



All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

Calendar of Events

11/21	7 p.m.	Stephanie Swart, Senior Violin Recital, Steadman
11/22	6 p.m.	Dawnelle Weaver, Senior Recital, Steadman
	7:30 p.m.	Rachel Sherman, Senior Voice Recital, Steadman
11/23	11 a.m.	Megan Feree & Chelsey Russell, Senior/Junior Piano & Voice Recital, Steadman
	3 p.m.	Concert Wind Ensemble, Steadman
	7 p.m.	Student Composition Recital, Steadman
11/24	7 p.m.	Guitar Ensemble, Steadman
	8:15 p.m.	Brass Band Concert, Steadman
11/25	5 p.m.	Rachelle Brisson, Voice Lecture, Steadman
11/26-28		Thanksgiving Break - No Classes
11/29	11 a.m. -4 p.m.	MAEOP Holiday Vendor Fair, Mansfield Hose Company
11/30	7 p.m.	Casey Snyder, Senior Tuba Recital, Steadman
12/1	7 p.m.	Women's Basketball vs. Pennsylvania College of Technology, Decker
	7:30 p.m.	Low Brass Holiday Concert, Steadman
12/2	8 p.m.	String Chamber Orchestra, Steadman
12/3	8 p.m.	Symphony Orchestra & String Chamber Orchestra Holiday Concert, Steadman
12/4	7:30 p.m.	Holiday Choral Concert for Campus, "Angels Among Us," Steadman
	7:30 pm	Men's Basketball vs. Pennsylvania College of Technology, Decker

New PASSHE Chancellor Visits Campus

John Cavanaugh, the new chancellor of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE), visited Mansfield University for the first time on Wednesday and Thursday.

Cavanaugh toured the campus, held meetings with President Maravene Loeschke, the Cabinet and the Council of Trustees, and held an open forum with students, faculty and staff during his time at MU

"I'm extremely happy to be here at Mansfield," Cavanaugh said. "I'm very impressed with the academic programs that you have here. We had the (gold medal winning) Concert Choir down at the Board of Governors meeting last month and congratulations again on that. I'm glad that we have the opportunity to offer students a mix of experiences throughout the PASSHE system. Everything from Mansfield, here in a beautiful part of the state and a more intimate setting, to some of our bigger institutions. It's great to have that mix at our disposal when we're recruiting students."

"It's such a privilege and a pleasure to work with him," Loeschke said of the new chancellor. "He has ways of looking at the whole family of PASSHE, all 14 institutions, and helping us know that we all have our place and our value you that we contribute to the system. The notion that one size fits all is not his vision and that's a help to Mansfield. As to the things that don't work for us real well, he is open to conversation about how we might fix that. These are really good, hopeful times."

Cavanaugh became PASSHE chancellor on July 1. Before that he served as president of the University of West Florida.

With more than 110,000 students, PASSHE is the largest provider of higher education in the Commonwealth. The 14 PASSHE universities offer degree and certificate programs in more than 120 areas of study. Approximately 405,000 PASSHE alumni live and work in Pennsylvania.

Poverty Simulation Opens the Eyes of Participants

As American's prepare for Thanksgiving and all its traditional trappings, members of the Mansfield University campus community recently found out what it is like for those who do not have what so many take for granted.

More than 75 MU students, faculty and staff, along with community agency personnel, took part in the Missouri Community Action Poverty Simulation on November 13.

Organized by Assistant Professor of Social Work Rhonda Keller as part of her sabbatical activities, the simulation assigned participants to a "family." Family participants then had to complete daily tasks, but with the lack of resources that many poverty stricken families contend with every day.

"The event was a huge success as a learning tool and especially timely with the current economic challenges that many families face," Keller said. "Students seemed very engaged in the simulation. Participants found by first-hand experience how hard it is to survive as a family with very limited economic resources. In fact, some found they couldn't make it. Children were neglected and parents were frustrated, stressed, or exhausted attempting to do everything required to survive the simulated month in poverty. Some even resorted to illegal activity."

Participants completed anonymous surveys after the simulation and many contained comments such as "a real eye opener" and "it gave me a real understanding" of what people who live in poverty go through.

Some students noted that they had experienced poverty themselves and suggested that the simulation should be undertaken on campus each year to foster better understanding of the challenges faced by families who live in poverty.

One commented that the simulation "should be mandatory for state and federal legislators. In fact, for anyone who makes policy affecting poverty."

Keller, who heads the Poverty Work Group for the Tioga County Health Partnership, expressed her appreciation for community agency staff that assisted, making the simulation more realistic regarding the barriers and stress that low income family's face.

In the discussion that followed the exercise, students who played the roles of children noted how they felt neglected because their parents were working so hard to succeed that they didn't have time to attend their children's needs. In the role plays associated with the simulation, unsupervised children sometimes got into trouble without proper parental guidance. However, some families helped each other out.

"Like in real life, families didn't always know where to get needed resources to help them cope," Keller said. "They were met by some kind and helpful community resource staff but taken advantage of by others - such as an especially unscrupulous check cashing and pay-day loan company. Some students playing the roles of community resource staff reported being dismayed at discovering that they were capable of being insensitive and unnecessarily punitive with 'client families,' and that they often assumed negative stereotypes, and didn't always take seriously a struggling family's story."

The simulation was sponsored by the Tioga County Partnership for Community Health's Poverty Work Group and the Mansfield University Social Work, Anthropology, and Sociology Department.

Locally Produced Documentary Featured at National Conference

The documentary *A Conversation with Dr. Harold McPheeters: The Founder of Human Services Education* was featured at the annual conference of the National Organization for Human Services in Tucson, AZ last month.

The documentary was co-directed and produced by John Heapes, senior professor of Sociology at Harrisburg Area Community College, and Gale Largey, professor emeritus of Sociology at Mansfield University.

It was edited by MU Director of Media Services Mark Polonia. Graphics assistance was provided by Phillip Ogden, instructional developer at MU, and Andy Worthington of Wellsboro.

McPheeters, a psychiatrist, was a noted leader in the deinstitutionalization movement of the 1960s and 70s. During that time many institutions for the mentally retarded and mentally ill were closed, and individuals were brought back into their communities.

McPheeters is widely recognized as the founder of human service education because of his untiring efforts to create programs to train human services workers for community mental health programs.

The 32-minute production came about through the cooperation of faculty and staff of Mansfield University and Harrisburg Area Community College. "It underscores Mansfield University's endeavor to work with other institutions, and to recognize the critical importance of leadership in bringing about social and educational progress," Largey said.

The documentary is available on DVD. For more information on purchasing a copy, contact John Heapes by email at jrheapes@hacc.edu or by mail at Harrisburg Area Community College, 1 HACC Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17110.

All proceeds from the sale of the documentary will go to the Harold L. McPheeters Scholarship Fund, which will be awarded through the National Organization for Human Services.

Production of the documentary was sponsored by Mansfield University, Harrisburg Area Community College and the Council for Standards in Human Service Education.

Storytelling Event Marks National Education Week

In celebration of National Education Week (November 16-22), the Mansfield University chapter of the Student Pennsylvania State Teachers Association (SPSEA) held a storytelling event on Monday, November 17.

More than 130 people turned out to be regaled in a variety of stories told by Professor of Education & Special Education Craig Cleland and Professor emeritus Bonnie Kyofski

"I wanted to do something that allowed the university and the community to come together and this event did exactly that," Ashly Weidner, SPSEA President and event coordinator, said. "Reading a story and telling a story are similar but different. Through storytelling, the story is brought to life. It is interactive and our imagination is endless."

Multicultural Arts 2008 Held

More than 200 art and music teachers from across the Twin Tiers and Mansfield University students took part in Multicultural Arts 2008 on Thursday, November 13 and Friday, November 14 at MU.

The professional development conference promotes the teaching and learning of the arts from different cultures, giving participants a hands-on experience in a variety of arts. This year's event featured workshops in visual arts, music, dance and drama presented by artists from around the world.

Participants also had the opportunity to partake in special cultural buffet luncheons, prepared by Chef Jamie Fry, at The Wren's Nest in Mansfield.

Multicultural Arts 2008 was sponsored by the MU Art and Music Departments and was funded by grants and Mansfield student organizations, allowing participants to attend at no cost.

SCHOLARS SPOTLIGHT

Stephen Brown, Psychology, attended the annual National Council on Family Relations Conference, held in Little Rock, AR November 5-8. Brown serves as secretary of the organization's Association of Councils, which represents all affiliate regional, state, and student councils throughout the U.S. and Canada. He also serves as coordinator of volunteers for the conference. As a long time member of the regional Mid-Atlantic Council on Family Relations (MACFR), Brown also serves as of that organization's treasurer and is a member of the conference planning committee. He attended the MACFR Building Strong Families Conference at Messiah College on October 9.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Mansfield Association of Educational Office Professionals (MAEOP) is sponsoring a Holiday Vendor Fair on Saturday, November 29, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Mansfield Fire Hall. All kinds of gifts and services will be available. Lunch and refreshments will be served. There will also be a Chinese Auction and a 50/50 raffle. For more information, contact Lindy Hampsher at bhampshe@mansfield.edu or x4876.

- The Music Department will spread the sounds of the season across the Northern Tier with its annual holiday choral concert on Friday, December 5 and Saturday, December 6. The Friday performance will be at 7:30 p.m. in Steadman Theatre. The Saturday performance will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Troy High School Auditorium. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors and children. Mansfield concert tickets are available online at <http://music.mansfield.edu> or by calling (570)662-4710. Tickets will also be available at the door. Troy concert tickets are available by calling (570)297-4346 or 297-2115 or at the door. Due to the popularity of the holiday concert, patrons are encouraged to purchase tickets in advance and arrive 30 minutes before concert time at each venue. For the Mansfield performance, campus police will facilitate parking. There will also be shuttle bus service from the lower east parking lots on campus to Steadman Theatre.
- The MU baseball team will hold “Kids Night Out” on Saturday, December 6 at Decker Gymnasium from 6-9:30 p.m. “Kids Night Out” is an evening of games and activities for children ages 5-18 supervised by the MU baseball team. Cost is \$7 per child, with a family rate of \$1 off for each additional child. For more information call x4457.

SPORTS UPDATE

The women’s basketball team will be home on Monday, December 1 to play Penn College at 7 p.m. This is the Mountaineers only home game of the semester.

MU is 1-1 after a 71-56 loss to C.W. Post last Saturday and a 65-58 win over Chestnut Hill on Sunday. Both games were at the Bloomsburg Classic.

The men’s squad will also host Penn College on Thursday, December 4 at 7:30 p.m. in their last home game of the semester.

The Mountaineers are 1-1 after opening their season with a 70-67 win over Seton Hill last Saturday and an 80-62 loss at Division I Binghamton on Monday.

The women’s swim team is competing in the IUP Invitational this weekend.

The indoor track teams will see their first competition on December 6 at Kent State.

For all the latest Mountaineer information and scores, check online at <http://gomounties.com>

THE BOTTOM LINE

“I would maintain that thanks are the highest form of thought; and that gratitude is happiness doubled by wonder.”

--G.K. Chesterton