

**Campus Update
Board of Trustees Meeting
October 27, 2011**

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Hardman Lecture

Soledad O'Brien, host of CNN's *In America* documentary series, presented the MCLA Hardman Lecture on Thursday, October 20. During the lecture, the MCLA Church Street Center auditorium was formally named in honor of Eleanor Furst Roberts.

Presentations and meetings

MCLA welcomed a group of visiting administrators and faculty from the University of Hebei on September 26. During the visit, representatives from MCLA and the University of Hebei signed a letter of understanding to advance collaboration between the institutions. History Professor Kailai Huang hosted the delegates and assisted with translation.

MCLA hosted a third grade visit for students and teachers from Greylock Elementary school in North Adams in conjunction with the Berkshire Compact on September 30.

History professor Frances Jones-Sneed presented at the Association for the Study of African-American Life and History, in Richmond, Virginia, from October 6-9.

Psychology professor Thomas Byrne and student co-author Bryan Acton presented at the Berkshire Association for Behavior Analysis and Therapy Conference at UMass Amherst October 13-14.

Students organized an on-campus teach-in in solidarity with Occupy Wall Street and related movements on Saturday, October 15.

Exhibits

Freel Library staff, in partnership with the North Adams Public Library and the North Adams Historical Society, completed a project to digitize, preserve, and post online an archive of *The Log*, the Sprague Electric Company newsletter. Editions of *The Log* from 1938 to 1985 are available through the library web site at <http://www.mcla.edu/library/sprague/>. The project was funded in part by the Hardman Family Endowment.

MCLA Gallery 51 hosted *Remixed Messages*, a retrospective of work by Fine and Performing Arts professor Greg Scheckler from September 29 to October 23.

Brown Bag Lecture Series

Political Science and Public Policy professor Petra Hejnova presented "Political dissidents in the Former Czechoslovakia" on Friday, October 21.

STEM Programs

Chris Himes, Ph.D., has joined MCLA as the STEM outreach manager. Chris will also provide focused support in the sciences for students.

Academic Technology

The Center for Academic Technology continues to offer professional development workshops and roundtable conversations for faculty on topics ranging from assessment and advising to training on the new learning management system.

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

Facilities

Renovation work was completed in Freel Library basement.

Campus Center marketplace renovations are in process, with completion scheduled for late November.

Human Resources

Human Resources launched Interview Exchange, a new web-based applicant tracking/hiring management system that streamlines the recruiting process of sourcing, screening, work flow and reporting, and simplifies the job application process for applicants.

ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

Admissions

MCLA hosted a campus visit for 3rd grade students from Greylock School in North Adams on September 30th. The visit included a campus tour and interactive presentations.

The first open house session of the fall took place on Saturday, October 15th. Two additional fall open houses are scheduled for November 11th and 19th.

Admissions counselors are attending college fairs and visiting high schools across New York and New England.

Targeted outreach to Berkshire County students and educators is underway, including:

- Application days planned for each Berkshire County high school.
- Presentations on the college search process to parents' night program at area high schools.
- Van trips to campus for groups from area high schools.
- Northern Berkshire admissions mini fairs held at local high schools with representatives from all colleges in Berkshire County.
- Professional MBA information sessions.

On December 3rd Admissions will host a reception for the Berkshire County recipients of the John and Abigail Adams scholarship.

On December 8th-9th the Harlem Children's Zone will bring a group of students for an overnight program at MCLA to include a campus tour, class visits, and a question and answer with current students.

ADVANCEMENT / MCLA FOUNDATION, INC.

Campaign

Filming has begun for a Campaign Video, produced by Alumni Board member and Campaign Co-chair Tony Dolan '84.

Foundation

The Foundation officially transferred the properties on Blackinton Street to be used for the Center for Science and Innovation to the Commonwealth in September.

Advancement/Alumni

Two new members were appointed to the Alumni Board:

- Oscar Lanza-Galindo '01, Assistant Manager of Internship Programs at Amherst College
- Rachel Dayton Churchill '06, an attorney with McCarther English in Boston

Events

Friday, October 21st – Sunday, October 23rd, Reunion and Fall Family Weekend.

The College honored the following distinguished alumni award recipients:

- Service to the College Award, Jane Brooks Allen '61
- Humanitarian Award (posthumous), Glenn Drohan, former editor *North Adams Transcript*
- Distinguished Alumna Award, Cynthia Borak Normandin '76

The Athletic Hall of Fame inducted the 1995 Softball Team and several individual alumni-athletes:

- Jose Diaz '01 Baseball team
- Jeffrey Reed '83 Basketball team
- Kevin Reed '75 Track and Field
- Christine Bonatti '00 Women's Basketball and Soccer

Tuesday, November 1st, Public Policy Lecture featuring Dr. Robert M. Gates, former U.S. Secretary of Defense. A benefit dinner in recognition of Governor Michael S. and Kitty Dukakis will precede the lecture.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Achievement, Recognition and Training

The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) organized the Midnight Madness program to formally launch the basketball practice season on October 15.

The MCLA Student Government Association inducted new members on October 17.

The MCLA chapter of the National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH) provided a week of recognition and appreciation events for residence communities and the MCLA campus community October 17-21.

The MCLA chapter of the Alpha Lambda Delta honor society was recognized with a Bronze Award by the national council of the society in recognition of strong membership growth.

Events

Speaker David Pallone spoke on the topic of understanding sexual orientation on September 21 in a program funded by a grant from the NCAA.

MCLA hosted a community service day in partnership with the City of North Adams on Saturday, October 8.

Reunion and Fall Family Weekend was held October 21-23.