

**Campus Update
Board of Trustees Meeting
May 24, 2012**

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Undergraduate Research Conference

The 2012 MCLA Undergraduate Research Conference was held on Thursday, April 19th. Jarrod Abbot-Washburn '08 was the keynote presenter.

Berkshire County Educator Recognition Award

In April, MCLA, the Berkshire Compact, and the Berkshire Superintendents' Roundtable honored three Berkshire County K-12 teachers of distinction with Berkshire County Educator Recognition Awards: Jessica Bazinet, a first grade teacher at the Allendale School, Pittsfield; Teresa Kardasen, a developmental specialist at the Pediatric Development Center in Pittsfield; and Catherine Marquet Elliott, a French and Spanish teacher at Monument Valley Regional Middle School in Great Barrington.

Lectures and Events

Journalist and *New Yorker* staff writer Elizabeth Kolbert delivered the 2012 Elizabeth and Lawrence Vадnais Environmental Issues Lecture, "Fields Notes From Catastrophe: Man, Nature, and Climate Change," on April 4th.

The Brown Bag Lecture Series featured education professor Barb Kotelnicki and Toni Diamond, on April 6th with the presentation "How we use the e-portfolios for our licensure candidates as they complete their student teaching."

Joe Donahue, Vice President of News and Programming for WAMC Northeast Public Radio, visited classes, met with students involved with *The Beacon* and WJJW, and participated in an episode of the campus roundtable, as the 2012 Hardman Journalist in Residence, supported through the generosity of the Hardman Family Endowment.

Freel Library hosted a presentation from MCLA sociology professor emeritus Maynard Seider. He presented *Farewell to Factory Towns*, his new documentary on North Adams on April 17th.

Faculty Papers and Presentations

Physics professor Emily Maher contributed to "Arachne - A web-based event viewer for MINERvA," a paper that was accepted for publication in the *Nuclear Instruments and Methods A Journal*.

Theatre professor Dawn Shamburger and four students attended the U.S. Institute of Theatre Technology Conference in Long Beach, CA in March.

History professor Frances Jones-Sneed presented a paper at the College Language Association in Atlanta in March, and attended the Organization of American Historians meeting in Milwaukee in April.

Interdisciplinary studies professor Rita Nnodim presented at the African Literature Association in Dallas, Texas, in April.

English professor Mark Miller attended the annual Robert Penn Warren Meeting in Bowling Green, Kentucky, in April.

Psychology professor Tim Jay was invited to give a lecture at the University of Alabama-Birmingham in April.

Political science professor Bob Bence presented at New England Political Science Association in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, in April.

Business administration professor Nancy Ovitsky attended the Eastern Academy of Management meeting in Philadelphia in May.

History professor Kailai Huang had the paper “The Impact of American Business on Sino-American Normalization and US-Taiwan Trade” accepted by the 14th annual conference of American History Research Association of China (AHRAC) to be held in Shanghai University from May 25th-27th, in Shanghai.

Faculty Te(a)ch Fest

This year’s Te(a)chFest took place on May 22nd. Te(a)chFest is an annual showcase of new technologies and ways to integrate technology in teaching.

Berkshire STEM Network Update

The Middle School Region I fair was held in April with over 160 students in attendance.

MCLA hosted a Bridging Engineering Science and Technology (BEST) workshop in collaboration with the Science Museum in Boston in April.

Student Achievements

In March, MCLA students joined with their state university, community college, and University of Massachusetts colleagues at Framingham State University for Students United, the 2012 student leadership conference presented by the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education.

Political science and public policy major Chloe McGrath, was accepted to attend The Washington Center’s academic seminar *Campaign 2012: The Democratic National Convention*.

Members of the MCLA Entrepreneurial Club presented their ideas to a panel of judges at the Orchards hotel in Williamstown as part of the club's first Venture Competition on April 11.

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

Facilities

Foundation and utility work continues on the Center for Science and Innovation site.

Human Resources

The annual retiree luncheon was held on April 26th with retirees Susan Bailey (Career Services), Patricia Flaherty (Administration & Finance) and Susan Wismer (Education) in attendance.

ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

Admissions

The Office of Admission hosted two spring open house programs for accepted students. A Multicultural Overnight Program for students from Boston was part of the April open house.

Nearly 400 6th grade students from Berkshire County visited MCLA as part of the annual Berkshire County Goes to College program. The College also hosted a campus visit for 3rd graders from Adams in April.

MCLA was accepted for membership in the Common Application, an online and print application that students and school officials may submit to more than 450 colleges. MCLA is the only Massachusetts state university that currently is part of the Common Application.

ALUMNI/ADVANCEMENT/MCLA FOUNDATION, INC.

Updates

At their April meeting, the Alumni Board participated in the campus-wide Spring Fling event where they had a table sharing news and information about the MCLA Alumni Association.

A kick-off event for the MCLA capital campaign is being planned for September, 2012.

MCLA received notification of two grant awards:

- \$93,500 College Access Challenge grant from the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education
- \$46,200 Division III Ethnic Minority and Women's Internship grant from the NCAA.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Daniel Peluso '13 was elected Student Trustee for the 2012-2013 academic year. Jason Brown '13 was elected president of the MCLA Student Government Association (SGA).

MCLA student leaders were honored at the annual student leadership recognition ceremony on April 25th.

Over 300 students and community members participated in the 20th annual Community Day of Service on May 5th.

Student-athletes and teams were honored for their academic and athletic achievements at the annual athletics banquet on May 8th.

New student orientation sessions begin June 18th.