

Online Catalyst

A Newsletter for Students

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Memorial Day weekend schedule

The following hours are in effect for the Memorial Day weekend:

- **Saint Paul and Midway campuses and the Library and Learning Center:** May 29–31, all offices and buildings closed;
- **MEC and MCTC:** May 29, buildings open 7 a.m.–5 p.m.; May 30–31, all offices and buildings closed.

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Editor Darlene Esko
Managing Editor Susan Amos Palmer
651.793.1820
darlene.esko@metrostate.edu

Law enforcement center update

Construction on the new Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Education Center is on track, with completion scheduled for June 19.

The 65,000-square-foot center, featuring a partnership between Metropolitan State and Hennepin Technical College (HTC), is slated for a month of outfitting before move-in starts July 20. Classes will begin fall semester for students seeking associate, baccalaureate and

graduate education in law enforcement, criminal justice, fire protection and emergency management. The center will conduct applied research on criminal justice issues and offer continuing education for law enforcement and criminal justice professionals.

“Construction is coming along very well. We’re pleased with the progress,” said Ginny Lane, dean of the School of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice.

Several events, including an open house, are expected to occur this fall to celebrate the center’s launch. A grand opening is set for spring 2011.

The center is located on HTC’s Brooklyn Park Campus. The state-of-the-art facility offers classrooms, administrative and faculty offices, computer and forensics labs, skills development space including firing ranges, a simulation lab and tactical training areas. The skills development area will be operated by HTC.

Among the featured resources at the facility are 12 “smart,” or digital, classrooms; two indoor target ranges that are the first in Minnesota to incorporate “green” elements; and scenario-based training and simulation spaces, enabling students to practice their skills in settings replicating residences and commercial establishments.

“I would venture to say there will be few, if any, other higher education institutions nationally that will have the kind of advanced law enforcement training resources we will offer at the center,” said Lane.

Construction at the center started May 2009 in response to the growing demand for education and training in law enforcement, criminal justice and public safety. About 500 Metropolitan State students currently major in law enforcement and criminal justice, and Lane said the center is expected to attract more students to these degree programs.

“The center will be a wonderful new facility and represents an important expansion for Metropolitan State in the northwestern part of the Twin Cities,” said Lane. “At the same time, it will present a unique opportunity for us to partner with another Minnesota State Colleges and Universities institution.”



Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Education Center (LECJEC) in Brooklyn Park opens for classes in fall 2010.

2010 Art Purchase Awards announced

Urban Teacher Program to move to Midway

The Urban Teacher Program will be relocating to the Midway Center this fall. They will move into space now occupied by the School of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice which moves to its new building on the campus of Hennepin Technical College in Brooklyn Park. By leaving the current quarters in the Helland Center on the Minneapolis Campus, the Urban Teacher Program will acquire much-needed additional space.

Additional information about relocation dates will be published when it becomes available.

Minneapolis Testing Center closed

During MCTC's construction, the Minneapolis Testing Center will move its operation to Midway Center. That location will now be open four days a week and some Saturdays during the summer. For more information, visit www.metrostate.edu/testingcenter or call 651.793.1461. Call 651.793.1460 to schedule tests.

The Art Exhibition Committee is pleased to announce the results of the 2010 Art Purchase Award. Three works were selected for acquisition. One is a suite of felted abstractions by Master of Liberal Studies student Judy Saye-Willis, Faribault, entitled *The Place Where I Go to Rest* (below, top right photo). Another purchase was a quilt by alumna Halle O'Falvey, Saint Paul, which is untitled (below, left). The final purchase was an abstract mixed media print entitled *Kaleidoscope* (below, bottom right) by community faculty member Amy Sands, Golden Valley.

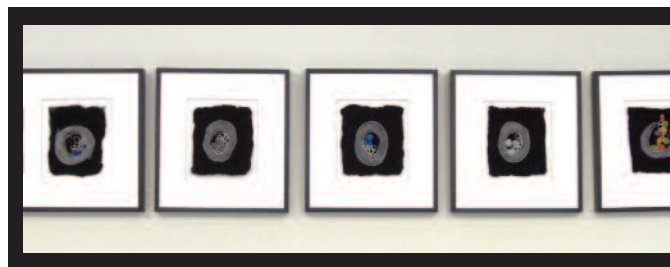
In an effort to encourage the growth and development of student and alumni studio artists and to elevate the profile of the arts on campus, Metropolitan State's Art Exhibition Committee orchestrated three \$800 purchases on the basis of artistic merit. This year's competition also

included a purchase that considered the artwork of faculty members. This purchase was funded by the library endowment.

The placements of Saye-Willis' and O'Falvey's works are yet to be established. The Sands' print was hung in the Library and Learning Center, Room 218.

The 2010 Art Purchase Award was supported by Academic Affairs, the Alumni Association, the Student Senate, Professor Suzanne Walfoort, alumna Michelle Piene and the Communication, Writing and the Arts Department.

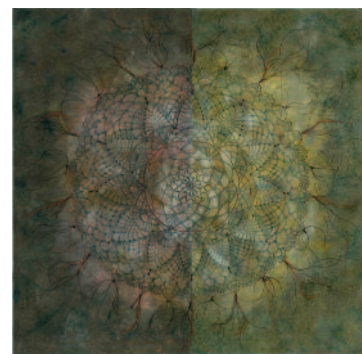
The ninth annual Art Purchase Award will occur in spring 2011. Inquiries can be directed to resident faculty member Erica Rasmussen at erica.rasmussen@metrostate.edu.



Above right: The Place Where I Go to Rest;

Left: untitled; and

Right: Kaleidoscope.



Hardy is first Power of You student to graduate!



(L-r) Academic advisor Darcel Hill, Felicia Hardy and President Sue K. Hammersmith

On May 6, Felicia Hardy, Saint Paul, became the first Power of YOU student to graduate from Metropolitan State with a B.A.S. in organizational administration and a 3.62 GPA. She transferred to Metropolitan State in spring 2008 from Saint Paul College and has successfully completed four consecutive semesters. She was a recipient of the Power of YOU Bridge Scholarship and received the scholarship each semester while she finished her degree. During her college career, Hardy was employed as a work study student in the Center for Academic Excellence as front desk specialist. In her free time she volunteers at The Ronald M.

Hubbs Center for Lifelong Learning (adult basic education) as a tutor helping adults who want to improve their basic skills, earn a GED, prepare for employment or postsecondary education, or learn English. She hopes to earn her master's in public and nonprofit administration and to work for Metropolitan State as an academic advisor, because she wants to help other students achieve their educational goals. Hardy thanks the Power of You program for supporting her through four years of college at Saint Paul College and Metropolitan State.

Professor Frank Schweigert receives Civic Engagement Award



Frank Schweigert receives the Civic Engagement Award plaque from President Sue K. Hammersmith.

At the university's employee awards event on April 27, Frank Schweigert, associate professor, College of Management, was awarded this year's Civic Engagement Award. Schweigert has had a significant impact on the Master of Public and Nonprofit Administration curriculum with respect to its focus on community development and community building. Community Economic Development, a new elective course he recommended, is so successful it is scheduled to be offered on a regular basis every other year. He introduced another elective course, Public Ethics and the Common Good, which he teaches with a focus on ethical practices that contribute to community well-being. His capstone course provides options for students who wish to pursue community engagement, including community consulting, community action and community

immersion types of projects. In 2008 he worked with the Center for Community-Based Learning to develop and implement the Deliberative Polling Project that received local and national attention. Frank has joined Metropolitan State's Civic Confidence Survey team which tracked Twin Cities' views about the economy, government, education and other services. He is a member of the Community-Based Learning Faculty Work Group, the university's Community-Based Research Circle, and is a participant in the President's Circle of Engaged Learning and the American Democracy Project. Add to this another dozen Twin Cities organizations in which he participates, leads or mediates and it becomes clear why Schweigert earned the Civic Engagement Award.

Travelers Pathways enhances career development program

Most students move credits successfully

Nearly 91 percent of students transferring within the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system experienced no loss of credits toward their degree, according to a study by John Asmussen, the system's internal auditor. 9.4 percent of the 16,309 transfer students lost an average of six credits. 40 percent of the students losing credits didn't seek advice nor do early planning before transferring. Data entry errors have been resolved by using electronic transcripts.

The Travelers Foundation has generously awarded grants and significant in-kind donations to Metropolitan State through a long-standing relationship of more than 25 years. In late 2007, a unique initiative, the Travelers Pathways Program, was established to enhance educational and career development opportunities for students and alumni interested in careers in insurance and financial services. Currently there are three components: a minor in risk management and insurance within the College of Management; scholarship opportunities for students majoring in areas relevant to Travelers; and a career services staff person who provides information, announcements, special event invitations to experiential learning opportunities at Travelers and on campus, and workforce readiness and career development "coaching" tips and services.

A **Professional Networking Event** with tips on how to "dress to impress" highlighting styles and colors tailored to individuals, as well as learning and practicing the "written and unwritten rules and guidelines" for business etiquette, is being planned for late June. For more information about this event and the Travelers Pathways Program, contact Jill Sondergaard via e-mail: jill.sondergaard@metrostate.edu or via phone: 651.793.1562.

Travelers (NYSE:TRV) is a leading provider of property casualty insurance and surety products and of risk management services to a wide variety of businesses and organizations and to individuals. Recognized by *BusinessWeek* as a Best Place to Launch a Career and Best Internship, Travelers values the experience that comes from individuals from a variety of backgrounds. Visit www.travelers.com/careers.

Coming soon—FallFest celebration

Internship opportunities

Visit these Web sites for internship opportunities:

- Career Link: metrostate.edu/career
- Center for Community-Based Learning: metrostate.edu/ccbl. Click on "Academic Internships," "Internship Resources."

The University Activities Board invites all students, staff and faculty to participate in the planning process for this year's FallFest. The board is seeking individuals who would like to be part of the committee organizing the celebration.

FallFest is Metropolitan State's version of homecoming; it will be a series of welcome back events. The celebration takes place in September and the planning process is underway. The

celebration date will be announced soon, so be on the lookout.

Volunteers to work during the celebration are also needed. If you are interested or have any questions, call 651.793.1556 or e-mail student.activities@metrostate.edu.

This year bring all your family and friends to the celebration!

Student worker Bai Lee receives award



At the April 27 Employee Awards Event, Bai Lee, Library and Learning Center, was named Student Worker Supreme. This award is presented to a work study student or student worker who performs an outstanding job with faculty, staff and other students at the university. The recipient is nominated by colleagues, who wrote the following:

“Bai is reliable, responsible and professional in all her dealings with students, staff and

faculty, gladly volunteering to step in and help out with other student work when needed. She has demonstrated an excellent level of customer services. She has an innate sensitivity and really listens to people. She always provides service with a smile and a friendly manner that draws people out. Bai presents herself as approachable for questions and help, whether she is behind the desk or among the stacks reshelving books.”

Higher Education Policy Bill alerts

Accolades

Catherine Campbell, Minneapolis, was the recipient of the 2010 Carothers Distinguished Writing Award at Metropolitan State. The award comes with a \$100 prize. Her writing was selected from 20 nominees.

Students should be aware of several provisions in the Higher Education Policy Bill signed by Gov. Tim Pawlenty on May 18. The bill is now Session Law 2010, Chapter 364, and can be found at <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/?id=364&year=2010&type=0>.

- Language that increases the age of a senior citizen in statute from 62 to 66 to receive a tuition discount.
- Credit transfer language that requires the MnSCU

Board of Trustees to develop and implement a plan to improve credit transfers within the system. The board may convene working groups of affected faculty, staff, students and administrators in the system to work on issues and barriers to credit transfer. The language also states the board must provide systemwide transfer information on campus Web sites necessary to determine the transferability of course credits, and the information must be easily accessible and kept current.

MnSCU trustees approve tuition and fees increase

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees approved a budget that holds average annual tuition and fee increases to \$205 for undergraduate students at the state colleges and \$301 at the state universities beginning this fall.

This means students at the 25 state community and technical colleges will pay an

average of \$4,902, an increase of 4.4 percent, and students at the seven state universities will pay an average of \$6,596, an increase of 4.8 percent for tuition and fees. About 60 percent of state university students received an average of \$8,931 in financial aid, which includes state and national grants, scholarships, loans and work-study funds.

MSUSA names new executive director

The Minnesota State University Student Association (MSUSA), which represents more than 70,000 state university students, has announced the appointment of Jason Fossum as executive director effective May 17.

Previously Fossum had been employed by MSUSA's sister organization, the Minnesota State College Student Association, where he was

director of government relations since March 2007.

Fossum is a graduate of Winona State University, where he holds a bachelor of science degree in public administration.

MSUSA is an independent, nonprofit organization funded and operated by students. It serves the students attending Minnesota's state universities.

A member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system.

An equal opportunity educator and employer.

Anyone with disabilities needing accommodations for a Metropolitan State event or who needs a publication in an alternative format, should call Disability Services at 651.793.1549 or 651.772.7687 (TTY).

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