August 2005.

- **Annandale Adjunct Faculty Orientation** - January 13 from 9:00 a.m. - noon in the Ernst Center
  Contact the Annandale Campus evening administration office for additional information, or visit [http://www.nvcc.edu/annandale/Eveadm/adjfac/](http://www.nvcc.edu/annandale/Eveadm/adjfac/).

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**MEC Students Offer Free Massages to the Alexandria Campus**

On December 4 and 9, massage therapy students from the Medical Education Campus provided free seated massages to all faculty, staff and students at the Alexandria Campus. The students - who gave some much-needed stress relief to more than 120 people - enjoyed the opportunity to earn the required clinical hours needed to receive their certificates.

“I think this was a fabulous experience for my students and myself,” said Terry Hughitt, faculty advisor for the massage therapy program. “They felt very welcomed and supported by the entire Campus.”

This experience not only allowed the MEC students to earn hands-on experience, but they were also given the opportunity to network and build future clientele.

Congratulations and best wishes to the first graduating class to receive a certificate in massage therapy from the Medical Education Campus!

*Massage therapy student Debbie Belcher relieves a student’s final exam tension last week at the Alexandria Campus.*

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This is the last issue of *Intercom* until January 12, 2007.
The next deadline for articles is January 5, 2007.
Send all items to *Intercom@nvcc.edu*.

Have a safe and happy holiday, everyone!
Campus Auditions:
January 22-31
Date, time and locations to be determined.

Semi-Final Competition:
April 6
3-6 PM, Schlesinger Center,
Alexandria Campus

Final Competition:
April 6
7-11 PM, Schlesinger Center,
Alexandria Campus

ELIGIBILITY:
Contestants must be enrolled in one or more Spring Semester classes.

Northern Virginia Community College is hosting auditions Jan. 22-31 at every campus for the 2007 NOVA Idol (deadline for audition submission: 12 noon, Jan. 19). Contestants will be asked to sing, without accompaniment, for no longer than two minutes. Judges will select the best performers to compete in the semi-finals. The top 15 will go on to the finals, where the audience and judges will vote for their favorite.

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

WHO WILL BE NOVA IDOL 2007

CASH PRIZES: FIRST PLACE $2,500 | SECOND PLACE $1,500 | THIRD PLACE $700

Details: www.novaidol2007.com or leave a message at 703-933-5074
NOVA Northern Virginia Community College www.nvcc.edu 703-323-3000
Thursday, January 11, 2007

Richard J. Ernst Community Cultural Center
Annandale Campus

Teaching and Learning in a Global Community

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  Ernst Center Lobby: Continental Breakfast, Meet and Greet

Presentations

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.  Ernst Center Theater

    Dr. Robert G. Templin, Jr., President, Northern Virginia Community College
    Dr. John T. Dever, Executive Vice President, Academic & Student Services, Northern Virginia Community College

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  Ernst Center Theater: Guest Speaker

10:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  Ernst Center Forum: International Resources

    Concurrent Sessions I

10:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Choose from a variety of sessions presented by your colleagues.

    Concurrent Sessions II

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Choose from a variety of sessions presented by your colleagues.

Lunch

12:30 p.m.  Ernst Center Gym: Boxed Lunches “Grab and Go”

Cluster Meetings