

# ACADEMIC COMMUNICATOR

A Publication of the Madonna University Office of Academic Administration

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>PAH-Fest 2009</i>	2
<i>Research Stipends/TETs</i>	2
<i>Student Wins Emmy</i>	3
<i>Promotions, Sabbaticals</i>	3
<i>Fall '09 Datebook</i>	4
<i>Recent Grants</i>	4

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## \$2.0 MILLION TITLE III PROJECT TARGETS STUDENT RETENTION RATES

With \$2.0 million in funding from the Department of Education's Title III – Strengthening Institutions Program (\$400,000 per year for five years), Madonna University will focus on the extent and quality of student-faculty interaction. The design of the project is based on a comprehensive development plan that analyzed the University's strengths and weaknesses. The objectives that grew out of this exercise will position the University to remain vital and growing as it faces the unforeseen challenges of the 21st century:

- To increase graduation and retention rates for targeted populations of at-risk students
- To increase student satisfaction with the level of student-faculty interaction
- To meet the needs of metropolitan Detroit students and adult learners more effectively
- To provide a full program of summer academic and intake advising
- To improve the University's management in-

formation system to avoid discrepancies in data collection and reporting.

The project will effect change across the University through the following activities:

- Expanding academic and personal support services for at-risk students;
- Localizing services for adult learners in a centralized office;
- Implementing a one-stop-service-shop concept that will co-locate service offices that are currently dispersed across the campus, with an advising commons adjacent to other services; and
- Expanding instructional delivery options for adult learners at the University's outreach center in Orchard Lake (MI), 25 miles north of the main campus, through interactive video technologies (ITV).

"The progress that we make over the next five years," remarked Dr. Ernest I Nolan, VP for Academic Administration, "is critical to the long-term viability of the University."



### Kresge Foundation Awards Challenge Grant of \$1.5 Million

In a generous endorsement of faith and trust in Madonna University, the Kresge Foundation has awarded a \$1.5 million challenge grant to support the Franciscan Center—the University's new science and media building. To receive the grant, the University must raise \$3.25 million by January 1, 2010. At nearly 60,000 square feet, this building is the first building in Livonia to be designated as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified by the U.S. Green Building Council.



*TETs engage three or four faculty members in a semester-long series of meetings, mutual classroom visitations, and self-evaluation of their teaching.*



## Madonna University Hosts Third Annual Motown PAH-Fest

Madonna University introduced the filmmaking community to its new, state-of-the-art Media Center by designating it as the staging ground for the third annual Motown PAH-Fest, the Detroit-area's rendition of the Project Accessible Hollywood festival—a digital media festival that features a full schedule of activities where participants create everything from cell-phone movies to six-minute digital films. The brainchild of Hollywood filmmaker **Christo-**

**pher Coppola**, the festival grows out of the concept that everyone should access the possibilities for creative expression made possible through video. With the advent of new and blended technologies, everyone can and should tell his or her own story utilizing these technologies.

"PAH-fest has been held in Motown, at Madonna University, more times than any other city," said Coppola. "The interesting stories of the hardworking residents and close-knit communities make

the Motown event unique."

This summer's PAH-fest included a presentation by award-winning Detroit filmmaker **Harvey Ovshinsky**, whose work spans the universe of print, broadcast television and radio, and digital storytelling, and a seminar on film animation by digital creative director and animator **Eric Bruneau**, whose films include *Star Trek: Nemesis and Stealth*, *Minority Report*, *Artificial Intelligence*, and *Contact*, *Starship Troopers*, *Stuart Little*, *Godzilla*, and *Charlie's Angels*.

### FACULTY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE APPROVES SUMMER RESEARCH STIPENDS AND TEACHING EMPOWERMENT TEAMS (TETs) FOR 2009

As strategies for encouraging faculty professional growth, the Faculty Professional Development (FPD) Committee awards on a competitive basis a number of stipends for faculty members to conduct summer research projects and to engage in Teaching Empowerment Teams (TETs). The TETs support groups of three or four faculty members teaching sections of the same course, courses in a sequence, or courses related by principal themes or topics to engage in a series of meetings, mutual classroom visitations, and self-evaluation of their teaching over at least one semester during the academic year. For 2009-2010, the following faculty members were given awards:

#### Summer 2009 Research Stipends:

**Dr. Ann Russell**, Director of the Writing Program

To engage with the community of southwest Detroit in a process of information gathering to ascertain the need for a long-term literacy program for school-aged children and parents. The project will involve leading a group of writing staff and tutors through an analysis of the community input, consideration of workable models for literacy projects, and the drafting of a proposal for external funding to initiate such a project.

**Dr. Cecilia Donohue**, Chair, English and Communication Arts Department

To work collaboratively with a student on an article for a volume of essays issued in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the publication of Harper Lee's novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The article will focus on how students in secondary classrooms can study the novel utilizing new and emerging technologies.

#### Teaching Empowerment Teams:

**Dr. Marjorie Checkoway**

**Dr. Yvonne Miller**

**Dr. Mary Tomczyk**

(diversity education)

**Margaret Danowski**

**Nancy Bagnasco**

**Michael Cummings**

(collaborative teaching)

**Kathleen Esper**

**Dr. Susan Hasenau**

**Nancy Kostin**

**Kathy Miller**

(clinical nursing)

## Madonna Student Wins Emmy Award in Best Student Production-Program Category

On June 6, 2009, at the 31st Annual Michigan Emmy Awards Gala held at the Sound Board Theatre in the Motor City Casino, MU student **Christy Derry** won the student Emmy Award in student production. Her piece, "The Dexter Cider Mill" won Best Student Production - Program Category. Students from colleges and universities all over the state compete for the award, which is judged by professionals in the television industry from across the United States and Puerto Rico, and all of whom are from outside of Michigan so the judging is unbiased.

These Emmy awards stand for exactly the same "outstanding achievement in television" as those seen on network television each fall on the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Emmy Awards, and the work is recognized on a national level. To be nominated for the award is an honor in itself. Entries must meet high criteria using national professional standards. The Emmy is the highest honor given by the National Academy (NATAS) in the television industry for production. This marks the 3rd year in a row that students from Madonna Univer-

sity have won the NATAS Michigan Chapter Student Emmy Award. Chuck Derry, program director remarks, "Needless to say, I am very proud of our BCA students, and faculty."



Christy Derry, (center) with her parents, Chuck and Patricia Derry

View the winning video at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QsN2w88nXZk>.

## FACULTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE APPROVES PROMOTIONS, SABBATICALS, AND PROFESSOR EMERITUS

The Faculty Affairs Committee approved the promotion of the following full-time and adjunct faculty members:

- **Margaret Danowski** (library) from instructor to assistant professor
- **Dr. Diane Burgermeister** (nursing) from assistant to associate professor
- **Hadeel Hermiz Betti** (ESL) from adjunct instructor to adjunct assistant professor
- **Bridgette Johnson** (sociology) from adjunct instructor to adjunct assistant professor
- **Helene Rottenberg** (music) from adjunct associate to adjunct professor

The committee also approved sabbaticals for the following individuals:

- **Dr. Richard Benedict** (education)
- **Dr. Yvonne Miller** (literacy education)

The committee accepted the recommendation from professors **Dr. Stuart Arends** and **Dr. Leon Levitt** the School of Business to grant professor emeritus status to **Dr. Charlotte Neuhauser**, who retired in 2008 after a long and distinguished career at Madonna University. Dr. Neuhauser was the founding chair of the business program when it began in 1975 and was a prime mover behind the initiation of outreach programs, the master's programs in business, and the international program in Taiwan. The approvals of the committee were ratified by the Board of trustees, with the changes effective in 2009-2010.

### Madonna University Honored at Business Conference in Malaysia

The Malaysian government and the University of Technology MARA (Malaysia) presented a special citation to **Sister Rose Marie Kujawa, CSSF, Ph.D., President, in absentia**, during the June 15-17, 2009, International Business Conference sponsored by Global Strategic Management. This acknowledged the University's long-term commitment to international education.



Seal of Universiti Teknologi MARA

*Madonna University has been offering programs at international locations since 1989 and has over 1,000 alumni in the Pacific Rim.*



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Greatest Achievement!*



*Equal Opportunity  
Educator*

## Fall Semester 2009 Datebook

- **Fall Faculty Conference -**  
August 31st, 9:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.
- **New Faculty Orientation -**  
September 3rd, 9:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.
- **Classes Begin -**  
September 8th, 2009
- **Community Gathering -**  
October 9th, 11:00 a.m. — 1:30p.m.
- **Dedication & Blessing of the  
Franciscan Center -**  
October 15th, 4:30 —7:00 p.m.
- **Final Examinations -**  
December 14th-19th
- **End of Fall 2009 Semester -**  
December 16th



### Recent Grants:

#### Michigan Campus Compact Service for Access Grant:

Michigan Campus Compact awarded Madonna University a Campus Demonstration grant of \$19,977 as part of its Service for Access Initiative. Through a collaborative effort among the offices of undergraduate admissions, first-year experience, and service learning, students and staff members will provide services and support for K-12 students, their families, and the community to encourage the youngsters to attend college. The project will be directed by admissions representative **Olga Martinez**.

#### Charles M. Bauervic Foundation:

Over the past 20 years, the Bauervic Foundation has provided grants to support a number of initiatives across the University. This year the Foundation has provided \$10,000 to fund two auscultation mannequins for use in Anatomy & Physiology courses.

#### King-Chavez-Parks Select Student Support Services Grant:

Under the leadership of Director **Ann Lampkin**, the Center for Diversity and Multicultural Affairs received a Continuation Grant of \$171,000 from the State of Michigan's King-Chavez-Parks Initiative to support the Select Student Support Services (4SP), which

provides support services for at-risk students, particularly members of minority groups.

#### Project LEARN I:

Through a Congressionally designated appropriation of \$258,000, Madonna University was able to launch the first phase of Project LEARN for Education in Disaster Relief and Recovery (an acronym for Learning Environments and Regional Networks). Directed by criminal justice chair **Barry Sherman**, began development of a live, two-way interactive video (ITV) network to provide in-service training to practitioners in fields related to disaster relief and recovery throughout metropolitan Detroit.