



Stokely and Reiff Land “Bringing Theory to Practice” Award

Congratulations to Sarah Stokely, Associate Dean of Student Academic Life, and Henry Reiff, Dean of Graduate and Professional Studies. With the support of the Provost’s Office, Sarah and Henry have landed a Bringing Theory to Practice award to build a service learning team at McDaniel College. The team will create a unique series of workshops and individual consultations for faculty interested in implementing service learning theory and practice into their courses. An important goal of developing this service-learning teaching at the College will be to connect classroom curriculum with identified community issues and needs. Service-learning curriculum has a unique potential to bring theory to practice and back again, when strengthened by an emphasis on the student writing about his or her experience. This new and significant grant grew out of programming made possible by the Bringing Theory to Practice mini-grant previously awarded to the College to examine obstacles to student engagement and explore best practices to address these obstacles. The activities of the current grant will receive continued support in the post-grant phase from McDaniel College’s new Center for Community Outreach and Service.

Motard-Noar Wins Again: Year 2 Award for Tournées French Film Festival

Félicitations! Professor Martine Motard-Noar who has won Year 2 funding for her French Film Festival. The French American Cultural Exchange funds The Tournées Festival that brings contemporary French films to U.S. colleges and universities. Martine’s successful renewal will fund an excellent line-up of French films in September for McDaniel College:

1. *Ne le dis à personne*
2. *Persepolis*
3. *Dans Paris*
4. *Frantz Fanon*
5. *La Faute à Fidel*

For more information, contact Martine (mmotard@mcdaniel.edu, x2467)



Research: Behaviors of Faculty Who Win Grants

“Researcher Behavior that Leads to Success in Obtaining Grant Funding: A Model for Success” (*Research Management Review*) presents the findings of a study designed to identify the behaviors, the networking activities, and the demographic profile of faculty who are successful grant getters. Highlights and broad strokes from the findings include that the most significant variable is the size of the team (six or more members) for the dollar value of a grant award. The most significant variables for the number of awards secured are the number of proposals submitted, followed by consortium arrangements. For motivation, 88% of faculty members who are successful grant getters reported building a professional reputation as a motivational factor, followed distantly by 27% reporting financial incentive also as motivation. The most frequently reported networking activities are talking with federal program officers and collaborative arrangements. **Link:** <http://www.grants.gov/applicants/articles.jsp>

AmeriCorps*VISTA Grant: Year 2 Renewal

Under the auspices of Provost Tom Falkner, the Maryland Higher Education–AmeriCorps*VISTA Project has entered its second year and received \$30,000 to complete its Campus Compact Initiative. The grant will continue funding for an external consultant to build up and formalize a Maryland Campus Compact to place up to 20 AmeriCorps*VISTA members throughout Maryland institutions of higher education.

Dr. Sarah Stokely, Associate Dean of Student Academic Life, success-

fully recruited a Volunteer in Service to America (VISTA) for the campus. VISTA Jim Mayola will serve as the community liaison for the College’s new Center for Community Outreach and Service. The Center will also house a new faculty liaison for community outreach and service, Tara Kaley.



VISTA: Jim Mayola comes to McDaniel College after a career in the Social Services Department of Carroll County. He’s spent many years working with the community.

So far, ten institutions have joined the Maryland Campus Compact Initiative:

- Chesapeake College
- Johns Hopkins University
- Maryland Institute College of Art
- McDaniel College
- Montgomery College (Rockville)
- Mongomery College (Takoma Park)
- Mount St. Mary’s
- Stevenson University
- Towson University
- University of Baltimore



Grants.gov Converts to .PDF Files—and Offers Free Downloads

Grants.gov is introducing a new grants processing system that should improve access for all applicants and make it easier for faculty to manage and view their e-applications before submission if they wish to do so. The old (PureEdge) system had limited accessibility and made the e-submission process difficult. The new Grants.gov system allows the use of common computer hardware, operating systems, and internet browsers, regardless of the type of operating system an applicant has. The transition began June 1, 2008 and will be complete by December 31, 2008. The effort is critical to the Grants.gov initiative to improve its government services to the public by ensuring open and free access to all users, at a time when use of Grants.gov is rapidly expanding. Grants.gov received over 158,000 submissions from June 1, 2007–June 1, 2008, which was an 11% increase from the 143,000+ submissions the previous year. Other improvements include a Google search box and more consistent screen views and labeling.

FREE DOWNLOADS!

As part of its switchover to .pdf files, Grants.Gov has made available free of charge all the software and tools an applicant needs to complete a Grants.gov application package, from a variety of .pdf conversion software to Real Player, Media Player, WordViewer, and so on.

Check it out...

http://www.grants.gov/help/download_software.jsp#adobe811



Quotes from the feds....

“Open up a great line of communication between your grants officer and you.

Chocolate works.” – Marcia Hahn, Director, NIH Division of Grants Policy, NIH Training Session, 12/5/06, Bethesda, MD