

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-FLINT

TO: University of Michigan-Flint Faculty and Staff
FROM: Vahid Lotfi
SUBJECT: Quarterly Update from Academic Affairs
DATE: December 23, 2009

The fall 2009 Commencement exercises were held on December 13 at Perani Arena and Event Center. Over 60 faculty members attended the exercises and a number of staff members volunteered to assist with the event. As I witnessed the graduating students march across the platform, once again I was overjoyed by the occasion. I consider myself to be extremely fortunate to work in a place where people's lives are changed for the better. I wish to offer my deepest gratitude to our staff volunteers who made the event go flawlessly and thank our faculty and administrators in attendance.

New Program Request and **Program Change Request** forms have been revised to make them easier to understand and complete. The revised forms are on the web sites of both the Registrar's Office and the Office of the Provost. The forms are in packet formats that include the Policy Statement, Timeline for Submission, and for a new program, the Template. **Sue Fabbro** will serve as the point person in moving the forms along for approval in a timely manner. Please note that any requests for either a new program and/or program change will only be accepted if they are on one of the new forms. We hope that you find the forms and process less confusing.

Academic Assessment Committee Activities:

Please save the date and mark your calendars for the **4th Annual Assessment Summit**, Friday, January 29th from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The committee is very pleased to welcome back Peggy Maki. Also, Susan Albertine from the AACSU will be a guest speaker and workshop facilitator.

Professor Roy Barnes will be stepping down from the Academic Assessment Committee beginning January 1, 2010. Jacob Blumner will serve as the interim appointed member and Yener Kandogan will assume the responsibilities of Chair of the committee. If you are interested in serving as the appointed member of the committee or wish to nominate someone (with their prior consent), please inform the Provost's Office. The Provost, in consultation with the Academic Assessment Committee will identify a nomination for the Faculty Council's approval per Article 2, Section 4, Subsection e of the Faculty Code.

Organizational Changes and Personnel Matters

In January, we say farewell to the Director of Outreach, **Ms. Renee Zientek**. Renee has recently accepted the position of Executive Director of the Michigan Campus Compact and will immediately begin her new assignment. Her last day on the UM-Flint campus will be **Friday, January 8, 2010** and there will be a reception, honoring her service to the University from **2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Chancellor's Conference room**.

College of Arts and Sciences

Africana Studies – The Association of Nigerian Authors has honored **Professor Ernest Emenyonu's** contributions to Nigerian literature and also in recognition of his 70th birthday by publishing what is known as a Festschrift which is an anthology of creative works and essays.

Foreign Languages – **Dr. Joseph Tyler**, Lecturer I, read a paper, “Las fronteras del relato fantástico en Julio Cortázar,” at the 1st International Conference (Congreso Internacional de Investigaciones Literarias) sponsored by the Universidad Veracruzana in Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico (October 13-16). Dr. Tyler’s paper was well received and will be considered for publication.

School of Education and Human Services

Social Work - The Social Work Department will host the site visit for reaffirmation of the CSWE Accreditation, January 11, 2010. This visit represents the culmination of more than 2 years of collaborative effort with faculty, staff, students and our Genesee community partners. In addition to our accreditation process, faculty members have been busy with the continuous work of knowledge building and dissemination. **Jackie Harvey** attended the 1st National Summit on Schulman’s Signature Pedagogy in Social Work in San Antonio TX. **Denise Dedman** traveled to Washington DC to earn a credential in social work community based program evaluation. In November, **Kathleen Woehrle** presented research findings from a longitudinal study at the national conference of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

Education - **Sharman Siebenthal-Adams** was named president of the newly established Phi Beta Delta chapter on the UM-Flint campus. The organization supports international initiatives and efforts.

Barb Cherem presented at the annual American Association of Adult and Continuing Education (AAACE) conference as well as the International Psychogeriatric Association meeting in Montreal, Canada. Her presentations focused on “What Sustains Learning in the Later Years.”

Suzy Knezek presented at the annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). Her presentation was titled, “Being versus Becoming: Challenging Representations of Gay Males in Adolescent Literature.” In addition, Dr. Knezek is co-author on an article “I just don’t see myself here”: Challenging Conversations about LGBTQ Adolescent Literature” in the English Journal.

Sapna Vyas presented “Reflections on Teaching Educational Psychology” at the annual convention of the American Psychological Association in Toronto, Canada. In addition, she co-authored a paper presentation with Dr. Sharman Siebenthal-Adams at the annual conference of Phi Beta Delta in Miami, Florida entitled “Facing Challenges that Impact Students’ International Learning Experiences.”

Wei Cao was awarded a Research and Creative Activity award from the Office of Research for her study entitled “Complexity and Resiliency-Identities of Children Adopted from China.” In addition, Dr. Cao presented “An Inconvenient Identity and Success Stories” at the annual conference of the National Association for Multicultural Education in Denver, Colorado.

Jeff Kupperman co-presented at the 54th Annual Michigan Council for the Social Studies in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. His paper was entitled “DevFacToe: Changing the World, One game, Two Players at a Time.”

Elementary Education Mathematics Professor **Matt Wyneken** led students Renee Balthrop, Patrick Burris, Ashley Hudson, and Cynthia Rahrig and EDM Consultant Jeramy Donovan to jointly attend the annual fall conference of the Detroit Area Teachers of Mathematics.

School of Health Professions and Studies

Dean Barbara Kornblau was invited to participate and/or present at a number of national conferences and working groups as well as giving the keynote address at The Disability Network 14th Annual Employment Luncheon, Flint, MI. She also published the following articles:

Kornblau, B.L. (2009, September 26). Freeing the Disabled. Letter to the Editor, *New York Times*, pg. WK11 New York, NY Available online at: <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/09/27/opinion/127nursing.html>.

Kornblau, B.L. (2009, Fall). "The 'Pains' of Health Reform for Rehabilitation." *Painview*. American Society of Pain Educators. Montclair, NJ.

Physical Therapy - The Physical Therapy Department announced plans to expand enrollment in their professional DPT program from 40 to 60 students per year beginning fall 2010. Dr. Pfalzer participated in a panel to make recommendations to the national government on treatment of secondary lymphedema, a condition which affects approximately one million people in the US, especially cancer survivors.

Health Sciences & Administration

Dr. Yu (Sunny) Kang – had a poster presentation: "Healthcare Practices and Utilization" Comparisons between Black and White Residents in Nursing Home Quality of Care.

Oral Presentation: Session 4033.0, "Nursing Home Care and Utilization"

Racial Disparities in Nursing Home Quality of Care: A Multilevel Analysis Using 2004 National Nursing Home Survey Data.

Dr. Arlesia Mathis – Presentation: Examining the Financing of Primary Care Services in Public Health Departments.

School of Management

Fall 2009 is proving to be a very productive time for SOM. In November, our part-time MBA program was ranked #9 in the Midwest and #41 in the nation. Students surveyed by *BusinessWeek* noted SOM's excellent faculty, exceptional academic experiences, comprehensive programs, and high quality of students. SOM earned an A+ ranking in "Caliber of Classmates" and an A in "Curriculum" in their student surveys. Additionally, SOM was once again named as an "outstanding business school" by the Princeton Review in October. We honored several businesses at the second inaugural Business Appreciation Dinner, held on September 24. Honorees included, Dow Corning Corporation, Michigan Automobile Dealers Association, Two Men and a Truck, Powers Catholic High School Business Club, the Ryan family, **Paul McCollom**, and outstanding students **Remo Anoniolli** and **Mark Harris**. The Dean will also host the second annual Economic Forum on Friday, December 11, with invited speakers **Christopher Douglas**, **Yener Kandogan** and **Bill Bergman**. SOM recently formed the International Business Student Organization. The Entrepreneurs' Society, another SOM student organization, gained membership in the Collegiate Entrepreneurs' Organization, the nation's premier student entrepreneurship network. SOM's Community One program was honored as the Michigan Minority Business Council's Corporation of the Year – Education and Government Entities in a ceremony held on September 29.

Faculty Updates

- **Brian Blume** published "Examining the Effects of Communication Apprehension Within Assessment Centres" in the Journal of Occupational & Organizational Psychology and "Transfer of Training: A Meta-Analytic Review" in the Journal of Management.
- **Erin Cavusgil** published "The Impact of Supply Chain Integration on Brand Equity" in the Journal of Business & Industrial Marketing.
- **Surendranath Jory** published "Acquisitions of Bankrupt Assets" in Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance.
- **Yener Kandogan** published "Why Do English-Speaking Countries Run a Trade Deficit? The Curse of Commercial Languages" in the Journal of International and Global Economic Studies.
- **Jacob Peng** published "National Culture and Trust on Satisfaction in Synchronous Collaborative Decisions" in the Journal of Business and Behavioral Sciences.

- **Mark Perry** appeared on CNBC several times to discuss “Wal-Mart: An Economic Hero?”; “Road to Recovery”; and “What Triggered Today’s Selloff.” He was also interviewed by The Flint Journal, BBC News, Miami Herald, the Chicago Tribune, and the New York Times for several of his articles.
- **Shawn Xu**, joined the SOM faculty as an Assistant Professor of Accounting.

Associate Provost and Dean of Graduate Programs

The new **Master of Arts** degree in **Art Administration**, a collaborative degree program joining theatre, music, art, and publication administration, has been approved by Rackham Graduate School. The program is designed to address the needs of individuals wishing to prepare for roles as leaders in designing, implementing, and managing arts activities. The Director of this program is Dr. Lauren Friesen, Professor of Theatre. It joins MPA and MLS as the third Rackham graduate program offered on the UM-Flint campus.

The **Education Specialist** program was approved by the Regents on September 17, and the Office of Graduate Programs is assisting SEHS in developing and implementing a marketing plan to attract the first cohort of students in Fall 2010. In the field of education, specialist degrees are aimed at education administrators and teachers who have a previous master's degree in education. The program will include 30 credit hours over 18 months in a cohort-structured program. Courses will be offered online with a once-per-month, all-day Saturday session. Students will specialize in curriculum or educational leadership.

Genesee Early College

GEC Prepares for First Commencement – Forty Genesee Early College students who began classes on the UM-Flint campus three years ago as 11th graders will be recognized at GEC’s first-ever commencement ceremony Wednesday, May 12, 2010.

Overall, this is an impressive group of young people. The top 15 students (38% of the graduating class) have earned **high school** GPA’s to date averaging 3.68 on a 4-point scale. In addition, this group of 15 has earned a total of 598 UM-Flint credits, 39.8 credits per student on average, in a wide array of 100-, 200-, and 300-level courses, while achieving an average **UM-Flint** GPA of 3.58 on a 4-point scale. (These figures exclude Fall 2009 data which is not yet available.)

The University’s Office of Development and Alumni Relations, with the support of the Provost’s Office, is aggressively seeking new sources of scholarship funds in order to attract members of GEC’s Class of 2010 to continue their degree programs at UM-Flint. At this point, an impressive total of \$33, 800 is available for this purpose for the Class of 2010. An additional gift of \$30,000 was confirmed by two local physicians just this week for the purpose of establishing an annual \$1,500 named scholarship for a worthy GEC graduate who continues at UM-Flint.

Information Technology Services (ITS)

- The ITS online store is now being used in the office for all software purchases. We are working on getting the store in place for students and faculty/staff to make their purchases online through our store.
- Employee home drives have been expanded and ITS has received OSX Snow Leopard.
- Windows 7 (both 32 and 64 bit) is available for faculty/staff and students to purchase.
- Data Security Campaign is in progress and the informational web page can be found at http://www.umflint.edu/its/data_safe.htm
- Laurel hosted a web cast of Sumit_09 at the University Pavilion on Tuesday October 20th. Six nationally-known IT security experts spoke on current trends within IT Security.

MCS upgraded a number of classrooms and instructional labs. They included: Crestron System Installation in 316 MSB, 322 MSB, 459 FH, 431 FH, 501 MSB, 507 MSB, 3176 WSW, 3153WSW, and Kiva Room.

In addition, 33 general classroom in WSW Building and 28 classrooms in French Hall received DVD/VCR and Crestron programming upgrade. Further, conference rooms Shiawassee and Lapeer received ceiling-mounted projectors.

University Outreach

The **Center for Civic Engagement (CCE)** in University Outreach has increased support for service-learning and civic-learning courses 163% from fall 2008 compared to fall 2009. To arrange support for your upcoming class, please contact **Mona Younis** at myounis@umflint.edu. The fall 2009 faculty and community partners included: **Tony McGill, Janet Haley, Dana Dyson, Jim Cheek and Darryl Baird, William Kenner, Charles Thomas, Janet Lorch, Maureen Tippen, Weiqi Li, Kathy Lookingland, Jan Worth-Nelson, Judge Beagle, and Richard Hill-Rowley.**

Flint Corps -University Outreach was awarded an AmeriCorps VISTA position from the Michigan Campus Compact. **Emily Johnson**, a UM-Flint Alum is serving in that position for the 2009-2010 academic year. Emily is charged with the task of organizing large groups of college students as volunteers for a range of City of Flint community service projects. In addition to coordinating student volunteers from the local campuses, Emily is the main point of contact for other Michigan and national campuses who wish to provide community service in the City of Flint. Emily can be reached directly at emilyjo@umflint.edu.

Alternative Spring Break 2010 -- University Outreach's Student Advisory Committee (an 18 member team) is meeting regularly to plan Alternative Spring Break 2010. The team is exploring local and away breaks based on critical issues that are of interest to the students. Through the efforts and network of AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer, Emily Johnson, there will also be students from UM-Dearborn and Alma College living and serving in Flint during their college spring break. Faculty and staff who are interested in participating in the Alternative Spring Break 2010 Program should contact **Gary Ashley** at gaashley@umflint.edu.

LAUNCH was recently awarded a second year of program funding by the CS Mott Foundation. This funding partly supports the staff of LAUNCH and the student businesses that are housed in the LAUNCH Student Business Hatchery. LAUNCH recently hosted the *Moving On Up Elevator Pitch Contest* giving student entrepreneurs an opportunity to use short videos to present their ideas to real world investors, business people and the local community. For more information on this or other LAUNCH efforts, contact **Joel Rash** at joelrash@umflint.edu.

Urban Alternative House – Planning for the Urban Alternative House is underway. With funding support from the CS Mott Foundation, Kresge Foundation, the Rotary Club of Greater Flint, the Earth and Resource Science Department, and private donors of University Outreach, **Dr. Hill-Rowley** has been leading a detailed planning process with THA Architects and several other community partners including the Genesee County Land Bank. There have been two very well attended planning session in this fall 2009 semester. Faculty from multiple departments, students, and community members have been working collectively to develop the design of the physical house, garden and empty lots as well as the range of academic and community programs that may take place in the house. Dr. Hill Rowley is maintaining a log about the development of the project that can be found at <http://blogs.umflint.edu/uahouse/>.