

## Title V...? What's that?

"Title V" is a term that has become familiar here on the Mountain View campus over the past three years, but what exactly does it mean? Ultimately, it means \$426,828 annually to aid in strengthening our institution and building resources in order to better serve our student body. Specifically, Title V is a government-funded grant awarded to Hispanic-serving institutions of higher education that traditionally serve large numbers of low-income and Hispanic students. The purpose of the Title V grant is to enable institutions to continue their service to students and improve their capacity to provide ongoing quality higher education.

Mountain View College was awarded a five-year development grant by the Federal Department of Education in October, 2001, which will extend through the 2005/2006 academic year, ending on September 30, 2006. While the average annual award is \$426,828, the total five-year award is \$2,134,140.

There is a wide range of options for using Title V funds. With the support of the grant, Mountain View has

concentrated on increasing the enrollment and success rates of math, science, and technology students. This is being done in a variety of ways, including technology/workforce development, faculty and staff development, and increased student services and activities. MVC personnel have seen additions such as seven new, full-time positions, more math and science tutors available in the Learning Skills Center, and contracts that have been awarded to numerous faculty members to support Title V activities. In addition to personnel, Title V funds have purchased a variety of new equipment such as computers and software for the LSC and a math lab, classroom projectors, and faculty laptops. The Title V department also offers numerous free academic workshops to students on a weekly basis and funds training workshops for faculty and staff throughout the year.

With two more years to go, the MVC family can expect to see many more improvements as a result of Title V dollars. Title V staff have a myriad of exciting plans that will soon come to fruition.



*Left to right: Moises Almandariz, Dean of Education Center/Title V; Melissa Hurtado, Bilingual Career Placement Specialist; Ray Smith, Network Systems Specialist; Dr. Mohammad Zouyousefain, Math Faculty; Miriam Jimenez, Bilingual Help Desk; and Carmen Colunga, Coordinator, Labs Title V. Not pictured: Patricia Henderson, Executive Secretary.*

## MVC students offered early start on success

In an effort to inform MVC students of available academic and career opportunities, the Title V department, in alliance with Trio Focus, sponsored a student information session on Sept. 14 about INROADS, an internship program for minority students working toward careers in business. About twenty students were in attendance as Maco Faniel, INROADS Professional Development Specialist, outlined the benefits of joining the INROADS team.

Founded in 1970 by Mr. Frank C. Carr, INROADS is a free program that pairs participating students with one of the many Fortune 1000 companies it has partnered with for paid summer internships, which often lead to permanent job offers upon students' graduation. In addition to internships, INROADS also offers training and development workshops throughout the year to prepare students for working in corporate America, as well as free tutoring in subjects that students are struggling with.



*Maco Faniel, INROADS Professional Development Specialist, speaks to a forum of students about the importance of planning for their future careers.*

The Title V department is concerned about students' academic success in college, as well as future success in their careers. For this reason, Title V Bilingual Career Placement Specialist, Melissa Hurtado, recommends INROADS to many students. "It's a great program to help you get your foot in the door. Students who are barely graduating don't always know the next step or who to talk to. But if they've been in INROADS they have an advantage, a certain edge, which can make all the difference in their careers," she said.

## Title V hosts bilingual job fair

A job fair for bilingual jobseekers was held in MVC's West Foyer on Thursday, October 7, from 9am to 1pm. Title V joined with the Career Development Center to encourage bilingual students to explore different job possibilities and talk to potential employers in a variety of industries.

"Title V is here to pilot different things and see how they work," said Carmen Colunga, Title V Labs Coordinator. This year the Title V Department was determined to attract a larger number of the majority population at MVC, Hispanics, than job fairs of the past. In order to do this, Title V worked to put a bilingual emphasis on the event.

Various businesses that are registered with the Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce were issued invitations to the fair in an attempt to bring

representation from around the region; representation that, according to Kenneth Goffney, Sr. Career Development Specialist, does not frequent MVC's community. "We want to provide better exposure for both our students and the community," said Mr. Goffney.



More than 20 businesses and organizations were represented at the event, which attracted a steady stream of students throughout the morning. The average number of all recorded recruiter contacts is 611, but as many as 800 may have participated.

*Top Left: Several students gather at the bilingual job fair near the West entrance. Left: A student signs up to receive free information about careers with the US Army.*

**"Title V is here to pilot different things and see how they work."**

## Title V Staff Spotlight:

### Bilingual Career Placement Specialist, Melissa Hurtado

Among the many additions Mountain View has seen as a result of the Title V grant are seven new staff positions. Melissa Hurtado, Title V Career Placement Specialist, joined the MVC family in January, 2004. Melissa, who holds a Bachelor of Social Work degree from UT Arlington and is working on her Master of Arts in Organizational Management at Dallas Baptist University, came to MVC from UT Arlington with several years of experience in career services and financial aid. Melissa's goal at MVC is to serve students and provide resources necessary to offer quality higher education; and she might add, to provide resources to help students look beyond college to their future careers.

Melissa's main objective as a career placement specialist is, as she describes it, "to help students with anything career related." She offers MVC students a number of free career services. She is available to help create and critique resumes, as well as stage mock interviews (both one-on-one and panel, depending on students' needs). Melissa also offers career counseling for students who are unsure about what they want to do after college. Career counseling includes career inventory testing, research into the job market, and information on job outlooks and earnings. She also maintains a list of job openings and passes potential employer contact information along to students who are interested.

In addition to career services, Melissa offers students guidance in financial aid. She assists students with filling out applications, such as the FASFA, and informs them about money that is available in the form of scholarships and grants. While she is available to help any student in this area, she is specifically interested in assisting MVC's Hispanic population. According to Melissa, there is a \$500 government stipend available to ESL students who qualify, and many do not know about it. This stipend can be used for both English literacy classes and computer literacy classes. "It's part of our grant to push technology; so I try to encourage students to apply for this stipend and then take these classes so they can be more computer literate," she explained.



*Melissa Hurtado, Title V Career Placement Specialist*

Not one to help students and then leave them on their own, Melissa seeks to make a genuine connection with each person who walks through her door, and then follows up with them to see how they are doing. "I try to keep a good rapport with the students because I think it's really important that they know somebody is here for them," she said. Melissa is obviously doing something right. A student she worked with at UT Arlington is now a student at MVC, having made the decision to transfer when he found out that she is here; and it is not uncommon for a student she worked with in the past to drop by her office simply to say hi.

Melissa is busy planning even more for the Mountain View community, such as a Women's Career Expo in the spring, and expanded career search services. She enjoys speaking to classes about the services she offers, and encourages faculty members to contact her about doing classroom visits. For more information, or to schedule a classroom visit, contact Melissa at 3631 or [mxh6482@dccd.edu](mailto:mxh6482@dccd.edu).

*Congratulations to Melissa on the safe delivery of her son, Andrew, on Friday, November 5th. Andrew weighed in at 8 lbs., 13 ozs., and measured 21 inches. Both mom and son are doing well!*

# N

otables to note...

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**LSC hours:**  
 Mon.-Thur. - 8am-9pm  
 Fri. - 8am-2pm  
 Sat. - 8am-5pm  
 Sun. - 1pm-5pm

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

# Title V Calendar of Events

## November

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<u>Workshop:</u> <i>Geometry II</i> 4 – 5pm	<u>Workshop:</u> <i>Solving Equations II</i> 12:30 – 1:30pm	<u>Workshop:</u> <i>Geometry II</i> 12:30 – 1:30pm		
1	2	3	4	5	6
	<u>ESOL</u> <u>Workshop:</u> “have to & has to” 12:30 – 1:30pm	<u>Workshops:</u> <i>Learning Pref. Solving Equations II</i> 12:30 – 1:30pm 3:30 – 4:30pm	<u>Workshop:</u> <i>Test Taking Skills</i> 12 – 1:30pm		<u>Workshop:</u> <i>Ratios</i> 12 – 1:30pm
8	9	10	11	12	13
	<u>Workshop:</u> <i>Unit Conversions</i> 12 – 1:30pm		<u>Workshop:</u> <i>Unit Conversions</i> 3 – 4:30pm		<u>Workshop:</u> <i>Ratios</i> 10 – 11:30pm
15	16	17	18	19	20
<u>Workshop:</u> <i>Proportions</i> 12 – 1:30pm		<u>Workshop:</u> <i>Proportions</i> 3:30 – 5pm <b>LSC closes at 5pm</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Day</b>		
22	23	24	25	26	27
<b>LSC re-opens at 8am</b>					
29	30				

## December

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4
<b>Finals Week</b>					
6	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	18
			<b>LSC closes at 5pm</b>		<b>Christmas Day</b>
20	21	22	23	24	25
				<b>New Year’s Eve</b>	<b>LSC will re-open at 8am on Jan. 3rd</b>
27	28	29	30	31	