

MARYMOUNT NEWS

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

MU Receives NSF Grant to Support Cholera Research

Marymount has been awarded \$100,000 from the National Science Foundation to support a collaborative research project seeking to curb cholera outbreaks. This is part of a multi-institution grant totaling \$200,000.

Entitled "Optimal Control Studies for Cholera Outbreaks," the project will facilitate the collaboration of MU Mathematics faculty and undergraduate students with research faculty and graduate students at Murray State University in Kentucky; Old Dominion University in Virginia; and the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Through the analysis of systems of differential equations, the project aims to identify viable intervention strategies to mitigate cholera outbreaks. Optimal control theory will be applied to the interdependent differential equations that describe the spread of a potential cholera outbreak to predict intervention strategies that might best reduce both the human and financial costs of such outbreaks.

Dr. Elsa Schaefer, professor of Mathematics, serves as the project's principal investigator for Marymount. A unique aspect of the research group is that four of the five faculty investigators on the grant are women.

The collaboration will allow the senior faculty conducting the research an opportunity to develop new strategies for the control of future cholera outbreaks. The three-year project is also expected to allow the undergraduate students to see how their work can serve as the foundation for higher-level research.

FYI

SBA to be Recognized for Performance Excellence

Marymount's School of Business Administration will be awarded a Certificate for Performance Excellence under the United States Senate Productivity and Quality Award (SPQA) for Virginia program. The School will be recognized at the Virginia Forum for Excellence on September 25 in Richmond.

In making the award, the program's examiners noted that the School's "strengths include senior leadership involvement in operations, a governance system that holds management accountable for decisions, and a strategic plan that serves as the framework for selecting key organizational performance measures. [The School] is totally committed to improving full deployment of its approaches, integration, and linkages to results."

Dean **Jim Ryerson** and Professor of Business Administration **Hanora O'Sullivan** will accept the certificate on the School's behalf.

Homecoming – September 27

You can help MU alumni rediscover the spirit of Marymount as they return to campus for Homecoming 2008 on Saturday, September 27.

Cheer on former students competing in alumni athletic games. Enjoy great food and family fun as you catch up with alumni at the barbecue, taking place between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on the Ireton lawn.

Tickets for the barbecue are \$5 for adults; children under 10 are free. Reserve your place by visiting the Homecoming Web site: www.marymount.edu/alumni/homecoming.

Inside MU is a biweekly newsletter for Marymount faculty and staff.

To submit items for consideration in *Inside MU*, e-mail: insidemu@marymount.edu or send via campus mail to University Communications, Rowley Hall, Room 89.

Kudos to Campus Fund Donors

A delicious treat is headed for the offices of Alumni Relations, Development, University Communications, the Conference Center, and the President's Office to say "thank you" for their staff's support of the Campus Fund. More than half the employees in each of these offices donated to the 2007-08 Campus Fund.

In addition, the following offices showed the greatest increase in employee participation in the Campus Fund: the School of Education and Human Services, Physical Plant, Campus Ministry, the Career and Internship Center, the Counseling Center, International Student Services, Residence Life, Student Activities, and Student Development. These offices will also receive a "thank you" treat.

The Campus Fund supports the Faculty/Staff Scholarship, awarded each year to incoming freshmen who demonstrate academic promise.

Thanks are also extended to the 2007-08 Campus Fund Committee: **Dr. Kristi Johnson, Dr. Louise Marshall, Rhett Leverett, Suzanne Harvey, Dr. Tess Cappello, and Dr. Todd Rimkus.** The 2008-09 Campus Fund campaign is now underway, and the Development Office is seeking faculty and staff members to join this year's Campus Fund Committee. If you're interested, contact **Natalie Allgeier**, associate director, Marymount Fund (ext. 6893 or natalie.allgeier@marymount.edu).

PLAUDITS

Dr. Lisa Jackson-Cherry, chair, Department of Counseling, is the incoming president of ASERVIC, the Association for Spiritual, Ethical, and Religious Values in Counseling, a subdivision of the American Counseling Association.

Dr. Behnaz Quigley, professor of Accounting, has been appointed to serve a third term on the CLEP Financial Accounting Test

Development Board of the Educational Testing Service. Also, at the June meeting of the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP), the accrediting body of MU's School of Business Administration, **Dr. Quigley** was named chair-elect of the organization's Business/Industry Relations Committee for 2009-10.

Dr. Ana Lado, professor of Education, made a presentation at a roundtable for the 22nd World Congress on Reading held in Costa Rica in July. The congress is sponsored by the International Reading Association. Her topic, "Estrategias y libros para la enseñanza del inglés y comprensión de lectura," focused on her research on strategies for teaching English language learners to read.

PEOPLE Welcome

Natalie Allgeier, associate director, Marymount Fund, Office of Development (ext. 6893, natalie.allgeier@marymount.edu)

Catherine Dawson, learning associate, Library and Learning Services (catherine.dawson@marymount.edu)

Casey Deephouse, secretary, Student Health Center (ext. 1610, casey.deephouse@marymount.edu)

Tammie Howell, career counselor, Career and Internship Center (ext. 5782, tammie.howell@marymount.edu)

Brandon Jenkins, coordinator, Leadership Development, Office of Student Development (ext. 5749, brandon.jenkins@marymount.edu)

Whitney Jorns, assistant director, Student Activities (ext. 1611, whitney.jorns@marymount.edu)

Margaret Loebe, access services associate, Library and Learning Services (ext. 1673, margaret.loebe@marymount.edu)

Patricia Moore, systems analyst, Information Technology Services (ext. 3802, patricia.moore@marymount.edu)

Patrick Murphy, gifts officer, Office of Development (ext. 3843, patrick.murphy@marymount.edu)

Heather Pappas, administrative secretary, Library and Learning Services (ext. 3830, heather.pappas@marymount.edu)

Anne Wagener, senior writer/editor, University Communications (ext. 1547, anne.wagener@marymount.edu)

Ellen Young, administrative secretary, School of Health Professions (ext. 3325, ellen.young@marymount.edu)

Transitions

Joan Alfasi is now the insurance coordinator, Student Health Center, moving from her former position as the center's administrative assistant (ext. 6482).

Stephanie Serven, former coordinator of commuter, family, and leadership development in the Office of Student Development, has moved to the Academic Success Center as an academic advisor (ext. 5749).

Prayers Requested

Please pray for a safe and grace-filled journey by Campus Ministry staff and MU students traveling to Virginia Beach for the annual Beach Retreat, September 19-21.

EVENTS

All soccer games listed will take place at Washington-Lee High School.

Sept. 10 — Women's soccer vs. Frostburg, 8 p.m.

Sept. 11 — 9/11 Mass of Remembrance, noon, Chapel

Sept. 13 — Women's soccer vs. Shenandoah, 11 a.m.

Sept. 19 — Men's soccer vs. Gallaudet, 8 p.m.