A Day of Service

More than 180 Alvernia students, faculty, and staff members honored the work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on Jan. 18, by spending the holiday working in a range of community service activities around the county.

Volunteers helped at 18 different sites throughout Reading and Berks County, including: Olivet Boys & Girls Club, St. Joseph’s Villa, Berks County Family & Youth Center, and Opportunity House. Aladdin Food Services donated food for all the volunteers who provided community service for the MLK Day of Service.

A reflection event was held on main campus the following day for students and faculty to commemorate the work and accomplishments of Martin Luther King Jr. As part of the planned activities, Robert Jefferson, president of the Reading Branch of the NAACP, narrated “Lift Every Voice and Sing,” and Dr. John C. Morgan (a Philosophy and Ethics professor at RACC and Penn State Berks) talked about his memories of MLK during the Selma campaign and how those experiences changed his life. Frank Gilyard (president of the Central Pennsylvania African American Museum) was also on hand to participate in the program, and displayed a range of artifacts related to Dr. King’s life.
A three-course Registered Nurse First Assist (RNFA) program sequence based on national core standards for the Certified Nurse-Operating Room (CNOR) was developed in partnership with The Reading Hospital and Medical Center. The program is highly selective. Only outstanding peri-operative nurses with more than two-years of experience in the operating room can apply. Under the supervision of a primary surgeon, RNs worked a minimum of 100 hours in the intra-operative setting in the direct assist role.

Ed Hartung (criminal justice) was the keynote speaker for the graduation of the Reading Police Academy, held at the Inn at Reading, December 13.

Donna Yarri (theology) will be receiving a book contract from Mercer University Press to produce a scholarly work on The Sopranos. The book will likely come out at the end of 2011. In addition, Yarri gave a talk for the “Theology with a Twist” program at Gusto’s restaurant in Lancaster, on January 5. Her talk was about “Religion and Popular Culture.”

Spencer S. Stober (biology) presented a paper entitled, “Ecuador: Mother Nature’s Utopia,” to the International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability, sponsored by Common Ground and held at the University of Cuenca in Ecuador, January 5–7.

**BRAND SCENE INVESTIGATOR**

Kudos to Karen Thacker, Dean of Professional Programs, who was instrumental in developing the partnership model for the Registered Nurse First Assist program (see Student News above). Education is viewed as the bridge to quality nursing care, and working in interdisciplinary teams breaks down the silos often found in health care delivery. “In this case, the reality of practice drove an educational process and in turn, the educational process is driving quality care,” said Thacker.
Women in Islam: Dispelling Myths
Thursday, January 28, 6PM
Crusader Café, Student Center

Come and listen to Rubina Tareen speak about many of the misconceptions about Muslim women, and take advantage of an opportunity to ask a highly knowledgeable Muslim woman all of your questions of the role of women in Islam.

Bring your dinner and stay for dessert!

Rumor Has It...

The Alvernia Writers’ Series is inviting all Alvernia students, faculty, and staff to perform, present, or otherwise play-out your creative psychopompic visions in any genre in the library...

- Friday, February 12, 2PM
- Friday, March 12, 2PM
- Friday, April 16, 2PM

Contact Tom Bierowski (x1556) to sign up.

Alvernia University Chorus is inviting men and women interested in singing contemporary, gospel, jazz and classic choral music to gather on Tuesday evenings from 7-9PM in Francis Hall 102.

Questions? Contact Jennifer Michalik (x1903).

You are participating in a race, and overtake the second person. What position are you in?

Be the first to answer correctly!
Send your answer to: Carey.Manzolillo@alvernia.edu

Bragging rights for last week go to Drena Romberger (athletics). Answer: Ocean waters.