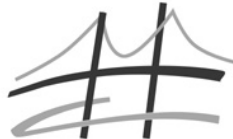


# ACADEMIC COMMUNICATOR

A Publication of the Madonna University Office of Academic Administration

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**Michigan Humanities Council**  
Bridging Communities and Ideas

Check out the national  
We the People Project at  
<http://www.wethepeople.gov/>

## *We the People* PROJECT CELEBRATES MICHIGAN'S ROLE IN U.S. HISTORY

With a \$15,000 grant from the Michigan Humanities Council, Madonna University will participate in the nationwide *We the People* project by celebrating “Three Defining Moments: Historical Legacies that Shaped Michigan’s Present.” Through public lectures and video productions, the project will use the traditional humanities disciplines of history, cultural studies, and literature to engage public audiences in reflection on three historical milieus: the American Civil War Era; the first three decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century; and the post-9/11/01 world. The overall goal is to celebrate what Michigan has contributed to the American character as well as how the state’s experience typifies the values, attitudes, and principles that shaped American life in general. The project will sponsor the four public lectures:

- “The 24<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry of the Iron Brigade: Wayne County’s Own Band of Brothers” by **Dr. Randal Hoyer**, Professor of History, with a panel of respondents: **Dr. James Reilly**, **Dr. Roger Crowner**, and **Dr. Jayne Morris-**



The check presentation ceremony on January 6, 2006: (l. to r.) Gail Govaere, Asst. to Senator Carl Levin; Jayne Morris-Crowther, Project Director; Ernest Nolan; Judy Rapanos, Chair of the Board, M.H.C.; Representative Thaddeus McCotter; Jim McConnell, Board Member, M.H.C.; Jan Fedewa, Executive Director, M.H.C.

### Crowther.

- “Inter-Ethnic Relations and the History of Immigration in Michigan” by **Dr. Ted Radzilowski**, President Emeritus of St. Mary’s College, with a panel of respondents: **Dr. Paul Radzilowski** and **Dr. Karen Majewski**.
- “The Media Arab” by **Dr. Jack Shaheen**, author of *Reel Bad Arabs: How Hollywood Vilifies a People*, former CBS News consultant, and Professor Emeritus of Mass Communications at Southern Illinois University, with a panel of respondents: **Dennis Bozyk**, **Dr. Neal Haldane**, **Rev. George Shalhoub**, and **Imam Mohamed Mardini**.

The project will also spon-

sor four video programs:

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

## FACULTY SELECTED FOR BLACKBOARD TRAINING—FALL 2005

*More than two-thirds of the University's full-time faculty are now trained to create and offer online courses via BlackBoard.*

The Faculty Professional Development Committee selected seven faculty colleagues for the BlackBoard training program conducted in fall 2005. Recommended by instructional designer, **Elena Qureshi**, the faculty members also receive a \$600 stipend for adapting and offering a course online:

- **Peggy Comstock** (nursing)
- **Anthony Cracchiolo** (criminal justice)
- **Boguslawa Gaterek** (Teaching English to speakers of other languages)
- **Hadeel Hermiz** (English as a second language)
- **Marcilyn Horter** (mathematics)
- **Sharon Miller** (gerontology)
- **Sue Anne Sweeney** (gerontology)

By the end of this training session, more than two-thirds of the University's full-time faculty members have participated in the program, along with a cadre of adjunct instructors. Approximately 2,300 students enrolled in online courses last year, and the number is expected to be higher in 2005-06.



## FUNDING ASSISTS THE UNIVERSITY WITH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND RESEARCH

- **Michigan Campus Compact** awarded a Venture Grant of \$2,500 to Service Learning Director, **Kevin West**, to partially support the new Service Learning Fellows program. In addition, the University was selected by MCC for a second **Americorps\*VISTA** worker, **Steven Rahrig**, who will assist with the building strong community partnerships for service learning.
- **The Charles M. Bauervic Foundation** awarded the Nursing Instruction Center with a grant of \$5,000. Under the leadership of **Dr. Patricia Vint**, the grant will be used to assist with upgrading instructional equipment for nursing students.
- **The Council of Independent Colleges** selected Madonna University for participation in the Workshop on the Transformation of the College Library. With travel funding of \$1,600, **Joanne Lumetta**, **Dr. Stewart Wood**, and **Dr. Ernest Nolan** joined representatives from twenty-four other private colleges to examine national trends in academic libraries.
- **The Health Resources and Services Administration** awarded the College of Nursing its fourth Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship Grant, based on a competitive proposal submitted by **Dr. Nancy O'Connor**. This award of \$15,692 provides scholarship funds for students in the graduate program in nursing.
- **Sigma Theta Tau International**, the honor society of nursing, and the Rehabilitation Nursing Foundation awarded \$3,000 to **Dr. Teresa Thompson**, to support her research in rehabilitative nursing. Recently, Dr. Thompson delivered a paper on her research at the Third International RCN Rehabilitation and Intermediate Care Nursing Forum held in Warwickshire, England.

## FACULTY MEMBERS SELECTED FOR JAPAN SEMINAR 2006

Three Madonna University faculty members have been selected to participate in the University of Pennsylvania's national project, Japan Seminar 2006. This will involve a six-month online professional development program on Japan, a three-week trip to Japan in July 2006, and the integration of content on Japan in at least one course next academic year. The members of the team include:

- **Dr. Phyllis Brenner**, Professor of Nursing, who plans to introduce Japanese perspectives in NUR 4730: Nursing Leadership in Organizations and Communities and NUR 4750:

Community Health Roles.

- **Dr. Veronica Riha**, Assistant Professor of Biology, who plans to use quantitative/statistical models to study the ecological and biological issues facing contemporary Japanese society.
- **Dr. Mary Minock**, Professor of English, who plans to study how Japanese styles of telling personal stories (i.e., memoir) are determined by factors different from those found in Western (American and European) models.

The alternate is **Dr. Yvonne Miller** of the College of Education.

This is the fourth team

the University has supported in the Japan Seminar. Prior teams included **Dr. Kathleen O'Dowd** (English), **Dennis Bozyk** (history), **Dr. Denise St. Arnault** (nursing), **Dr. Anita Herman** (gerontology), **Dr. Cecilia Donohue** (English), **Douglas Semivan** (fine arts), **Dr. Dwight Lang** (sociology), and **Barbara Jean Scott** (social work). Our goal is to create a critical mass of faculty members who have had a significant study and travel abroad experience to advance the international education agenda on campus, particularly encouraging students to enroll in Japanese language courses and engage in study abroad.



## DIVERSITY THEME EXPLORED BY YEAR-LONG PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Madonna University has chosen diversity as a its year-long theme for employee professional development for 2005-06. Led by an ad hoc planning committee of the monthly Diversity/Race Brown Bag Discussion Group—**Chris Benson**, **Dr. Phyllis Brenner**, **Dr. Jerry Charbonneau**, **Dr. Marjorie Checkoway**, **Dr. Anita Herman**, **Sr. Nancy Marie Jamroz**, **Dr. Dwight Lang**, **Dr. Yvonne Miller**, **Dr. Bess Kypros**, **Dr. Paul Radzilowski**, and **Ozzie Rivera**—the group spon-

sored two events in fall 2005: a lecture, "Post Grutter and Gratz: Challenges for Using Diversity Educationally," by **Dr. Patricia Gurin**, Nancy Cantor Distinguished University Professor, Emerita, of Psychology and Women's Studies at the University of Michigan, and an interactive theatrical performance by the CRLT Theatre, also from U. of M. Additionally, faculty and staff members volunteered to lead discussion of UNV 1010 students on the book, *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting by in*

*America*, by Barbara Ehrenreich, which exposes the plight of America's underemployed and underpaid. During winter/spring 2006, the program will focus the "One Faculty, One Book" Colloquium on *House of Sand and Fog* by Andre Dubus III, followed by a lecture on gender and sexual identity.

"This represents a grassroots effort to engage everyone at the University in discourse about human difference," remarked **Dr. Ernest Nolan**, VP for Academic Administration, "so that we can celebrate those differences."

*"This represents a grassroots effort to engage everyone at the University in discourse about human difference."*



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*Student Success Is Our  
Greatest Achievement!*

*The publication of the  
Mehlis Report coincided with the delegation's visit to Lebanon, which allowed the group to witness firsthand the country's struggle toward self-determination.*

*Equal Opportunity  
Educator*

## Winter Semester 2006 Datebook

- **February Faculty Colloquium**  
Friday, February 3, 2006  
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- **Spring Break**  
March 6-11, 2006
- **"One Faculty, One Book" Colloquium:  
House of Sand and Fog by Andre  
Dubus III**  
Dates in March TBD
- **Final Exams**  
April 24-29, 2006
- **End of Winter Semester**  
April 29, 2006
- **Commencement**  
Saturday, May 6, 2006



## MIDDLE EAST PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE (MEPI) GRANT SENDS FACULTY DELEGATION TO LEBANON

As the centerpiece of Madonna University's Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) grant of \$100,000 from the U.S. Department of State, seven faculty and staff members visited Notre Dame University (NDU) in Beirut, Lebanon, on October 16-26, 2005. This trip complemented a visit to the MU campus by representatives from NDU in September 2005. The MU delegation included, **Dr. Jonathan Swift**, Project Director, **Dr. Ernest Nolan**, **Dr. Robert Kimball**, **Monika Kimball**, **Dr. Kathleen O'Dowd**, **Dr. Andrew Domzalski**, and **Dan Boyd**, who videotaped the visit for the grant's dissemination effort. While in Lebanon, the group met with **Father Walid Moussa**, newly appointed President of NDU and MU alumnus, and the U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon, **Jeffrey D. Feltman**. In addition to meetings with NDU faculty members focused on curriculum development in American

Studies, members of the group visited classes and conducted a professional development workshop for NDU faculty on active learning strategies. Because of the recent political situation in

Lebanon and the publication of the Mehlis Report, the group witnessed firsthand the country's struggle toward self-determination. A second visit by a smaller group will be conducted in March 2006.



**Project Director, Dr. Jonathan Swift, presents a gift from the University to U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon, Jeffrey Feltman.**