



# BY GEORGE!

MAY 2014

A NEWSLETTER FOR WASHINGTON COLLEGE EMPLOYEES

## What's On Your Mind? MITCHELL REISS

One of the concerns expressed to me at the recent Administrative Professionals luncheon was that we might lose our distinctive character as an elite liberal arts college as our enrollment grows. It is always important to ensure that an institution remains faithful to its culture and values, especially at a time when so many changes are taking place in higher education, including demographic, technological, regulatory and financial changes.

So will Washington College be the same institution in ten years' time as it is today? Well, yes and no.

What will be different? I expect that the College will have more students, perhaps as many as 1,800, that they will be stronger academically, and that the student body will be much more diverse and international than it is currently. I expect that we will have a larger faculty and staff, and a richer curriculum with more majors and programs to offer students. I expect that we will have a larger endowment with more flexibility to offer merit and especially need-based financial aid. I expect that we will have a magnificent waterfront campus with beautiful facilities that will be a signature competitive advantage.

I would argue that these are not radical departures from the path we are following currently. Indeed, all of these "differences" have been captured in the Strategic Plan that will guide the upcoming campaign.

But there is no denying that these changes, should they come to pass, will change the College. So it is especially important that we all remain attentive to the culture and values that we want to persist and grow stronger. For me, this would include a sense of community where we care for each other, our students and their families; it would include an educational experience that would nurture and encourage students to discover their purpose and passion in life; it would include a wide-ranging intellectual vitality where people could share and promote ideas in a respectful setting; it would include conveying to students the importance of moral courage; and it would include personalized attention to students by dedicated faculty and staff passionate about helping our students succeed.

The good news is that this future is largely in our hands. We get to shape our own destiny. I can't wait. •

*Have a question for President Reiss? Submit your questions to [staff\\_council@washcoll.edu](mailto:staff_council@washcoll.edu)!*



### ANNUAL BENEFITS FAIR

Washington College employees gathered in Hodson Hall on Tuesday, April 29, 2014 for the annual Health and Benefits Fair. In addition to meeting with each insurance vendor, employees had the opportunity to participate in the free Wellness Screening event and learn about important health topics. The Health Services team (pictured above) educated employees about Skin Cancer and the risks of sun exposure.



STAFF COUNCIL

BY GEORGE Employee Newsletter is produced by the Washington College Staff Council. Please send questions, comments and submissions to [staff\\_council@washcoll.edu](mailto:staff_council@washcoll.edu).

## COMINGS AND GOINGS

**Lisa Moody** has joined the Career Development as the Assistant Director for Employer Outreach. Email: [lmoody2@washcoll.edu](mailto:lmoody2@washcoll.edu)

**Erin Oittinen** has joined the CRM team as the Marketing and Communications Assistant. Email: [eoittinen2@washcoll.edu](mailto:eoittinen2@washcoll.edu)

**Erin Segers** and **Jennifer Kaczmarczyk** have been promoted to full-time Housekeepers. Emails: [esegers2@washcoll.edu](mailto:esegers2@washcoll.edu), [jkaczmarczyk2@washcoll.edu](mailto:jkaczmarczyk2@washcoll.edu)

**Kerry Smith** has joined Athletics as the new Head Women's Soccer Coach. Email: [ksmith22@washcoll.edu](mailto:ksmith22@washcoll.edu).

## FEATURED EMPLOYEE

The featured employee for the month of **April** is **Andrea Vassar**



**Director of Director Of Disability Services and the Office of Academic Skills/Section 504/ADA Coordinator**

"Andrea Vassar is an incredibly devoted and passionate employee. Clearly she enjoys her work with students. Her patience, support and understanding are awe-inspiring. There are days when Andrea will walk the entire campus with a student who is physically challenged to help them develop a plan for getting to class on time in all kinds of whether; she helps them to tackle challenging obstacles that the rest of the population takes for granted. You only have to hear her speak once about the work she does to know that our students could not succeed without her. Andrea will go above and beyond to get the resources and tools her students need to succeed at Washington College."

## HAPPY HAPPENINGS



## STUDENT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

At the annual Student Employee of the Year Awards Ceremony on April 11, 2014 Michael Deck '15 was announced at the 2014 Student Employee of the Year. Congratulations to Michael and his supervisor **Andrew Wright!** Congratulations also to the following Student Employee Supervisors whose student employees were also nominated; Martin Suydam and Drew Hobbs '15, Janet Sigler and Charlotte Costa '15, Susanne Kelly and Claudette Erickson '15, John Beck and Julia Smith '15, Marcus Dykeman and Dominic DiMarino '15, Maria Hynson and Brandon Citrano '14. A special thank you to **Natalie Story** and the Financial Aid Office for putting together another spectacular program.

## LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Congratulations to the following employees who were recognized at the Annual Leadership Awards Ceremony for their leadership and contributions to the college:

**Sue Golinski**  
Unsung Hero

**Vickie Anderson**  
Unsung Hero

**James Hall**  
Organization Advisor of the Year

**Janett Matthews**  
Caring for Kids - Outstanding Community Service Award

**Maria Hynson**  
Habitat for Humanity Day of Service - Outstanding Service Project/Fundraising Event

**Darnell Parker and James Hall**  
Washington College Leadership Award, EROS Alliance

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**FINALS WEEK**  
May 5-9, 2014

**OPEN ENROLLMENT**  
May 12, 13 & 15, 2014

**CHILDCARE FORUM**  
May 16, 2014 @ 10:30am  
Norma James Theater

**23<sup>rd</sup> COMMENCEMENT**  
May 17, 2014 @ 10:30am  
Campus Lawn

**TIAA CREF ONE-ON-ONES**  
May 22, 2014 @ 9:00am-4:00pm  
OIT Classroom

**MEMORIAL DAY**  
May 26, 2014  
College Offices Closed

**ALUMNI WEEKEND**  
May 30-June 1, 2014  
For a full schedule of events please visit [washcoll.edu/alumni/weekend.php](http://washcoll.edu/alumni/weekend.php)

For a full schedule of Athletic events please visit: [washcoll.edu/athletics/](http://washcoll.edu/athletics/)

For a full schedule of Drama productions please visit: [washcoll.edu/drama](http://washcoll.edu/drama)

For a full schedule of lectures open to the Washington College community please visit: [washcoll.edu/calendar](http://washcoll.edu/calendar)

## RETIREMENTS

Washington College celebrates the following employees who will retire this year:

**Martin Suydam**  
Lecturer of Mathematics for 14 years

**Almon "Barry" Barrell**  
Lecturer of Sociology for 40 years

**Pat Gladu**  
Lecturer of Biology for 17 years

**Carol Thornton**  
College Nurse for 23 years  
Retirement Party: May 7, 2014  
@ 3:30pm in the Faculty Lounge

**Judith Hymes**  
Director of Technical Services for 30 years

**Jim Siemen**  
Professor of Psychology for 36 years  
Retirement Party for Judith and Jim:  
May 14, 2014 @ 3:30pm  
in the Hynson Ringold Hous