

April 22, 2008

the Bulletin

MESA COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

MCC YouTube videos

Recent video postings to YouTube.com have made Mesa Community College a part of the YouTube community. With college students typically spending more time on the Internet than any other media, staff and students alike have turned to the site as a way to share videos of campus activities and get people talking about the college. The postings are as diverse as the college itself. Users can watch videos of MCC football games, dance recitals, campus tours, academic discussions and much more.

Since its debut in 2005, YouTube has become an extremely popular website, streaming more than 100 million videos a day. YouTube is a video sharing service that lets users upload files to YouTube servers, where they are available online. YouTube also offers users the opportunity to watch videos posted by others, post comments and create topical groups. The social networking tools encourage users to meet new people, read and share opinions, and be part of a community.

While the website offers positive opportunities for creating and sharing videos, the downside of the service is that the site raises issues of copyright and questions of privacy, appropriate use, and trust. MCC obviously does not have control over what is posted on this public website. However, we found many videos posted by MCC students and staff that portray our college in an interesting, positive light. Listed below are a few examples:

Academics

MCC New Physical Science Building tour with Mike Sims
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=8PdROxdo4Ck>

China Study Abroad 2008
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=dtHSQAaXcvY>

MCC Audio Production Technologies Student Promo
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=GtslSnPcSOg>

MCC Physical Science Outreach 2007
http://youtube.com/watch?v=_volH1g1Bec

MCC First Aid Course-Child CPR Demo
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=vzFkUUBQXqk>

Arts

MCC Dance Company
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=K7fOuwy530Y>

30 Years of Theatre Outback
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=j0yN1YE6ptM>

Tear Jerk from "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change."
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=Hji7ujQAFjc>

MCC presents Ms. Judy Chicago
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=2cccoi6JVgM>

Athletics

Valley of the Sun Bowl 2007
http://youtube.com/watch?v=jimemj_hmFc

MCC Cross Country
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=MII-yul1rW4>

MCC Steeplechase 3/08
http://youtube.com/watch?v=OIJ3_1O2984

Events

MCC Graduation 2007
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=hUIwGtxeFvI>

Nurse Pinning Ceremony
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=7k5aqeARj9s>

Judy MacQueen on Channel 3 discusses Documenting China
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=R0cp8EeqsmWE>

Documenting China at MCC
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=7SNiLjRS1Yw>

Other

YouTube Guidelines, Help Resources and Copyright Notices appear here:
http://youtube.com/t/community_guidelines

Biotech Symposium to Present Pending NAU Agreement

Saturday's Biotechnology Symposium at Mesa Community College is the place to be for college-bound students who are interested in biotechnology careers, but not quite sure where to start.

"It's a student-based event, but really we're targeting two audiences — educators who develop local biotechnology programs and prospective students," said Stan Kikkert, life science professor at MCC and director of the college's biotechnology program.

For students, it is a chance to explore the diversity of careers available in the industry. Representatives from Orthologic Corporation, Sun Health Research Institute and TGen will be among the industry experts on hand to answer questions. Tours of the MCC biotech facility are also available.

For educators, it's a chance to learn about partnerships and networks promoting biotechnology education in the Valley. Educators from MCC, Arizona State University Polytechnic, the Biodesign Institute at ASU and the Biotech Academy at Mesa High are among those scheduled to participate in roundtable discussions.

A highlight of the event will be featured speakers Matthew Gage from Northern Arizona University and Rafiq Islam from Covance Laboratories, Inc.

Gage, an assistant professor in chemistry and biochemistry at NAU, will provide information on the new certificate in biotechnology offered at NAU as part of a pending transfer agreement with the MCC Biotechnology Program.

"MCC and NAU are in the process of finalizing an agreement in which MCC students can transfer to NAU to earn a bachelor's degree in biology with a certificate in biotechnology," Kikkert said. "The pending transfer agreement is nicely steeped in biology and chemistry."

Gage said the agreement will open up many possibilities for students.

"The training that these students have been receiving at MCC is very comprehensive and partnering with NAU provides these students with a chance to be exposed to research opportunities in biotechnology," Gage said. "I believe that this agreement will serve as the beginning of a much larger partnership between NAU and MCC."

Gage said the agreement will provide Phoenix students with the best of both worlds.

"They can complete the majority of the coursework required for their degree close to home, but they can experience the benefits of NAU," Gage said

As MCC and NAU work together to meet the demand of the state's growing bioindustry, more and more students are investigating biotechnology as a possible career choice.



Graduates can find work in federal, state, and local government laboratories, biomedical, pharmaceutical, and bioengineering laboratories, agriculture and horticulture, microbiology, environmental and academic laboratories. Earning potential is increased with increased education, so the MCC/NAU partnership will help students achieve a higher earning potential.

MCC student James Randol said he's been very interested in the field for a few years.

"I researched the career while I was still in high school," Randol said as he pulled on rubber gloves to examine lab results. "I think there are a lot of opportunities out there."

Biotech Symposium at MCC

When: 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, April 26

Where: MCC at Southern and Dobson, 1833 W. Southern Ave., Mesa, Life Science Building

More: For more information, visit www.mccbiotechnology.net

Psych Students Measure Electrical Activity in Brain

When MCC psychology instructor Ly Tran-Nguyen sets up her medical monitoring equipment and asks for classroom volunteers, her students know they are about to see science in action.



Ly attaches electrodes to the skin of a volunteer, enabling the machine to measure brain, heart or muscle waves and display the body's neural and electrical activity on a screen. The students are then able to collect concrete data to reflect the psychology topics they have discussed in class.

After examining the data and combining it with research, the students develop a well-rounded picture of a variety of concepts such as stress, personality traits and different levels of consciousness.

"My goal is to emphasize to the students that psychology is a science, not just common sense," Ly said. "Many students who take psychology 101 think it will be easy, but this introduces them to the diversity of the field. It's important to see science in action."

Ly began using the equipment after she attended a National Science Foundation-funded workshop through St. Olaf College in Minnesota with another MCC psychology instructor, Ann Ewing. The two instructors are part of a Nature of Science Faculty Learning Community, which promotes the understanding and appreciation of the nature of science, technology, engineering and math.

Ly said one of the more interesting experiments done in class shows how brainwaves can determine introversion or extroversion, based on research done by a university research team that found if a person has high amounts of alpha waves in the frontal lobe of the brain, he or she is three times as likely to be an extrovert.

First, the students were given a behavioral survey to measure whether they are an introvert or extrovert. Then the class measured the brain wave activity of a volunteer who is considered an extrovert. The students compared the results of the electroencephalogram done in class to the research and found it to be correct.

"The students really enjoyed it," Ly said. "They were able to see the process projected on a screen."

Another experiment measured heart waves of students who were startled by an image on a computer screen. These basic experiments were used in introductory psychology classes, but since then, Tran-Nguyen has expanded the program to include higher level research classes.

"These have only been demos," Ly said. "I'd love to have more hands-on experiences for students and we'd like to acquire more equipment."

Students Raise Funds for Special Ed Program

Two highly motivated Mesa Community College students recently saw a need in their community and took action.

While volunteering their time to students who have autism at Greenfield Junior High in Gilbert, Tim Caudle and Minh Nguyen realized that the teachers were giving more than their time to the students.

"We noticed that teachers and aides were bringing in treats for the kids out of their own pockets," Tim said.



Tim and Minh decided it was time to make life a little easier for their teacher, Juan Reyes, and his staff. Snacks went quickly in this classroom, where treats are used as benchmark incentives. So they initiated a fundraiser to raise money for snacks and learning tools for the classroom.

By selling raffle tickets for a buck and tees for \$15, they raised over \$750, with more money expected from continued sales of the T-shirts. The MCC students paid for the raffle prize of a Nintendo DS with their own money. LoveRags.com, a Mesa clothing company, is donating \$5 for every T-shirt sold. The T-shirts feature a logo of a heart within a star, inspired by the big hearts of the youngsters who struggle so hard to learn.

Tawn Hauptli said she's inspired by her student's fund-raising efforts.

"I think these students are absolutely amazing, and I hope their story inspires others," Tawn said.

Minh, who is studying to be an elementary math teacher, said his service-learning experience at the Gilbert school has been an eye-opener.

"I learned a lot from working one-on-one with the students," Minh said. "They taught me how to come up with different ways of teaching. If one way doesn't work, you have to try another."

Note: LoveRags.com is geared to adult audiences, but the charity T-shirt is a family-friendly design. T-shirts for the cause can still be bought on the website.

MCC at Red Mountain Celebrates Learning Center Groundbreaking



Finding treasure in what others might consider trash is Mike Putman's specialty. Using anything from sprockets to springs to matchbox covers, Putman turns found objects into works of art. His work will be on display during MCC's annual Student Art Show.

Putman, 35, a mixed media artist, was working as a non-profit art teacher when he realized he needed to update his skills and learn some of the new software programs available to artists. So he began taking classes at MCC and quickly saw the technology elevate his art to a whole new level.

"I learned the technology to make my art go from canvas to digital," Putman said. "My instructors helped me create a portfolio that can be placed on the computer so I can share and promote my work."

Putman said the piece that was chosen for the show, *Passion is Key*, is the epitome of what he wanted to accomplish as a mixed media artist.

"Digital art is the new frontier," said Putman, who teaches part-time at Mystic Paper in Mesa. "It's a scary time for artists, but once you do learn it, your opportunities are unlimited."

MCC art instructor Tom Klare said Putman is an excellent artist with a clear direction.

"Mike has a unique style that is very distinctive and based on personal interests," Klare said. "His work has commercial potential."

GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY

Putman's work is just one of more than 100 pieces that will be on display at the art show. The pieces shown are selected by MCC art instructors and represent the best work of MCC art students. Klare said it's always hard to choose what will be shown with the multitude of high-quality work produced by MCC students.

"The show contains a really nice cross section of what comes out of the art department," Klare said. "There's some incredible work."

Art pieces are varied and include fine art, computer graphics, 2D and 3D artwork, digital photography, traditional photography, sculpture and ceramics. Most pieces are for sale and the college buys one piece of student artwork from the sale each year. An awards ceremony is held at the end of the show where students win monetary awards as well as art tools such as drawing tablets and computer software.

If you go:

What: MCC Student Art Show

When: March 31-April 10. Monday-Thursday, 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m., Fridays 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Awards ceremony is April 9 from 6-8 p.m.

Where: MCC's Southern and Dobson campus, 1833 W. Southern Ave., Mesa, in the Navajo Room inside the Kirk Student Center.

Environmentally Creative Design

By Janice Jennings

Bicycle parts as chair legs, chicken feathers for filling, wood from a farm and recycled resin — what were these Mesa Community College interior design students thinking?



The environment, creativity, and beauty were foremost in their minds as they showcased their sustainable furniture projects at the Maricopa Sustainability Day held April 10 at CGCC. The challenge was to design a custom piece of furniture that demonstrates the ability

to live large with an environmental conscious.

"Glamour", a vanity created for teenage primping, was created by Natalia Garcia, Rachal Bowden and Kelli Lazenby. The vibrant colors bounce off each other in harmony, contrasted by the mixture of textures with a final emphasis on the reflection in the circular mirror. The sustainable materials selected were Ecoresin used by 3form and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) wood. Ecoresin is

made up of 40 percent recycled content and covered by 3form's reclaim program. FSC wood ensures minimal negative impact on the environment through a ridged "chain of custody" certification process. Every last detail, down to the one-inch square knobs made from 100 percent recycled glass, sparkled with beauty.



Other design student projects included a chair named "spring petals" with bicycle handle bars as legs, "Am-biDesk" made out of bamboo, "Mercinsha" lounge chairs made out of recycled barn wood and a spa desk called "Aqua" made out of capiz shell. There were more than 140 projects from students in all disciplines across the Maricopa campuses on display at the annual event.





The New Voice of MCC If you happen to be placed on hold on MCC's phone lines, perhaps you've noticed a new, yet familiar voice. The system has been updated with a new voice, music and message courtesy of Keith Heffner, audio production technologies faculty member, and Mary Jordan, coordinator of marketing.

Project Graduation - Feed a Body, Feed a Mind The MCC chapter of Phi Theta Kappa will be a sponsor of Project Graduation in conjunction with other junior college chapters nationwide. The Feed a Body, Feed a Mind focus responds to the ongoing issues of hunger and illiteracy by collecting non-perishable food items and books during commencement week. Donations will be distributed to local community relief organizations. Keep your eye out for contribution opportunities the week of May 5.

Recognitions

Note: As MCC transitions into new leadership, "The Bulletin" will recognize faculty and staff accomplishments formerly found in the President's Weekly Communique. Please send your suggestions to Marcy Snitzer at marcy.snitzer@mccmail.maricopa.edu.

DAC Award for Excellence

Recently The Engagement Project at MCC received recognition from the District Advisory Council for its work to foster a sustainable environment of global tolerance and engagement. The sponsored forums engage faculty, staff, and community members in the conversation which promotes understanding of different world views, religion and ethics.

Phi Theta Kappa students meet with Dr. Pan in Philadelphia

The MCC chapter leadership of Phi Theta Kappa attended a conference in Philadelphia which overlapped with the American Association for Community College convention that Dr. Pan was attending. The ten students, along with advisor Duane Oakes, spent an evening with Dr. Pan who placed the order for a family-style, traditional Chinese dinner for the group. In addition, they had breakfast together the next morning and attended a combined session for both conventions. This was a highlight for students and a great "opportunity for the students to learn and grow with him," Duane said.

Psi Beta holds annual barbeque for Sunshine Acres Children's Home

About 25 Psi Beta volunteers brought food, fun and activities to the kids at Sunshine Acres Children's Home. The facility provides a loving home for children who are separated from their parents and helps them establish long-term relationships with stable parental figures. Kathy Walker, past president of Psi Beta, has visited the home several times and is always inspired by the kids. "They've had tough times, but they take care of each other and share and help each other out."

MCC Student Employee of the Year

Tom Kitching is a student worker at MCC who continually goes above and beyond his responsibilities to help the faculty, staff and students in building 50. He has the ability to anticipate the needs of those around him and then take the initiative to help the situation.

A few examples of his contributions include creating a user-friendly slide chain system to secure common use items in a faculty workroom, designing raised brackets to provide needed space above cabinets with overhead sliding doors, and assembling a cart from used parts to secure confidential information until it is taken to be shredded.

One faculty member said, "Tom has many talents and is always willing to assist anyone in the building with a project. He has excellent people skills and a positive attitude, which has gained him the respect of co-workers and management."