NOVA’s Seventh Annual Relay for Life

Students, faculty and staff walked to honor cancer survivors, raise needed funds and share courageous stories throughout the night.

Students, faculty and staff came together to celebrate and remember those who have struggled with cancer by participating in NOVA’s Seventh Annual Relay for Life at the Annandale Campus on April 17.

Relay for Life is a signature event that is sponsored by the American Cancer Society that gives everyone in the community an opportunity to participate in the fight against cancer.

Approximately 30 teams participated and had a team representative take turns walking or running around the relay track on Campus throughout the night. The objective was for teams of people to have fun while raising awareness and funds towards research for cancer awareness and treatment.

This year, 227 students, faculty and staff attended the event where they celebrated the lives of those who have battled cancer, remembered loved ones who were lost to the disease and fought back by relaying and raising money. In total, NOVA has raised $33,000 thus far for the cause.

Thank you to all the participants for making this year’s Relay for Life both memorable and successful!
Extended Learning Institute Hosts
Student Success Strategy Event

On April 7, approximately 50 Extended Language Institute (ELI) faculty and staff came together to share strategies and plan interventions to improve student success in online courses. The event, part of ELI’s Achieving the Dream effort, began with a hearty Italian dinner and lots of good conversation among old friends and new colleagues. ELI Director Jennifer Lerner kicked the evening off with brief remarks about the major challenges to student success in ELI courses and shared some new data to help faculty better determine where to focus their efforts. Experienced ELI faculty then led roundtable discussions with their colleagues centered on three major types of interventions faculty could test in their courses this summer or fall. After this discussion, faculty selected one type of intervention to try and attended a breakout session where ELI instructional designers provided “how-to” guidance on ways to implement that intervention. You can view the instructional designers’ training materials, which you may find useful in your own courses, at the event’s companion Web site at http://novaonline.nvcc.edu/faculty/succesevent4-09/handouts.html.

Faculty who participated in the event are currently planning their chosen intervention, and the ELI Achieving the Dream team will help faculty track the success of these interventions in the coming semesters.
Annandale Campus Welcomes Earth Day Co-Founder

April 22 was Earth Day, but its observance brightened even more at midday when Annandale Campus’ guest Sam Love arrived at the CE Forum. He is a co-founder of the original Earth Day in 1970.

Love’s presentation tracked the timeline of the environmental movement and what it has meant globally. He also went on to forecast how jobs and lifestyles will change according to the availability or lack of natural resources. After his speech, English as a Second Language (ESL) students Ann Duong and Marta Ortez, along with their instructor, Shirley Nuhn, met with Love to tape an interview. The students asked him what inspired his enthusiasm for environmental action, how poverty and environmental conditions affect human health and more.

NOVA Annandale’s Lyceum Committee, chaired by Terry Alford, sponsored the Earth Day presentation. The podcast will be available soon on the ESL Web page of the Languages and Literature Division.

For more information, visit http://www.nvcc.edu/campuses-and-centers/annandale/academic-divisions/languages--literature/esl/ and click “Listen to Podcasts From ESL Pioneers.”

Earth Day Celebrations at the Manassas Campus

The first Manassas Innovation Park (MIP) Earth Day celebration took place on April 22, thanks to a small group of dedicated student organizers. Cecile Jammes, Diana Caldas, Israel DeLorenzo and Andy Bass, along with MIP Administrative Assistant Frances Cato, planned a day of food, fun, education and prizes. Students were treated to pizza and Chick-Fil-A sandwiches, as they enjoyed hunting down clues for a scavenger hunt, discovering earth-friendly computer games and determining their carbon footprint. A video celebrating the earth and a presentation on environmental concerns played continuously throughout the day. Two special showings of “An Inconvenient Truth” were also offered.

In keeping with the spirit of the day, students earned raffle tickets for participating in the activities or bringing in recyclables. Prizes also had an environmental focus. The lucky winners received reusable tote bags, energy-saving light bulbs, SIGG water bottles, movie tickets and an iPod shuffle. Congratulations on this successful event!
Alexandria Campus Celebrates Earth Day

The Alexandria Campus celebrated Earth Day on April 28 with a showing of "Extreme Ice," a new National Geographic/PBS program on the dramatic increase in melting of polar ice caps and glaciers. Afterward, several dozen students, faculty and staff planted nine new trees on Campus. The trees were purchased by sponsoring groups and clubs and supplied via the City of Alexandria Earth Day program. Tree sponsors included the Alexandria Campus Womens' Center, the Student Government Association, the International Club, Phi Theta Kappa (PTK), the Environmental Campus Council, the Science Division, the Alexandria Environmental Council and the Learning Resource Center (LRC).

The tree-planting ceremony featured the planting of a beautiful Red Oak tree under the windows of the Science Division to honor the late Cammy White, long-time division counselor. A commemorative plaque and bench are also planned for that tree site. The other trees planted included three Yeshino Cherries, two Red Buds, a Sweet Gum, a Red Maple and a Weeping Cherry. Head Groundskeeper Eric Hochstrasser coordinated the site and tree selections and prepared the planting. The event was sponsored by the Alexandria Environmental Council and the Campus chapter of PTK.
On April 17, faculty member and coordinator of the Plus 50 Program, Anne Kuhta (MA), coordinated the first of three seminars, entitled, "Retirement 'Encore' Jobs - Searching, Securing and Surviving." These seminars are designed to provide adult “Encore” students with an opportunity to assess their skills, search for jobs online, update their resumes and portfolios, interview preparation, using online social networks and tips on how to survive in a multi-generational workplace. The seminar will be offered again in the fall semester through a grant from the American Association of Community Colleges' Plus 50 Initiative.

For more information, please contact Kuhta at akuhta@nvcc.edu or at 703-257-6694.
Faculty Facebook Workshop

Faculty enjoyed an informative and engaging workshop on “Facebook: Understanding Online Social Interaction in Today’s World.” Communication studies professor Libby Vick facilitated the discussion and led faculty in setting up a Facebook account. The workshop took place on April 24 and was co-sponsored by the Center of Excellence and Learning (CETL) and the Technology Application Center (TAC).

NOVA Wins First Place Technology in Education Award

At the recent New Horizons 2009: Access, Excellence, Enlightenment Conference, the Technology in Education (TIE) First Place award was given to the Teaching Online Project (TOP). This project was the collaborative endeavor of four community colleges: J. Sargeant Reynolds, Northern Virginia (Extended Learning Institute (ELI)), Southwest Virginia and Thomas Nelson. The project’s goals were to provide faculty with the opportunity to participate in a course as an online student while preparing them to teach online. Topics include: creating social presence, building community, facilitating effective discussion forums, using technology tools such as Google Apps, developing time management strategies and providing feedback online.

This project has evolved into EDU 295, Topics In: Teaching Online. The course is offered through ELI in an eight-week format. Sections of the course were offered in summer 2008 (the pilot) and spring 2009. The next offerings are summer 2009 and fall 2009 (instructors will be Debbie Naquin and Bob Loser). Registration is open to all Virginia Community College System (VCCS) faculty. Faculty interested in the course may request tuition assistance from Human Resources (HR) to pay the three-credit NOVA tuition. Also refer to NOVA’s tuition assistance policy in the Professional Development section of the HR Web page for eligibility requirements. Graduate credit is possible from Old Dominion University.

To register for this course with free tuition from NOVA:
1. Confirm that you qualify for free tuition by consulting NOVA’s tuition assistance policy.
2. If you have never taken a NOVA credit course before, apply for admission as a NOVA credit student.
3. Submit a tuition assistance request form (105-43) to HR.
4. After HR returns your form with an approval notice, send a copy of your approved form and your NOVA student ID to ELI Registrar Jayne Townend (campus mail address: Jayne Townend, ELI).
5. ELI staff will then register you for the course and insure that tuition is waived.

To register for this course and pay the tuition yourself:
1. If you have never taken a NOVA credit course before, apply for admission as a NOVA credit student.
2. After you are admitted, e-mail Townend (jtownend@nvcc.edu). In your e-mail, request registration in EDU 295, confirm that you intend to pay the tuition yourself and provide your NOVA student ID.
3. ELI staff will then register you for the course and notify you to pay the tuition.
Gay/Straight Alliance Sponsors Events at the Alexandria Campus

The Gay/Straight Alliance (GSA) at the Alexandria Campus sponsored several events on April 29 to offer education, advocacy and support, drawing crowds of students. The program featured a discussion and question/answer session with Darren Manzella from the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN) on the “Don't Ask Don't Tell” policy regarding military service members who are gay. Manzella was a Sergeant in the Medical Corps of the United States Army and, after two tours in Iraq, was discharged for participating in an interview on 60 Minutes about serving in the military as a gay man. Bill Brinks, Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry, then presented information on HIV prevention and safe sex precautions. The final session involved the screening of the movie "Milk" starring Sean Penn as Harvey Milk, the first openly elected gay official in the United States, elected as a City Board Member in San Francisco and later assassinated.

The GSA signed up students for the NOVA/Alexandria GSA Team to participate in the 2009 AIDS Walk scheduled next October and raised $100 during the event for the AIDS Walk. Free AIDS testing and counseling was provided onsite for students. Organizations covering tables during the event included: the SLDN, Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry (NOVAM), Whitman Walker Clinic (WWC), Gay Men Chorus of Washington, District of Columbia, Gay Adoption and "A Forever Home" (Non-profit Animal Rescue).
Inaugural College-wide Athletic Banquet

NOVA recognized nearly 80 student-athletes at the inaugural College-wide Athletic Banquet on April 28 at the Ernst Center Forum on the Annandale Campus. The event formally wrapped up the 2008-2009 athletic seasons and celebrated the achievements of each of NOVA’s five teams as well as individual accomplishments.

NOVA’s men’s basketball team won the regular season eastern conference championship of the Virginia Community College System (VCCS). The men lost a heartbreaker to Southside Virginia Community College in the championship game of the VCCS tournament.

Meanwhile, the women’s basketball program wrapped up the regular season as co-champions of the VCCS with Tidewater Community College. Unfortunately, the women were upset in the quarterfinals of the VCCS tournament but their hard work did not go unnoticed or appreciated.

The NOVA hockey team, in only its second season of existence, has emerged as a program that will soon compete for a league title in the American Collegiate Hockey Association. This year, NOVA defeated cross county rival George Mason University and intrastate foe James Madison University. In addition, they took a pair of victories over Montgomery College (Rockville) to wrap up the season.

Soccer continues to impress in the highly competitive Northern Virginia Soccer League. Both soccer and volleyball programs are poised to transition to playing an intercollegiate schedule in the 2009-2010 academic year.
NOVA’s Women’s Basketball team finished the 2008-2009 campaign as the VCCS regular season co-champions.

“NOVA has so much to be proud of,” said College-wide Student Activities Coordinator Brian Anweiler. “These students have represented the institution proudly in the classroom and the field of play. Several student-athletes are leaving NOVA with a full-athletic scholarship in-hand to attend a four-year college or university.”

Pictured right: Ryan Pageau received both the Hockey Scholar Athlete and the Player of the Year Awards in Ice Hockey from Head Coach Barrett Haga.
On April 20, the NOVA Annandale Campus Library hosted a faculty panel discussion titled “Worlds Connect @ Your Library.” The event was part of the library’s annual celebration of National Library Week. Three distinguished faculty members joined with audience members to discuss the impact and influence that libraries have had on their lives and on the lives of their students, and reflect on how libraries have opened up new worlds to them, both in a geographic and in an intellectual sense. Panel members included: Professor Alicia Falzon (Foreign Languages), Assistant Professor Rashmi Chilka (History) and Assistant Professor Rima Gulshan (English). Many thanks to all who attended and engaged in the lively back-and-forth discussion.

Links to video highlights of the program may be found on the Annandale Library Web page at http://www.nvcc.edu/annandale/library/. While you are there, check out some of the new features that the library has to offer – podcasts, a Twitter page and a slide show documenting the trials and travails of a band of marshmallow peeps, loose in the library during National Library Week.

Top right: Professor Alicia Falzon during panel discussion.

Bottom right: Peeps checking out a library contest.
NOVA CARE Teams Comprehensive Training

On March 17 and 18 members from the Campus Assessment, Response and Evaluation (CARE) teams on seven campuses, plus members of the Mental Health Advisory Committee, participated in a comprehensive training designed to assist the teams with the identification and management of students with concerning behavior. Brett Sokolow, president of the National Center for Higher Education Risk Management (NCHERM), underscored the necessity for a proactive prevention model that utilizes formalized protocols and procedures. The training identified best practices in intervention, outlined the campus and college protocols that need to be developed and introduced a risk rubric to determine the level of concern and corresponding implementation plans.

Special Assistant for Student Mental Health and Behavior Pat Lunt will be working with the advisory committee and the Campus teams to establish NOVA Campus and College protocols and procedures, and to integrate an electronic reporting mechanism. Training will be offered for students and all college personnel on identification and reporting procedures. For concerns on your Campus, please contact your Dean of Students.

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 May 15 and May 29.
Medical Education Campus Hosts Annual High School Expo

On May 1, the Medical Education Campus (MEC) held its Annual High School Expo with approximately 120 high school students from Stonewall Jackson (Prince William), Hayfield Secondary (Fairfax), West Potomac (Fairfax), Thomas Edison (Fairfax), Robert E. Lee (Fairfax) and Mountain View (Stafford). The MEC student volunteers guided visitors through a tour of the Campus with six presentations from the following departments: Medical Laboratory, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Emergency Medical Services, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, Respiratory Therapy, Radiography and Student Services/Bridges Program. The Health Information Management program also participated with an informational resource table and student volunteers were available to discuss their academic discipline and potential job opportunities in their field.

Students were able to learn specific career information pertaining to the various healthcare careers in Nursing and Allied Health. Student Services provided a presentation on career planning steps and job personality using the Holland’s Codes to connect with various careers in the healthcare industry. They were also able to witness or participate in various demonstrations.

Throughout the day, the MEC faculty, staff and student volunteers provided information on how high school students could prepare for the admission requirements of the MEC programs. They received advice on pre-requisites as well as learned about the required courses for completion of associate degree/certificate programs.

This year’s MEC Expo was sponsored by the MEC Recruitment Team including: Steven Rupp, Geraldine Hofler, Beverly Recny, Stefanie Raymundo, Sherri Anna Robinson, Mindy Hemmelman, Stefan Charles-Pierre and Don Johnson. Thanks to all participating members of the MEC community for providing this wonderful educational experience for our visiting students, careers specialist and school counselors!
NOVA Represented at Culinary Competition

Four NOVA students competed in the ACF (American Culinary Foundation) sponsored Chesapeake Cup Culinary Competition on April 18 at the Hospitality Culinary Arts & Tourism campus of Anne Arundel Community College in Glen Burnie, Maryland. Under the guidance and direction of Chef Bobby Vickers, CEC (Certified Executive Chief), of the Springfield Hilton, NOVA’s Lee Heffelfinger, Keara Czarnecki, Will Hardy and Jesse Rice competed against teams from Anne Arundel Community College, Baltimore International College and The Art Institute of Washington. The team from NOVA took second place overall, finishing one point behind the team from Anne Arundel. Two of the NOVA students took individual gold medals, one student placed silver and one competed in his first-ever event.

Heffelfinger won a gold medal, “Best in Show,” for his Lamb Printanière, a lamb chop seared with garlic, fresh thyme, salt and pepper, then finished in the oven. Heffelfinger deglazed his pan with white lamb stock for the reduction sauce, and served a side of blanched turnip, carrot, and potato, along with fresh peas and haricot beans. Czarnecki earned gold in the “Warm Dessert Category” for her St. Lucian Apple Tart, a layer of sliced apples over a rum—flavored pastry cream baked in a tart shell, served with marinated mango and kiwi, with a hint of mint mojito syrup. This was accompanied by homemade cinnamon granola ice cream, a coconut tuile, and a side of pomegranate sauce. Hardy took a silver medal in the Whole Fish Category for his Lemon Myrtle Chilean Sea Bass, which he seared and baked, and served with a side of braised mussels. A black garlic tapenade, along with straw cut vegetables and tourneed potatoes, completed the meal. Rice received a culinary diploma in his first competition, as he prepared roast chicken with carrot, parsnip and celeriac. Team alternate James “Michael” Rader provided much needed backup for the participants. All in all, it was a fine showing from the NOVA culinary students, and a testament to the hard work and dedication of Chef Bobby Vickers, head coach, and Chef Stephanie Jordan, team manager.

NOVA Hospitality Management faculty and staff would like to congratulate these students, Vickers and Jordan for all of their hard work and this wonderful accomplishment.
### CETL Workshops and Events Available for Faculty

- **Developing Effective Presentations and Grading Students' Oral Presentations.** Explore ways to help students with their oral presentations. Learning how to grade student presentations. Facilitated by Communication Studies and Theatre (CST) faculty. **May 14 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in LR 144 (LO).** Register at CETL@nvcc.edu.

- **So, You Want Your Students to Work in Groups?!** Explore five major communication strategies for developing more effective groups. This workshop is facilitated by CST faculty on **May 15 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in LR 144 (LO).** Register at CETL@nvcc.edu. Event flyers may be found in the attachment section at [http://www.nvcc.edu/pip/May8-09_attachment.pdf](http://www.nvcc.edu/pip/May8-09_attachment.pdf).

### You Are Invited to a Learning Communities Summit

You do not want to miss the upcoming Learning Communities Summit scheduled for **May 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College’s Parham Road Campus, Richmond, Virginia (beginning in the Gallery in Georgiadis Hall).**

Learning Communities (LCs) are one of the best strategies for improving student success. The purpose of this gathering is to share successes and opportunities associated with teaching and managing LCs. There will be special tracks for both faculty and administrative participants.

This event is completely **free!** Continental breakfast and lunch included. LCs materials and enrollment in LCs Blackboard site also provided.

Send participants’ names, college affiliation, teaching or administrative areas, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses to Charlie Peterson at cpeterson@reynolds.edu.

**Please note:** If you are interested in providing an update at the summit on the status of LCs at the College, please notify Peterson at 804-523-5821 or at the above e-mail address or Miles McCrimmon at mmccrimmon@reynolds.edu asap! This professional development opportunity is supported by a Virginia Community College System workshop mini-grant.

### Information for NOVA Employees from the Alzheimer’s Association

In a recent survey conducted by NOVA Human Resources in association with the Alzheimer’s Association, 89 percent of NOVA employees who responded stated that they are either currently caregivers or will be involved in their parent’s care and support. Eighty percent are interested in learning about healthy brain aging, 63 percent worry about their ability to care for and support aging loved ones and 50 percent are concerned about their ability to balance work and family life.

Based on these results and more, NOVA Human Resources will partner with the Alzheimer’s Association to provide information, workshops and other support for NOVA employees. The first of these offerings is a workshop for all employees on “Balancing Family, Work and Caregiving.”

This workshop will be held on **May 15 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the Annandale Campus** in the President’s Dining Room of the Ernst Community Cultural Center. Please pre-register by sending an e-mail to HRDtraining@nvcc.edu to help us plan for the event. We hope you will join us for this informative session.
2010 Virginia Outstanding Faculty Awards (OFA) Nominations

The Awards Committee invites nominations for NOVA faculty for the Virginia Outstanding Faculty Awards (OFA) for 2010.

The Outstanding Faculty Awards, which are administered by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) and sponsored by Dominion, are the Commonwealth's highest honor for educators at Virginia's public and private colleges and universities. The awards also include special categories for "Rising Star" and "Teaching with Technology."

Nominees for the award should possess a record of superior accomplishment in four areas of scholarly endeavor: Teaching, Discovery, Integration of Knowledge and Service. Full information about the OFA may be found on the SCHEV Web site: http://www.schev.edu/AdminFaculty/OFAProgramIndex.asp.

Please submit a draft of your nomination with the documents described below to the Awards Committee by May 15. The Awards Committee will review nominations and select up to four for final submission to SCHEV on behalf of the College. Those selected must work with the committee in completing the full application packet as called for in the OFA guidelines (expected to be due in October 7, 2009).

Faculty members may nominate other faculty member or themselves. Nominations must include, a one to two page document outlining scholarly accomplishments in the four designated areas (a-d):

a. Teaching,
b. Discovery,
c. Integration of knowledge,
d. Service and
e. A copy of current curriculum vitae

Nominations must be submitted by e-mail attachment to George Gonchar, chair of the Awards Committee, at ggonchar@nvcc.edu.

Nominations including the one to two page document and a current curriculum vitae must be received by May 15.

VRS and NOVA Supports “Going Green”

VRS members have been able to access their annual Member Benefits Profiles (MBPs), member’s annual statement of VRS benefits, online through myVRS since 2006. In order to support the Commonwealth’s “go green” initiatives, NOVA has chosen to discontinue distributing printed copies of MBPs to VRS members this year.

Using myVRS, VRS members can view their MBPs without waiting for printed copies to arrive. They can download and print their 2009 MBPs and prior year MBPs going back to 2006.

Members of VRS will have secure online access to their member information through myVRS. Through myVRS, you can:

- View your account information, including service and member contributions, purchase of prior service, employment and compensation history and basic group life insurance coverage - all updated monthly.
- Download your Member Benefit Profile (MBP).
- Create future retirement benefit estimates using live data from your file.
- Simulate various retirement options to determine the best retirement option for you.
- Use the myVRS Retirement Planner to get a good idea of what your first month of retirement income will look like.
- Correct or change your contact information, such as your address.
- Check the status of an application for retirement, purchase of prior service or a refund.

To create your account, go to the VRS Web site at http://www.varetire.org to learn more about myVRS and create your online account. Select the myVRS from the Member table. This will take you to the login page. Select “Register Now” and follow the instructions from there.
The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL)
Welcome Applications to
Participate in a Faculty Learning Community:
Incorporating Information Literacy into Your Courses

All NOVA faculty are welcome to go online at http://tiny.cc/xKvuM and apply. The deadline for applications has been extended to May 10.

Twelve faculty members will be accepted into the community. The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) will provide your materials and food. Participants will be asked to participate in the CETL Faculty Learning Community (FLC) for the academic year 2009-2010 and to:

- Support the development and retention of participants in this community of practice;
- Contribute your “fair share” to the leadership of the FLC by participating in drafting an expanded FLC charter, proposing and facilitating FLC goals, activities and evaluations, moderating discussions, performing and documenting research and other appropriate actions as FLC needs emerge;
- Read “Teaching Information Literacy: 35 Practical, Standards-Based Exercises for College Students” by Joanna M. Burkhardt by the date agreed to by FLC members and be prepared to discuss your reactions to it;
- Prepare for and participate in FLC online discussions by responding to and posting encouraging comments at least once every two weeks;
- Attend four in-person FLC luncheon meetings, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in September, November, February and April. Specific dates will be determined by the FLC at a later date;
- Maintain a personal blog to journal evolving insights and applications about teaching and learning. Post to the blog at least once a week and allow FLC facilitators access to the blog for purposes of assessing FLC effectiveness and;
- Test new ideas about teaching and learning resulting from FLC readings and discussions in your own or others’ courses and report the results to the FLC at least three times during academic year 2009-2010.

The community will be run with participatory leadership. Beth DeAngelo, Dana Roggenbaum and Nan Peck will serve as your resource facilitators. E-mail your questions to CETL@nvcc.edu or call 703-323-4140.

Important Notice

Leave Sharing Request

Nicole Cintas, assistant professor, Science & Applied Technologies at the Alexandria Campus has requested to participate in the leave-sharing program. If you would like to donate leave hours to Cintas, please contact Sonia Abouilhosn at 703-323-3119 for a leave donor form or go to the Human Resources Web site at http://www.nvcc.edu/hr/forms to download the Leave Donor Form. Please submit the form to Human Resources by fax to 703-323-3155. Leave must be donated in eight-hour increments and only annual leave may be donated.
The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning Welcomes Applications for Faculty to Participate in Faculty Learning Community: Best Practices in Teaching and Learning for STEM Faculty

All NOVA faculty are welcome to go online at http://tiny.cc/xKvuM and apply. The **deadline for applications is May 10.** Twelve Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) faculty members will be accepted into the community. The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) will provide your materials and food. Participants will be asked to participate in the CETL Faculty Learning Community (FLC) for the academic year 2009-2010 and to:

- Support the development and retention of participants in this community of practice;
- Contribute your “fair share” to the leadership of the FLC by participating in drafting an expanded FLC charter, proposing and facilitating FLC goals, activities and evaluations, moderating discussions, performing and documenting research and other appropriate actions as FLC needs emerge;
- Explore the online resources available through the National Science Foundation and other similar organizations by the date agreed to by FLC members and be prepared to discuss your reactions to these;
- Prepare for and participate in FLC online discussions by responding to and posting encouraging comments at least once every two weeks;
- Attend four in-person FLC luncheon meetings, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in September, November, February and April. Specific dates will be determined by the FLC at a later date;
- Maintain a personal blog or journal to reflect upon evolving insights and applications about teaching and learning and
- Test new ideas about teaching and learning resulting from FLC readings and discussions in your courses and report the results to the FLC at least three times during academic year 2009 - 2010.

The community will be run with participatory leadership. Karen Walters, Johanna Weiss and Nan Peck will serve as your resource facilitators. E-mail your questions to CETL@nvcc.edu or call 703-323-4140.

Please note that the attachment section of the Intercom, which includes important NOVA announcements, can now be accessed via a new link: http://www.nvcc.edu/pip/May8-09_attachment.pdf.