

College Highlights November 2011

Faculty, Staff, and Student Highlights

Foundation Studies Division

TYCA-West Conference

Danny Jaime, English faculty member, attended the 2011 TYCA-West Conference at Mesa Community College on October 7 & 8, 2011. He also arranged a tour for two of his students (both Criminal Justice majors) to learn about the operations of the current Juvenile Detention Center on Division Street.

Texting and Driving Experiment

During the first semester of Mary Verbout's ENG 100, ENG101 and STU150 classes, students had to read a newspaper article about the Turn-off-Texting program run by the Vermont Department of transportation. People, mostly 15 and 16 year olds, who were applying for their learners permit, could drive a golf cart through a course, once without texting and once while texting. Observers noted the number of cones that were knocked down and timers recorded the drivers' times. As expected, most of the students did much worse when they were texting and vowed to not text while they were driving. However, some of Ms. Verbout's students believed that the poor performance was due to the drivers' lack of experience behind the wheel.

On Saturday, November 19, 2011, twenty-one student volunteers from Mary Verbout's ENG100, ENG101 and STU150 (College Success Skills) classes met at the Marapai residence hall parking lot to recreate an experiment about texting and driving. Six different students drove through an obstacle course twice, the second time texting to a friend on the sidelines. Two students timed each trial and one student counted and recorded the mistakes. As expected, all but one of the students made more mistakes while texting and driving. Overall, it was valuable experience for the students and instructor. We greatly appreciate all the assistance provided by the Yavapai College Campus Safety Department, Teaching and e-learning Support Department and the generosity of Highway Technologies.

Sciences and Health Division

Roughrider Soccer

The National Junior College Athletic Association announced Monday that Yavapai College freshmen soccer players, Kyle Morris and Eduardo Jasso were named to the 2011 All-American Soccer Team. Both players became the 50th and 51st All-American soccer players at Yavapai College

This past season, Morris became the 11th Yavapai player to earn the Region I Player of the Year. The freshman attacker led the Roughriders and the region with 19 goals and 47 points.

Statistically, Jasso was the region's top freshman defender accumulating 1 goal and 5 assists while anchoring the stingy YC defense.

Both players led the Roughriders to their 22nd ACCAC title with a 19-1-3 record.

Roughrider Baseball

The Roughrider baseball team volunteered at the Annual Prescott Turkey Trot on Saturday, November 19, 2011. The event was hosted by the Prescott Running Club to benefit the Yavapai County Food Bank. The baseball players manned the aid stations throughout the 4.98 mile course.



Baseball players, (l-r) Blair Goldsack, Billy Darras and Kyle Young hand out water to Turkey Trot runners.

Student Services & Instructional Support – Teaching and eLearning Support

Library

In the summer of 2011, the Yavapai College Library began utilizing Springshare's CampusGuides. This software allows librarians to create an exciting, visually appealing, social web 2.0 library experience for local and distance students.

Although the guides are set to be officially launched in the spring of 2012, they have already earned praise. A representative from Springshare reviewed Yavapai College Library's Shakespeare guide, created by library staff member Ginney Bilbray, and has chosen it to appear on their "Best Of" website. They praised the guide as "absolutely fantastic" and suggested that "this guide could help elevate other folks' guide creation..... be a great inspiration for other guide creators."

Child Care Professional Training Grant

Tara O'Neill, Education Faculty and Department of Economic Security (DES) grant coordinator, reports that Yavapai College recently passed its grant audit with flying colors. The Child Care Professional Training Grant, administered through DES, allowed Yavapai College to offer 12 no-cost-to-participant courses in seven different counties this year. Each year DES audits the grant by sending our Contract Administrator to observe a class and review records of past trainings. This year we were found to be in compliance and will be applying to renew the grant again soon.

Teaching and eLearning Support

The Sixth Annual Winter Institute will be held on Monday, December 12, 2011 and Tuesday, December 13, 2011. The theme is Student Success Rates and there are close to 40 workshop sessions that will be offered. We're kicking off at 9:00 AM each morning with general sessions. The first session will be a panel of Dean's where they respond to pressing questions dealing with retention, online education, social media in the classroom, and structure across the district. The second session will feature Dr. David Gorman and Dr. Paul Smolenyak, as they address, "*How and why faculty can and should be involved with the shared governance process at YC.*"

The Teaching & eLearning Support recently updated their wiki site at <http://www.telswebletter.com/faculty-showcases/>. The sessions from the Fall Faculty Showcase have been recorded and uploaded. They feature instructors: Curtis Kleinman, Suzanne Waldenberger, Ellen Savoini and Matt Percy. The TeLS staff continues to record training sessions and make them available to the college community.

Visual, Performing and Liberal Arts

Literary Southwest Series

On December 1, 2011 the Literary Southwest Series featured Meet Our Authors "Examined Life". Kim Addonizio, author of five collections of poetry including *Tell Me*, a 2000 National Book Award Finalist, *What Is This Thing Called Love* (W.W. Norton, 2004) and her recent, *Lucifer at the Starlight* (W.W.Norton, 2009). Her work has received the Guggenheim Fellowship, two NEA Fellowships awards and other honors.

Steve Heller, winner of many distinctions for his short fiction and creative nonfiction, featured *The Automotive History of Lucky Kellerman*, *Father's Mechanical Universe* and *What We Choose to Remember*. His short stories have appeared in numerous magazines and national anthologies, twice receiving O. Henry Awards. Future Literary Southwest Series are scheduled for February 10, 2012; April 13, 2012 and April 26, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Susan N. Webb Community Room (Building 19, Room 147) Yavapai College Library.

Music

Chris Eubank, Associate Professor of Vocal Music, Cathleen Hepburn, Adjunct Vocal Music Instructor, and several voice students from Yavapai College traveled to Phoenix November 4th and 5th to compete in the National Association of Teachers of Singing Musical Theater Competition. Christopher Eubank and Cathleen Hepburn served as judges in several of the divisions. Benilde Garcia, Voice student of Judy Clothier (Adjunct Vocal Music Instructor) received second place in her division. This competition was for students throughout the entire state so this was a huge honor.

Holiday Concerts

The Yavapai College Music Department brought three delectable Holiday Concerts:

- On December 3, 2011, the Concert Band, directed by Gary Flowers, and the Symphonic Band conducted by Dr. Roy Breiling, performed a program full of good music, much of it with a decidedly Christmas flavor.
- December 4, 2011, the entire Choral Union and the YC Orchestra, conducted by our new Director of Vocal Studies, Mr. Chris Eubank.
- December 5, 2011, Dr. Roy Breiling and the two Big Bands, The Roughriders and the Trailblazers, performed Christmas Evening of Jazz.

If you missed these events this year, be sure to mark your calendars for next year for they were outstanding.

Family Enrichment Center

On October 28, 2011, the preschool classroom at the Family Enrichment Center put on a Science Fair, showcasing the hands-on science activities they'd been doing over the previous eight weeks. During the Science Fair, the children were the "experts" taking their parents around and educating them on gravity, anatomy, physics and how to use a microscope. Parents are amazed at how much the children are learning. Eileen Rafters said her son Andrew Rafters, 4, came home and slid on a towel across the bathroom floor, came to a stop, and exclaimed, "Did you see that, Mom? Do you know what made me stop? That's friction." A nice write-up about the FEC Science Fair appeared in the Courier on November 4th. Please see:

<http://www.prescottaz.com/main.asp?Search=1&ArticleID=99754&SectionID=1&SubSectionID=1086&S=1>

Verde Valley and Sedona Campuses

Zaki Gordon Institute (ZGI)

- Founder, Dan Gordon has agreed to speak at a special Media Summit in Phoenix that will bring together hundreds of Phoenix/metro media students! We are very excited about this great opportunity to promote the film school.

- Alumni, Susanne Barr's ZGI Thesis Film is an OFFICIAL Selection at the Irvine International Film Festival, a Silver Screen Award Winner at the Nevada Film Festival and a Merit Award Winner at Indie Fest!
- We received some wonderful praise from a Cal State Northridge senior: "I am a senior in the CSUN film program and I still haven't gotten to touch a camera! You guys have the right idea at ZGI, hands-on education, that's where it is at." And then he asked for an application to our film school.
- ZGI has two great events coming up this spring – Guerilla Filmmaking with Power Up film executive Christopher Miller (Jan 21/22/2012) and a special guest lecture with EMMY award winning screenwriter Sterling Anderson (Feb 20, 2012).

Public Information and Marketing Services

Press Releases

Eight press releases were sent out between the 3rd and 4th weeks of November:

- Holiday Movie Night (picked up by the Daily Courier as a "Briefly" piece)
- YC Music Department Holiday Concert Series
- YC Music Department Handel's Messiah
- Viewing of local artist's paintings at library on Verde Campus
- Veterans Upward Bound Program
- Commencement for Nursing and NARTA programs
- Literary Southwest
- Second Life Virtual World Class

Web Highlights and News Stories

MessageHub releases and stories continue to be updated daily and rotated keeping the home page of the website up-to-date. We would like to increase awareness of the MessageHub and invite more people to submit information to improve communication and promotion. We are also planning to put a link to MessageHub on the Marketing Services webpage with instructions/guidelines on its use to help facilitate this.

Public Service Announcements and Community Events

The Marketing Department has been working to improve the number of our community events printed in papers or mentioned on radio. Melissa Hodgdon, Director of Public Information and Marketing, is exploring new ways of doing this including meeting with reporters and researching how each news outlet prefers to receive information about community events.

The 2011 Mile High Talent Show

The event was held on Saturday November 20th in the Yavapai College Performance Hall. The Daily Courier covered the event, with both a photographer and a reporter attending the show. A picture and caption of the second place act, Balance-in-Motion, a juggling duo, made the front page.

The talent show has gained the attention of the popular show America's Got Talent and we are working to put their talent scouts in touch with some of our performers from this year's show as well as one from the 2010 show.

Emergency Response Plan

Marketing Services has met with other Yavapai staff to help streamline the process in the event of an emergency, including inclement weather. Melissa Hodgdon will be part of the call down list and will report any closures or delays at the college to the appropriate media.