

# INSIDE MU

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

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

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT...

### Attend MU's Benefits Fair to Prepare for Open Enrollment!

Marymount's annual Benefits Fair will be held on November 6 and 7. All full-time faculty and staff are encouraged to attend and take advantage of this once-a-year opportunity to meet with MU's benefits providers.

The fair will be held twice: once in the Ballston Center's conference room on Tuesday, November 6, from 1:30 to 4 p.m., and again on Main Campus in the atrium of the Lee Center on Wednesday, November 7, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This important event is scheduled to coincide with the University's annual open enrollment period, which will run November 1-20. Open enrollment is the only time each year when you can renew or alter your health, dental, or vision coverage. At all other times of the year, only a change in your family status, such as a marriage or the birth of a child, would allow you to adjust your coverage.

At the start of the open enrollment period, all full-time faculty and staff will receive an e-mail message that provides a link to elect or renew your 2008 benefits online. To access the site, you will use your Marymount e-mail account user name and password. You will be prompted to select, add, or change your benefit elections. After these elections have been completed, you will receive an e-mail confirmation. Changes in your coverage and payroll deductions reflecting the new rates will go into effect on January 1, 2008.

*Even if you wish to maintain your existing health, dental, or vision coverage, you must elect your benefits by the November 20 deadline.* If you do not complete an online election form for 2008, your benefits will be terminated on December 31, 2007.

November 20 is also the deadline for Pay-Flex Flexible Spending Account enrollment. If you wish to create an account or maintain or change the number of pretax dollars you currently

have withheld from your paycheck for health or dependent-care reimbursement, a new, hard-copy enrollment form must be completed each year for the flexible spending accounts. The form can be downloaded from the benefits election Web site.

For more information, contact **Julia Kaiser**, benefits manager (ext. 1554; [benefits@marymount.edu](mailto:benefits@marymount.edu)).

## FYI

### Sign Up for MU Alerts

Marymount University is implementing an emergency alerts system that will forward messages quickly to subscribers' cell phones and home or work e-mail addresses. MU Alerts is an opt-in system, but faculty and staff are strongly encouraged to sign up for the service to ensure that you will be well informed during an emergency.

MU Alerts will be used **ONLY** for impending or actual emergency situations affecting the campus community, and for weather-related delay, cancellation, and closing announcements.

Signing up for MU Alerts is free, but your cell phone provider may impose charges for text messages received. Since this system will be used only for emergency situations and weather-related announcements, you can expect to receive a very limited number of messages.

Marymount will also continue to rely upon all communication media previously in use. Detailed emergency information and updates will be made available at [www.marymount.edu](http://www.marymount.edu); on the Weather and Emergency Information Line (703-526-6888); and through a variety of other media. MU Alerts is just one more way that members of the campus community can obtain important information quickly.

Subscribing to MU Alerts is an easy process. Visit [www.marymount.edu/mualerts](http://www.marymount.edu/mualerts) and follow the instructions.

## Marymount to Sponsor Ethics Program at Fairfax Hospital

Marymount University will sponsor an ethics education program, "Organizational Ethics in Health Care: Beyond Compliance," in the Cyrus Vesuna Auditorium of the Physicians Conference Center at Inova Fairfax Hospital on Tuesday, October 30, from 8 to 11:45 a.m.

**Carol R. Taylor**, RN, MSN, PhD, founding member and director of the Georgetown University Center for Clinical Bioethics, will be one of the speakers. She was awarded the Marymount University Ethics Award last November. **Leonard Weber**, PhD, professor emeritus at the University of Detroit Mercy, will also speak.

Admission is free for Marymount faculty, students, and staff, but seating is limited. For more information, contact **Dr. Ronald Hudak**, John H. McDonnell, Jr., Endowed Chair in Ethics (ext. 5925; ronald.hudak@marymount.edu).

## Reston Ribbon Cutting

Marymount dedicated its new Reston Center with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on October 11. The event was attended by community leaders and friends, including U.S. Congressman **Jim Moran**, State Senator **Janet Howell**, State Delegate **Ken Plum**, and former Virginia Secretary of Education **Jim Dyke**.

The Reston Center offers graduate programs, undergraduate degree-completion programs, and post-baccalaureate and graduate certificate programs, all designed to meet the needs of adult learners and help the region remain competitive. Marymount will work closely with Reston-area business and civic leaders to ensure that the center addresses critical needs.

## Fight the Flu!

Flu shots will be offered on Main Campus on Tuesday, November 13, from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the atrium of the Lee Center.

Vaccinations will be administered by Inova HealthSource. They are available to anyone 18 or older. The cost for each flu shot is \$23, to be paid in cash or by personal check. If you choose to pay in cash, please try to bring the exact amount. For more information, contact the Student Health Center, ext. 1610.

## MU in the News

**Dr. Sharron Guillett**, chair, Undergraduate Nursing Program, and associate professor of Nursing, co-conducted a study on "Workplace Challenges Faced by Disabled Nurses" that was featured in the October 8 issue of *Nursing Spectrum*.

**Dr. Shelley Haser**, chair, Department of Education, and associate professor of Education, was interviewed for a scholastic.com article on K-12 students who earn good grades without much effort and whether parents should allow their high-achieving, but unchallenged, children to coast.

## Plaudits

**Dr. Edward Cannon**, assistant professor of Psychology; **Dr. Joseph Cooper**, assistant professor of Psychology; and **Dr. Lisa Jackson-Cherry**, chair, Department of Counseling, and associate professor of Psychology, presented the workshop "Navigating the Culture of Academe," at the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference in Columbus, Ohio.

**Margaret Norden**, associate professor, Library and Learning Services, presented a poster session on

"New Methods in Reference Communication" at the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Medical Library Association meeting in Baltimore.

## PEOPLE Welcome

**Claire Byrne**, assistant athletic trainer, Athletics (ext. 1672; claire.byrne@marymount.edu)

**Romeo Domdii Cliff**, registration and records assistant, Registrar's Office (ext. 6945; romeo.cliff@marymount.edu)

**LaTonya Fowlkes**, senior administrative assistant, Office of Development (ext. 1647; latonya.fowlkes@marymount.edu)

**Jennifer Kluge**, alumni events manager, Alumni Relations (ext. 6814; jennifer.kluge@marymount.edu)

## Transitions

**Jacqueline Gill** has transitioned from purchasing assistant, Business Office, to administrative secretary, Academic Success Center, ext. 6927.

## EVENTS

**October 24** — Men's soccer vs. Salisbury, Quincy Field, 6 p.m.

**October 26** — HalloweenFest, 3 to 7 p.m.

**October 27** — Campus Ministry's Pilgrimage Yard Sale, 3442 Sleepy Hollow Road, Falls Church, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**October 30** — Ethics Education Program at Fairfax Hospital, 8 to 11:45 a.m.

**November 6 and 7** — Benefits Fair

**November 13** — Flu Shot Clinic, Lee Center Atrium, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.