



MVC tutoring program receives award

Mountain View's tutoring program was recently honored with an award recognizing its dedication to helping students. In April, Moises Almendariz, Education Center/Title V Dean, attended the National Tutoring Association Annual Conference in Chicago, where he accepted the award on behalf of MVC and its tutors.

Title V helps support the tutoring program at MVC, which includes numerous tutors working in several departments such as the Learning Skills Center, TRIO, the aviation lab, the CADD lab and the science labs.

MVC tutors come from a wide variety of academic backgrounds, and many hold one or more degrees. These degrees include education, English, journalism, marine biology, psychology, computer science, math, finance, accounting, electrical engineering, business management and international business and economics.

All MVC tutors receive annual training, conducted by the National Tutoring Association and partially paid for through Title V. For the past three years Title V has helped provide this training for more than 40 MVC tutors, and as a result, the majority of tutors in departments across campus are NTA certified.

MVC tutors offer both individual and group tutoring sessions, as well as weekly workshops, all of which are free for

students in the Dallas County Community Colleges system.

Student response to tutoring services is always very positive. The Learning Skills Center, where students can walk in without an appointment, is quite popular, and tutors are kept busy. Students are encouraged to

fill out an online survey evaluating LSC services, and responses to the tutoring service show overwhelming satisfaction.

According to Dr. Sandi Ayaz, NTA Executive Director, MVC's tutors set it apart from other educational facilities.



Moises Almendariz, Education Center/Title V Dean, receives the NTA Program of the Year Award in Chicago.

"Mountain View College employs more NTA certified tutors than any other current tutorial or learning assistance program and is the first program in the United States to train tutors at the Master level of certification," said Dr. Ayaz, who conducts MVC's annual tutor training.

A luncheon and reception were recently held in honor of MVC's tutors where they were recognized for their contributions to the MVC community.

For more information on tutoring services, call the LSC at extension 8538.

"MVC...is the first program to train tutors at the Master level of certification."

Looking Back: Title V's Women's Career Expo

The first Title V sponsored Women's Career Expo has officially come and gone! With 10 guest speakers and fabulous food and door prizes, the expo attracted a variety of participants. Approximately 75 students attended and various MVC faculty and staff also dropped by throughout the day.

Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez's appearance at MVC was the highlight of the event. Sharing anecdotes from her own life, she encouraged students with three key points: keep the lines of communication open, keep growing without sacrificing values and take risks.

All of Sheriff Valdez's comments were aimed at encouraging MVC students to carve a place for themselves in society, specifically within the workplace, and to never back down.

"You must understand one another," she said in emphasizing the importance of communication.

Sheriff Valdez also encouraged personal and professional growth and values.

"Grow as much as you can, but don't sell yourself out...don't step away from your values," she said.

Sheriff Valdez left MVC students, faculty and staff with a challenge. In referring to the Biblical story about Peter walking on water, she stressed the importance of taking risks.

"The important thing is that he [Peter] didn't stay with the rest of the crew when he thought there was something beyond what was normal," she said. "When you come to that point of risk and know it is the right thing, get out of the boat!"

The panel discussion among female career professionals was also very inspiring. Dallas County Fire Marshall Annette Ponce, Dallas Police officers Guadalupe Ortega and Shelly Dennis, BMW mechanic Melissa Buck, Dr. Susan Nearpath and flight engineer Ivonne Droz each spoke passionately about their careers, expressing the satisfaction they gain from going to work each day.

However, each woman reinforced the fact that there



Sheriff Lupe Valdez speaks to a group of faculty, staff and students at the Title V Women's Career Expo.

is a lack of female representation in many fields, including their own. According to Officer Ortega, there are about five males for every female in the Dallas Police Department. Women can do amazing things, she said, but first they have to get out there and make themselves known.

Sounding a similar note, Ponce said, "We don't have many women...we need more! We need women in any field!"

The success of the Title V Women's Career Expo inspired organizers to make this an annual event.

"I enjoyed working on this event," said Title V Career Placement Specialist Melissa Hurtado, who organized the expo.

"You learn as you go," she said, "and in organizing this event, other possibilities opened up for a future Women's Career Expo."

Staff Spotlight:

Patricia Henderson, Executive Secretary

If anyone can claim association with Mountain View's Title V grant from the beginning, that person is Title V Executive Secretary, Patricia Henderson (a.k.a. Mrs. Pink or P-Trish). In fact, she can claim more than an association; she was one of the grant's original proposal writers.

Patricia, known for her love of butterflies and the color pink, completed a secretarial program at Draughn's Business School and used her skills in the business sector for many years before coming to MVC. She arrived on campus as a student, taking both continuing education and credit classes, and soon settled into a work-study job in admissions. She worked there part-time for two years, handling degree plan evaluations for transfer students. She also worked as a secretary in the Financial Aid Office, and later, in the Testing Center.

After working seven years in various departments at MVC, Patricia joined then-Assistant to the President and Resource Development Officer, Olga Flores as her secretary. Together, Patricia and Flores worked on a HUD grant, which was an outreach to the community's homeless and an endeavor to get them into school. Once work on the HUD grant was completed, Patricia teamed up with Michael Gutierrez, who replaced Flores, acting as his secretary and assisting him with the preparation of the Title V grant proposal.

Even with Patricia executing much of the statistical research and organization and keeping up with the never-ending paperwork involved in writing a grant proposal, it took more than a year to be completed.

"I was so proud when that grant was approved," she said. "Though Title III grants have been awarded to DCCC campuses, this was the first Title V Grant that DCCC had ever gotten."

So what does the Title V Executive Secretary do now that the grant is an integrated part of MVC? Well, the need for someone to tame the mountains of paperwork associated with this grant did not end with its approval. That was merely the beginning. Patricia's precise attention to detail and organization is essential to Title V's day-to-day functioning.



Patricia keeps close tabs on anything that makes its way across her desk. Because Title V is a government-funded grant, it is necessary that she keep a paper trail for all records, POs, inventory, faculty and staff time sheets and contracts and more. She also makes necessary budget adjustments, plans all travel for Title V faculty and staff, coordinates grant consultants and keeps minutes for advisory board meetings.

"I like the paperwork and detail," she said. "It is interesting to see things go from paper to reality. The progression is fun to watch."

However, Patricia is not constantly buried under paperwork in her office. She enjoys spending time with her two granddaughters almost daily, and often has new stories or pictures to share with her coworkers. She is also active at High Point Church in Arlington, where she volunteers as a greeter, and participates in numerous social activities there and at other community churches.

Patricia is also a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Lady's Auxiliary. Through this organization she gives of her time to patients at the VA Hospital by playing Bingo, making Christmas cards and providing snacks.

Though most of her work is behind the scenes, Patricia is a vital part of the Title V department and her skills are indispensable. And, it is always fun to see what new, pink office decoration she will come up with next!

Notables to note...

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LSC hours:
 Mon.-Thur. - 8am-9pm
 Fri. - 8am-2pm
 Sat. - 8am-5pm

For questions or comments regarding MVC Title V Tidbits, please contact Melanie at melaniebarry@dcccd.edu

Title V Calendar of Events

May

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3	4	5	6	7
9	10	11	12 Graduation 7pm	13	14
16 May Term begins	17	18	19	20	21
23	24	25	26	27	28
30 Memorial Day LSC closed	31				

June

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 May Term ends	4
6 Summer I begins	7 Workshop: Multiply/divide fractions 10-11 am	8 Workshop: Add/subtract fractions 1-2 pm	9 Workshop: Fragments/run- ons/comma splices 4-5 pm	10	11
13 Workshop: Decimals 8-9 pm	14	15 Workshop: Percent 4-5 pm	16	17	18 Workshop: Add/subtract polynomials 10-11 am
20	21 Workshop: Main idea/ supporting details 1-2 pm	22	23 Workshop: Multiply/divide polynomials 8-9 pm	24	25 Workshop: Factoring 10-11 am
27	28 Workshop: Multiply/divide rational expressions 4-5 pm	29 Workshop: Add/subtract rational expressions 8-9 pm	30 Workshop: 5-paragraph essays 8-9 pm	Summer I ends July 7	