Faculty Development Newsletter
November 2015

Inspirational Thought of the Day

"Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think."
-Albert Einstein

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Scott Mann, Criminal Justice VV: Gave a poster board presentation on which he co-authored, titled: “The Death Penalty: A Differential Study of National Violent Crime Rates” at the South West Association of Criminal Justice conference in October.

Abbreviated Research Abstract:

There has been a century of debate in the United States over the deterrent effect of the death penalty on violent crimes. Using longitudinal descriptive data, this study examines the loose correlational effect between violent crime and the availability of the death penalty as a punitive alternative. The study found that violent crime is generally higher in states with a capital alternative than in states lacking that remedy. The practical implications of this study indicate that further study is needed on the practical implications of a rational choice approach to policy making as well as the implications of capital punishment on crime deterrence.
Emmanuel R. Moreno, Architecture VV: Published two articles in the Creating_Making 2014 Journal by the University of Oklahoma College of Architecture/Division of Architecture entitled:

(Abbreviated Abstracts)

- The Architecture Studio... Because Nobody Warned Me
  The romanticism of the studio environment is one that entices us to the profession of architecture. We see it in the movies and read about it in “The Fountainhead” but is it still alive and well? And will it continue that way? We will emerge our thoughts about the studio by my own experiences and the spirit of the studio as I perceive it to be from my own explorations from childhood to now. Finally, I will demonstrate how the romanticism of the studio is still very much alive today and will continue to be despite the change or inclusion of digital technologies, by showing modern day examples of the studios, one in an existing warehouse and another a new structure and end with a description of how I use what I have learned and apply it to influence, inspire and encourage students to include all they learn in studio in all their projects and they advance in their career.

- The Border Arts Residency: A study of the Urban Fabric, the Arts and How to Add on to a Historical Building. Reduce, Reuse, Destruction, Recycle...
  This article will encompass an investigation of the downtown urban fabric and vernacular in which we will study the nodes, landmarks, memorable streets and other components to raise the awareness and the importance of knowing one’s city and the importance of preserving the past that create the walls within which we will be working in. The second is to study existing structures within the area of focus to not only preserve the past but also reuse and repurpose historic structures as well as to be able to add onto the structure to meet a new owners’ needs. And the third will encompass the studies to repurpose one of these historic structures and add on to save them such as has been done with the Hearst Tower in Manhattan, New York and Frank Ghery’s Fred and Ginger in Prague.
Assistant Professor of English and writer, Yasmin Ramirez, recently sent her manuscript “Por Un Amor” to Stillhouse Press' 2015 Mary Roberts Rinehart Non-fiction Contest. Although the manuscript was not selected, she was contacted by Stillhouse, which is a collaboration between George Mason University's Creative Writing Program and Northern Virginia's Fall for the Book, to begin working to complete the manuscript. It is slated for release in 2018.

Orlando Gordillo, former computer science student of Christian Servin, who also served as the president of the Computer Science Club (under the advisor, Christian Servin) is working as an intern with the software engineering team at the Houston NASA Johnson Space Center. He did an outstanding job developing testing software for NASA missions. On 'World Teacher Day', Mr. Gordillo publically thanked Mr. Servin, "...who inspired me to believe that nothing is out of reach if you work hard enough. Thank you for what you do every day. Thank you for changing my life."

Orlando: NASA Engineering Prize

In the official NASA photo
Congratulations To...

Minnie Stevens Piper Award Winner:
Jose Pacheco-Lucero, Biology NW

Faculty Achievement Award Winners:
- Michelle Conklin, Education NW
- Virginia Madrid, Nursing RG
- Christian Servin, Computer Science VV

Please send news items and photos by November 30th, 2015, for inclusion in the December newsletter to cdelgad6@epcc.edu
Celeste Favela, Faculty Development Fall Editor