NOVA Celebrates 43rd Annual Commencement Ceremony

Above: President Robert G. Templin, Jr. congratulates a NOVA graduate.

Right: Commencement speaker, the Honorable Sharon Bulova, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, encouraged students to be receptive to new opportunities.

Photos by Kevin Mattingly

On May 12, NOVA celebrated its 43rd Annual Commencement Ceremony with more than 3,000 students completing the requirements for associate’s degrees or certificate programs.

The keynote speaker was the Honorable Sharon Bulova, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Bulova began her address to the graduates by recalling her early memories of NOVA at its beginnings.

Continued on page 2
NOVA Celebrates 43rd Annual Commencement Ceremony
Continued from page 1

in the early 1960’s, a time where the nation was experiencing both greatness and turmoil. Bulova specifically recalled the inauguration of President John F. Kennedy, where he raised the question, “Ask not what your country can do for you, but ask what you can do for your country.”

She recalled that from the beginning NOVA’s mission has been dedicated to servicing students of all ages with a solid education at an affordable price. Little did she know then, that they were building it for students like her. Bulova later enrolled at NOVA as a night school student, where she excelled and graduated with an associate’s degree in business management.

Bulova stressed to the graduates that not everything goes as one plans. She used her life as an example and encouraged students to be open to new opportunities.

“Setting goals is important, but perhaps more important is the ability to be ready and receptive to doors that open to us,” said Bulova, “In fact, it’s in the volunteering that leads to doors opening that you wouldn’t have, that you couldn’t have anticipated—and that’s what happened to me.”

President Robert G. Templin Jr. also had advice in his charge to the graduating class. “Use the power of your NOVA education to lead by example. Be a model to what it means to be an American and to be a global citizen. Help all of the rest of us be more empathetic in a world of turmoil and destroy ignorance through understanding and knowledge. Finally, use your NOVA education as Albert Einstein wrote, “to learn from yesterday, live for today and hope for tomorrow.”

Acting Dean of Students Frances Villagran-Glover (AL) jumped for joy when her son, Robert A. Glover, was among the NOVA graduates. Glover attended the Woodbridge Campus and will be attending Old Dominion University in August pursuing an engineering degree (part of the Naval ROTC Program).

Photo by Kevin Mattingly
President Robert G. Templin, Jr. and Provost Barbara Saperstone (AN) recently hosted a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Student Services building on the Annandale Campus. This project is expected to be completed at the end of 2010. The building will house all of Student Services, classrooms, a testing center, business offices, police facilities and bookstore with café. Guests included members from the Virginia Assembly, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, State Board for Community Colleges, NOVA Board, NVCC Educational Foundation, Annandale Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, Lifetime Learning Institute and Annandale faculty and staff.

From left to right: Chuck Caputo, Hank Chao, Chap Petersen, John Cook, President Robert G. Templin, Jr., NOVA Board President Greg Schuckman, Sharon Bulova, Annandale Campus Provost Barbara Saperstone, David Bulova, Vivian Watts and Jim Scott.
Former President Bill Clinton Visits Annandale Campus

Former President Bill Clinton made a stop at NOVA’s Annandale Campus while campaigning for democratic gubernatorial candidate Terry McAuliffe in Northern Virginia on May 13. McAuliffe, who served as head of the Democratic National Committee during the Clinton Administration and later chaired Secretary of State Hillary Clinton’s 2008 presidential campaign, is competing with Senator Creigh Deeds and former Delegate Brian Moran for the democratic nomination.

Faculty, staff and students of the Annandale Campus turned out in hopes to get a glimpse of the former president and greet him.

The NOVA police department worked closely with U. S. Secret Service to make sure every aspect of safety for the former president was taken into account while still providing faculty, staff and students the opportunity to meet and have photos taken with Clinton.

“The operation was successful due to the teamwork of the NOVA police, facilities and the Secret Service,” said Acting Chief of Police Cheryl Creed, “Many thanks to Director of Emergency Planning William Flagler, Officers Lennie Atwood and Jeffrey Rudolph and facilities employees who responded to every request for assistance quickly and professionally.”

Submit to the Intercom!

Deadline: Submissions must be received (via e-mail) by 5:00 p.m. on Fridays for the following week’s edition.

Submission Guidelines: Submissions should be e-mailed to intercom@nvcc.edu. Unformatted text should be sent in an MSWord document or may be put into the body of the e-mail. All photos should be attached as jpeg, bmp, tiff or eps files; photo captions should also be included with your text. For guidelines go online to: http://www.nvcc.edu/pip/guidelines.htm.

Please remember all news submissions should highlight NOVA faculty and/or staff.

Reminder: During the summer months (after graduation), the Intercom is published “every other week.” Please note the next two editions will be June 12 and June 26. Submission deadlines still apply.
If you were unable to attend NOVA’s Commencement this year or if you simply want to relive the day’s great events, you can access it all on NOVA-TV. The event took place on May 12 at the Patriot Center in Fairfax, Virginia. Go online to http://www.nvcc.edu/tvcenter/vod/CourseView.aspx?Course=GRADUATION to view the video.
The College Community Theatre with 2nd Flight Theatre Company Presents “Flight of the Lawnchair Man”

The College Community Theatre with 2nd Flight Theatre Company (CCT2FT) is pleased to announce a special Opening Night Event in conjunction with their upcoming production of the musical, “Flight of the Lawnchair Man.”

“Lawnchair Man” creators, Robert Lindsey-Nassif (music and lyrics) and Peter Ullian (book) have confirmed their attendance at the opening night performance on May 29. Lindsey-Nassif and Ullian will be joined by CCT2FT’s Lawnchair Man director/choreographer, Randall Jones, musical director, David Rohde for a special “Q&A” presentation immediately following the opening night performance. Additionally, there will be a pre-show round table discussion for students, faculty and staff, “How to Make it in the Theatre Business” at 5:30 p.m. in the Waddell Theater on the Loudoun Campus.

Lindsey-Nassif composed the score for Carol Burnett’s Broadway play, “Hollywood Arms” and the dance music for Stephen Sondheim’s musical “Bounce,” both directed by Harold Prince. His off-broadway musicals are “Opal” and “Honky-tonk Highway.” Regionally, his musicals include “Eliot Ness in Cleveland” and “3hree,” also directed by Prince. He is the recipient of the Richard Rodgers Award, the AT&T Award and the Gilman Gonzalez-Falla Award given at the Lincoln Center. He has also collaborated on projects with Arthur Miller, George Abbott, Joss Whedon and Walt Disney Feature Animation.

Ullian is a two-time recipient of a Gilman & Gonzalez-Falla Musical Theater Foundation Commendation Award. He also received a Roger L. Stevens Award from the Kennedy Center/Fund for New American Plays for his drama “In the Shadow of the Terminal Tower,” which served as the basis for the musical “Eliot Ness in Cleveland” (Denver Theatre Center; the Cleveland Playhouse), for which Ullian wrote the libretto. His libretto for “Flight of the Lawnchair Man,” part of the musical “3hree,” premiered at the Prince Music Theatre in Philadelphia, with “Lawnchair Man” directed by Prince. “3hree” received a Barrymore Award for Outstanding Overall Production of a Musical, and “Lawnchair Man” was nominated for a Barrymore Award for Outstanding New Play. Ullian’s latest work, “Signs of Life: A Tale of Terezin,” was presented in a New York City (NYC) workshop in April 2009 and is scheduled for a full production in October 2009 (also in NYC). Ullian is a member of the Directors Guild of America (DGA) and the Writers Guild of American, East (WGA). He and his wife, Michele, are the proud parents of two boys. They live in New York’s Hudson Valley.

According to Lindsey-Nassif, “I look forward to seeing Randy Jones’s production of “Flight of the Lawnchair Man” because he sounds like a very creative, enthusiastic director and I hope to learn by seeing a fresh interpretation of the work.”

Performances will be on May 29, 30 and June 5, 6, 7, 12, 13 and 14 at the Waddell Theatre, NOVA Loudoun Campus, 1000 Harry Byrd Highway, Sterling, Virginia 20164. Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. Tickets may be obtained online at http://www.cct2ft.com or at the door with cash/check. Admission is $18 for adults and $12 for ages 25 and under.

For more information contact Natalie V. Safley, assistant professor of theatre at nsafley@nvcc.edu or 703-948-7701.
Career Switcher Program Information and Open House

There will be Career Switcher Program Information and an Open House on **Saturday, June 13 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** Do you have a four-year degree? Then the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) invites you to “Bring your Passion to the Future” and become a licensed Virginia Public School teacher by enrolling in its 16-week “Career Switcher Program.” To find out more, join us at the **Annandale Campus in the Ernst Cultural Center (CE Bldg)**, located at 8333 Little River Turnpike in Annandale, Virginia 22003.

*To reserve a seat,* please call 703-323-3281 or e-mail tjeffersonge@nvcc.edu by **June 8.**

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**The Passing of Jim Tiffany—**

It is with sincere sadness that the College announces the sudden death of **Jim Tiffany** on the morning of May 27. Tiffany was a beloved member of the Loudoun Campus faculty as a professor of Physical Education and Recreation. His tenure with the Campus goes back to 1974 and the original farm house that was home to the Campus. About his friend and colleague, Provost **Anthony C. Tardd** (LO) writes “Jim was a tremendously dedicated and talented professor who was a real asset not only to our Loudoun Campus family but also to our entire college community.”

The Loudoun Campus will have grief counselors available in the Waddell Conference Room for the remainder of the week. They are available to anyone who would like to speak with them.

Tardd will notify the College of funeral arrangements as soon as the information becomes available.

As a colleague, professor and a friend, Tiffany has inspired so many. His absence is known and felt throughout the Campus and College.
Welcome to all as we enter the summer semester. This is another opportunity to take the time to review your emergency response, evacuation and stay-in-place plans! Please consider testing your campus communication systems also. Have your students and peers/colleagues participate in an evacuation drill (in case of fires, etc.) and a stay-in-place, shelter drill (in case of a severe storm, tornado, 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. This is especially important for those of us who are moving to a new location.

Please stay attentive to the “swine flu” coverage and challenges. If you are sick please stay home. If you have a high fever, coughing/respiratory challenges, body aches, vomiting and/or diarrhea consult a doctor quickly for follow up on your medical diagnosis/care.

Update your office emergency kit, as appropriate, which should include water, non-perishable food items, first aid supplies and a change of clothes. Update your home and vehicle emergency plans as well. Be sure to include a battery operated radio or have a NOAA radio.

If departments have any hazardous waste, please remember to contact your campus environmental coordinator who periodically processes requests for hazardous waste pick-ups.

Slips, trips and falls still haunt us – it is our biggest challenge in reducing safety incidents. Be careful. Also when driving, remember not to use cell phones and to text. Pull off to side of road safely. Enjoy the summer season and be safe in all that you do at the lake, the beach, the mountains, etc. Do all that you can to avoid a summer cold or flu. Wash your hands often and have hand sanitizers available, as appropriate. Once again, stay home if you are sick; go home if you get sick.

Please do not take a break from general safety practices and preparedness!

To learn more about the correct method for hand washing, see the flyer in the attachment section.

Please note that the attachment section of the Intercom can be accessed online at: http://www.nvcc.edu/pip/May29-09_attachment.pdf.