

Madonna University Academic Communicator

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Title III Project Addresses Student Success through Teaching-Learning Technologies

The United States Office of Education/Title III has awarded Madonna University a grant of \$1.6 million to initiate a five-year project entitled, "Effective Applications of Teaching-Learning Technologies to Improve Retention and Student Success," from October 1, 1999, to September 30, 2004. The project also includes a challenge grant that will result in a \$270,000 endowment to perpetuate project activities, especially technology upgrades. Dr. Ernest Nolan, Vice President for Academic Administration, remarks, "The Title III project will allow Madonna University to remain a leader in using instructional technologies to meet critical student needs. It is the result of a two-year effort to identify technological applications that will have the most importance and utility for the University as it enters the new century." The team that drafted the proposal included Dr. Paul Stemmer, Dr. Patricia Vint, Sister M. Lauriana, Allan Peterman, Sister Nancy Marie, Dr. Dionne Wildson, and Dr. Ernest Nolan. Countless others provided information for the 173-page document.

The project consists of six major components: (1) using technology to improve student retention; (2) strengthening retention efforts across the University; (3) assessing the technology literacy of graduating students; (4) strengthening the technology infrastructure; (5) strengthening faculty professional development; and (6) expanding distance education instruction and support services. Tangible results will involve an expanded and enhanced student computer lab; a new computer classroom; a faculty professional development center and multimedia authoring lab; upgraded Internet access; a Web-based learning/advising center; technology upgrades for six classrooms per year for five years; additional distance education courses; and workshops and other training opportunities for faculty.

The Project Management Team will guide implementation of the activities: Dr. Ernest Nolan, Project Director; Dr. Paul Stemmer, Activity Director; Sister Nancy Marie, Coordinator of the Student Retention Component; Dr. Patricia Vint, Coordinator of the Faculty Development Component; and Dr. James Novak, Coordinator of the Distance Education Component. An advisory board consisting of faculty, staff, students, and external representatives will review the progress of project implementation and contribute to the process of continuous improvement.

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The Madonna University hospice education department is in the process of effecting systemic change in the health care system of Israel, leading to a fuller acceptance of the hospice movement.

Hospice Program Has Impact on Palliative Care in Israel

The Michigan Colleges Foundation-Ameritech grant that supported the development of an online course on palliative care has had a radical impact on the understanding and appreciation of the hospice movement in Israel. The course, written by hospice faculty members Dr. Kelly Rhoades and Lucy Stern, has been so successful that its text has been translated into Hebrew and is now available at medical care sites across the country. Recently the government's medical insurance changed its policy to allow funding for palliative care delivery in the patient's home rather than requiring that the patient come to a hospital or be hospitalized. This represents a significant policy shift by the Israeli medical establishment in favor of the hospice movement.

The University's linkage with Israel was fostered by the Jewish Federation of Detroit, which served as a liaison for the project. In November 1999, the Federation is sponsoring a trip to Israel by two University faculty members, Sister Cecilia Eagen, Ph.D., retiring chair of the hospice department, and Dr. Patricia Vint, Director of the DiPonio Instructional Center. While in Israel, they will make presentations on hospice care and instructional media as well as visiting hospitals, health care centers, and service agencies to consult with medical personnel.

MCF-Ameritech Funds Partnership Awards

Madonna University received two \$10,000 Michigan Colleges Foundation-Ameritech Partnership Awards, out of five competitive grants given statewide. The awards promote creative and innovative uses of technology at Michigan's independent colleges. Dr. Gerald Charbonneau will direct a collaborative international project to establish an interactive video link with three colleges in Morelia, Mexico. The ITV link will facilitate international exchange programs in Spanish language, service learning, and other fields. Dr. Patricia Vint designed a project to adapt the nurse entrepreneur certificate program to mediated delivery in order to reach a broader audience across the state and nationally, specifically asynchronous delivery for nurses with busy schedules.



Dr. James Reilly Selected for NEH Distinguished Teaching Professorship in the Humanities

The College of Arts and Humanities has selected Dr. James Reilly of the English department to assume the NEH Distinguished Teaching Professorship in the Humanities. Over the next two years, Dr. Reilly will work on infusing humanities general education courses with content on film, particularly the unique ways that film communicates as an artistic medium.

Campus Compact Funds HIV/AIDS Service Project

Michigan Campus Compact has awarded Mary Mitsch (nursing) and Dennis Bozyk (history) a \$2,000 grant to extend the work they began in an interdisciplinary course on HIV/AIDS. Over a two-year period, 110 students enrolled in ENG/HIS 421: The Millennium, Apocalyptic Visions, and HIV/AIDS. During 1999-2000, these students will be invited to engage in a service learning experience with Simon House, a shelter for women and children with HIV/AIDS.

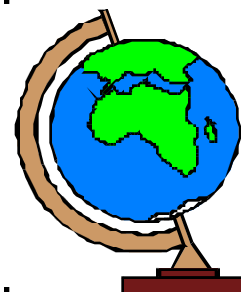
New Planning Process Anticipates the Demands of the New Century

With the leadership of Sister M. Francilene, President, the Institutional Planning Committee has begun to articulate University goals for the next five-year planning cycle. An inclusive process, planning will involve individuals across the University, including all of the faculty and institutional standing committees. In addition to goal setting, the Committee will analyze existing survey and research data and financial information as well as developing a vision of the University in the year 2005. The resulting planning document will guide decision making and set the direction of future development of the University.

The new planning process has rekindled the creative energies of different constituencies across the University.

Dr. Stanley Ngeyi Receives Rotary International Ambassadorial Grant for University Teachers

Chemistry professor Dr. Stanley Pierre Ngeyi is the third Madonna University faculty member to be awarded the Rotary International Ambassadorial Grant for University Teachers. During academic year 2000-2001, Dr. Ngeyi will spend a sabbatical semester in his native Cameroon, where he will teach chemistry and work with colleagues to improve science education. The fellowship includes a \$10,000 stipend to cover travel and living expenses abroad.



State Funding Ensures Continuation of the Safety Net for Targeted Students

Select Student Support Services Grant

The Michigan Department of Education Office of Equity has awarded Madonna University a grant of \$80,000 to continue activities to address the needs of students at risk, especially those from underrepresented groups in higher education. Directed by Osvaldo Rivera, Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, the new project will sponsor diversity training for faculty, staff, and administrators; student leadership development; student mentors for students of color; and other related activities. The ultimate goals of the project are to promote student academic success and foster a more welcoming campus climate for all students, especially in terms of human diversity.

Morris Hood, Jr. Educator Development Grant

Funding of \$61,650 from the Morris Hood, Jr. Educator Development grant will support recruitment of a second cohort of male minority students for K-12 teaching. Students will be offered a series of tuition-free workshops in the use of technology as a tool for teaching and learning. In addition, they will receive a small stipend to defray their expenses related to attending class. The students from last year's cohort will be invited to enroll in Dr. Jill Robinson's course on the exceptional learner in the classroom, in which they will have opportunities to use the technology training they received last spring. The Project Director for the grant is Derrick Manns, Assistant to the Vice President for Academic Administration. He will work directly with Osvaldo Rivera, Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, and Dr. Robert Kimball, Dean of the College of Education.

The Office of Multicultural Affairs offers special services targeted to the specific learning needs of diverse students, contributing to the academic success of members of groups that are underrepresented in higher education.

Dr. Marjorie Checkoway Initiates International Project on Multicultural Education

Working with representatives of the Jewish Federation of Detroit and Emek Yezreel College in Israel, Dr. Marjorie Checkoway will bring research and information about best practice in multicultural education to an area in Israel inhabited by three different cultural/ethnic groups. The two-year project will focus on K-12 curricular models for teaching intercultural appreciation and tolerance. Most of the project's funding (\$22,000) will come from the Jewish Federation of Detroit.



Outreach Programs Further Our Commitment to Educational Access

This academic year has witnessed the initiation of new outreach programs that advance the University's mission of providing educational access to diverse populations of students.

St. Clair County Intermediate School District

Nearly twenty-five students have joined the cohort of graduate students in St. Clair County, who are pursuing a master's degree in learning disabilities. Coordinated by Ken Johnson, this collaborative project with the St. Clair County ISD will involve weekend classes as well as courses delivered via interactive video and the Internet.

Collaboration with TOBA Center in South Korea

The past ten months of planning with TOBA Center in Seoul, South Korea, has resulted in the first of many collaborative programs. This fall, an online degree completion program in business administration will enroll students over the first eight weeks of the semester. The students recommended for the program have completed English language training as well as the tourism management program through TOBA Center.

Addiction Studies Offered Via ITV in Gaylord

In cooperation with the Alpine Regional Educational Consortium (AREC), Dr. William Vanderwill will be offering a series of workshops in addiction studies to residents in the Gaylord area, including a workshop on the addictive potential of gambling. The workshops prepare individuals for State certification in substance abuse counseling.

BGS Offered at WCCC in Belleville and NCMC in Petosky

The Bachelor of General Studies degree program, which allows individuals to custom design an academic program to fit their particular career needs and aspirations, has expanded its outreach to the Belleville campus of Wayne County Community College and the campus of North Central Michigan College in Petosky. The Belleville program will focus on recruiting auto factory workers in the surrounding communities as well as students who have completed an associate's degree at WCCC. The Petosky outreach is planned to respond to the development of a University Center at NCMC.

Important Dates

Thanksgiving Recess

- 4:00 on Thursday, November 24 - Sunday, November 28, 1999

Final Examinations

- Monday, December 13 - Saturday, December 18, 1999

Grades Due

- by 12:00 noon on Tuesday, December 21, 1999

Classes Begin

- Monday, January 10, 2000

January 2000 Faculty Meeting

- Friday, January 14, 2000

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