

Madonna University

Academic Communicator

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*BC Ameritech Faculty Development Technology Program
Grants Support Southwest Detroit Outreach Program
In Memorium: Sister Mary Francilene Van de Vyver*

Madonna University Responds to the Tragic Events of September 11, 2001



Few events in the past fifty years have had such dramatic impact on the way Americans define who they are and how they perceive their role in the world as did the acts of terrorism committed on September 11, 2001. The Madonna University faculty and staff have struggled to understand the implications of these events for how we create a community focused on teaching, scholarship, and service.

To explore the impact of September 11 on the University's Arab American students, the faculty invited Ishmael Ahmed, Director of the Arab Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS) and nationally recognized spokesperson for the Arab population in Dearborn, to speak at the October 5 faculty meeting. This was followed by a three-hour workshop on November 2, which included presentations by Dr. Roger Crownover of the history department on the historical, political, and religious background of the War in Afghanistan and by Dr. Kelly Rhoades, chair of the hospice department, on how such a national tragedy can lead to symptoms of traumatic stress syndrome.

Faculty Endorses Resolution on Peace

In addition, Dr. Anita Herman, chair of the gerontology department, presented a resolution to the faculty affirming Madonna University as a place of peace, where all individuals are welcomed, valued, and respected. Faculty colleagues were encouraged to sign the resolution printed on two large poster boards, which are now displayed at the entrance of the University. "The faculty has sent a clear message that violence and discrimination of any

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kind will not be tolerated on the Madonna University campus," remarked Dr. Ernest Nolan, Vice President for Academic Administration. "The Franciscan ideal of respect for and love of each individual is a cornerstone of the University's mission that faculty and staff members share across the institution."

Student Life and Campus Ministry have also conducted a series of activities in response to September 11, including liturgical and prayer services and a fund drive to raise money for the Council of Independent College's scholarship fund for the children of those who died in the attacks.

SBC Ameritech Faculty Development Technology Program Enriches Teaching and Learning

The Michigan Colleges Foundation (MCF) has administered the SBC Ameritech Faculty Development Technology Program since 1996, creating numerous opportunities for faculty professional development focused on best practices in using telecommunications to enhance teaching and learning in the classroom. Faculty members from Madonna University as well as other independent colleges in Michigan have participated in workshops and training sessions, learning from experts and sharing the expertise that has been developing on each campus as faculty members gain experience enhancing face-to-face classes with technology and teaching full courses online. In addition, the project has involved the instructional technology staff in programs to enhance their technical knowledge and skills in order to assist the faculty more effectively,

The SBC Ameritech Program has assisted faculty in mastering the best practices in using technology as a tool for teaching and learning.

The latest activity in this ongoing project is the Teaching and Learning Mentor Program, which designates an instructional technology staff member to be the on-campus link between the faculty and the resources available through the SBC program. Cheryl Henson, member of the IT staff and full-time software trainer, has been designated as Madonna University's SBC Ameritech Teaching and Learning Mentor for the 2001-02 academic year. To prepare for this role, Henson attended the first annual Teaching and Learning Institute held August 2-4 at Millikin University in Illinois, where she participated in "train-the-trainer" sessions designed to familiarize her with the latest technologies and ways to share these innovations with faculty members. "The use of technology has become a significant factor in all levels of education," remarked Henson. "The challenge before us, as we integrate technology into the curriculum, is to

assure that student learning levels improve."

Campus Compact Funds Faculty for Service Projects



Michigan Campus Compact continues to promote service projects linked to the curriculum. Most recently MCC funded the following projects:

"Expanding Health Service Delivery for Seniors," conducted by Dr. Nancy O'Connor and Deborah Dunn, Campus-Community Dialogue Grant of \$3,000.

"Preventing Youth Violence," conducted by Dr. Karen Neuman, Community Engagement Grant of \$2,995.

"Promoting Quality Service Learning Practices and Research," conducted by Kevin West, Community Service Director Fellowship of \$2,000.

Science Programs Review State Standards

With a grant of \$48,000 from the Michigan Department of Education, chemistry professor Maria Kuhn and other faculty members in the College of Science and Mathematics coordinated the objectives of the Madonna University science majors with those of the State of Michigan curriculum standards for K-12 education. This will ensure that Madonna University graduates certified to teach in Michigan will be prepared in all the content areas they may be called upon to teach.

Winter 2002 Faculty
Colloquium:
"One Faculty, One Book"

Join your colleagues in reading and discussing Charles Derber's "The Pursuit of Attention" on Friday, March 15, 2002, at 1:00 p.m. in Kresge Hall.

Meeting the Learning Needs of At-Risk Students

The Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) continues to expand services to students at risk of academic failure with recent grants from two different sources: a Select Student Support Services Program (4SP) grant of \$123,977 from the State of Michigan and a grant of \$2,500 from Bank

One. These funds will allow OMA to ensure that the students in off-campus programs, such as the SWEEP program, will have access to tutoring and mentoring services, as well as information literacy workshops, comparable to those offered on campus. Under the direction of Osvaldo Rivera, Director of OMA, the 4SP Program will also establish the PREP Center as a locus for tutoring and clearinghouse for other learning resources.



Next Cycle of PHHE Project Focuses on Dissemination

Madonna University has received a fifth year of funding (\$4,500) from the Program for Health in Higher Education (PHHE) to continue its work on integrating content on HIV/ AIDS across the curriculum. Directed by Mary Mitsch of the College of Nursing and Health, the project will sponsor a second round of curriculum development awards to faculty members at Detroit-area colleges and universities. The recipients will develop modules or courses that expose students to multiple perspectives on HIV/AIDS. Dr. Mary Hunt (allied health) and Dennis Bozyk (history) are serving as project mentors.

Southwest Detroit Educational Empowerment Program (SWEEP) Receives Local Foundation Grants

Madonna University is being assisted in its efforts to bring higher education to Latina, African American, and other needy women in Southwest Detroit through the generosity of three local foundations. The Thompson-McCully Foundation of Plymouth has awarded \$240,000 to be used primarily for financial aid, including tuition assistance, fees, books, and special support services. The David M. Whitney Fund of Detroit has also awarded the SWEEP program a grant of \$50,000 to support administrative costs and support services, such a child care and tutoring. The International Bridge Foundation is assisting with a writing project that will result in an anthology of essays, reflections, and narratives by the women in the program. The grant of \$3,500 will contribute to the costs of editing and printing the booklet, as well as the the expenses of a professional photographer to document the Mexicantown neighborhood and the participant-writers whose works will be featured.

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In Memorium ***Sister Mary Francilene Van de Vyver*** **1941-2001**

The Madonna University Community mourns the loss of its beloved president of twenty-five years (1976-2001), Sister Mary Francilene Van de Vyver, CSSF. Nationally recognized for her leadership in higher education, Sister Francilene always had time for her University colleagues and for students, impressing all with her intelligence, charm, charisma, and good humor. Her time in the president's office saw tremendous growth and expansion, including the institution of many new and innovative academic programs (Sign Language Studies and hospice education, for instance), the initiation of graduate education, the transition of Madonna College into a University, the establishment of international programs in Taiwan and mainland China, and enhancement of the reputation of Madonna University as one of the premier Catholic universities in the region, state, and nation. She will be remembered with admiration and fondness by all those who worked at her side.



Important Dates

Winter 2002 Faculty Conference
Friday, January 11, 2002 1:00 p.m. -
Kresge Hall
Spring Vacation: March 4-9
Easter Recess
March 29 (4:00 p.m.) - 31
End of Winter Semester: April 27
Commencement: May 4
Start of Spring-Summer Semester:
May 6
Memorial Day (no classes): May 27

~ Faculty News Beat ~

- Dr. Nancy O'Connor, professor of nursing, received a grant of \$23,655 from the Department of Health and Human Services for "Advanced Practice Nursing Traineeship," which will provide tuition assistance for in-service nurses to pursue graduate education.
- Dr. Kevin Eyster, professor of English, has been selected by his peers in the College of Arts and Humanities to receive the National Endowment for the Humanities Distinguished Teaching Fellowship for 2001-03. Dr. Eyster will focus on folklore study and its connections to other disciplines.
- Dr. Edythe Woods, chair of the psychology department, was accepted into the Project Kaleidoscope Faculty for the 21st Century (PKAL F21) Network Class of 2001. This honor designates Dr. Woods as a leader in undergraduate science education and will provide her with access to a network of colleagues and resources to assist her in her teaching and scholarly endeavors.
- Sister Nancy Marie Jamroz, Vice President for Student Services, will direct Summer Institute 2002, a two-week residential experience for gifted and talented high school students. The University will receive funding of \$84,200 from the Michigan Department of Education to cover the costs of the project.

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