

# Three Tall Women



*MCC's final spring season Theatre Arts production was **Three Tall Women**, a play that focuses on three stages in a woman's life. In this drama, playwright Edward Albee portrays human frailty and the pettiness of self-deception in our lives.*

Community Involvement Expo  
Students choose to volunteer



MCC Student Art Show  
Artists showcase talents



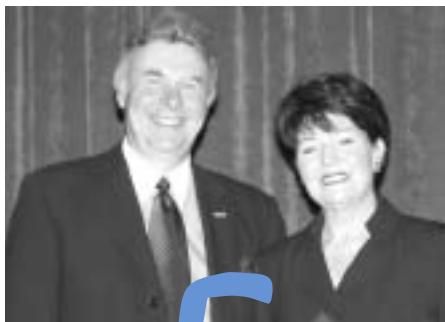
Spring Bash at MCC  
Students engage, unwind





## Convocation, Spring 2004 ... a gathering of college and community

Dr. Larry K. Christiansen thanks Mesa Public Schools Superintendent Debra Duvall for her informative comments and overall support of MCC.



## MCC's newest employee

Dave Richardson (left), Kristie Adamson, and Cynamon Martinez-Baca round up MCC's newest student, "Fireman Bill," at the Red Mountain campus.

## Sweet Registration

Dee Vital, Jean Watermolen, and Shauna Martinez were the top winners for the first annual Dessert Contest in Records and Registration.



Top entries were Mexican Wedding Cake, a secret family recipe for Brownies, and an inventive Cool Whip Surprise. This ingenious departmental activity boosted office moral and teamwork and allowed everyone to have a good time. Mmmm ... can I be a judge next year?

# Focus On

## Faculty Excellence Award

**Ed Lipinski**

*Nominated by Derek Borman*

I have long been impressed with Ed Lipinski's intelligence, creativity, and student-centered approach to learning. Over the past school year, Ed has emerged a vibrant leader at the expanding Red Mountain faculty meetings.

He has been instrumental in the success of "Celebrating Student Success at Red Mountain," a three-day event showcasing student projects. To enrich the learning experiences of psychology students and the community, Ed spearheaded a number of extracurricular activities that put learners in touch with psychology beyond the classroom. Finally, he has assumed the role of Psi Beta Advisor at Red Mountain. Ed has accomplished all of this while pursuing his doctoral degree in psychology. He is a joy to work with. Ed is generous with his time and talents, has a sense of humor that would make George Carlin proud, and injects energy and enthusiasm into all of his pursuits. He inspires me to be a better teacher.

## Service Excellence Award

**Financial Aid Staff: BJ Johnson, Omar Perez, Adrienne Sapper, Teresa Toscano, Erin Hull, and Debby Groves**

*Nominated by Pat Peppin*

The Financial Aid staff works in a stressful environment where deadlines must be met and more than 20,000 students must be served. They come in early and stay late to check on a student's status or the arrival of funds. They go the extra mile to ensure that a student's education at MCC gets off to a great start. In an understaffed office, all members of the team pick up additional duties and help where needed. This year the staff assisted in capturing a student who committed fraud. Four staff members received recognition from the Office of Inspector Generals for their help in apprehending the perpetrator. In addition to processing, tracking, and awarding financial aid to students, the staff has created new web pages, a student chat room, and electronic scholarship and loan processes. They are trying to make the financial aid procedure easier and smoother for students and are continually looking for ways to improve service.

## Outstanding Adjunct Faculty

**Ken Costello**

*Nominated by Paul Gilletti & Kaatje Kraft*

We all know Ken as the go-to guy for any audio-visual needs; however, not many people realize that he also teaches chemistry in his "spare time." Ken feels that students should understand the



background of chemistry, so he provides them with a context to what they are learning. His students relish the information and love the multimedia displays within his lecture. This year Ken created an online class, CHM 107, for non-majors. He designed a take-home kit for maximum application to real-world situations. Ken has also created a website called "Chemistryland" for his CHM 107 students to see experiments their classmates are doing. He pays for this site out of his own pocket. He puts in a tremendous number of hours to assure the success of his class, and his students are reaping the rewards.

## Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Otis White

*Nominated by Rod Christian*

Otis White is as committed to quality in the Business Department as he is in his personal life. Last fall, Otis developed "Introduction to Business" as an online course and is piloting the program this spring. He spearheaded a weeklong National Business Week effort that involved getting guest speakers and publicity for the sessions. When another adjunct faculty member could not complete the final month of his assignment, Otis stepped up. He took the two new courses in addition to his own nine credits. When Ed Snider became ill in December, Otis took over his duties as coordinator of the 400-student DECCA event that happened during Christmas break. This spring the Phoenix Zoo requested assistance for management training because they were in dire need, but they had no funds to accomplish it. Again, Otis volunteered because he feels our Business Department should be a significant part of community efforts.



## Facing the Past and Present

ASMCC secretary Kristin Weston talks to author Rose Weitz, featured speaker for the Women's History Month Luncheon. Kristin and the other student body officers portrayed famous women in history. Kristin represented Charlotte Cooper, the first woman allowed to compete in the Olympic Games. Cooper had been allowed to enter as a joke and then went on to win ... much to her skeptics' chagrin.

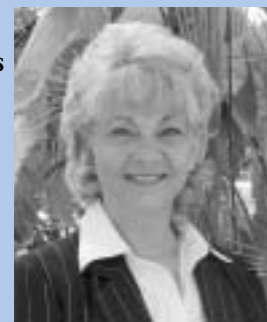


## Retirees return to MCC

Retirees return to campus this semester to attend the History and Traditions Luncheon, which is held annually to help identify individuals in photos from MCC's archives.

## Women's Leadership Group honors achievement

Susan Taffer, program advisor for the Center for Service-Learning, was selected as MCC's 2004



Woman of Distinction. Susan is an advocate for and leader of women, coordinating a mentoring program for women re-entering college, collecting clothing for women re-entering the workforce, and always looking for new ways to encourage students.

# Excellence

## MAT Excellence Award

### Rodney Holmes

*Nominated by Jim Mancuso*

As Senior Associate Dean of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, Dr. Rodney Holmes has provided excellent leadership to MCC and to the departments in his area. He directs more than

a dozen varied disciplines and, in the absence of a permanent dean, also assumed responsibility for the Business Dept. in 2003-2004. Dean Holmes' areas of responsibility generate more college FTSE than those of his peers, and he oversees more three-year plans than any other individual on campus. His insight and direction are key elements in the development of the college's strategic plan. Dean Holmes contributes substantially to the hiring process; this year he sat on nine screening and selection committees, which is a huge undertaking considering the rest of his responsibilities. Dr. Holmes responds to a question or concern from his faculty within moments or hours. He minimizes stress, builds cohesiveness, and plays a vital role in enabling MCC to achieve its mission.

## M & O Excellence Award

### Rudy Mendez and the Maintenance Department

*Nominated by Carol Achs*

Rudy Mendez's support and involvement is critical in the orchestration of Water Safety Day. A few months prior to this annual event, I meet with Rudy to give him a list of needs. His office is the initial contact for all outside agencies that participate in Water Safety Day. Representatives of Tri-Rental, the pool company, the fence and bleacher company, O'Premium Water, Home Depot, and Phoenix Children's Hospital tell me how helpful Rudy and his staff are. From 6 AM until the event ends, Rudy and his staff help move children's lunches, keep the water troughs full, and keep the bathrooms working for 1,200 first graders. I am always overwhelmed by the support that MCC gives to Water Safety Day. Rudy and his staff go above and beyond and I appreciate everything they do to make our event great.

## Faculty Excellence Awards

### Rick Effland

*Nominated by Shereen Lerner*

Rick Effland is one of the most accessible people in our department. People go to him with computer problems, to learn about technology, or to discuss innovations in teaching and learning. Rick's background in anthropology led him to develop the China Study Abroad program with Wuyi University. He believes students should have opportunities to interact with people their own age from other cultures. Ten years ago, Rick helped to develop a series of hypercard programs that students can use to learn various anthropological principles. He has also developed an intricate website that is cited in textbooks and has received educational awards worldwide. Recognizing students' interest in technology, Rick developed a mobile computer classroom (translocation), which is now used by several departments on campus. Rick's classes are always full and his evaluations are exceptional. He teaches an overload, not for money, but because he truly loves to teach and be intellectually engaged with the students. He challenges them to be critical thinkers and to grow in their education.

## PSA Excellence Award

### Emily Dimson

*Nominated by Niccole Cerveny and Dennis Wilson*



Emily Dimson is a full-time laboratory technician at MCC's Red Mountain campus, where she single-handedly opened every box, washed every dish, and placed every item of the Red Mountain laboratory prep area when the campus opened in 2001. She has spent two years prepping for eight different disciplines, providing for the needs of more than 20 faculty and many students. She supports every science program on campus. Emily performs her duties with spectacular flare and imagination and with an absolute commitment to outstanding performance. She consistently goes above and beyond even high expectations.

Note: Emily was nominated twice for this award.



### Calling all members

MCC's Psi Beta Club enticed potential new members with chocolate and candy at the semi-annual Clubs Carnival.

### "Sponges" for sale

The Environmental Action Club's spring plant sale featured novelty items like luffa "sponges" and devil claw fruit as well as familiar classics like hanging petunias, aloe, and agave.



### Live Entertainment

The *Lion Dance* was performed this year at Spring Bash in celebration of Asian Cultural Awareness.

### Farcical Humor Flourishes in *Noises Off*

### The ABCs of life's stages

*Three Tall Women* examined three stages in the life of one woman - the imperious woman, the regal matron, and a young woman of 26. The imperious woman (Josie Chandler), age 90, is comforted by her son (Bret Thomas) at her bedside.



### Into the Woods

Disaster results when a couple manages to break the spell that left them childless. Haunted by their actions, this irreverent fantasy becomes a moving lesson on community responsibility.



*Noises Off* opens with a touring company rehearsing *Noises On*, a conventional farce. The plot quickly turns to a mixture of mockery and homage as this play within a play evolves into a hilarious melee of stock caricatures.



Most of the cast for *Noises Off*: Top - Brooke (Tara Schalick), Poppy (Brenda Glenn); Middle - Roger (Kasey Kempton), Lloyd (Joel Cranson), Philip (Jason Kleinshmidt); Bottom - Dotty (Emily Smith).

### School Spirit Soars

Congratulations to MCC's cheer squad, the 2004 National Champions in the two-year college category at the Collegiate Nationals for the United Spirit Association.



### Clubs spring into action at Spring Bash

Red Mountain - As a graduation project, Phi Theta Kappa representatives Cheri Rutherford (left) and Dawn Russell collect books and nonperishable food items for distribution to nonprofit agencies.



Vendor Day provides an opportunity for students and staff to shop for items such as designer sunglasses and handmade jewelry at discounted prices.

# Hot Stuff!



Eric Bolas, *Eve*



Jennifer Stoffers  
*Dragon*

## Artists shine at Student Art Show

Daniel Beckman won Best of Medium for his 2D mixed media, *The Alphabet*, at this year's art show.



## Cold Feet

MCC's spring dance concert, *Marry Me*, explored the emotions a woman experiences right before she is about to marry ... love, fear, fantasy, jealousy, anxiety. The show concludes with the bride happily "kicking up her heels" at the ceremony.

## Rhythm and Blues



MCC hosted Sistah Blue, a nationally recognized blues band, as part of its Women's History Month celebration.

## Scuba Kats



Melissa Solomon of the Scuba Kats belts out another jazz classic during the All-Arizona banquet. This enormously talented group comprises students enrolled in Kristina Makris' music performance class at MCC. Employees and staff can't get enough of these brilliant jazz players and requested them for multiple events and performances this year.

## Inspiring Intellects

MCC boasted three first-team winners and one second-team winner at this year's All-Arizona Academic Team Luncheon. In addition, Joseph Luchenta, (second from left) was named a New Century Scholar.



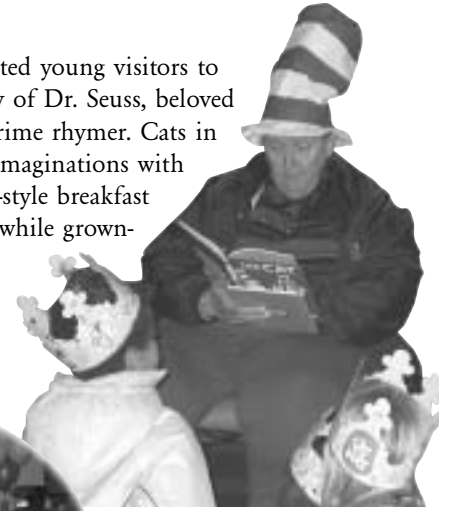


### College rolls out red carpet ... twice!

MCC enjoyed a double dose of high-profile guests early this spring: On January 21 President Bush's visit to the Southern and Dobson campus marked a memorable event for the college, and on January 22 Gov. Napolitano engaged an eager audience in a question-and-answer session.



On March 2, MCC invited young visitors to the 100th birthday party of Dr. Seuss, beloved children's author and prime rhymers. Cats in hats captured youthful imaginations with reading fun and a Seuss-style breakfast of green eggs and ham, while grown-ups perused children's books displayed at the Scholastic Book Fair.



### Cat tips hat to Dr. Seuss



### Bubbles, pits, and pops

One hundred fifty students from the Mesa Arts Academy and Longfellow Elementary School explored Mother Earth's wild side – mixing up comets in big blue bowls and creating exploding volcanoes in film canisters. Fourth- through sixth-grade students enjoyed these fun-filled activities as part of MCC's Science Outreach Program.



### Count me in!

Community Involvement Expos at both MCC campuses invited students, staff, and faculty to check out local volunteer and service-learning opportunities. Representatives from community agencies set up display tables with information about organizations and programs.



### When I grow up...

Kids of all ages enjoyed trucks of all sizes at MCC's 14th Annual Vehicle Day.



**We will ... we will ... rock you** 



Congratulations goes out to MCC's Women's Soccer team for placing first in the Arizona Community College Athletic Conference (ACCAC) and Region I championships.



Photo courtesy of Mesa Legend

**Raising our consciousness**



In an effort to stimulate broader perspectives among colleagues and coworkers, MCC departments create extraordinary opportunities for discussion and reflection. Among the offerings this spring were the "Women's Iranian Film Festival" (International Education); a discussion on "The Ethics of Cloning" (Philosophy/Religious Studies); a presentation on "Prison Policy and Politics" (Social/Cultural Science Brown Bag Series); and "Important Topics in Gifted Intelligences" (part of the Psychology Lecture Series)



**Serious fun on Water Safety Day**

Activities and play on Water Safety Day educate both children and parents about safety around water. This annual event increases awareness of drowning prevention.



**Education in transportation ... segue to Segway**

MCC's guests from the Netherlands experienced firsthand the Segway HT (human transporter) on a visit to the East Valley Institute of Technology (EVIT). The Segway HT is a self-balancing personal transportation device designed to go just about anywhere. EVIT, a vocational high school that draws students from all over the Valley, will introduce a new program to train students in repairing this high-tech mobilizer.



**Catch of the Month Awards**

Employee Catch of the Month is an honor bestowed upon MCC employees by the people who work with them throughout the year. Coworkers see them as everyday heroes who make MCC a better place to work and learn. Following are Catch of the Month honorees for 2003-2004.

<b>October</b>	<b>Ron Etter</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>Dolores Jokilehto</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>Steve Maez</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>Janet Vogt</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>Susan "Skip" Pollack, Derek Borman, Carolyn St. Peter</b>

•MCC SnapShot is published by the Office of Institutional Advancement every fall and spring semester for employees of Mesa Community College. Please contact any member of the Communications team to submit items for next semester's issue.

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# Where do the years go?

Betty A. O'Neill



30 Years  
Hired in 1974

Richard C. Meyer



25 Years  
Hired in 1979

Terry L. Ponder



25 Years  
Hired in 1979

## Years of Service

20 YEARS, Hired in 1984    15 YEARS, Hired in 1989

Sanford F. Elias  
Margaret A. Johnson  
Janet E. Joransen  
Raquel A. Leyva  
Enrico J. Serpone  
Naomi Story

Myrale J. Cooks  
Kent H. Duffy  
Elva O. Marin  
Joseph S. Rauscher  
Randall K. Stapley

10 YEARS, Hired in 1994

Fredrick P. Canales  
Trinidad H. Elsworth  
Timothy L. Grant  
Scott N. Hall  
Steven D. Strickler

5 YEARS, Hired in 1999

William J. Adams  
John L. Adler  
Margaret M. Benzer  
Martin Franco  
Maria C. Hill  
Mario Jimenez  
Monica M. Margaillan

David B. Mesbergen  
Darlene Newman  
Phyllis Prendergast  
Alan Michael Simmons  
Robert L. Smith  
Leslie J. Strickland



Jorge Eagar



Jim Garrison



Robert Grant



Ann Mahoney

## Retirement ... the uncharted territory



Fred Maiden



Marcia Melton



Rudy Mendez