

# Swanger asks SGA to take stand on governor's budget, state cuts may mean tuition increase next semester

FM President Dr. Dustin Swanger encouraged SGA at its recent meeting to take a position on the Governor's budget.

The proposed budget will result in a 10 percent decrease in state aid. This decrease will put FMCC back about \$500,000. State aid funding is provided based on an FTE, full time equivalent, rate. Even

though the college enrollment has increased, with this proposal, funding will be lower than it was in the 1998-1999 school year.

During an earlier interview he said, FM took a 16 percent decrease last year, and nobody complained. Dr. Swanger says that he believes in small tuition increases over time. Although

tuition wasn't increased this year, it was increased the year before.

Dr. Swanger and the Leadership Team will be discussing the proposed budget and cuts this month and will talk to the Board of Trustees.

He said he doesn't see how the college can't increase tuition. However fees such as

student activity and lab fees will not be raised.

In a recent newspaper column, Swanger wrote:

"Public higher education is finding itself squeezed all across the country. In his budget, the Governor reduced state support for SUNY state operated campuses by another 10 percent.

"Additionally, he reduced aid to community colleges by another 10 percent per full-time equivalent student (FTE). In 2008-09 the FTE rate was \$2,675.

"In 2010-11 (the current year) the FTE rate is \$2,260. In the Governor proposed budget the FTE rate would be \$2,034 - an FTE rate equivalent to 1998-99.

"New York State is not alone in its reduction of support for community colleges.

"The Governor of Arizona proposed a 50 percent cut to community college aid. The Governor of Texas, a state with a historically strong community college system, proposed closing four community colleges in the state.

"These are troubling economic times and we should all

expect to feel some pain. But how much pain is too much?

"The challenge that we face in public higher education is the convergence of disparate demands.

"That is, public financial support is eroding from our budgets.

"Because it makes for difficult politics, public higher education is being, at best, discouraged from, and at worst, ordered from raising tuition rates.

"While at the same time public higher education is being inundated with students (FM has grown by one-third since 2006). We are encouraged to get involved in the economic recovery of our communities.

"New policy direction from the federal government is driving higher education to ensure that it graduates more students, provides more retention services for the neediest students, and increases access to a college education for every citizen in the United States.

"Imagine if your business was told to sell more product, improve the quality, but you can't be paid for your costs."

*Crystal Baumes contributed to this story.*

## SGA elects a treasurer, creates scholarship, expands WiFi on campus

More than \$85,000 was spent by the Student Government Association recently, money that will create a scholarship and will improve wireless service on campus.

The Senate elected a new treasurer.

Vincent Wilkas of the Wall Street Club was elected SGA treasurer to replace David Chapin, who resigned.

The Student Involvement Scholarship was created with \$15,000 funding. The Foundation of FMCC will administer the scholarships.

Vice President Mike Wilder explained that scholarships of \$100 each will be given to five students.

The criteria is active involvement in a campus organization or committee, maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA, be a returning or graduating student and receive a nomination from the college's professional staff.

Concerning the WiFi system, \$41,000 will be spent to install a new wireless system on campus. The current system was installed by the Computer club 11 years ago.

SGA's funds will allow the system to be installed in the library.

In other business, \$28,000 was allocated for the purchase of a new transportation van. The current van will be traded in.

GLOW received \$1,000 to help a contingent of students attend the Northeast LGBT conference at Binghamton University.

The Raiders men's and women's basketball team received \$4,530 to cover costs of participating in regionals this month. The Lady Raiders have made the playoffs. The Raiders had to win its last two games.

The Senate agreed to extend Union Recreation hours to include 4 to 8 p.m. Saturdays.

The Wall Street Club was given \$295 to help pay for a club trip to Wall Street.

A special Senate meeting will be held Thursday, Feb. 17, for Leadership Training.

## Spraggs named new technology instructor

FM's newest faculty member is Electrical Technology instructor Jeremy Spraggs.

However, Spraggs is not a new face on campus. He has previously been involved at FM working on various National Science Foundation projects and has served on the Technology Division Advisory Board.

Most recently Spraggs taught electrical technology as an adjunct.

Spraggs also enjoys the many opportunities to be involved with activities offered on campus.

Prior to coming to FM Spraggs was an Automation Specialist for control Associates/Steam Plant Systems of Clifton Park.



Jeremy Spraggs is the new electrical technology instructor

His expertise also includes writer and co-writer for NYSCATE as well as plant engineer, creating and manag-

ing a tech group directly supporting manufacturing.

Spraggs received a BS in Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 1984, and Mohawk Valley Quality Consortium, Certified Trainer in 1994.

His community service includes American Field Service student exchange in various volunteer roles and Treasurer for the Eastern New York Region, board member of Fulmont Community Action Agency, evaluation team for NYSPDC, and Trustee of the First Congregational United Church of Christ.

## West African Dance and Drum to be part of Black History month observance

By Brittany Lennon

West African Dance and Drum will be performing in the college cafeteria from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 17.

The event is sponsored by the Student Activities Board.

In 1915, Black History Month became established by Carter G. Woodson in the month of February.

February was chosen because it was the birthday month of two very important Americans who played a big role in shaping Black History.

The entire campus community is encouraged to attend as we celebrate Black History Month with this exciting and internationally acclaimed ensemble.

According to the drum group's web site, "Wacheva believes in the creative and educational development of youth and families by implementing Arts from around the world, and in particularly, African culture.

"The name "Wacheva" comes from the language of the Gouro people, an ethnic group in West Ivory Coast, West Africa.

"The word "Wacheva" means "Unity."

"This word is more than just our name, but a simple expression of our core belief in nurturing the youth and building community."

## It's time for *Tuesdays with Ellie*

*Tuesdays with Ellie* continues this semester.

The kick off session began with a "Meet the President" session for students. It was an opportunity for the president to share his visions and expectations for the semester.

The following sessions will focus on academic topics and will be held in L100S. Some topics are repeated on Wednesday at p.m. (also held in L100S). Students will be asked to sign in to verify attendance since some faculty are offering credit for attendance.

These workshops are valuable resources for students and help to introduce or reinforce habits of successful students.

- 2/15 Note taking
- 2/16 Memorizing and the method of loci
- 2/22 Test Anxiety- do you have it? What can you do about it?
- 2/23 Making the grade on your research paper (Guest: Mike Daly)
- 3/1 Reading efficiently to understand content (Colleen Sanders)
- 3/2 Study Skills (Guest: Bill Lomanto)
- 3/8 Making the grade on your research paper (Guest: Mike Daly)
- 3/9 Note taking
- 3/15 Dealing with difficult people (Guest: Robin Devito)
- 3/16 Dealing with being overwhelmed (guest: Angela Rhodes)

3/29 Planning for next semester (Guest: Mary Jo Ferrulio)

4/5 Transition planning for bachelors level (Guest: Becky Haust)

4/6 Test Anxiety- do you have it? What can you do about it?

### Area Auditions Scheduled

Park Playhouse - The Producers Auditions. Where: Academy of the Holy Names. When: Friday, February 11, 6 p.m.

Auditions for "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" Auditions Where: Steamer No. 10 Theatre. When: Monday, February 14, 10 a.m.-noon

Albany Civic Theater Auditions. Where: Albany Civic Theater. When: Monday, February 14, 7 p.m.

Classic Theater Guild Inc. Auditions. Where: Classic Theater Guild Inc.'s Workshop Gallery. When: Tuesday, February 15, 7 p.m.

Home Made Theater Auditions. Where: Home Made Theater. When: Sunday, February 20

Confetti Stage Auditions. Where: Confetti Stage at Albany Masonic Hall. When: Monday, February 21, 7 p.m.

- 4/12 Time Management
- 4/19 Memorizing and the method of loci
- 4/26 Resume writing to impress (Colleen Sanders)

- 5/3 Effective interview techniques (Guest: Sharon Poling)
- 5/10 Open dialog with President Swanger on lessons learned from the semester



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## Evans Library Update

The Evans Library & Learning Center says welcome to Spring Semester 2011!

Over the break we've made some changes in our services and layout that we think will improve your experience (and study habits).

One of our Librarians, Dan Towne, has moved his office to the second floor. Also when upstairs, check out the new silent study spaces and group study spaces. Can't find them? Just ask at our second floor service desk.

Coming soon to the second floor is a new Multimedia Lab that will have computers with access to numerous programs students in Multimedia, Graphic Arts and other courses need. Information on the grand opening of this lab will be announced.

Don't forget that Libraries also have books. We're always looking for suggestions on what books we should have -especially for our popular reading collection. Let us know what you like to read- speak with a Librarian, or send us an email (libinfo@fmcc.edu)

## TURKEY DINNER

(Take-Out Only)

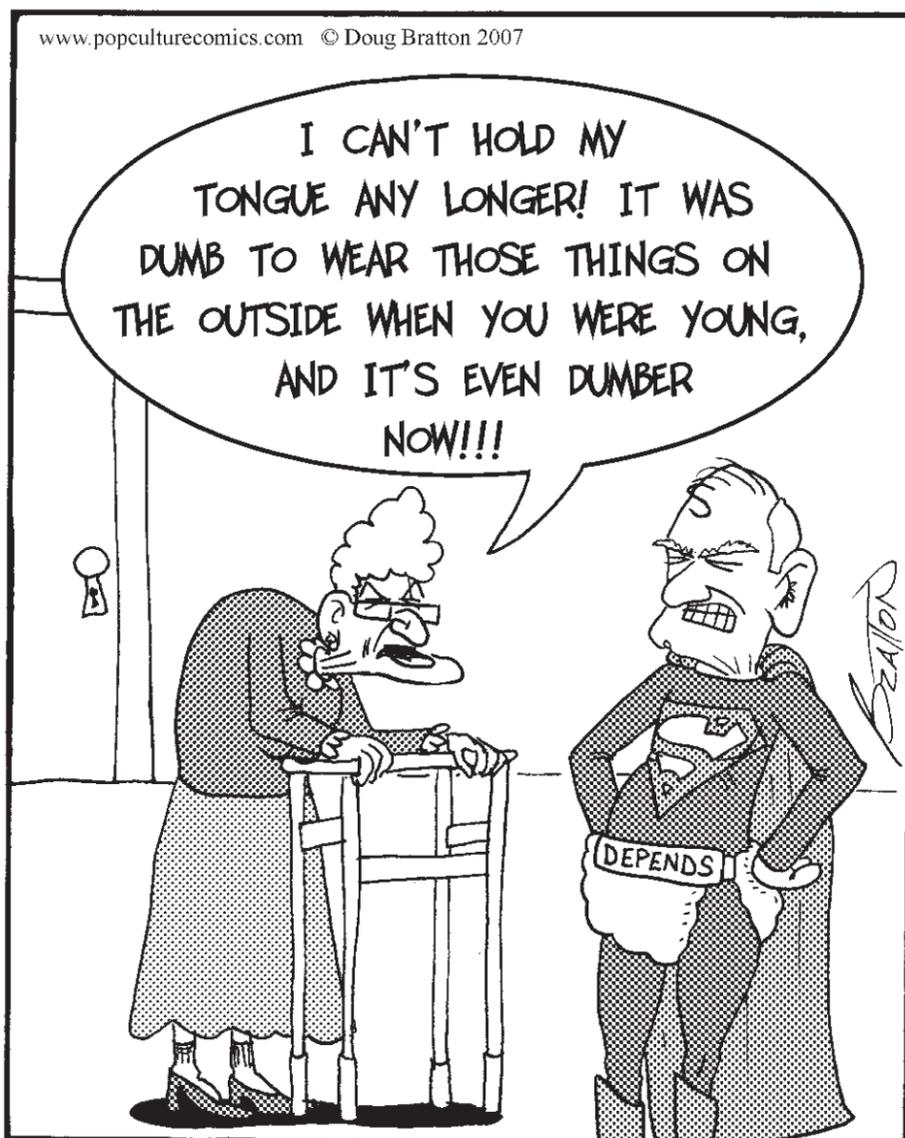
Wednesday, March 2  
**CHARLIE'S RESTAURANT**  
Rt. 30 – Amsterdam  
3:30 – 6:30

Menu: Salad w/dressing, Roll, Turkey, Mashed Potatoes

Gravy, Dressing, Vegetable and Dessert  
\$10.00 Per Person

Tickets available at the door

*All proceeds benefit the  
FMCC Alumni  
Scholarship Fund*



Lois & Clark: The Golden Years

## Lady Raiders eyeing postseason play

By: Meghan Kowalski

The FMCC Raiders woman's basketball team with a 15-8 record is prepared for post season play, even after coming out on the shorter end of a 73-62 loss to Clinton Community College recently.

Renee Blake had a game high of 23 points and Jocelyn Cummings chipped in with 19 points for FMCC.

The team has three remaining games, all at home. The team plays Word of Life at 5 p.m. Monday, Sche-

nectady at 5 p.m. Thursday and Mohawk Valley at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Raider's Coach Kevin Jones said that the teams focus is to win the last remaining games, which would result in obtaining a better seed, and also

focusing on getting ready for regionals.

Postseason play begins February 26. Women are 15-8, fifth in the region, and will be playing at TC3.

### Tentative Calendar Summer 2011

#### Summer Day Session I

- May 31 Tues. First Day of Classes For "Summer Day Session I"
- June 1 Wed. Late Payment Period for "Summer Day Session I"
- June 21 Tues. Last Day for Individual Course Withdrawals for "Summer Day Session I"
- June 24 Fri. Special Friday Make Up Day for "Summer Day Session I"
- July 1 Fri. Last Day of Classes for "Summer Day Session I"

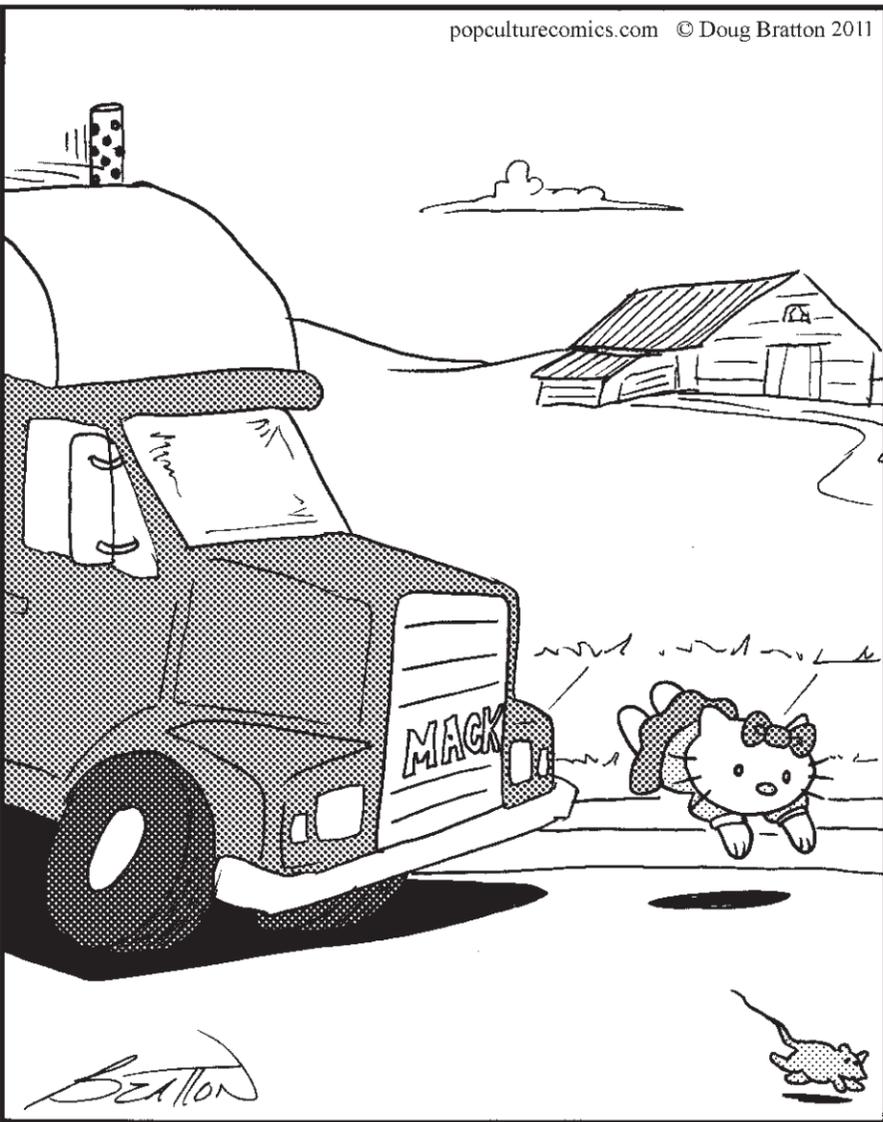
#### Summer Day Session II

- July 5 Tues. First Day of Classes for "Day Session II"
- July 6 Wed. Late Payment Period for "Day Session II"
- July 26 Tues. Last Day for Individual Course Withdrawals for "Day Session II"
- July 29 Fri. Special Friday Make Up Day for "Day Session II"
- Aug. 5 Fri. Last Day of Classes for "Day Session II"
- Aug. 8 Mon. Final Grades Due for "Day Session II"

### Tentative Academic Calendar Spring 2011

#### Subject to Change

- Feb. 8-22 Tues. - Tues. Late Payment Period (subject to additional \$50 fee)
- Feb. 21 Mon. College Closed - President's Day (Sat, Feb. 19 classes will be in regular session)
- Mar. 1 Tues. Registration Begins for Summer
- Mar. 16 Wed. Mid-Term Grades Due
- Mar. 18 Fri. No Day or Evening Classes - Founder's Day
- Mar 19-Mar 27 Sat.-Sun. No Classes - Spring Recess
- Mar. 28 Mon. Registration Begins for Fall
- Apr. 12 Tues. Individual Course Withdrawal Deadline
- Apr. 22 Fri. College Closed - Good Friday
- Apr. 23 Sat. Saturday Classes in Session
- May 13 Fri. Special Friday Make-up Session (for evening classes only)
- May 14 Sat Last Day of Classes for Spring Semester
- May 17-18 Tues-Wed Final Exams
- May 19 Thurs. Final Grades Due
- May 26 Thurs. Phi Theta Kappa Awards Ceremony (evening)
- May 27 Fri. Commencement (evening)
- May 30 Mon. College Closed Memorial Day



Goodbye, Hello Kitty

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## Student Activities for February

14 Raider Women's & Men's Basketball Home Games - World of Life 5PM & 7PM Valentine's Day	15 Did you know? - February is Black History Month!	16 Student Activities Board Meeting - Get Involved in Planning Campus Activities! U106 - 12-1PM	17 Wacheva West African Dance & Drum - Cafeteria 1PM Raider Women's Basketball Home Game - Schenectady County CC 5PM Raider Men's Basketball Home Game - Herkimer County CC 7PM	18 Exhibition Opening/Reception - Teacher's Perspective: Artworks by Fulton & Montgomery County Educators - Perrella Gallery 7PM	19 Raider Women's & Men's Basketball Home Game - Mohawk Valley CC 1PM & 3PM
21 President's Day College Closed	22 Washington's Birthday	23 Student Activities Board Meeting - Get Involved in Planning Campus Activities! U106 - 12-1PM	24 Blizzard of Bucks - sponsored by SAB. Win up to \$500 in Cash & Prizes! - Cafeteria 12:30-1:30PM		26

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