MEC Kicks Off Hispanic Heritage Month with Gala Celebration

The MEC student activities office hosted a traditional Mexican dancing performance to kick off Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 - October 15). The Los Quetzales Mexican Dance Ensemble of Arlington performed alongside Mariachi Estrellas, who provided traditional Mexican music. Each performance told a story that shaped, and continues to shape, the vibrant Hispanic culture of Mexico. Students, faculty and staff enjoyed watching as dancers performed in their dazzling color customs, accompanied by the lively Mariachi band. Participants also had the opportunity to taste Latin cuisine from Cuba, Peru, Mexico and Ecuador, as prepared by Chef For Hire.

Goral Featured at Annandale Science Seminar

A Science Seminar, presented by the Annandale Campus math, science and engineering division, will be held on October 12 from noon to 1:00 p.m. in the Ernst Center forum. Dr. Don Goral, NOVA professor of mathematics, will present “Mathematical and Linguistic Threads: China's Silk Road and Beyond” where he will describe some of the highlights of his summer faculty professional development seminar “China's Silk Road.” This was a two week journey across China, from Beijing to Kashgar. He will relate his adventures to the transmission of mathematical concepts and linguistic patterns across Asia, his area of expertise. The event is free and open to the public.
**Dever Preps Students for Shakespeare**

Dr. John Dever, executive vice president of academic and student services, recently presented remarks concerning Shakespeare’s history play “Henry V” to honors and drama students at the Loudoun Campus. The lunchtime seminar prepared his listeners for a September 29 campus production of the play by the American Shakespeare Center’s touring company.

*Photo by Bev Blois*

**IT Help Desk News**

It’s no secret that making a call to the IT Help Desk is the way to get immediate assistance with passwords, Blackboard classes and other support issues. This year alone, of 38,000 issues logged, the IT Help Desk was able to resolve an average of 72% of them with no additional escalation to a technician. They also get frequent questions about spam. While they cannot filter out all the junk e-mails, you might be surprised to learn that they block upwards of 600,000 spam messages daily!

The IT Help Desk’s Web site ([http://www.nvcc.edu/ithd](http://www.nvcc.edu/ithd)) offers additional resources for the College community. Here you can find information on current or planned outages and register for the new NOVA Alert text message system - an essential tool for quickly providing notice in case an emergency arises at the College.

In the market for a new PC? Check out the IT Help Desk Web site for exclusive college deals on Dell, HP, Gateway and Apple equipment.

The IT Help Desk is continually working to improve the content of their Web site to provide you with useful, customer-focused information. A complete redesign of the site is in the works, with the goal of making it a resource that the entire College community can use and depend on.

**Important October News from Human Resources/Benefits**

October is the open enrollment period when NOVA faculty who participate in the Optional Retirement Plan (ORP) can change providers. The current providers are Fidelity Investments and TIAA-CREF. Changes will be effective for contributions made on or after January 1, 2008. Contact the HR benefits staff at 703-323-3110 to obtain the paperwork needed to make a change in ORP participation.

October is also the month that College employees who participate in the group disability income plan may make changes in their income protection amount. The College's plan is serviced by UNUM and includes income protection at three levels: 50 percent, 40 percent or 25 percent of salaried money. Employees who wish to have this plan and do not participate in VSDP may elect this coverage for the first time during the month of October. Also, current participants may decrease or increase the percentage of income protected. Call the HR benefits staff for details.

Employees, spouses and dependents who are enrolled in any of the State's health insurance plans (COVA care, COVA HDHP or Kaiser Permanente HMO) can receive free flu shots from participating physicians and participating pharmacies between October 15 and February 15. Please look for additional announcements in *CommonHealth* regarding free flu vaccination schedules and reminders.

CPR/AED training is scheduled and offered free to all interested faculty, adjuncts and classified staff. Those who plan to register must reserve a space one week in advance of the class date. Space is limited, so don’t delay! Fall semester class dates and registration information is attached to this edition of *Intercom.*
ALEXANDRIA CAMPUS CELEBRATES

Hispanic Heritage Month

Wednesday 2 p.m.
October 3rd, 2007    Room 132
Pedro Avilés
Executive Director, National Capital Immigrant Coalition
“Culture Clash: The hidden dimension of the immigration debate.”

Thursday 2 p.m.
October 4th, 2007   Room 127
Ricardo Juárez
Spokesperson, Mexicanos Sin Fronteras
“The Anti-Immigrant Backlash: Virginia as a mirror of the national debate.”

Monday 6 p.m.
October 15th, 2007    Room 158
Ligia Glass
Margarita Hodge
Lawrence Rich
A Celebration of Hispanic/ Latino Poetry

October 12th is Celebrated all over the Spanish-speaking world as
“El día de la raza”
Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month
at Northern Virginia Community College - Annandale

The Division of Languages and Literature
&
The Division of Liberal Arts

Proudly Present

Francesc de Paula Soler in Concert

The Poet of the Guitar
From the Classical Guitar in Spain and Latin America
to the Contemporary Guitar

Richard J. Ernst Community Cultural Center Theater
Saturday, October 6, 2007 at 7:30 P.M.

Admission free. Garage parking available for $1 per hour.

Co-sponsored by:
Adult CPR & AED Course
For NVCC Faculty and Classified Staff from all campuses
All cost for these certification classes is funded by the NVCC HR Professional Development Budget

Registration at least 5 days prior to class date is required.
Space is limited for each session.

On-line registration by sending e-mail ...

TO: HRDtraining@nvcc.edu
CC: (your supervisor)
SUBJECT: CPR & AED Training
BODY: List the date you’d like to attend a class and provide the telephone number where you’d like notification in case of last minute changes.

All registrations will be confirmed by return e-mail and will include the training room location.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date and Time</th>
<th>Campus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 25</td>
<td>Medical Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>(American Heart Association certificate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 31</td>
<td>Medical Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>(American Heart Association certificate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, November 2</td>
<td>Annandale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>(American Red Cross certificate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, November 7</td>
<td>Annandale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>(American Red Cross certificate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, November 9</td>
<td>Annandale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>(American Red Cross certificate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, November 13</td>
<td>Annandale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>(American Red Cross certificate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, November 16</td>
<td>Woodbridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>(American Red Cross certificate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, November 30</td>
<td>Manassas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>(American Red Cross certificate)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adult CPR training objectives: Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to
♦ Respond appropriately to finding an unconscious adult victim
♦ Initiate obtaining emergency medical assistance
♦ Determine whether the victim is breathing and/or has a pulse
♦ Initiate emergency cardiopulmonary resuscitation measures until medical assistance arrives

AED training objective: Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to
♦ Effectively use an automatic electronic defibrillator
THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
FAIRFAX CITY BRANCH, FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA

PRESENTS

WHAT: ANNUAL BOOK AND AUTHOR LUNCHEON
WHEN: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd, 2007
WHERE: COUNTRY CLUB OF FAIRFAX, FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA
BENEFITS: COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR WOMEN
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY, FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA
TICKETS: $35 per person
CONTACT: Sonja Palomaki: 703-451-9262/7014 Ebb Tide Lane, Burke, Va. 22015

This year’s Book and Author Luncheon features the following authors:

Evelyn David-“Murder Off The Books”—A rollicking whodunit, set in DC, with a retired Irish cop and his sidekick Irish wolfhound who chase the bad guys!

Keith Donahue-“Stolen Child”—A fantastic tale created by interlocking stories of a boy taken by the faeries, and an adult who remembers this time

John Gaudet-“The Iron Snake”—A fast-paced historical novel of the building of a railroad in Victorian Kenya nicknamed ‘The Lunatic Express’

Leslie Pietrzyk-“Pears On A Willow Tree”—The celebration their family by four generations of spirited Polish-American women, and their rebellion against it

Jeff Sypeck-“Becoming Charlemagne: Europe, Baghdad, and the Empires of A.D. 800—A glimpse behind the legends surrounding this monumental figure who shaped Europe’s destiny

Join AAUW/Fairfax for an afternoon of literature, fun, and food!!! Silent Auction.

PUBLICITY:
Linda Cunningham Goldstein
6827 Glencove Drive
Clifton, Va. 20124
(703)631-1059
Lgold5729@aol.com