

**May 12, 2006 *InsideHarper!***

**From the President's Desk:**

This week is finals' week...next week we anticipate graduation. I believe that this time, more than any other time in our annual calendar, is the strategic moment to pause and honor our mission. Harper's mission is more than carefully crafted words at the beginning of its official institutional documents. Together we really do provide excellent education, at an affordable cost, which promotes growth—while enriching the local community and meeting the challenges of our global society. Congratulations on a job well done!

**Living Our Values: Collaborating in Seven Languages**

Congratulations to the English as a Second Language Registration Committee who collaboratively produced a five-minute video with seven versions in seven languages explaining testing and registration for new ESL students. Hurray to **Rick Will**, desktop integration specialist, Information Technology Client Services; **Eric Bohman**, ESL testing and registration coordinator, Career Programs, Academic Enrichment and Language Studies; **Juanita Bassler**, admission outreach associate, Student Recruitment and Outreach; **Celina Ocampo**, bilingual associate, and **Lin Cui**, instructor, both of Career Programs, Academic Enrichment and Language Studies.

**Benefit's Corner: DIRECT DEPOSIT**

Harper College offers you the ability to have your paycheck direct deposited into your bank account. If you are not taking advantage of this opportunity, now is the time to consider the advantages of direct deposit. Direct deposit helps you manage your money and gives you peace of mind. The payment is always there on payday, no matter where you are. Pay is accessible earlier; no more waiting for a check to clear. You can choose to divide your pay among different accounts, and this will be done automatically for you each payday. Direct deposit is safe and confidential. The process uses the same safeguards and security that companies and the government use to transmit money to each other every day. It is also more confidential than a paycheck. The direct deposit form can be found on the HIP page under HR forms <http://hip/hr/forms/default.asp>, or by stopping in the HR office.

**Winner's Circle:**

**Tom Thompson**, director, Access and Disability Services, was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award for 26 years of contributions to the field of postsecondary disability services and for his mentoring of new disability providers by the Illinois/Iowa Association on Higher Education. Congratulations Tom!

Congratulations to **Lori Dalbello-Hill**, clerk-receptionist at the Avanté Information Center, who is one of Harper's first graduates of the Fast Track Management Program. Lori, who will earn her Associate Degree in Applied Science Management next Friday, May 19, began the program two years ago. She plans to obtain her baccalaureate degree in psychology.

**Peot wins art commission for McCormick Place Expansion**

**Jason Peot**, instructor, Liberal Arts, is one of only 30 area artists culled from an original list of 500 to install a piece of art in the new \$882 million McCormick Place West Expansion, which will open ahead of schedule in late 2007.

“They have commissioned a collection of works from local artists totaling \$1.8 million,” Jason says. “My piece, nine feet high and 30 feet long, will be the entire back wall of a high-end restaurant within the complex.”

Constructed of aluminum, wood and lighting, Jason’s work “creates a composition of shadows covering the wall. The construction will consist of 102 units, representing the number of counties in Illinois. Each unit will be made with an amount of material proportionate to the population of that county. The darkness or lightness of shadows cast by each unit will then represent the population density of that county,” he says.

The expansion of McCormick Place will include a five-level facility with 470,000 square feet of exhibit space and 250,000 square feet of meeting space. Developers say they have already booked 40 events.

### **New Professor Emeritus:**

These faculty members have been selected as Faculty Emeritus: **Susan Farmer**, professor, Career Programs, Academic Enrichment and Language Studies; **William Jedlicka**, professor, Business and Social Science; **Dianne Batzkall** and **Marcia Litrenta**, both professors in Liberal Arts; **Paul Szipiera**, professor, Technology, Mathematics and Science; **John Eliasik**, professor, Wellness and Human Performance.

For other retired faculty who have achieved Faculty Emeritus, go to:  
<http://goforward.harpercollege.edu/page.cfm?p=1038> Read about faculty promotions  
<http://hip/board/boardex/apr06/>

### **Salute to Administrative Assistants**

In April, the contributions of our administrative assistants were recognized with a celebration on Administrative Professionals Day. Attendees identified topics that made up the Office Professionals Training Program offered in 2005 and 2006.

HR/DOD’s Employee Institute for Learning offered six programs with certificates of completion for anyone who attended four of the six programs. “We are excited to recognize the following individuals who received certificates of completion,” says **Bill Brown**, staff development coordinator.

The employees included: **Darby Lanpher**, administrative assistant, and **Connie Podgorski**, student services assistant, both of Continuing Education; **Patty Seitzinger**, administrative assistant, Diversity and Organizational Development; **Gail Hoban**, secretary, Technology, Math and Science; **Louise Bez**, administrative assistant, Career Programs, Academic Enrichment and Language Studies; **Halina Polakowski**, administrative assistant, Health Careers and Public Safety and **Minnie Gunderson**, human resources assistant, Diversity and Organizational Development. Attending all six programs were: **Naomi Brandner**, administrative secretary, Health Careers and Public Safety and **Joe D’Agostino**, extension center assistant, Continuing Education.

There was a drawing for free admission to the May 12 Disney Keys of Excellence program. The two lucky winners: Louise Bez and Pam Dluger, administrative secretary,

Health and Psychological Services. “Congratulations to all who participated in the day's festivities,” Bill says.

### **Harper Trivia:**

**April 28 question:** How many life size mannequins are used by the Nursing students in the lab? **Answer:** 12.

**May 12 question:** When Pomp and Circumstance is played for Commencement, how many Harper graduates will walk down the aisle? This is the largest number of graduates ever, breaking last semester's record!

### **Stories of Diversity: Conversation Club**

About three years ago, **Alice Roberts**, assistant professor and coordinator of the Intensive English Program, Academic Enrichment and Language Studies, decided that international students should be able to practice English skills more. She initiated an offshoot of the International Student's Club called Conversation Café.

“The Conversation Café was developed to help non-native speakers of English improve their English with the help of native speakers,” says Alice, who is the advisor to International Students Club.

The group of international students, who varies in ages between 35 to 65, are from such countries as Korea, Japan, India, Turkey, Mexico and Bulgaria. The Conversation Café meets twice a month to discuss topics such as the Olympics, movies and U.S. holidays. “Many of them have sufficient English skills to enter other academic courses,” says Alice. “The international students who study ESL are enrolled in our Intensive English Program.”

If students attend all six Conversation Café sessions each semester, they receive a certificate. For more information, call Alice at ext. 6454.

### **Restoring the *Permutant-Modular Sculpture***

An unusual piece of sculpture with the title *Permutant Modular* was viewed by Harper art faculty and administrators at Navy Pier in 1984, and brought to Harper on loan by the artist. The sculpture, which is by French artist Gerard Singer, was funded by a grant with the stipulation that the piece be exhibited outside of France for at least two years. The piece has never left the Chicago area and has never been shown in France. Instead, Singer donated the piece to the Harper Educational Foundation in 1990.

*Permutant Modular* has been slowly deteriorating on the east side of the south patio outside the Cockrell Dining Hall of Building A, the original location Singer selected for the sculpture. The piece was appraised at \$85,000 in 2004.

Now the sculpture, with recommendations from the College Art Curators and money from private donations through the Harper Educational Foundation, will be restored.

An art conservator is removing *Permutant Modular* from the sunken patio location and “re-site” the work near Building E, where it will be in a “main thoroughfare,” according to **Perry Pollock**, curator and assistant professor, Art Department, “and therefore more accessible to more people.”

Pollock says, "Singer is known for translating primordial landscapes into

topographical maps, and then re-making them in 3-D form out of formed concrete. These installations are often site-specific within architectural settings, such as urban plazas, where the contrast between old and new reminds us of the evolution of our relationship to our environment.”

### **Sculley, an Oasis of Creativity**

**Donna Sculley**, a Harper fashion design student who is now teaching two sections of Textiles I classes, has several designs in tonight’s 7:30 p.m. Montage Fashion Show called Central Park Oasis of Style in the Wellness and Sports Center.

With a collection based on a Maine Island Weekend Getaway theme, Donna’s designs includes a classic black one piece swim suit with a mesh back and a steel grey jersey knit dress with an off the shoulder fringed collar and hem.

“The instructor for this class, **Julie Cole**, is very capable at getting the student to design with a theme or inspiration in mind, as you would if you were in the fashion industry,” says Donna, who has been a finalist in two design competitions last year: the Art of Fashion International Competition and the Fashion Group International Young Designer’s Competition.

Donna’s students in the Textiles I class are all entering the textile design portion of the Alpaca Fashion Competition sponsored by the Alpaca Owners and Breeders Association (AOBA). “They have to design an original fabric swatch using at least 50% alpaca fiber,” she says. “The students seem to be really enjoying this process and are excited to test the waters.”

For tickets to Central Park Oasis of Style, call ext. 6100. Attend today’s fashion show.

### **Healthy Harper: What’s Your BMI?**

A recent report published in the Journal of the American Medical Association found that the % of Americans who are overweight or obese continues to climb. For men, 71% are overweight, 31% are obese. For women, 62% are overweight, 33% are obese.

Definitions for overweight and obese are determined by a person’s Body Mass Index (BMI), a ratio of weight to height. To calculate your own BMI, go to the following Centers for Disease Control link: <http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpa/bmi/> .

*Submitted by **Guy Leahy**, Fitness Assessment Coordinator, Wellness and Campus Activities*

### **Au Revoir to Retirees**

**Janet Landato**, associate professor, Technology, Mathematics and Science, retires at the end of May with nine years of service. Originally from the Chicago area, Janet attended DePaul University for her bachelor’s degree and went on to Penn State for her master’s degree. She taught astronomy, physics and physical science classes.

She and her two “large mutt” dogs, Blondie and Lucky, are moving to a small rural community in northwestern Indiana so she can be closer to her parents. Janet hopes to be a substitute science or math teacher in a middle school. She is looking forward to gardening and hopes to own a horse someday. We appreciate Janet’s instruction to Harper science students.

**Patricia (Pat) O’Leary**, professor of Nursing, Health Careers and Public Safety, retires at the end of May with 24 years of service after teaching many different nursing courses, such as Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing.

Pat is licensed as an Advanced Practice Nurse and Clinical Nurse Specialist in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing and has a specialty in treating older adults with depression and chronic medical problems. She plans to expand her involvement with the Illinois Nurses Association and work on the new Nurse Practice Act.

Besides teaching, Pat has also consulted for the last 15 years with area fire departments when there are incidents of juveniles setting fires. Pat was instrumental in helping set up a state-wide network with an 800 number so that juveniles could be referred to a mental health counselor in their area.

“The best part of teaching at Harper has been the variety of ages and cultures in students,” she says. “I will miss our students, but will now be seeing them as graduates in the community. The joy of my retirement plan is to enjoy my three new grandchildren and grow up with them.”

### **Inside Self-Governance: Teaching and Learning**

The Teaching and Learning Committee plans the schedules for both the fall and spring orientation weeks, arranges for guest speakers and coordinates break-out sessions. Through subcommittees, the committee also oversees the New Faculty course and the graduate course that is available to faculty in January and June each year as well as mini-grants and mentoring for new faculty.

Teaching and Learning also publishes the electronic Harper College Teaching and Learning newsletter several times a year and helps develop each year’s faculty retreat. The committee recently conducted a survey of the full time faculty about spring breakout sessions and evaluated the responses received. The Mini Grant Subcommittee has awarded several grants.

Teaching and Learning has initiated a new graduate course to run in May. **Susan Goodale** taught *Teaching to Diverse Learners* (three graduate credits from Illinois State University) in January 2006 when 16 full-time faculty participated. Susan will be back on campus May 22-26 for *Studies in Professional Development for Educators: Educator Renewal II* (three graduate credits from ISU). Twenty-seven full time faculty are enrolled in the course.

Faculty mentors have been assigned for all new faculty members, and the committee is currently planning the fall 2006 and spring 2007 faculty Orientation Week Activities.

The committee is also “looking at possible changes and additions to the Spring 2007 Faculty Retreat,” says co-chair **Greg Herriges**, associate professor, Liberal Arts. The committee consists of 12 members and two co-chairs.

### **Focus on Faculty: Wilson wins grant for Japan Studies**

**Andrew Wilson**, professor, Liberal Arts, has won a grant from the Teaching and Learning Committee to participate in a three week Japan Studies seminar sponsored by the Freeman Institute on Japan in Honolulu.

“The workshop is for those who have little or no prior academic background on Japan and who wish to begin incorporating Japan Studies into their courses,” says

Andrew. “The workshop will cover a variety of topics relating to Japan, including history, politics, literature, business and the arts.”

Andrew will incorporate Japanese literature into his classes. “In the summer of 2000, I participated in a three week workshop on Southeast Asia, and since then I have consistently incorporated Vietnamese literature about the Vietnam-U.S. war, both fiction and poetry, into my classes. I will do the same here.”

This grant is an example of just one of those sponsored by the Teaching and Learning Committee. See a related story under Inside Self-Governance.

### **Employee Institute for Learning**

There are a couple more seminars listed under Employee Institute for Learning that managers may be interested in, according to Bill Brown, staff development coordinator, Diversity and Organizational Development.

On Thursday, May 18 there will be a program called Death by Meetings from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in Room A243 of Building A.

On Thursday, June 8 there will be a program called Essential Skills for Positive Communication from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. in Room A243 of Building A.

Call ext. 6658 to register, or for more information.