Alexandria Campus Hosts Post Election Conference

The Alexandria Campus played host to the 2006 Post Election Conference, held last month in the Schlesinger Center. The event was sponsored by NOVA, Charlie Cook and the Cook Political Report, Virginia Congressman Tom Davis and James Carville, adjunct professor of political science. The panel discussion was initiated by Carville who thought NOVA would be the perfect place to gather some of the nation’s best-known political observers to provide their analysis of the midterm congressional elections and their implications for the nation.

James Carville (center) moderates the discussion while Republican pollsters (from left) Neil Newhouse and Dave Sacket face off with Democratic pollsters Harrison Hickman and Stan Greenberg.

Left: Megan Byer from the State Board for Community Colleges and Ed Graves, adjunct faculty member, chat with NOVA President Robert G. Templin, Jr. Right: New Alexandria Provost Jonathan Guerra greets Jesse Woods, Alexandria Campus student government vice president.

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Human Resources e-Service Rollout is a Success

In early November, human resources introduced their new e-Service system which allows employees to monitor personnel information, request leave and submit timesheets electronically. Users will now be able to submit timesheets and leave requests from any Web connection, at any time, allowing for expedited supervisor approval and payroll processing. The new system will also provide individuals with a current record of their leave balance and will automatically feed information into the College telephone directory.

HR e-Service usage has increased significantly in the past few weeks, with more than 800 employees having tried the new system. Faculty, classified staff and hourly workers who have not yet logged into the new system to review their personal and job-related information, should do so soon. Once logged into HR e-Service, employees can begin submitting timesheets electronically. For the first electronic submission, a paper timesheet should also be turned in with a note that an electronic one was submitted as well. HR will notify employees of any glitches. After successful submission of the first electronic timesheet, paper copies will no longer be necessary.

This semester, human resources will continue to offer a variety of e-Service training opportunities, including Web-based audio sessions, face-to-face meetings and instructions via e-mail. While human resources is pleased with the positive feedback so far, they continue to seek ways that HR e-Service can be improved and welcome comments and suggestions from employees. Any feedback should be directed to hreservice@nvcc.edu.

Conference Video Available Through TV Center Web Site

Video of last month’s Post Election Conference at the Alexandria Campus is now available on the Television Center Web site at mms://NOVAMEDIA.nvcc.edu/PUBLIC_VIDEOS/Cook_Report.wmv. The two-hour video features James Carville, Charlie Cook and a host of Democratic and Republican pundits and pollsters.
New Faces at NOVA’s Reston Center

NOVA has two new faculty members joining the ranks at the Reston Center this spring. **Dr. Anastase Shyaka** is a Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence with both NOVA and George Mason University who will teach a class in “Contemporary Politics-Africa” starting February 14. Shyaka, who studied in both Poland and France, comes to NOVA from the University of Rwanda in Kigali. His course will be based largely on case studies, examining current political and social issues in sub-Saharan Africa.

Also starting February 14 is a new course titled “Peace and Stability Operations,” taught by professor **James Hanlon**, a White House foreign policy analyst. Hanlon, a NOVA graduate with a diverse career in management, international politics and consulting, will share his experience in international security, intelligence analysis and civil society peace operations. Welcome to both Anastase and James!

**Courtney Bishop Joins Annandale Provost’s Staff**

The Annandale Campus welcomed **Courtney Bishop** in style—her first day on the job as administrative assistant for the office of the provost coincided with the annual holiday luncheon! The Long Island native relocated to Northern Virginia in November, having decided that New York City had become a little too “crowded and hectic.”

Bishop, who holds a B.A. in psychology from Southampton College, Long Island, most recently worked at Kingsborough Community College in Brooklyn, where she served as the freshman year admissions advisor. In addition, as adjunct faculty at Southampton College, she taught a theater management class. Currently living in Clifton with family, Bishop’s number one hobby is theater: “all aspects except being on stage—I’m more of a behind-the-scenes person.” Welcome, Courtney!

**Whole Foods Continues Scholarship**

**Katherine Olson**, assistant dean for marketing (AN), announces two merit-based scholarships for students enrolled in one of the following A.A.S. degrees: eCommerce, International Marketing, Marketing and Public Relations. For the past five years, these scholarships have been funded through Whole Foods Market. Recipients will be announced in May. The awards cover tuition, textbooks and lab materials. For more information, contact Olson at 703-323-3167 or kolson@nvcc.edu. For criteria and an application form, along with additional information on the marketing program’s degrees and certificates, visit [http://www.nvcc.edu/home/kolson](http://www.nvcc.edu/home/kolson).

**Sachs Interviewed by Peer Review**

**Dr. Steve Sachs**, vice president of instructional and information technology, was the subject of an interview by Noreen O’Connor which appeared in the fall 2006 issue of Peer Review, a publication distributed by the Association of American Colleges and Universities.

In the article, “Harnessing Technology to Improve Liberal Learning,” Sachs discusses how new instructional technologies are advancing important liberal education outcomes and provides examples of how NOVA is using technology on all six of its campuses.

**Nuhn Recognized for Nature Photography Efforts**

Earlier this month, **Shirley Nuhn**, languages and literature (AN), received a Board Recognition Award at the 13th annual Summit and Trade Show of the North American Nature Photography Association (NANPA) in Palm Springs, California. Each year, the NANPA summit brings together professionals and amateurs interested in nature photography, including scholarship students from high schools and colleges. Nuhn was recognized specifically for establishing and promoting the first Nature Photography Day, observed nationally on June 15.

For more information, visit the NANPA Web site at [http://www.nanpa.org](http://www.nanpa.org).
Alexandria Library Offers Extended Hours

During the last week of classes, the Alexandria Campus library again offered extended hours, opening at 8:00 a.m. and closing at 11:00 p.m. More than 500 students took advantage of the opportunity to study for finals, complete research and work on final papers and projects. Students also expressed their appreciation for the hot drinks and snacks served each evening as a late-night study break.

Offering extended hours is a tangible way to demonstrate the library’s support for student academic success at no cost other than staff dedication and willingness to adjust schedules. Thanks to all the library staff who came in early, stayed late or filled in other service desk shifts to continue this popular tradition.

Libraries Offer New Databases

Ring in the new year by taking a look at the past or traveling to distant places via NOVA libraries’ new databases. Visit the American Decades or American Decades Primary Sources databases to discover trends from the past. Peruse Daily Life Online to learn about castle life in medieval Europe, sports in ancient Rome, clothing during the Civil War or facts about the Mayan economy.

The widest-ranging treasury of history sources and reference materials, History Study Center, offers a vast collection of primary and secondary sources covering the years 757 to 2000. Also available are a picture library of more than 3,000 historical photos and a searchable archive of hundreds of video clips.

Visit the new historical databases at http://www.nvcc.edu/library/db_humanities.asp#history.

Safety News: Emergency Response Reminder

In the preparations for a new semester, don’t forget to review your emergency response, evacuation and stay-in-place plans. Have students and coworkers participate in both an evacuation drill and a stay-in-place, shelter drill. A few minutes spent reviewing and practicing proper procedures now can prevent panic and confusion during an actual emergency.

The beginning of a new semester is also a great time to review and update your emergency response plan. If your office, building or agency does not have such a plan, create one now. Communicate with your coworkers and maintain contact with local emergency management agencies as you periodically revise your plan. Prepare an office emergency kit containing water, non-perishable food items, first-aid supplies and a change of clothes. This is also a good time to update, or develop, a plan and kit for your home and vehicle.

A final note: we are well into flu season, so take precautions now. Stay home if sick, get a flu shot and remember to cover your cough, wash your hands or use an anti-microbial hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available. Practice these precautions as an everyday way of life and enjoy the spring semester!

Woodbridge Police Welcome Segways to Their Ranks

Several months ago, the Woodbridge Campus police introduced the Segway Personal Transporter (PT) to help the daily patrolling of more than 1,200 parking spaces covering some eight acres. The PT offers an innovative solution to a growing problem in that it reduces reliance on vehicles that produce exhaust and are expensive to operate and maintain. The vehicle can be recharged at any electrical outlet—and each full charge requires only about 10 cents of electricity!

Key to the Segway’s success is an engineering breakthrough that allows the PT’s movement to be controlled by the rider leaning in the direction desired. In addition, the unit’s software can differentiate between the rider’s steering and changes in the terrain, keeping the rider stable and comfortable even while traveling in “off road” conditions.

A second PT unit specially designed for police use has recently been placed into operation by Sergeant Randall Carlock, Woodbridge Campus police supervisor. He envisions using the unit to enhance officer patrols throughout the 138-acre Campus.

Woodbridge Campus Police Officer Debera Long cruises the WS building hallways on a Segway Personal Transporter.
Annandale Faculty, Staff Enjoy Festive Holiday Luncheon

Live music and seasonal decorations were the order of the day for Annandale’s annual holiday luncheon. The Annandale Campus family celebrated in style, enjoying a sumptuous buffet, the camaraderie of colleagues and music provided by Herb Smith’s Confir-
mation as well as The Potomac Rascals, a barbershop quartet. Kudos to organizers Cheryl Robinette, pro-
vost’s office, Jane Mirko, business division, Judith Benavides, languages and literature, Patti Rucker, math, science and engineering and the many others who helped to make the event a success.

Facilities Office Project Managers Luis Rubio (left), Ihab Nafie and Hung Nguyen (right) proclaimed the food delicious.

Photo by Tricia Holser

Adjunct Grant Winners Announced

The professional development committee would like to thank everyone who submitted proposals for the Adjunct Faculty Professional Development Grant and congratulate the following faculty whose projects were selected this year: Satarupa Das (LO) – Web Resources for Introductory Economics; Jenai Rasmussen (AN) – A New Glossary: Illustrating Communication Concepts, Terms and Theories with Film; Susana Puga De Unger (AN) – Attend the 122nd Modern Language Association Annual Convention; Paula Emmert (AL) – CALL Resources from TESOL Conference 2007; Barbara Southworth (AL) – Three New PHT Courses and Donald Smith (AL) – Redesigning SPD 110 for Automotive Technology. The College can look forward to hearing about these individual projects at an upcoming cluster meeting, peer group meet-
ings or the fall 2007 adjunct faculty orientation.

Classified Cross Campus Day Set for March

Classified employees - mark your calendars for Classified Cross Campus Day on March 15. The professional development committee encourages staff to share their ideas and help make this year’s event a success.

Committee members are responsible for helping facilitate communication between the employees they are representing and the planning group, so don’t hesitate to share suggestions with your campus representatives: Cynthia Knight, Willis Lon-
zer and Marvin Manassa (AL); Irene Osterman and Karen Kempter (AN); Gert Heslin and Dorothy Richardson (LO); Maria Serna (MA); Ruby Holland and Cynthia Williams (MEC); Terri Bouye and Teresa Clark (WO) and Dana Kenney, Pat Anderson, Stacy Pendleton and Kathy Weiner (CS).

Speakers Directory Available Now!

NOVA’s 2007-2008 Speakers Directory is “hot off the press” and contains dozens of topics by more than 50 faculty and staff willing to share their knowledge and expertise with local community groups. As members of NOVA’s Speakers Bureau, these dedicated ambassadors provide a valuable service to local civic associations, business and professional societies, schools and clubs, govern-
ment organizations, religious groups and other community gatherings. If you know a group or organiza-
tion who might like a copy of this handy guide, or if you would like to volunteer to be part of the Speakers Bureau, call 703-323-3196 or send an e-
mail to publicinformationpublications@nvcc.edu.

NOVA Faculty Collaborate on Book

In August, the University of Michigan Press released From the Classroom to the Boardroom by Gerald L. Boyd and Mary E. O’Neill. Boyd, dean of languages and literature (AN), and O’Neill, CE ESL instructor (AN), draw on their experience in ESL and international program administration to assist potential or new administrators in the suc-
cessful management of these areas.

The book covers topics such as understanding the organizational structure of institutions of higher learning, ingredients for effective administration, and useful case studies specific to working with international students. Congratulations, Jerry and Mary!
“Boomers, GenXers and Millennials: Generations @ Work”
Friday, January 19, 2007, 11 a.m. to 12 noon
Provost Conference Room

Presenters:
Sylvia Rortvedt, Associate Director Learning Resources
Matt Todd, Librarian
Brandee Worsham, Library Assistant

Community colleges have a long history of service to multi-generational students. But what about our multi-generational faculty and staff—the Boomers, GenXers and now Millennials?

- What do we know about “them?”
- Are the differences real or assumed?

Join us for a presentation from a multi-generational team from the Alexandria Campus Library and discussion.

“Wish my boss (a baby boomer) could have been here!”
—Comment about this presentation at the Virginia Library Association 2006 annual conference