

Johns

HOPKINS HAPPENINGS

AT THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY CAMPUS • NOV – DEC 2006

A MEETING OF THE MINDS



Elaine Amir
Executive Director
Johns Hopkins
Montgomery County

I recently read *Rising Above the Gathering Storm*, a new report from the National Academies about America's scientific, technological, and economic future. The report emphasizes an important point: If America does not make certain changes, we may be headed toward a "black hole."

If we as a county, as a state, and as a scientific community want to stay competitive, we must start approaching our work in terms of collaboration and integration.

It is a concept academia is starting to embrace. Hopkins offers degrees that cross programs, joining engineering and biotechnology, biotechnology and information systems. This concept underlies the Capstone Course, in which Hopkins students undertake real-world projects for local businesses and organizations. This concept also motivated a recent trip to China, during which two Hopkins representatives explored possible partnerships with Chinese universities.

This need to work together and to network is why so many stand-alone companies choose to locate on our campus. We are a community that emphasizes collaboration and that daily seeks to connect academics, corporate representatives, researchers, and government agents.

JHU is not the only university that appreciates the value of connectivity. We are working with the University of Maryland and Montgomery College in a number of ways. And all three universities are members of Research Parks Maryland, an association that helps promote the state's public and private research interests.

It is becoming obvious that if the Maryland science community is going to succeed, we must work to erase the lines of separation that exist between Baltimore and Montgomery County, between universities, between businesses, between disciplines, between people. We need to look beyond our own campuses, offices, and neighborhoods to the entire state and the larger scientific community. We need to join with others whose goals are to stay current and competitive.

Cato Research Becomes Newest MCC Partner

In October, Cato Research, Ltd., became the newest company to join Johns Hopkins University's Montgomery County Campus.

Cato Research is a full-service contract research and development organization dedicated to helping pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies efficiently and expeditiously navigate the regulatory approval process.

"Our mission is to be the premier, scientifically and medically based, international, healthcare research and development service company," said Lynda Sutton, Chief Operating Officer, Cato Research. "Locating here will allow us to be in close contact with valuable resources to achieve that mission. In addition, the state-of-the-art classrooms that are available for use will allow us to expand our staff's current teaching practices."

"Cato Research is a great addition to our vibrant community," said Elaine Amir. "They're a valued resource for our growing M.S. in Bioscience Regulatory Affairs program, and the perfect complement to other research organizations that work with the Food & Drug Administration.

"Cato's arrival strengthens our long-range community-building mission," Amir added. "The company's expertise in regulatory affairs will be a huge benefit for tenants that join JHU-MCC in our planned accelerator for post-incubator stage companies."

"We are quite excited about the opportunity to be part of a well-planned campus that provides integrated teaching, research, and business activities," Sutton added.

Space for Cato Research currently is being customized to meet their needs.

Cato's entry brings the campus one step closer to realizing its master plan, which includes expansion to seven buildings for a total of more than 700,000 square feet of space.



Raising A Question of Color

On October 12, from 5–7 p.m., 100 guests mingled at Hopkins to celebrate the opening of *A Question of Color*, a photography exhibit from VisArts at Rockville.

The exhibit, which features the works of Brian Jones, William R. Jones, and John Hoover, addresses issues of self-identification, ethnic origin, and diversity. It will remain on display through January 5.

In addition, *What a Doll!*, a display of international dolls, is featured in the Gilchrist Hall lobby, and *Across Generations*, an exhibit of multigenerational photographs from campus employees, is on display in the Food for Thought Café.

For more information about the exhibits, go to www.mcc.jhu.edu.

New Special Education Professor Publishes Book with Prentice Hall



When the decision was made to hire Laurie deBettencourt as an Associate Professor, she already had an impressive resume. And shortly after coming on board, she added yet another accomplishment to the list: the publication of her latest book, *The Effective Special Education Teacher: A Practical Guide for Success*, by Prentice Hall.

“Career changers and new teachers spend their first few years just trying to keep their heads above water,” deBettencourt said. “When they need advice, they don’t have the time to go back through the myriad of textbooks sitting on their bookshelves. *The Effective Special Education Teacher* is a practical, easy-to-review text that will help them with their day-to-day needs as new teachers.”

At Hopkins, deBettencourt is using her expertise to help facilitate the coordination of the graduate programs in special education for mild to moderate disabilities located on the Montgomery County Campus.

“I want to make sure teachers and career changers thinking about going into special education look at the programs offered by Hopkins

in Montgomery County and realize we provide training and support as they navigate the major highway toward licensure,” she said.

“I have a lot of ideas for our special education programs,” she added. “I want to create new partnerships. I want to bring in grants for individuals seeking their initial certification in special education. And I want to secure grants to help general educators in Maryland become licensed in special education.”

Prior to JHU, deBettencourt spent nine years at the University of Virginia’s Northern Virginia Center where she coordinated the school’s special education master’s degree programs and grew the enrollments to 300 students. She created an alternative certificate program that helped career changers achieve licensure and a master’s degree in special education. She also counseled hundreds of students, encouraging them to continue their education, and helped run a licensure grant that provided tuition and emotional support to career changers.

Now deBettencourt is bringing her whirlwind of energy and intelligence to Hopkins. And if her track record at UVA is any indication, her probability of success is high.

Hopkins ITS Students’ Project Benefits Suburban Hospital

This fall, some students from the MSITS (Masters of Science in Information and Telecommunications Systems for Business) program are undertaking a project for Suburban Hospital to explore the applicability of bar coding and Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology in areas of patient safety and operational efficiency.

The project is for their Capstone Course, a required class for MSITS students in the School of Professional Studies in Business and Education. Students work in teams on a real-world technology project designed to meet strategic business objectives for a regional organization.

The MSITS Capstone Coordinator is Jay Liebowitz. Students working on the Suburban Hospital project will do so under the direction of Professor Stephen Smith. Past Capstone sponsors have included Marriott International, the Department of Health & Human Services, and Comcast.

“Suburban Hospital agreed to participate in the Capstone project for two primary reasons:

internal IT resource constraints and educational value,” explained Joseph Addison, Corporate Director of MIS Telecommunications and Technical Services for Suburban Hospital.

Two teams of students are examining clinical areas within the hospital—including the pharmacy, laboratory, and patient tracking—to determine whether bar coding and/or RFID can help address issues such as ensuring that the right patient gets the right dose of the right medicine. Two other teams are exploring administrative areas, such as tracking assets (e.g., beds, computers, etc.) and “consumable” medical supplies.

“Our IT department resources are currently at their limits due to a strategic planning exercise and the beginning of our capital year full of projects,” Addison said. “Rather than delay the start of the project and the duration it would require from internally dedicated resources, we felt there was an opportunity to start and finish the project much more aggressively with the students’ help.

“We also felt the project encompasses the work that the students may be assigned in a real-life healthcare IT environment, and the educational value and mentorship we could provide would be valuable to the students long term,” he added.

The students gave an interim presentation to Suburban Hospital on October 17, and will give a final presentation on December 12.

“Our expectation is that at the end of the program we will have a technology recommendation that is flexible and expandable to meet our demanding environment, and if implemented will reduce our overall operating expenses while improving patient safety,” Addison added.

This project is not the only collaboration underway. Last month, the NIH Heart Center at Suburban Hospital opened. The Center is a collaboration among the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health, Johns Hopkins Medicine, and Suburban Hospital.

Two Johns Hopkins' Employees Head to Far East, Look to Collaborate



Steinberg and Langer at Peking University.



Steinberg and Langer visit the Bio-X Life Science Research Center at Shanghai Jiao Tong University.



Langer and Steinberg meet with representatives from Nanjing University.

The mission was simple: Speak with representatives from five Chinese universities to explore possible collaborations.

During a 13-day visit to China, Lynn Johnson Langer, Senior Associate Program Chair of the Biotechnology Program, and Sarah Steinberg, Associate Dean of the Krieger School of Arts & Sciences, held productive introductory meetings at five universities: Fudan University, Tsinghua University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Nanjing University, and Peking University.

“Chinese universities are beginning to develop master’s degree programs targeted to working professionals,” Steinberg said. “They’re not as popular or numerous as in the U.S., but they are headed in that direction.”

Officials were particularly interested in Hopkins’ Bioscience Regulatory Affairs program. Peking University is planning to offer a similar degree in Chinese regulatory affairs, and ideas discussed during this meeting included having Hopkins students travel to China for courses or enrolling Chinese students in Hopkins’ online courses.

“They really want to understand U.S. regulatory laws and issues,” Langer said. “We also talked about the possibility of offering a joint comparative regulatory course that would be held via videoconferencing.”

In addition to university visits, Langer and Steinberg met with representatives from the Chinese State Food & Drug Administration.

“China has excess manufacturing capabilities,” Langer explained. “They’re looking to make more drugs, and it’s in everyone’s best interest for them to do so. However, they currently don’t have enough people trained in good U.S. manufacturing practices.”

One answer may be to offer courses or workshops on U.S. manufacturing practices at Hopkins’ Nanjing location.

Many of the meetings were purely exploratory. However, while at Fudan University, Langer and Steinberg learned that International Finance Professor Zhang Luyang planned to visit Harvard, MIT, and Stanford. He added a stop at JHU-MCC to his agenda, and on October 5 Zhang lectured in one of JHU’s MS-MBA classes.

However, Steinberg emphasized that the visit was mostly about exploring possibilities.

“China is the ‘up and coming’ biopharmaceutical manufacturing location,” she said. “And Maryland is the ‘up and coming’ location for pharmaceutical creation. A relationship between the two is important.”

“What we wanted to do was establish a mutual understanding,” Langer added. “And now that all the ideas are on the table, we can try and turn some of the possibilities into realities.”

UPCOMING CAMPUS EVENTS

November

08 MS-MBA Information Luncheon

Krieger School of Arts & Sciences
Noon – 1 p.m.
Gilchrist 134

09 Lunch ‘n’ Learn: Collaboration with Chinese Universities

Krieger School of Arts & Sciences
Noon – 1 p.m.
Building III, Room 123

14 Panel Discussion / Open Forum: Racial Identification

Noon – 1 p.m.
Gilchrist 207

15 BioIT Coalition Monthly Meeting

11:30 – 1:30 p.m.
Topic: Computational Medicine
Speaker: Raimond L. Winslow, Director, Institute for Computational Medicine, Johns Hopkins University
For more information or to register for this event, contact Judi Giannini at 202-220-1242.

22–26 Holidays

- Krieger School of Arts & Sciences
- Whiting School of Engineering

23–26 Holidays

- School of Professional Studies in Business and Education
- Bloomberg School of Public Health

December

07 Professional Immersion Information Session

• Graduate School of Education, School of Professional Studies in Business & Education
4:30 – 6:30 p.m.
For more information, please contact Attila Seymour at 301-294-7056.

16 Fall Term Ends

- Krieger School of Arts & Sciences
- Whiting School of Engineering

18 Fall Term Ends

- School of Professional Studies in Business and Education

21 Second Term Ends

- Bloomberg School of Public Health

WHAT A DOLL!



These two dolls are part of a display of international dolls in the Gilchrist Hall lobby.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Montgomery County Campus boasts the largest of the Hopkins satellite campus libraries. The library has more than 5,000 books and more than 200 journals, and provides access to numerous online databases.

Newswoman Kathleen Matthews Visits Campus

"I always felt it was important to have engagement with the community beyond my job on television."

So said Kathleen Matthews, award-winning news anchor of ABC7 News in Washington, D.C., during an Evergreen Society guest lecture on October 11.

Matthews addressed a wide range of topics and questions, from the changing nature of news coverage to the war in Iraq to balancing career and family.

"She was very straightforward," said attendee Marlene Cianci. "She didn't pull any punches."

"She did a great job of introducing an analysis of the media world in the last 30 years," added Bernie Lipsky.

• *On being a newscaster:* "I've tried hard never to let my political point of view come forward. You want to reach as many people as possible, and you don't want people to tune you out because of any bias."

• *On objectivity:* "Nobody's completely objective. Everybody is a result of their upbringing, their families, the conversations they had at the dinner table, their education, where they lived, the people they've met, the diversity of the world they've lived in..."

• *On cable:* "Cable is great. It provides an alternative news source that doesn't have to be objective."

• *On news:* "Everyone is so sophisticated these days on how to get their message on television, so you have to watch it with a healthy dose of skepticism."

• *On being a career woman:* "It's a challenge having a full-time career and a family, but my employers have always been accommodating. Young women today, like my daughter, can look at women like me and know they have options."

For more about the Evergreen Society, visit www.evergreen.jhu.edu.

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