Woodbridge Continuing Education Instructor Selected Athlete of the Year

USA Track and Field, the national governing body for track and field in the USA, honored Bruce McBarnette on December 7 in Washington, D.C. for being selected 2006 Masters Athlete of the Year for his age group (45-49). McBarnette, an attorney and real estate investor, teaches several courses in Continuing Education at the Woodbridge Campus. The ceremony was held at R.F.D. Restaurant. Bob Weiner, USA Track and Field National Masters Media Chair, presented an award to McBarnette. At the reception, Weiner said, “In addition to being a truly remarkable athlete, Bruce is also an outstanding human being who has done so much not for only track and field, but also for several charities for which he volunteers.”

McBarnette broke the world indoor and outdoor high jump record for his age group last year. He also won his third world masters title at the World Masters Championships in Linz, Austria. He won his 16th USA Track and Field National Master Championship in Charlotte, North Carolina. His best performance of 2006 was 6 feet 7.75 inches (2.00 meters) and his lifetime best is 7 feet 1 inch.

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Pictured: Bob Weiner, USA Track and Field National Masters Media Chair, congratulates Bruce McBarnette for his USA Track and Field Masters Athlete of the Year Award.

(2.16 meters). He will be representing the United States at the World Masters Championships in Clermont-Ferrand, France on March 20.

In addition to track and field, McBarnette is an actor and has had roles on several TV shows, including “West Wing,” “The Wire,” “Law and Order” and in movies such as “Shooter,” “Ladder 49,” “Along Came the Spider,” “Contact,” “Deep Impact” and “The Jackal.” As a philanthropist, he has hosted events benefitting hurricane victims and other charitable causes at the Embassies of Finland, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Austria, Trinidad and Tobago, Grenada, Antigua and Barbuda, and the Czech Republic.

McBarnette, a graduate of Princeton University and New York University Law School, was a former legal counsel to the United States Senate, a former senior counsel for Fannie Mae and a former judge advocate attorney for the U.S. Army.
The Aspen Institute Awards the NOVA -Northern Virginia Family Service’s Partnership

“The Aspen Institute is awarding one of six grants to the Northern Virginia Community College-Northern Virginia Family Service’s (NOVA/NVFS) partnership,” announced Amy Blair, senior consultant for the Workforce Strategies Initiative of The Aspen Institute. The surprise announcement was made at the Training Futures’ graduation on December 18. The grant is a three-year, $300,000 award. The NOVA/NVFS application was selected out of 87 other applicants in a very competitive nationwide process. Blair went on to say, “This partnership was picked for several reasons; we see great promise in the NOVA-NVFS model - one that can be used nationwide. The Steps to Success partnership is a shining gem in the nation. This partnership has many innovative practices. We want to learn from you how your partnership combines employment and higher education opportunities. I’m also greatly impressed by the level of participation of the business community. I see real commitment from students, the partnership and the business community.” To the Training Futures’ graduates, her parting words were, “I’m taking your resumes with me back to The Aspen Institute!”

Bill Browning and Jenny Graves would like to express their gratitude to everyone who helped to make this award possible.

The Angel Tree Project: NOVA’s Spirit of Giving!

The Medical Education Campus really got into the holiday spirit this past season, by donating to the Salvation Army’s Angel Tree Project. Known as the “Giving Wreath” on Campus, students, faculty and staff had the opportunity to stop by the Office of Student Activities to select an “angel” to buy gifts and give love to for the holidays. This year was amazing with students teaming up and departments banning together to get something extra special for each child, helping us to have an exceptional turnout and an abundance of wonderful gifts to give to the children in need! Organizers would like to thank everyone for representing MEC and the College in a wonderful and selfless way! The Salvation Army was truly pleased and thankful for the overwhelming response!

Pictured right: Jessica Adams (MEC), student activities coordinator
Alexandria Campus Hosts Interagency Language Roundtable

Provost Jonathan Gueverra (AL) welcomed members and guests attending the Interagency Language Roundtable’s (ILR) December 7 meeting in the Schlesinger Center. The plenary session, which focused on the critical role of the community college in the formation of a national language agenda, was hosted by NOVA’s World Languages faculty. Instructors from five campuses and ELI showcased NOVA’s innovative language-related programs, projects and initiatives and demonstrated how these fit into the national goal to prepare more Americans to become proficient in languages other than English.

The Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR) is made up of many government agencies that have language training, testing and translation as part of their mission. The ILR meets monthly to discuss issues of common interest to language educators in government and the military. Most of these meetings are scheduled at the Foreign Service Institute. The December meeting represented the second time the group met at a community college. ILR Steering Committee Chair Dr. Scott McGinnis, of the Defense Language Institute, presided over the meeting.

Attendees heard presentations from foreign language faculty Laura Franklin, Takako Shigehisa, Elizabeth Bull, Margarita Hodge, Ana Alonso, Christopher Blake, Heidi Adamson, Donna Clark, Carmen Figueroa and Associate Vice President of Instructional Technology Monica Sasscer.

GOT NEWS? Let Your Colleagues Hear From You!

What is happening at your campus? Who is setting trends? What events are coming up? Check out the Intercom submission guidelines at: http://www.nvcc.edu/pip/guidelines.htm Submit your article today to intercom@nvcc.edu.
Adjunct marketing professor Nancy Robert (AN) and her students participated in the first pilot project using the library’s new multimedia room as part of class activities for Marketing 201: Introduction to Marketing. Students studied examples of product and service promotions and used this knowledge to create their own four-minute electronic and audio presentations using a digital medium of their choice. Each student presented their project to the class at the end of the semester.

“With the support of the multimedia staff, my students were able to showcase their creative and analytical skills using a variety of media,” says Robert. “This is excellent training for future marketing careers.” Librarians Irene Osterman and Ted Sherman coordinated training sessions, along with developing tutorials and instructional animations for students to use. “The multimedia room supports the expanding role of technology in education and offers faculty the opportunity to create student assignments that incorporate high-tech learning features,” says Sherman.

The idea for the multimedia room came from a graduate research project by Osterman. The pilot program proposal was approved and money was allocated for construction over the summer.
Study Early - Study Late at Alexandria

Once again the Alexandria Campus Library observed extended hours during the last week of classes and final exams. Opening half an hour early at 8:00 a.m. and closing an hour late at 11:00 p.m., the Library provided additional hours for study at a critical time of the year. Students also enjoyed the traditional 'Late Night Study Break' of coffee, tea and cookies served in the Library after 9.30 p.m. Thanks to all of the Alexandria Library staff, whose flexibility makes extended hours possible. To read more about it, go online to read the Library blog at http://alexandrialibrary.blogspot.com/.

Alexandria Campus New Student Orientation

The Alexandria Campus conducted a New Student Orientation at the new Global Capital Trading Room and generated many “wow” responses and excited students about their decision to attend NOVA. For information on the Global Capital Trading Room, go to: http://www.nvcc.edu/alexandria/lrc/occ/gctc/.

At the Computer Center LAB, students learned how to work with their LAN accounts, NVCC e-mail system, BlackBoard, use admission and financial aid features, register and pay for classes, among other tasks. Business Technologies Division IT Professors Pablo R. Ibar and Ahmad Noor, Open Computer Center supervisor Abid Mahmood and many others helped to make this event a success. Thanks to all.
Manassas Holiday Luncheon

Manassas Campus faculty and staff celebrated the end of the fall semester and the beginning of the holiday season with a potluck luncheon on December 13. Attendees enjoyed a bounty of both savory and sweet dishes while relaxing with colleagues before the winter break. Everyone appreciated the efforts of the organizing committee, who created a festive atmosphere for this annual party.

Pictured left: Loretta Gray and Claire Ackerman served fruity punch to the thirsty crowd; pictured right clockwise from bottom left: Galyna Ponomarenko, Sara Boyd, Gaby Alvarez, Pat Carrow and Cindy Langguth toast the holidays.

Extended Learning Institute

The Extended Learning Institute invited guest speaker Dr. Curtis Jay Bonk from Indiana University to present the informative talk “Creating Engaging, Collaborative, and More Active Classes: Low-Risk, Low-Cost, Low Time” on November 12 at the CT Building (AN). For those who missed it, the handout from this session can be downloaded at http://www.trainingshare.com/workshop.php.

Bonk is a professor of instructional systems technology in the School of Education at Indiana University and is an adjunct in the School of Informatics. He is also a senior research fellow with the Department of Defense’s Advanced Distributed Learning Lab. He has received the CyberStar Award from the Indiana Information Technology Association, the Most Outstanding Achievement Award from the U.S. Distance Learning Association and Most Innovative Teaching in a Distance Education Program from the State of Indiana. Bonk is in high demand as a conference keynote speaker and workshop presenter. He is president of CourseShare and SurveyShare. To learn more, see http://mypage.iu.edu/~cjbonk/ or e-mail cjbonk@indiana.edu.

To follow his blog, go to:

Take his YouTube video survey:
NOVA Professor Presents at Oxford University

If your company loses money because a hacker has broken into your computers and stolen personally identifiable information, can you be assured of winning in court? Not necessarily so, says Yolanda I. Smith, professor of business law at the Alexandria Campus and attorney-at-law. “The law evolves slowly and technology moves at the speed of light, it seems.” The legal explanation can be found in a paper she has written: “A Summary of Legal Limitations in Cyberliability.” She will present the paper at the Oxford Round Table in March 2008 addressing “The Regulation of Cyberspace: Balancing the Interests.” The Oxford Round Table, held annually at Oxford University in England, is a twenty-year-old symposium that gathers a group of interdisciplinary academics from the United Kingdom, the European Union and the United States to study and discuss several subjects each year. The NSF CyberWATCH grant will fund Smith’s travel expenses to the symposium. After presentation at Oxford, the paper will be posted on the CyberWATCH Web site at www.cyberwatchcenter.org.

2007-2008 Faculty of the Year Nominations

The NVCC Alumni Federation is once again calling for nominations for the 2007-2008 Faculty of the Year awards. Only alumni and students of NOVA may nominate full-time teaching faculty for these awards. A nominating form may be printed from the Alumni Web site at www.nvcc.edu/alumni under “Faculty Recognition.” Nominating forms may also be found at your campus Information Desk and Learning Resource Centers. The deadline for nominations is March 31. The reception honoring nominated faculty and announcing the campus winners will be held April 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the Richard J. Ernst Community Cultural Center Forum. For further information, please contact Bonnie Idle, alumni coordinator, at 703-323-3749.

Safety News: Emergency/ Preparation/Response

As we get ready for a new semester, don’t forget to review your emergency response, evacuation and stay-in-place plans! Please have your students and co-workers participate in an evacuation drill (in case of fires, etc.) and a stay-in-place, shelter drill (in case of a severe storm, disruptive student or employee, etc.). A few minutes spent reviewing and practicing proper procedures now can prevent panic and confusion in the event of an actual emergency.

The beginning of a new semester is also an excellent time to review and update your agency-specific Emergency Response Plan. If your office or building does not have such a plan, write one now! Communicate with your co-workers and coordinate with local Emergency Management agencies (Fire, Police, EMT, etc.), and maintain contact with them as you periodically update your plan. Prepare an office emergency kit containing water, non-perishable food items, first aid supplies and a change of clothes. Do not forget to update your home and vehicle emergency plans as well. For more information, consult your Campus or Agency Emergency Response Plan. Enjoy the winter and anticipate a great spring; however, please do not take a break from safety and preparedness!

Art Faculty Announce Joint Exhibit

NOVA’s art faculty proudly announces a joint exhibit with the art faculty of Yuhan College (Seoul, Korea). “Art Crosses the Sea” will show January 15 - 30 in the Verizon Gallery in the Ernst Community Cultural Center. An opening reception is planned for January 15, from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., and Yuhan College President Dr. Young-ho Kim will be the guest of honor and joined by six faculty members from Yuhan. The gallery is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. Contact Paul McVeigh at 703-323-4224 or e-mail pmcveigh@nvcc.edu for more information.
Adventure Unlimited and the Annandale Office of Student Activities present:

NOVA SKI TRIP to Snow Mountain in PA
February 22-24!!

INCLUDED:

Transportation and Accommodations
• Round trip transportation.
• Two night’s hotel accommodations at the Deluxe Ramada Inn Hotel On-the-Square.
• Welcome refreshments featuring a “Build Your Own Hot Dog and Taco” bar upon arrival at the hotel.
  Two buffet breakfasts each morning and two “all you can eat” smorgasbord buffet dinners.

Skier Services
• FREE- Skiing/Lesson Teen Ticket or Snow Tubing at Snow Mountain on Saturday.
• FREE- Use of Alpine Ski Equipment (skis, poles, and boots) for the entire duration of the trip.
  Snowboarding is extra.
• Discounted lift tickets and tubing tickets on sale in hotel.
  Inquire about activities for non-skiers as well!

Snow Mountain-
* 1000 foot vertical drop
* 21 Slopes and Trails
* Longest Run 1.4 miles
* 6 Lifts

Prices:

TOUR PRICE PER PERSON

Quad (4 per room) $219
Triple (3 per room) $229
Double (2 per room) $239

FINAL PAYMENTS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN JANUARY 28, 2008! The bus leaves at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, February 22nd from the Annandale Campus. Friends and family of students, faculty, and staff may attend this trip as well. There are no more than two beds per room. You must bring your roommate’s payment at the same time to reserve your space. Make checks payable to NVCC. For more details please contact Tiffany Fossett at tfossett@nvcc.edu.