

EVENTS

November 10-14

Spring 2004 Registration Week for
Returning Students

November 15 and 22

Telephone Book Delivery Student Fund
Raiser 9-Noon and 12:30-3:30 p.m. in
Ankeny and Windsor Heights

November 26, 4:30 p.m.

Spring 2004 Scholarship Deadline return
to Receptionist

November 27-29

Thanksgiving Break, no classes

November 24-December 12

Worlds Finest Chocolate Student Fund
Raiser

December 8-12

Final Exams

December 12

Commencement Rehearsal, St. Ambrose
Cathedral 9-10 a.m.

Baccalaureate Mass, Brennan Hall
Auditorium, 10:15-11 a.m.

Honors Award Ceremony, Brennan Hall
Auditorium, 11:15-Noon

December 13

Commencement, St. Ambrose Cathedral,
10 a.m.

Graduation Reception, Brennan Hall
Commons, Immediate After Ceremony

Nursing Pinning Ceremony, Brennan Hall
Auditorium, Noon

December 15 to January 9

Christmas Break, no classes

March 1-3

The Higher Learning Commission Site
Visit to Mercy College of Health Sciences

VP of Sisters of Mercy to Address Grads

Mercy Sister Michon Rozmajzl, Ph.D.
will be the Winter 2003

Commencement Speaker for Mercy College.
Graduation is scheduled for Saturday,
December 13 beginning at 10 a.m. at St.
Ambrose Cathedral in downtown Des
Moines.

Sister Michon is Vice President of the
Regional Community of the Sisters of Mercy
in Omaha, Nebraska and a professor emerita
at Boise State University in Idaho. Mercy
Medical Center – Des Moines traces its roots
to the regional community located in Omaha.

Several activities will take place on
Friday, December 12, including:
Commencement Rehearsal at 9 a.m. at St.
Ambrose Cathedral, located at 711 High
Street; Baccalaureate Mass at 10:15 a.m. in
Brennan Hall Auditorium; and the traditional
Graduation Awards Ceremony at 11:15 a.m.
in the auditorium.

A letter containing graduation
information and a schedule were mailed in
mid-October to anticipated graduates. If you
did not receive a letter, please see Susan
Rhoades for a copy.

Guests are invited to attend
Baccalaureate and the Awards Ceremony on
Friday along with their graduate.

A total of 37 students are eligible to
participate this winter.

Following the graduation ceremony on
Saturday, the Nursing Alumni Association
will again host the graduation reception in
Brennan Hall from 11 a.m. until Noon.
Guests are invited to visit the College.
Graduates will be able to turn in their caps
and gowns and collect their diplomas during
the reception.

NCA Visit This Spring

Mercy College is accredited by the
Higher Learning Commission of the
North Central Association of Colleges and
Schools (HLC/NCA). The College has been
conducting a self-study in preparation for a
visit by the NCA scheduled March 1-3,
2004. The Self-Study is conducted to assess
the effectiveness of our institution, and
determine the appropriate direction of Mercy
College.

Students serve an important role in this
process by informing us how well their
educational needs are being met. Two of
many ways students regularly provide this
information is by completing the Annual
Student Survey, and participating in focus
groups with their program
chairs/coordinators and President Deanne
Remer.

Later this month, portions of the self-
study will be available to Mercy College
students for their review and comment.
Students may also be asked to participate in
discussion groups with members of the NCA
visiting team. Please look for notices of
these opportunities in future editions of the
Mercy Messenger and on the video
monitors.

Did you know

- Additional vending machines are
located in Room 148 of Building 2.
- Reminder: Rooms 148 & 152 in
Building 2 are often open student study
areas. A new computer lab has been
added in Room 154 in Building 2.
- Students are not allowed to park at the
medical center between 6 a.m. and 1:30
p.m., Monday through Friday.
Violators will be fined \$15, without first
receiving a warning.

Registration: Starts Next Week!

Spring 2004 registration begins next week. Students need to meet with their advisor in order to submit their registration schedule during the week. Beginning November 17, a \$25 late registration fee for returning students will be imposed. Don't delay. Your registration will not be processed if you have a business or library hold.

Student Fund Raisers Planned

Two short-term student fund raising projects have been identified that five organizations have agreed to "take on" as a group.

The first is to assemble teams to distribute the 2004 Dex Telephone Directory in November. The second is to undertake a three-week sale of Worlds Finest Chocolate.

Students leaders from Student Senate and MCANS, along with members of the DMS, Nuclear Medicine and Surgical Technology programs have agreed to participate.

"Team Mercy College" is working to secure telephone directory routes in two communities – Ankeny and Windsor Heights. Teams will go door-to-door distributing books on two consecutive Saturdays in November (November 15 and November 22).

We need both walkers and drivers who will work in teams of three. Two team members will walk down both sides of a street while the driver maintains a steady pace for them to access the vehicle truck where the telephone books will be stored.

We would also like to have the help of a couple of owners of trucks and/or mini vans would serve the function of replenishing telephone books in cars with small trunks.

The second project is familiar to most people. Worlds Finest Chocolate has been around for decades and is a common fund raising project for countless not-for-profit

groups. Basically, volunteers will be asked to commit to selling at least one case of 50 candy bars. The bars sell for \$1.

This project will begin the week of November 24 and run through December 12 (the end of finals week). We hope that making the candy available just before the Thanksgiving holiday will help volunteers to sell it during family and group gatherings. Candy bars also make a nice stocking stuffer.

To sign up to assist with the telephone book activity contact any of the following staff members: Monica Leahy, Nancy Tremmel, Gina Penn, Stacy Lawson, Nancy Zylstra or Brian Tingleff.

To sign up to assist with the candy bar sale contact Sylvia Short in Room 217.

Financial Aid Exit Interviews Required for Winter Grads

All students who graduate this December that have used any type of financial aid during their educational experience at Mercy College are required to attend an Exit Counseling Interview.

In order to make things simpler this year, there will be a group session on December 10, 2003, at 10:45 a.m. A decision on room location has not been finalized.

Mary Jo Smith, our representative from Iowa Student Loan, will be here to give a presentation and to answer questions. Please contact Wille Larpenteur or Lisa Croat in Financial Aid if you will be unable to attend this session. Students will complete an Exit Form during the exit interview. This form is required to receive your diploma.

Scholarship Deadline Looms

The deadline for scholarship applications for the spring semester of the 2003-04 academic year is fast approaching.

The deadline is **November 26, 2003** for those interested in submitting an application

for any of the currently available scholarships. An estimated \$24,000 will be awarded to students this spring. So far this school year, a record \$103,000 has been awarded.

The applications are located on the College website (www.mchs.edu), click on Admissions along the top of the first page and select the Scholarship bullet on the left hand side of the Admissions screen for quick access to download forms and background on qualifications for each scholarship.

Only scholarships that are currently available have a downloadable application attached. The deadline is 4:30 p.m. on November 26 (the day before Thanksgiving). Applications should be submitted to the Receptionist in Building 1.

Severe Weather School Cancellation Plans

In the advent of winter storms canceling classes, students are reminded to listen to WHO-TV13 and/or WHO Radio 1040 AM to hear announcements about Mercy College.

Again this year, if there is the possibility that classes will be canceled completely or delayed for a few hours to allow weather and/or road conditions to improve, you will hear about it on these stations.

Decisions are communicated to these media outlets by 5:30 a.m. for morning cancellations. However, Mercy College does not control when the stations add the information to their lists. You can also check the Mercy College web site for information as well at www.mchs.edu.