



Women's Career Expo

Mountain View's Title V department will host a Women's Career Expo on April 6, 2005 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in W38. For the female who needs help with resume and interview preparation, tips on dressing professionally, and motivation to step out into what often seems like a male-dominated career world, this is a must!

Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez will be the highlight of the event as she talks about women breaking boundaries in the career world. Melissa Hurtado, Title V Career Placement Specialist, hopes women will learn from Valdez's example that they are not limited in their professional contributions to society, and that they will come away inspired to carve a spot for themselves in any career field.

"Sheriff Valdez is the first woman to become sheriff, and she's a minority," said Melissa. "That in itself opens a lot of doors for women; she has opened a lot of doors. She will be inspirational to our students, especially our females."

In addition to Sheriff Valdez, other women who currently work in male-dominated fields will be present to talk with students. A career panel made up of women in a variety of fields will be held at 1p.m. A female CSI detective, a female engineer, a female mechanic, and a female firefighter are among those expected to participate in a Q&A period, sharing their own success stories and giving students an opportunity to ask questions, voice concerns, and get valuable advice.

that aren't very populated by women. I mean, how often do you see a female mechanic?" Melissa asked. "They will share their experiences with our students and encourage them that they too can do it. Instead of being a nurse or a teacher, they can do other things too."



A number of community agencies, whose goals are to help, inform, and encourage, will also be present. Representatives from various agencies, such as Attitudes & Attire, Home Loan Counseling, and Genesis, will offer students information about professional attire, obtaining a home loan, and women's shelters.



Other Career Expo highlights will include workshops dealing with a number of topics that students will find helpful. Workshop topics include "24-Hour Fitness Stress Exercises and Good Nutrition," "Consumer Credit Counseling," "Resume Preparation," and "Dress for Success."

"I want to empower women to take control of their lives," said Melissa. "I see the overall theme of these workshops as 'Take Charge of Your Life,' in any situation, good or bad."



A free continental breakfast will be offered, as well as snacks and door prizes.

For additional information about the Women's Career Expo, please contact Melissa Hurtado at 3631 or mxh6482@dcccd.edu.

"These women hold positions in careers

Title V Workshops

The Title V department hosts a variety of academic workshops throughout each semester. Held in various locations around the MVC campus, these workshops are tailored to fit the needs and schedules of students.

A student struggling with the Accuplacer or THEA tests will find a variety of workshops, which address basic test skills, in the Learning Skills Center. Math topics include adding and subtracting fractions, word problems, factoring, percents, and multiplying and dividing polynomials, while reading and writing topics include main ideas and supporting details, writing a five-paragraph essay, and major sentence errors.

In order to make these workshops convenient to a large number of students, they are scheduled at various times, some beginning as early as 10 a.m., while others begin at 8 p.m. And for those who miss the workshop they wanted to attend, each workshop is repeated monthly.

LSC workshops are taught by tutors with experience in a variety of backgrounds. A few of the tutors are currently in school; however, the majority of them hold bachelor degrees, and a few also hold master degrees. These degrees include education, English, journalism, marine biology, psychology, computer science, math, finance, electrical engineering, business management, and international business and economics.

In addition to the LSC workshops, there are periodic workshops developed specifically for science students, which are held in the Science Learning Center.

Dustin Yonkovich, who holds a Bachelor of Science in chemistry, noticed a lack of essential mathematical skills among science students and decided that “refresher” workshops would be beneficial.

Already a developmental math professor at MVC, Dustin enjoys teaching and simply saw this as

another teaching opportunity. He is responsible for preparing and conducting the math for science workshops. His most recent workshop topics were “Significant Figures,” “The Quadratic Equation,” and “Maximizing Your Calculator.”

“These workshops emphasize essential skills such as how to use calculators for scientific notation,” said Dustin.



Farzin Farzad, an LSC tutor, leads a workshop on adding and subtracting polynomials.

While Dustin plans workshop topics to coincide with what is being discussed in specific science classes, he is very flexible. He gauges students’ interests and needs, and is ready to switch gears at the last moment.

“If they’re not really interested in the topic,” he said, “I’ve got a back up!”

Software training workshops are also offered periodically in the library. Miriam Jimenez, Title V Help Desk Analyst, trains students in MS Office applications, as well as eCampus and eConnect. In addition to workshops held in the library, if requested, Miriam will bring the workshop to you! She has done numerous classroom visits in the past and is always willing to do more.

With only half of the spring semester gone, there are still plenty of opportunities for students to take advantage of Title V workshops. Additional information about workshops can be obtained in the Learning Skills Center, located at W170, or by calling 8538.

Title V tutor Dustin Yonkovich works with MVC student Betty Richardson.



Staff Spotlight:

Ray Smith, Network Systems Specialist

One of the only original Title V staff members remaining on campus is Ray Smith, Network Systems Specialist. Brought on to support the technical goals and objectives of Title V, Ray came to MVC in May 2002.

Ray holds two associates degrees, an Associates of Applied Sciences and Arts from Richland College, and an Associates of Applied Sciences in Local Area Network Administration from Eastfield College. He plans to continue his education this year by pursuing a Bachelor of Science at the University of North Texas, and later by attending Seminary.

Ray's job description is lengthy, and he is kept more than busy fulfilling it. He sums up his responsibilities simply: "I install, upgrade, and configure hardware and software." However, this summary seems overly simplified.

Ray installs hardware and software in offices and labs across campus, maintains ongoing processes and updates concerning that hardware/software, and also maintains MVC's campus servers. Then, if a problem is encountered, he graciously reappears to resolve technical issues.

In addition to his "Mr. Fix-it" duties, Ray also assists MVC offices in obtaining hardware and software to fit their specific needs. He researches prices and vendors, ensures that products will be in compliance with desires, learns how the products work, and trains faculty and staff in its use.

Also among Ray's responsibilities is the Title V Lab, or LSC. He works hours that coincide with LSC hours so that he is able to address technical problems involving LSC equipment as they arise.

Ray is well-known on campus, not only for his technical brilliance, but also for his bright smile and jovial character. He truly enjoys his job, which is obvious seconds after he walks through a door.

"My job is more than just technical work. If there's anything I want to do in life, it is to serve people. I'm a perfect fit for what I do because I am allowed to



Ray Smith, Title V Network Systems Specialist

serve administration, faculty, and students....and at the same time I get to be a clown!" said Ray

Another reason Ray is so enthusiastic about his job is because his field of work is always changing; he enjoys a continuous intellectual challenge.

He explains, "There's always ongoing training.... When something new comes out, you've got to get in there and learn how it works. We not only have to be able to implement new technology, but we also have to know how to use it. Otherwise, who do you go to when you have a problem?"

While there is no doubt Ray loves and is committed to MVC, what is, perhaps, dearest to him is his community. He enjoys helping and spending time with senior citizens and children. He is currently teaching continuing education classes for seniors at the LaManna Learning Center, and also commits time to tutoring children in math.

"The biggest thing for me is that I want to be more effective....able to reach into the community, reach into the lives of underprivileged kids and help them....You know, just reaching back," said Ray.

For assistance with hardware and software, or to simply add a bright spot to your day, contact Ray at 8881 or ras6114@dcccd.edu.

