Business Opportunity Center Launches Mentoring Program

In an effort to better serve the business community and in response to Governor Tim Kaine’s Executive Order 33, NOVA’s Business Opportunity Center (BOC) recently introduced the Small, Women and Minority Owned Business (SWaM) Mentoring Program.

The program is the brainchild of NOVA’s William Gary, Robert Vaughn, Gene Brown, Dave Courter, William Forster, Ellen Gray and Toa Do from Business Development Assistance Group (BDAG). The current BOC steering committee of the program include Chris Applegate, director of the Arlington Center and Alexandria’s Continuing Education and Workforce Development; Courter, acting vice-president of finance and administration; Ron Davis, purchasing senior buyer; Humaira Hassan, buyer specialist I; Forster, program coordinator; Gray, program developer; Chris Tran, BOC program manager.

Pictured from left to right: Chuck Mills III, Founder and CEO, Salera Capital Management, Arlington County Board Chairman Walter Tejada, President Robert G. Templin, Jr. and Chris Applegate.

Continued on page 2
and Vaughn, director of Annandale’s Continuing Education and Workforce Development.

The SWaM Mentoring Program is designed to improve SWaM’s chances of successfully bidding for state and/or local government contracts or subcontracts. BOC’s business and legal experts will: (1) review the business plans and organizational structure of each participant’s enterprise, (2) provide technical assistance and training in the preparation of bids or proposals, (3) offer multiple networking opportunities with government buyers and large vendors and (4) connect businesses with the appropriate college workforce development programs for employee recruitment and training.

The SWaM Mentoring Program kicked off with a reception from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on January 25 at the Holiday Inn in Arlington. The reception was hosted by President Robert G. Templin, Jr. and included remarks from special guest Walter Tejada, chairman of the Arlington County Board of Supervisors.

The BOC looks forward to working with Do from BDAG, Tara Miles from the Arlington Economic Development Bizlaunch, Kathy Wheeler from the Community Business Partnership and the Virginia state government staff.

For more information on the SWaM Mentoring Program, contact Tran at 703-933-5057 or e-mail cttran@nvcc.edu.
Barthelus Named Call Center Director

Linda Barthelus, the new director of the College Call Center, started January 10. She left Arlington County Department of Environmental Services to come to NOVA. She has over 10 years of call center experience and five years of higher education experience. She has a bachelor’s degree in Marketing and a Master of Business Administration degree with a specialization in Electronic Business. Barthelus stated, “I am excited to lead the Call Center team in becoming an effective information center for our customers.” She says her management style is best described as servant-leadership and strives to positively impact those around her and be a good steward of her staff and college resources.

Manassas Campus Celebrates African American History Month

Pictured from left to right: Randy Michener (Fine Arts) welcomed artist Jonathan Botts to the Manassas Campus, along with Dean of Students Victor Bibbins, Sr. and Student Activities Coordinator “JT” Thomas. The Campus is hosting an exhibit of oil paintings that narrate a fictionalized history of Botts’ ancestors. The painting shown, “Land Ho,” will be on display with the rest of the series until February 23.
Calliope Dominates Southern Region in National Competition

Calliope, the Annandale Campus student journal of art and literature, won first place in the southern division of the Community College Humanities Association’s annual literary magazine competition. The 2007 contest was highly competitive, with 84 community colleges from across the country submitting their magazines for consideration. The award was formally presented to Calliope Chair Ray Orkwis in San Antonio, Texas.

After a third place finish in 2006, this marks the second consecutive year that Calliope has received national recognition. The editors are hoping for an even more successful 2008 and need quality student submissions to make that happen. Faculty and staff can help by identifying talented writers and artists and encouraging them to submit their work. Submission guidelines can be found on the Calliope Web site at http://www.nvcc.edu/annandale/langlit/eng/calliope. For more information, contact Orkwis at rorkwis@nvcc.edu.

Tour Alexandria Campus Library at Home

Take a tour of the Alexandria Campus Library from the comfort of your own computer! For students new to the Campus, students new to library research or for anyone wondering about how the library works, this eight minute online tour will show library users how to check materials out, how to use their NovaCards, where to find books, reference materials, DVDs and also where to study. Anne Anderson, reference and instruction services librarian, and Brandee Worsham, library specialist, are always happy to assist you.

To take the tour, go online to http://www.nvcc.edu/alexandria/library/librarytour/. You can also read more about library news on the Library Blog at http://alexandrialibrary.blogspot.com/.

GOT NEWS? Let Your Colleagues Hear From You!

What is happening at your campus? Who is setting trends? Have you presented at a conference? What events are coming up? Check out the submission guidelines at: http://www.nvcc.edu/pip/guidelines.htm.

E-mail your article to intercom@nvcc.edu!
Abuharb Becomes a U.S. Citizen

Congratulations to Marah Abuharb, who received her U.S. Citizenship on February 5. Abuharb is a long-term P-14 employee in Facilities Management. She works with Inventory Control and supports the Postal and Distribution Center. While working part-time, she is pursuing a degree in Counseling.

Pictured: Marah Abuharb taking her oath (below) and receiving her citizenship certificate (right).

NOVA Featured in Inside Higher Ed

NOVA was one of four institutions included in the lead article in the February 1 edition of Inside Higher Education. Congratulations to NOVA’s Green Committee and to everyone who worked to mount the climate change programs. To read the full article, go online to: http://insidehighered.com/news/2008/02/01/sustain.
Alexandria Campus Student Clubs Recruit Members

More than 15 student organizations at the Alexandria Campus participated in a Spring Club Recruitment Fair, sponsored by the Student Government Association, held on February 7, to engage more students in student leadership and community service activities.

Tony Stanzo, faculty advisor for the Sport Club, spent time signing up students for the College-wide Table Tennis program, which provided four tables and involved faculty, staff and students from several campuses. Student club participants included the Environmental Council, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Muslim Student Association, Student Business Association, French Interest Group and the Student Ambassador Club.

Pictured from left to right: Becky Ogunwo, president of the Sports and Recreation Club, Tony Stanzo, faculty advisor of the Sports Club and Rob Lucier, coordinator of the new college-wide Ice Hockey Team.

Brooks Featured in Loudoun Extra

Amanda Brooks (MEC), nurse practitioner and assistant professor, was quoted in the January 30 edition of the Loudoun Extra. To read the full article titled, “Free Clinic Meets Needs of Uninsured” go online to http://loudounextra.washingtonpost.com/blogs/living-loco/2008/jan/30/.
1001 Black Inventions

Take a look at the attachment section about this great theatrical experience. It will take place February 20 at 12:30 p.m. at the CE Theater (AN). Come out and lunch will be FREE!

Science Seminar presented by the Science Seminar Committee MSE Division, Annandale Campus and also supported by Lyceum

This event will take place February 22 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the CE Forum, Ernst Cultural Center (AN). The speaker will be Raj Bawa, Ph.D., Bawa Biotechnology Consulting, Virginia and the title of the presentation will be “Exploring Nanomedicines and Medical Devices - A Journey through Pictures.”

New paradigms are shrinking our world and a classic technological revolution in medicine is unfolding. Nanomedicine is part of the high risk, high payoff global nanotechnology phenomenon. While nanotechnology promises to transform most industries, it will have a particularly profound impact on healthcare and medicine. Nanomedicine may be defined as the monitoring, repair, construction and control of human biological systems at the molecular level, using engineered nanodevices and nanostructures. Advances in delivering nanotherapies, miniaturization of analytic tools, improved computational and memory capabilities and developments in remote communications will eventually be integrated. This would result in reducing the cost of drug discovery, design and development, allowing faster introduction of new cost-effective products to the market. The nano-pharma market is expected to significantly grow in the coming years.

Some of the areas that will be highlighted include: synthetic products (biomimetic nanostructures) developed from an understanding of nature; devices and nanosensors for early point-of-care detection of diseases and pathogens; construction of smart multifunctional biologic nanostructures, devices, implants and systems that couple and integrate diagnosis with targeted site-specific drug delivery and imaging and miniaturizing of devices for less invasiveness coupled with surface modification or functionalization to render the device more “biologic.”

Bawa, a biochemist and microbiologist, is president of Bawa Biotechnology Consulting LLC. He is a registered patent agent licensed to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and specializes in all aspects of biotechnology, nanotechnology and pharmaceutical patent law. Currently, Bawa is an adjunct associate professor at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York and has been since 1998. Additionally, he has been an adjunct professor of Natural and Applied Sciences at the Extended Learning Institute of NOVA on the Annandale Campus since 2003. He has served as a National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant reviewer, participated in National Science Foundation’s (NSF) merit review process and reviewed classified grant proposals from the Science Centers Program of the U.S. Department of State.

Bawa is the author of over 50 scientific, legal and business publications. He is a Life Member of Sigma Xi, a Fellow and Board Member of the American Academy of Nanomedicine and serves on the Global Advisory Council of the World Future Society. Presently, he serves on the editorial boards of the peer-reviewed journals, International Journal of Nanomedicine and Nanotechnology Law and Business. He is an associate editor of the peer-reviewed journal, Nanomedicine: Nanotechnology, Biology and Medicine and co-editor of the textbook titled Nanotechnology Law to be published in 2008 by the American Law Media. His biographical record appears in Marquis Who’s Who in America (2007) and Marquis Who’s Who in the World (2008).

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and President Hugo Chavez

This four-day series, sponsored by the International Studies Committee of the Alexandria Campus, will take place March 3 to 6 at 2:00 p.m. in Bisdorf Room 158. See the flyer in the attachment section to get the complete details.

NOVA 2008 Law Enforcement Job Fair

This event will take place at the Woodbridge Atrium on March 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Please see the attachment section for details.
Blackboard Use Tops 100,000 Users

Statistics from the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) show that more than 100,000 separate students, faculty and staff logged onto Blackboard during the first two weeks of January (this is separate users, not just a smaller number of users logging on multiple times!). The numbers below show the January users by college. If you are not using Blackboard and are interested in learning more about how to use any of the many features of Blackboard, visit the Technology Applications Web site: http://www.nvcc.edu/tac.

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Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE)

This spring, NOVA and other Virginia community colleges will participate in a national survey focusing on teaching, learning and student persistence in community colleges. The project, called the “Community College Survey of Student Engagement” (CCSSE), is housed within the Community College Leadership Program at the University of Texas at Austin.

Research shows that students who read and write more, and who interact in positive ways with their teachers and peers, gain more in terms of essential knowledge and skills. CCSSE will examine student engagement in five benchmark areas: active and collaborative learning, student effort, academic challenge, student-faculty interaction and support for learners. This is the third year NOVA will participate in CCSSE. We will be using the survey results to see the ways we are improving in the benchmark areas.

The survey will be administered in classes randomly selected by CCSSE to ensure a representative sample and to preserve the integrity of the survey results. Instructors whose classes are selected for survey administration will receive specific information from the Office of Institutional Research (OIR). If you receive a request to participate, your cooperation in this national survey will be greatly appreciated.

You may learn more about CCSSE from the project Web site at http://www.ccsse.org. If you have any questions about NOVA’s participation in the CCSSE project, please contact the Office of Institutional Research at 703-323-3129. Our college Web site dealing with CCSSE is http://www.nvcc.edu/oir/REPORTS/CCSSE_2005_FINAL.pdf.

New FBMC Login Launched

Fringe Benefits Management Company (FBMC) has changed the way customers log in to its Web site, http://www.myFBMC.com. All participants in the flexible reimbursement program who choose to view their account information online, are now required to register with the new Premier Login system, which is simple and takes only a few moments to complete. Participants are asked to enter their name, zip code and e-mail address, and to supply their FBMC ID, Employee ID or Social Security number (SSN). They also may choose a new password.

Once this information is in the system, FBMC sends a confirmation to the e-mail address provided to verify that it is valid. This confirmation e-mail contains a verification link that the participant clicks in order to complete the registration process. After finishing this one-time registration, the participant may access account information using their e-mail address and password. For questions and additional information, contact FBMC Customer Service at 1-800-342-8017 or click the “Contact” link on the http://www.myFBMC.com home page.
“1001 Black Inventions”

This play takes you on an eye-opening journey through history, describing the vast intellectual contributions of Africans & African Americans. A typical American family is sent into a “Twilight Zone” where they must attempt to survive in a world without inventions created by African Americans. A unique and entertaining way of realizing that Black ingenuity is an integral part of our everyday lives.

When: Wednesday, February 20 at 12:30 p.m.
Place: CE Theater
FREE LUNCH!
THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA AND PRESIDENT HUGO CHÁVEZ

A 4-day series sponsored by the International Studies Committee of the Alexandria Campus

Monday through Thursday, March 3-6 2008

All events at 2 p.m. in Bisdorf Room 158
PROGRAM

DAY 1
Monday, March 3 - “An Introduction to Venezuela.”

Dr. Lawrence Rich, Associate Professor of Spanish
Dr. James Baer, Professor of Latin American History
Ms. Olivia Burlingame Goumbri, Executive Director, Venezuela Information Office

Day 2
Tuesday, March 4 - “Hugo Chávez: Brutal Dictator or Crusading Democrat?”

Bart Jones, author of ¡Hugo! The Hugo Chávez Story from Mud Hut to Perpetual Revolution will discuss his book. (Book signing to follow)
PROGRAM

Day 3
Wednesday, March 5 - “Popular Culture in Venezuela.”

Patricia Abdelnour, Cultural Attaché of the Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, will give a presentation on the art and music of Venezuela.

Day 4
Thursday, March 6 - Screening of the award-winning documentary: “Chávez: Inside the Coup.”

For further information, contact Dr. Lawrence Rich at lrich@nvcc.edu or (703) 933-3986.
Attend the job fair to learn about career opportunities with:

Federal Agencies
State Police Departments
Municipal Police Departments
and County Agencies

Sponsored by:

Woodbridge Criminal Justice Club

For more information:
Dr. James O’Connor 703-878-5649
joconnor@nvcc.edu
or
Dennis Staszak 703-878-5864
dstaszak@nvcc.edu