



Project Bridge Newsletter

Hispanic Advisory Board

January, 2004

Volume 1, Issue 6

The Marian College Hispanic Advisory Board was started in the Fall of 1993 by Sister Norma Rocklage, the Senior Vice President for Mission Effectiveness and Student Life. The Board's mission is to "promote higher education among Hispanic people."

Sr. Norma wondered why Marian wasn't attracting Hispanic students, especially given the growing local Hispanic population. The newly assembled board found that the primary problem was financial: besides cost of living concerns, many Hispanic parents are not legal citizens, and their children are not eligible for federal financial aid. In addition to addressing the financial dilemma, the board wanted to clearly define Marian's role in serving the Hispanic community, particularly in the context of higher

education. In response to these problems, key people from the community were brought together to work toward several ends: developing the Marian of Guadalupe Scholarships; strengthening the campus's understanding of Hispanic cultural diversity; creating opportunities for the Hispanic community to become acquainted with Marian; creating a network of mentors for Hispanic students; networking with the Roman Catholic Church in Indiana to promote leadership among the Hispanic church community; refining the links between Marian and other agencies that offer services to Hispanics; and networking with other colleges toward greater collaboration.

The Marian of Guadalupe scholarship is designed for

Hispanic students of all ages, and is need-based. Research has also been done to locate special scholarships and grants that can be made available from federal, state, and college resources. *Pasaporte A Las Américas*, which was described in the November *Project Bridge Newsletter*, was created to meet several of the Board's ends, including networking, promotion of Hispanic cultural diversity, and fund raising to provide assistance to Hispanic students.

The Board is researching ways to promote college preparation for Hispanic students, and is writing grant proposals to secure greater sources of funding to support each of its efforts. As new areas of need are discovered, the Board hopes to expand their support to meet them.

Teacher Tips:

- Sue Blackwell, Department Chair, offers these tips:
- ✓ Pick your battles; not every situation is of equal importance.
 - ✓ Never confront children in front of their peers.
 - ✓ Don't make rules based on the behavior of a single student.
 - ✓ Celebrate with your students as often as you can!

Trip to El Salvador

Spring Break 2004 will mark the 4th trip made by Marian students and faculty to El Salvador. Led this year by Dr. R. Michael Clark, Associate Professor of Theology, the groups undertake this experience as both a cultural retreat and as a rich educational experience. While there, the travellers are hosted by John Guilliano.

Marian College has been able to develop a relationship with John through St. Pius parish. He is a pastoral worker from New York who has lived in El Salvador for 20 years. John worked with refugees during El Salvador's civil war and stayed to work with youth groups. Many of these youth

grew up during the war, and John has developed a ministry to help them readjust to their current lives. The war brought tremendous violence and left many orphans; John is trying to provide the direction they have not been able to get elsewhere.

John often visits Marian and speaks on campus about his work. One of his larger projects is helping people in his youth groups have access to higher education in the hope that they will return to their home country to serve their peers. He currently has several students in medical school in Havana, Cuba. There are limited work options for Salvadorean youth, so this

initiative is critical both in terms of self-sufficiency and service to a needy community.

The primary goal of the Marian trip is to learn from the Salvadorean people; how this is to be accomplished is determined based on who is traveling (e.g., educators meet educators, nurses meet nurses, etc.). The group is immersed in the country's history and learns about events that have shaped the country, and visits important historical sites where these events took place.

There are still some openings for the 2004 trip. You must have a passport and your payment is due in January. Email Dr. Clark at

Inside this issue:

January Calendar	2
OELA Summit	2
Reminders	2
Marian Athletics	3
Culture Corner	3
Info Session	4
Mentor Profile	4

January 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 New Year's Day	2	3
4	5 Interns report to classrooms	6 School w/ cooperating teacher	7 School w/ cooperating teacher	8 School w/ cooperating teacher	9 School w/ cooperating teacher	10
11	12 School w/ cooperating teacher	13 MC Classes 8AM-4PM	14 School w/ cooperating teacher	15 MC Classes 8AM-4PM	16 MC Classes 8AM-Noon	17
18	19 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day	20 MC Classes 8AM-4PM	21 School w/ cooperating teacher	22 MC Classes 8AM-4PM	23 Eiteljorg Workshop 9AM-Noon	24
25	26 School w/ cooperating teacher	27 MC Classes 8AM-4PM	28 School w/ cooperating teacher	29 MC Classes 8AM-4PM	30 MC Classes 8AM-Noon	31

Schedule of Events

Happy New Year!
See "Culture Corner," p. 3, for more information on off-campus events

- ✓ **January 1** — New Year's Day
- ✓ **January 5—9, 12, 14, 21, 26, 28** — Interns report to cooperating teachers' classrooms
- ✓ **January 13, 15, 16, 21, 22, 27, 29, 30** — Classes at Marian
- ✓ **January 19** — Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- ✓ **January 22** — Chinese New Year's Day
- ✓ **January 23** — Native American Workshop at the Eiteljorg Museum from 9AM—Noon
- ✓ **January 28** — Educator Christa McAuliffe Day

Reminders

- January 5:** Interns report to cooperating teachers' classrooms (or attend professional development programs with their cooperating teachers)
- January 14:** Last information session for prospective students
- February 1:** Deadline to submit application for 2004-2005 Project Bridge admission
- March 4:** Interns at Marian for classes
- April 21:** Teacher Candidate Interview Day, sponsored by Marian Career Services

OELA Summit

Cheryl Hertzler and Jenny M. Witcher attended the Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA) Summit in Washington, D.C. from December 1—4. The theme for the summit was: "Success in School: Everyone's Responsibility - Every Child's Right." The primary focus of the summit was understanding and learning to implement "No Child Left Behind" in the context of English as a New Language (ENL). The content of each keynote speech and most break-out sessions was directed at educating teachers and administrators about

initiatives and new findings that impact ENL education in both the classroom and at the policy level.

The keynote speakers included Dr. Rod Paige, U.S. Secretary of Education, Jean Rutherford, Director of Educational Initiatives at the National Center for Educational Accountability, and Laura-Ann Pettitto, Chair of the Psychological and Brain Sciences Department at Dartmouth College.

The summit also provided opportunities to learn about the Title III grant that supports Project Bridge,

and to meet our grant administrator, Ms. Diana Yu. The information collected may allow improvements in our grant program that will strengthen Project Bridge and allow it to achieve its goals more effectively.

On a personal note, Cheryl and Jenny greatly enjoyed both the summit and their time in Washington, D.C. Not only did they learn a lot and meet many interesting education professionals, they got to spend time in our nation's capital during the holiday season!

Marian's Athletic Programs

Marian College offers wide appeal to all sports fans; 18 different sports teams for both women and men offer variety and year-round excitement. From basketball to cycling, Marian athletes are a hard-working and successful group.

Marian College is part of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). This membership puts us on par with NCAA division II. We compete against other similar-sized schools in the NAIA and, according to Brett Cope, Director of Athletic Training and Sports Information, "Most Marian teams reach conference champion level."

Marian's athletic programs include baseball, basketball, cheerleading, cross country, cycling, golf, soccer, tennis, track & field, softball, volleyball, and intramurals. The pro-

gram's "focus sports" are Marian's successful men and women's basketball teams (currently 7—0 and 8—4, respectively).

There are approximately 260 student athletes at Marian, which accounts for almost 1/3 of the total student population. According to Mr. Cope, Marian athletes are students first. The athletic program offers scholarships in much the same manner as the college in general, based on financial need, and does not offer extra money to students to be athletes. In a study conducted 4 years ago, it was found that Marian athletes' g.p.a. scores were generally higher than the total student population; the same results were true for athletic student retention. These facts demonstrate the large impact that the athletic program has on Marian College.

The talk of bringing football to campus poses a whole new dynamic for Marian's athletic program. Many shifts would take place, affecting resources, personnel and facilities. Mr. Cope predicts that football would certainly become the new "focus sport" of Marian.

We are now in the midst of basketball season, and the conference season starts the first of the year. As mentioned, both the men's and women's teams are doing very well and could always use more support. Students, faculty, and staff admission is always free, and the schedule can be found online at <http://www.marian.edu/Athletics.asp>, along with much more information about Marian's athletic programs.

Culture Corner

Chinese New Year's Day is on **January 22, 2004**, the first day in the Year of the Monkey. The Chinese calendar measures time based on astronomical observations of the movement of the sun, moon, and stars. Traditionally, red envelopes containing money are given to the younger generation by parents, grandparents, other relatives, and close friends and neighbors during the New Year. The red envelopes are often decorated with lucky symbols. Red is the color of good luck in China.

To learn more about Asian culture, read about "Myths and Facts" at <http://www.cacf.org/mythsfacts/index.html>. The article "Asian American Children: What Teachers Should Know" is available at <http://www.ericfacility.net/ericdigests/ed369577.html>. You can order

articles for parents in Chinese, Cambodian, Hmong, Lao and Vietnamese from the National Coalition Advocates for Students nation office. The NCAS web site is at <http://www.ncasboston.org/index.htm>.

January is National Book Month. **January 1** is New Year's Day - children from around the world tell how they celebrate the new year at <http://www.kidlink.org/>. Jolly Days Kwanzaa Celebration at the Children's Museum will be from noon until 4:00 PM. See <http://www.childrensmuseum.org/catalog/home.asp>. **January 19** is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - The Peace Learning Center in Indianapolis will sponsor the 7th annual Martin Lu-

ther King, Jr. Festival at the Murat Centre Egyptian Ballroom. For more information, see <http://www.peacelearningcenter.org/mlk.asp>. The Indianapolis Children's Museum offers a free admission day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Special entertainment and guests will add to the fun for the entire family. Celebrate the life, dream and legacy of the late Dr. King. <http://www.childrensmuseum.org/catalog/home.asp>. **January 22** is Chinese New Year's Day. See http://www.educ.uvic.ca/faculty/mroth/438/CHINA/chinese_new_year.html. **January 28** is Educator Christa McAuliffe Day. See <http://www.holidaysmart.com/1christamcauliffe.htm>, <http://www.christa.org/>, or <http://www.amfcse.org/honor/>

Project Bridge to Achievement

Marian College
 Department of Education
 3200 Cold Spring Road
 Indianapolis, IN 46222
 Fax: (317) 955-6448

Readers, this is your newsletter. We welcome any contributions you wish to make. If you have a news item, a suggestion or a correction, please contact Jenny M. Witcher by phone or email. If you are a mentor or student and would like to volunteer to be profiled in subsequent issues, or if you would like to contribute a "Teacher Tip," please contact Jenny, Carmen Polk or Cheryl Hertzner. Thank you for your interest and participation!

Newsletter Contact List

Cheryl Hertzner
 Program Director
 317-955-6087
 chertzner@marian.edu

Info sessions for prospective students

Carmen Polk
 EDU Department Secretary
 317-955-6089
 cpolk@marian.edu

Do you know anyone who would be a good MAT candidate? Then recommend a Project Bridge Information Session! At each session, application packets will be distributed*, the program will be described, and the application and selection process will be explained. Refreshments will be served. Please call Cheryl Hertzner (955-6087) to make a reservation for the following date; the session is 6-8 PM in Allison Mansion:

Jenny M. Witcher
 Project Bridge Assistant
 317-955-6095
 jmwitcher@marian.edu

January 14

*All application materials are due on February 1, 2004 to be considered for the 2004-2005 Cohort.

Mentor Profile: Mildred White

Mildred White is a third grade teacher at Chapel Glen Elementary School in Wayne Township. She started her teaching career in September 1976 after graduating from Marian's own department of education. Her experience as a teacher has been very diverse, and her participation in Project Bridge as a mentor has brought her full circle from the time she was first inspired to become an educator.

Mildred attended IPS School #44 from 1st through 8th grades. She became interested in teaching because of several of the excellent teachers and learning experiences she had there. She was also influenced by Dr. Jackie Greenwood, the principal of Arlington High School, for whose children her

mother babysat. Throughout her childhood, Mildred was always the teacher when she and her friends played school.

Mildred's diverse teaching background is facilitated by her licensing in elementary education, LD, ED and special education. She has taught 1st through 5th grades, 6th through 9th grade special education, and developmental reading in the Washington High School night school program. Besides Chapel Glen, she has taught at St. Rita's, IPS #37, Blackhawk Middle School, Fort Wayne, and Maplewood in Wayne Township.

Mildred became acquainted with Project Bridge during a presentation to Chapel Glen staff and by the experience of her colleagues. Her

philosophy of education centers around helping students reach their full potential and by helping make them into good and successful citizens. She does this not only with the children in her classroom, but by mentoring Project Bridge interns during their teaching experience. Her positive influence on those she mentors will undoubtedly inspire them, just as she was by those who mentored her.

Mildred's advice to new teachers is to "do the best you can and don't feel like a failure if something doesn't work or it seems like you can't reach a student. HAVE FUN!!" We are delighted to have Mildred as a member of the Project Bridge team!