NOVA Named Winner of Large Business Award

Congratulations to Northern Virginia Community College’s continuing education and workforce development division (CEWD), under the leadership of William Gary, for capturing the top award in the “Large Business” category at the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce Business Award competition on February 3.

Eileen Curtis, president and CEO of the Chamber, explains, “Each year, the Chamber seeks nominations of companies and individuals from the greater Dulles area whose initiatives and accomplishments are deserving of wide recognition. The winners were then selected from among the nominees.”

The Dulles Regional Chamber is a nonprofit organization that exists to promote and facilitate the success of businesses and the communities they serve through networking, outreach, advocacy and education. NOVA’s CEWD division provides programs and services to more than 9,700 individuals annually.

Vice President of Workforce Development William Gary accepted the “Large Business” award for NOVA. He is joined by State Senator Jay O’Brien (left) and Mike DeMarco of Omniplex World Services, who won the award last year.

Brault Building Namesake Dies

Adelard L. “Abe” Brault, the feisty Fairfax County Democrat after whom NOVA’s Brault building was named, passed away February 13 from pneumonia.

Brault, who was 97, spent 18 years in the Virginia Senate, retiring in 1983. For years, he was considered “dean” of the Northern Virginia legislative delegation and he used his influence to push through major funding for many projects, including Northern Virginia Community College. At the time of his death he was living in Front Royal with his wife Clarice. He is also survived by three children, nine grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

A portrait of Adelard L. “Abe” Brault hangs in the lobby of the Brault building.

Intercom is produced electronically every Friday for NOVA faculty and staff. Submit items via e-mail to Intercom@nvcc.edu by 5 p.m. Friday prior to publication. Photos should be submitted as digital files and attachments should be in MS Word or MS Publisher format. All submissions subject to editing for length and clarity. Editor: Melanie Martin. Phone: 703-323-3196. Back issues are available at http://www.nvcc.edu/pip/Intercom.htm.
Residents from Goodwin House, the continuing care retirement community located near the Alexandria Campus, were greeted by (from left to right) Business Division Dean John Min, Professor Ed Delean and Provost Jonathan Gueverra on their first day of ITE 130, Introduction to Internet Services. The 13 students registered for the class learned about bits and bytes, motherboards, flash drives, modems and much more during the session. They also received a selection of NOVA goodies, including backpacks, tote bags, mugs, scarves and pens, which were distributed by Cynthia Knight from the provost’s office and Sue Davis, from public information. A second group of students from Goodwin House is registered for ITD 110, Web Page Design I.

“Bandele’s Blues” on Exhibit at Manassas

Randy Michener (far left), Provost Hortense Hinton (second from left) and Dr. Victor Bibbins (far right) enjoyed meeting artists Harlee Little and Gina Marie Lewis (middle) during a reception for the current Manassas Campus art exhibit, “Bandele’s Blues.” Little is a long-time photographer who specializes in commercial images. Lewis is a painter and instructor at Bowie State University. The exhibit, in honor of Black History Month, continues until March 19.

Photo by Rachel Friend

 Classified Staff Cross Campus Day Set for March 15

Mark your calendars – this spring’s Cross Campus Day for classified staff will be held March 15 at the Alexandria Campus. Come learn some new skills, have fun and network with your colleagues from other campuses. Sessions will include morale building, Microsoft Outlook tips, yoga, investing, pandemic flu, blogs and wikis, auto repair and chair massage appointments.

The afternoon session will begin with a keynote address on a situation we have all experienced – dealing with an impossible person. Nan Peck, associate professor of communication, will present “Dealing with Difficult People with Grace.” Let’s face it; sometimes others push our buttons and challenge our best intentions to remain positive. This workshop will present five strategies designed to inspire you to keep your “cool” when dealing with difficult people and responding to tough situations.
Annandale LRS Hosts Successful Spring Events

This semester, the Annandale Campus LRS Faculty/Staff Resource Center continues to offer professional development seminars. Attendees at the Faculty Focus series enjoy meeting with colleagues and discussing relevant issues affecting teaching and learning.

On January 20, “Boomers, GenXers and Millennials: Generations at Work” continued the discussion on the gifts and talents of people who grew up in different decades. LRS staffers Sylvia Rortvedt, Matt Todd and Brandee Worsham reminded attendees that community colleges have a long history of service to multi-generational students. The speakers used a variety of challenging questions to stimulate a conversation about assumptions and realities affecting the different groups.

Dr. Bernadette Black, director of the Social Foundations program at the University of Virginia’s Northern Virginia Graduate Center and a veteran of the Alexandria Campus counseling department, is a favorite presenter. On February 16, Black continued her conversation about student centered teaching. Dr. Stephen Brookfield, a noted scholar in the field of self-directed learning, was the background for her discussion on how to engage students in critically reflective learning. Black ended the session with a list of resources useful in developing adult learning techniques for the classroom. Watch for announcements about future LRS events.

Certificate Program for Disabled Veterans Named Finalist for VCCS Award

NOVA’s Telephone Call Center Management Certificate program, designed to equip combat-wounded and disabled veterans with the knowledge and skills to successfully function in, and eventually professionally manage, a home-based telephone call center, has been named a finalist for the VCCS New Horizons 2007: Teaching and Learning in a New World Award. Annandale’s continuing education and workforce development (CEWD) division was nominated for the award in the “Technology in Education” category.

“This training will allow disabled veterans to return to the workforce and a more fulfilling life. These young men and women gave so much to our nation. I am happy to play even a minor role in helping them regain a small measure of dignity,” said Robert Vaughn, CEWD director.

Developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) and the Military Order of the Purple Heart Foundation, the 15-week, Web-based curriculum provides students with an understanding of the popular VOIP predictive-dialing system. Upon certification, veterans will be trained to work from home as market researchers, data managers, Web site order processors, help desk managers, customer service coordinators, virtual administrators and billing clerks.

Currently there are 105 veterans enrolled in the program, with 90 more waiting to start. Each student’s assigned DVA rehabilitation and education advisor consults monthly with NOVA personnel to ensure the academic material is presented at a pace he or she can complete; no course material is considered finished until 100% comprehension is achieved. The DVA fully funds this program, including career counseling and job placement. In addition, qualified veterans receive a cost-of-living stipend based upon their disability.

The program was also the winner of the 2007 Learning Resources Network (LERN) community service award. LERN, an international association, offers information and resources to providers of lifelong learning programs.
Manassas Signs Partnership Agreement with Battlefield High School

The Manassas Campus celebrated its partnership with Battlefield High School during a recent ceremony in Haymarket.

“Students at Battlefield are fortunate to have all the advantages that NOVA has to offer,” said School Board Chairperson Lucy S. Beauchamp at the signing ceremony.

The partnership will offer Battlefield students the opportunity to earn college credit, benefit from dual enrollment programs, connect with school and career mentors and gain access to math and science tutoring.

During the ceremony, Superintendent of Schools Steven L. Walts remarked that he began his own post-high school career by working multiple jobs and taking courses at his local community college where he got “an excellent and very high-quality education.”

Woodbridge Hosts Professor Emeritus

In an intimate gathering of faculty, staff and students, Chalmers Archer, Jr., NOVA Professor Emeritus, spoke about the atrocities of slavery. “My great grandmother, Summa, called it ‘the time of the devil,’” he said. Archer, one of the first Green Berets and an acclaimed memoirist, was the featured speaker at the Campus’s Black History Month celebration. He was joined by Matt Brown, a Woodbridge Campus graduate and project manager for Border Protection Services of the U.S. Customs Service. Archer and Brown promote black heritage in the community through personal appearances and presentations.

Recognize Deserving Employees During Public Service Week

This year’s theme for Virginia Public Service Week (VPSW), observed from May 7 – 13, will again be “Proudly Serving Virginians,” emphasizing the service aspect of public employment. As in previous years, VPSW provides a platform for recognizing and rewarding deserving College employees and providing the public with an opportunity to learn more about the work that state employees do on behalf of the citizens of the Commonwealth.

The goal this year is to increase agency participation in the Governor’s Award Program, which recognizes employees in seven categories and honors recipients at a reception in Richmond. Any College employee may be nominated. Anyone wishing to make a nomination should fill out and return the form (attached to this edition of Intercom) to Kathy Weiner in human resources no later than March 23.

“Best in Show” has NOVA Connection

Congratulations to Allen Patton, an adjunct in the math, science and engineering division (AN), whose English springer spaniel James walked away with top honors at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show — basically the Oscars of the canine world. James beat out more than 2,627 other dogs for the prestigious “Best in Show” title. To read more, go to http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/02/14/AR2007021401861.html.
Medical Education Campus Sends Record Numbers to Richmond

The Medical Education Campus had a record number of attendees as they made a legislative visit to the General Assembly in Richmond on January 30. The Campus had an overwhelming turnout of 36 attendees, which included faculty, staff and students as well as NVCC Board Member Greg Schuckman. It marked the first time in NOVA history that the College held the record for the most students and faculty to go on the trip.

With a last minute bus rental to accommodate the overflow crowd, the group departed at 6:30 a.m. and made their way down to the State Capital. Students were encouraged to dress in lab coats or scrubs, which seemed to make an impact on the Capital with Delegates and Senators asking, “Who are all the doctors?” An impression was definitely made!

Attention: Mastercard Training Session

A GE Mastercard training session will be held for all cardholders on March 8 at 10:00 a.m. in the president’s board room in the Brault building. This training session will review the policies and procedures that include changes and updated information from the previous charge card (American Express). In addition, the session will cover the Governor’s Executive Order and utilizing a SWaM vendor.

This is a required training session for cardholders, so if anyone has not yet had the training or needs a refresher, it is highly recommended that they attend. Supervisors of cardholders are also required to have this training; a separate presentation will be offered to supervisors who attend.

For questions regarding the training session, contact Yvonne Tharp at 703-323-3305 or by e-mail at ytharp@nvcc.edu.

College-Wide Professional Development Initiative Announced

Human Resources announces the College-wide professional development project initiative, which provides funds to support projects that encourage the advancement of NOVA’s Strategic Vision 2015, Gateway to the American Dream. Funds will support the implementation of group activities for professional development such as workshops, training or projects.

The Professional Development Committee encourages proposals which promote improved teaching and learning, encourage the involvement of all interested individuals and groups in a cooperative effort to accomplish Strategic Vision 2015 goals and improve NOVA’s programs and services. Proposals should promote improved communication among the College community and encourage collaborative efforts among participants which result in enhanced teaching, increased productivity and improved services to the students. All full-time faculty, staff and administrators are eligible to apply for these funds and are encouraged to submit an application. The deadline to apply for funding of FY ’07-08 projects is April 5. See the attachment to this edition of Intercom for more information.

Who writes Intercom? YOU DO!

See the Intercom submission guidelines at http://www.nvcc.edu/pip/guidelines.htm
Virginia Public Service Week
NOVA Governor’s Award Nomination Form

Nominee Information:
First & Last Name: __________________ Job Title: __________________ Work Location: __________

Category and Reason for nomination (see description of each category below):

_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Nominator Information:
First & Last Name: ___________________ Work Location: __________ Work Phone No: _________

The definition of each award category is intended to be very broad. Award recipients will be determined by the Virginia Public Service Reward and Recognition Steering Committee.

Award Categories

The Governor’s Award of Agency “Star”: The employees nominated typically have been recognized within the agency because of their contributions to the overall mission, objectives and values of the agency. Because there is such great variation from agency to agency in employee recognition programs, the state refers to them generically as “Stars.”

The Governor’s Award of Career Achievement: The employee nominated has a record of consistent achievement over time that has significantly improved the efficiency and effectiveness of Commonwealth operations. For instance we may have an employee who has demonstrated personal achievement and is frequently called upon for advice because of his/her expertise and experience.

The Governor’s Award for Community Service and Volunteerism: The employee nominated volunteers on his/her own time in non-profit community activities or serves as the “extra pair of hands” in agency activities. For instance, we may have an employee who helps build a house for Habitat for Humanity or who coordinates the Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign at one of our campuses.

The Governor’s Award for Customer Service: The employee nominated consistently provides a level of service to solve the customer’s problem; communicates effectively with customers about services, policies and procedures; and treats customers with dignity and respect. For instance, we may have an employee who has received a letter of commendation from the public about customer service, or we may have already identified a specific employee who has rendered outstanding customer service throughout the year.

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The Governor’s Award for Innovation: The employee nominated produces results such as increased productivity, efficiencies or cost savings through creativity and bright ideas that are implemented within the agency or state government.

The Governor’s Award for Teamwork: The group of employees nominated consistently exhibit the qualities that make teamwork essential to an agency’s success, including coordination of efforts to produce quality service or innovative results. As an example, an appropriate nomination would be a team that achieved substantial savings through re-engineering processes within an agency.

The Governor’s Award for workplace Safety: The employee nominated leads the way in promoting a safe and healthy work environment, suggests workplace improvements and supports the importance of a safe and healthy work environment.
The Professional Development College-Wide Initiative Program

Purpose
The purpose of the initiative program is to provide professional development funds to support college-wide projects that encourage the development and advancement of professional development to support the college’s Strategic Vision 2015, Gateway to the American Dream, and the specific goals of “creating an environment of world-class teaching and learning” and “increasing professional development opportunities for faculty and staff that result in enhanced teaching, increased productivity and improved services to the students” [Goal III]. College-wide initiatives funds will support the development and implementation of group activities for professional development such as workshops, training or project development that support the specific goals of teaching and learning noted above.

The Professional Development Committee encourages proposals which:

- Promote improved teaching and learning
- Encourage the involvement of interested individuals and groups in a cooperative effort to accomplish Strategic Vision 2015 goals and improve the college’s programs and services.
- Promote improved communication about and among the NVCC community and encourage collaborative effort among participants
- Result in enhanced teaching, increased productivity and improved services to the students

Funding
The total amount available for project funding is dependent upon the amount in the Professional Development Program’s budget and may vary from semester to semester. Priority will be given to cost-effective proposals. There is a limit of one project award per person/project for each funding cycle.

An effort will be made to distribute funds across the college, supporting the goals of teaching and learning.

Non-allowable expenditures include fees paid for services not connected with approved budget activity, fees paid for services that were not performed or paid prior to being performed and fees for entertainment or alcoholic beverages.

Examples of college-wide initiatives: (This list is not all-inclusive) Dogwood project, Hybrid course development, Service Learning, Writing Across the Curriculum, Cross-disciplinary Student Success Projects.

Eligibility
Open to all full-time NVCC faculty, staff, and administrators. A proposal will not be accepted if the program is already completed and/or fully funded by another source.

Submissions
- Application packets must be received by 5:00 p.m. ET on the deadline date. There will be no exceptions.
- The proposed activity must be planned to include faculty teaching at the college

Awards
Proposals will be reviewed by an ad hoc committee of members of the Professional Development committee. Funding will be awarded based on the criteria in the application.

Reporting
Project directors must submit a report of project outcomes.

Award Schedule
Application deadline: Signed cover page with the rest of the completed application must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. April 5, 2007 for projects to be completed by June 6, 2008.

Awards determined: April 26, 2007 for funding of projects to be completed by June 6, 2008.
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College-Wide Initiative Application

Title of Proposal

Program Format (workshop, panel, forum, seminar, etc)

Abstract (50 word maximum)

Description of Professional Development Initiative
  • Goals
  • Benefits (who will benefit and how)
  • Link to Strategic Vision goal of teaching and learning
  • Events/agenda of proposed project

Background/Credentials of Project Director and Project Presenters/Speakers/Staff

Evaluation Plan

Budget
Detailed description of items for project, speakers, supplies, etc

Completed proposal applications must be received by 5 p.m. April 5, 2007 at the address below.

Completed applications shall be submitted to:

NVCC-HR office,
C/O Ms. Kathy Weiner,
4001 Wakefield Chapel Road,
(Brault, Suite 203)
Annandale, VA  22003.
College-Wide Initiative Final Report

Filing of a final report is a requirement of the acceptance of funding. The Final Report Form and Final Report Signature Page must be received by 5:00pm on the specified deadline date. Reports due June 6, 2008.
A funding recipient who fails to complete a final report will be required to return the full amount awarded for expenses to the Professional Development Office. If additional time is needed to complete the grant and final report, the recipient must request an extension from the Chair of the Professional Development Committee.

The Final Report should include:

Title of Project
Abstract (from application)
Goals and objectives (from application)
Proposed outcomes/benefits

Activities held
Participants served (numbers or names as appropriate)
Outcome
Benefits to the college (immediate outcomes and expected outcomes).

Evaluation and critique
   Use the Evaluation plan described in the proposal
   Explain how the outcomes met or did not meet the expectations of the project
   Indicate how this project might be replicated

Budget report
## NVCC College-Wide Professional Development Initiative
### Final Report
#### Signature Page

Due June 1 of project year

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