

ACADEMIC COMMUNICATOR

A Publication of the Madonna University Office of Academic Administration

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MCGREGOR FUND SUPPORTS PROJECT ON INFORMATION LITERACY

Recognizing that information literacy constitutes an essential knowledge base, skill set, and series of habits of the mind for university-educated persons in the twenty-first century, Madonna University will establish a multi-pronged information literacy program beginning fall 2006. The goal is to develop the capacity of the University's students and faculty members to access, evaluate, communicate, and use information within the context of the ever-expanding proliferation of multiple personal and organizational information access points. Supported by a grant of \$125,000 from the McGregor Fund, the two-year project will seek to accomplish the following objectives:

- To assist the faculty in articulating student learning outcomes for information literacy;
- To conduct a series of faculty development opportunities on information literacy;
- To establish models of collaboration on information literacy between the library and selected academic programs;
- To institute a Student Library Advocate (SLA) Program;
- To target information

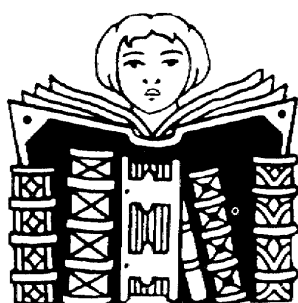
literacy/research education presentations to four specific student audiences: first-year students in UNV 1010 – Orientation to Higher Education; second-semester freshmen in ENG 1020 – Communication Skills II; students beginning their major in entry-level disciplinary courses; and entering transfer students;

- To evaluate the effectiveness of the information literacy program and disseminate project information to other colleges and universities.

Information literacy is increasingly important because of rapid technological change and the proliferation of information sources. Today individuals are faced with diverse, abundant information choices—in their academic studies, in the workplace, and in their personal lives. Increasingly, information comes to individuals in unfiltered formats, raising questions about its authenticity, validity, and reliability. In addition, information is communicated through multiple media, including graphical, aural, and textual formats, and these pose new challenges for individuals in evaluating and understanding this information.

“The skills needed to navigate, retrieve, and use information successfully and responsibly are essential for educational, professional, and personal success,” remarked **Ernest Nolan**, Vice President for Academic Administration. “Higher education doesn't have the luxury of continuing to argue about whether students need to be prepared for an Information Age society; the time to implement strategies for developing information literacy in our students is already overdue.”

Under the leadership of Library Director, **Joanne Lumetta**, and Education Professor, **Stewart Wood**, the project grew out of a plan developed at an invitation-only seminar, “The Transformation of the College Library,” sponsored by the Council of Independent Colleges, in September 2005. The plan includes a series of workshops and other activities to acquaint faculty members with the current thinking on and best practice in literacy education. Ultimately, the faculty will be asked to adopt a set of learning outcome statements related to literacy education and to implement them across the curriculum in the liberal arts core and in the academic majors.



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Service learning is an important venue for contributing to the quality of life of south-eastern Michigan.

SERVICE LEARNING FELLOWS ADAPT COURSES TO INTEGRATE SERVICE

The Faculty Professional Development Committee selected six faculty colleagues for the second annual Service Learning Fellows Program, partially supported by a grant from Michigan Campus Compact. Recommended by **Kevin West**, Director of Service learning, the participants receive a \$1,000 stipend for attending a six-week seminar and integrating service learning

into an existing course:

- **Kathleen Edelmayer** (ENG 2620: Language and Culture)
- **Veronica Riha** (BIO 1040: General Biology)
- **Kathleen Richard** (FCS 3750: Human Shelter and Environment)
- **Sue Anne Sweeney** (GER 3850: Documentation for Human Services)
- **Fran Jurcak** (NUR 3320: Introduction to Nursing Therapeutic Intervention)
- **Colleen Klaus** (ENG 1010: Communication Skills I)

Students will engage in service projects that will improve the lives of diverse populations of area residents—ranging from youth to the elderly.

Faculty Excellence Awards for 2006

The Selection Committee for the Faculty Excellence Awards, under the leadership of **Michael Cummings** (LIB), has recognized two faculty members for their important contributions to teaching and learning at Madonna University:

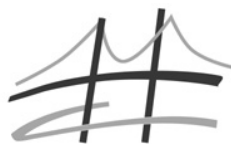
- **Award from Graduating Seniors:**
Rev. Ron DesRosiers, *Assistant Professor of Religious Studies*
- **Award for Adjunct Faculty Member:**
Iona Fracassi, *Adjunct Instructor of English*

The recipients receive a cash award and are acknowledged at the Fall Faculty Conference. Other members of the selection committee include: **Kathy Esper** (NUR), **Miriam Long** (MTH), **Jill Robinson** (EDU), and **Barbara Jean Scott** (SW).

We the People Project CONCLUDES IN FALL 2006

Funded by a \$15,000 grant from the Michigan Humanities Council, the *We the People* Project will conclude with its final lecture on Wednesday, October 11, 2006. Organized around the theme, “**Three Defining Moments: Historical Legacies that Shaped Michigan’s Present**,” the project will explore the repercussions of the September 11, 2001, attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon by examining the impact on Detroit’s Arab American residents. The title of the lecture is “**The Media Arab**,” and **Jack Shaheen**, nationally recognized author of the book, *Reel Bad Arabs: How Hollywood Vilifies a People*, former CBS News consultant, and Professor Emeritus of Mass Communications at Southern Illinois University, will serve as the guest lecturer. A panel of respondents will offer their thoughts on the topic: **Dennis Bozyk**, **Neal Haldane**, **Rev. George Shalhoub**, and **Imam Mohamed Mardini**. The lecture will be held in Kresge Hall and begin at 7:00 p.m..

The project also includes the production of four video programs: “Pathway to Freedom: The Underground Railroad in Michigan,” co-production of WDWB-TV Channel 20 and Madonna University (producer: **Sue Boyd**); “Detroit as Prototypical American City in Jeffrey Eugenides’ *Middlesex: A Novel*,” Bloomfield Cable (producer/host: **Jonathan Swift**); “The Education Connection to the Arab-Chaldean Community in Michigan,” TV Orient (producer/host: **Terry Ahwal**); and “We the People: Michigan as Microcosm of the American Experience,” Madonna Magazine (producer: **Sue Boyd**).



Michigan Humanities Council
Bridging Communities and Ideas

Check out the MU

We the People Website at <http://www2.madonna.edu/WeThePeople/>

“ONE COMMUNITY, ONE BOOK” SELECTS TWO TEXTS FOR 2006-07

The Madonna University
“One Community, One Book”
colloquium will read and discuss
What the Best College Teachers Do
by Ken Bain

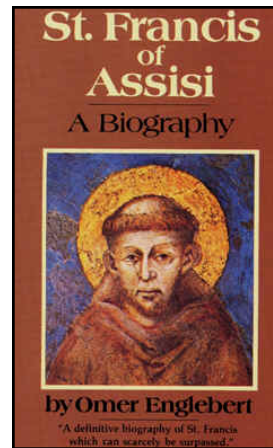


Discussion Sessions:

Part 1: Friday, October 6, 2006 – 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Part 2: Friday, February 9, 2007—1:00-3:00 p.m.

*Mark your
calendar!*

The Madonna University
“One Community, One Book”
colloquium will read and discuss
St. Francis of Assisi: A Biography
By Omer Englebert



Discussion dates to be scheduled
in April 2007

SANS INC./SONY SELECTS MU AS SITE OF MODEL ASL LANGUAGE LAB

SANS Inc., the developer and exclusive licensor of Sony language learning software solutions, has awarded the 2005 Sony Virtuoso™ Education Grant to Madonna University. The grant consists of an all-digital, multi-media, software-based language learning system, the Sony Virtuoso Digital Language Learning System with an ASL (American Sign, Language) component, valued at over \$50,000. The system allows for real-time video communication based on interactive teaching modalities.

Since Madonna University is one of few private schools in the country offering a four-year ASL program, about 250

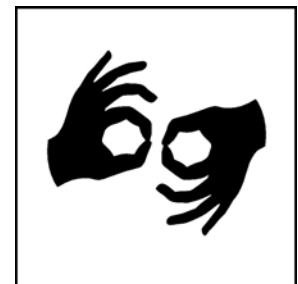
to 350 students enroll each semester in ASL classes, and approximately 130 majors are pursuing a four-year degree.

“After reviewing the many grant applications received, we chose Madonna University because they presented a clear vision to incorporate our technology in the instructional classroom for their language programs and for their students to digitally document their skill development and proficiency,” stated **Stella Derum**, National Marketing Manager of SANS Inc.

“The classroom lab experience with the video component is just what we need,” explained SLS department chair, **Ken Rust**. “Real-time audio and video communications will allow instructors to review student work and

give immediate feedback, facilitating language development. It will be a useful tool for student self-evaluation and as an assessment tool for faculty.”

The Sony Virtuoso lab will also help Madonna University achieve its goal of creating a digitized portfolio for graduating ASL students. “The lab will allow students to put their best work on DVD— their sign language skills, resume, term papers, etc.—to create a complete portfolio on DVD that they can distribute to prospective employers and graduate schools,” stated Rust. “Ultimately, ASL students will be better prepared to enter the workforce and serve both deaf and hearing audiences,” concluded **Ernest Nolan**, Academic VP.



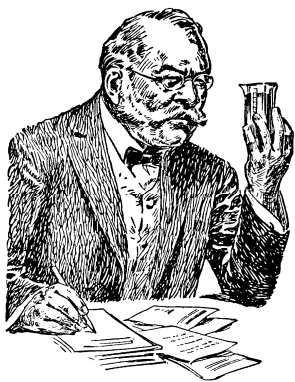
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*Student Success Is Our
Greatest Achievement!*



The Faculty Professional Development Committee offers a rich menu of opportunities for faculty colleagues to pursue their interests and update their skills.

*Equal Opportunity
Educator*

Fall Semester 2006 Datebook

- **Fall Faculty Conference**
Monday, August 28, 2006
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- **New Faculty Orientation**
Thursday, August 31, 2006
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- **“One Community, One Book” Colloquium:
What the Best College Teachers Do (Part 1)**
Friday, October 6, 2006
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- **November Faculty Professional Development
Workshop: Information Literacy**
Friday, November 3, 2006
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- **End of Fall 2006 Semester**
Saturday, December 16, 2006



RECENT FPD AWARDS

The Faculty Professional Development Committee (FPD), under the leadership of **Bess Kypros**, awarded summer research stipends:

- **Phillip Olla** (MIS), “Using a Personalized Health System to Address Health Care Disparities”
- **Ted Gish** (CHM), “Mercury Studies of Orchard Lake”
- **Lorraine Jakubielski** (EDU), “An Investigation of Applications of Induction Loop Systems in the Holland-Zeeland and Grand Rapids (MI) Areas”
- **Marjorie Checkoway** (EDU), **Kathleen Edelmayer** (E&CA), **Bess Kypros** (CD), and **Yvonne Miller** (EDU), “Using Lesson Study as a Tool to Model Collaboration for Effective Teaching/Learning”

In addition, the Committee approved two Teaching Empowerment Teams (TET):

- **Phyllis Brenner**, **Diane Burgermeister**, **Deborah Dunn**, and **Gail Lis** (NUR) will track concepts of quality and research competencies across graduate specialties
- **Joanne Lumetta**, **William Vine**, and **Lijun Xue** (LIB) will focus on an interactive online tutorial for research education

The FPD Committee also approved faculty colleagues to participate in the BlackBoard Training Program, conducted by Instructional Designer, **Elena Qureshi**:

- **Anthony Cracchiolo** (†), CJ 3230: Juvenile Justice
- **Boguslaw Gatarek**, TSL 6900: Research Seminar in TESOL
- **Hadeel Hermiz**, ESL 1010: Orientation to Higher Education for International Students
- **Sue Anne Sweeney**, GER 1070: Introduction to Gerontology

Microsoft Funds Tablet PC Project

Management information systems faculty member **Phillip Olla** is collaborating with nursing professor **Phyllis Brenner** to integrate informatics into the undergraduate nursing curriculum with funding of \$87,000 from the Microsoft Research University Relations Tablet PC and Computing Curriculum Program. This two-year project, entitled, “Real Time Collaboration: Tablet PC-Enabled Pedagogical Strategies to Enhance Nursing Education,” will acquaint nursing students with the use of information and communication technologies to document and evaluate patient care, provide patient education, and monitor patient progress. The students will be exposed to a variety of Tablet PC applications and mobile-electronic health record (M-HER) enterprise suites used in health care.