



# THE MATH LOCUS

Published periodically by the Mathematics Department  
at Kirtland Community College, Roscommon, Mich.  
<http://kirtland.edu/themathlocus>

## *Special Edition*

# Service Learning at KCC

## *About Us*

This is a special edition of **The Math Locus**, featuring Service Learning at Kirtland Community College. **Nick Holton**, KCC's SL coordinator and math instructor, presented a Service Learning workshop during the fall of 2003 and many good projects were the fruit of that endeavor.

**Helen Scheer** was one of the participants at the workshop and **The Math Locus** resulted in the winter semester of 2004. *Locus* is a Latin word meaning location or place. The word is also used in geometry classes to visualize math figures.

And this is indeed a place for mathematics to be informative, enjoyable, a little "nerdy" and a "public relation" place between KCC and the COOR community high- and middle-school math classes.

*See ABOUT US, page 5*

## Welcome to Service Learning @ KCC

Service Learning is a method:

- that enhances what is taught in school by extending student learning beyond the classroom and into the community and helps foster a sense of caring for others;
- under which students learn and develop through active participation in thoughtfully organized service experiences that meet actual community needs;
- that is integrated into the student's academic curriculum or provides structured time for a student to think, talk, or write about what the student did and saw during the service activity; and
- that provides students with opportunities to use newly acquired skills and knowledge in real-life situations in their own communities.

Service Learning and the civic engagement it fosters are continuously being integrated into the curricula at Kirtland Community College. As a member of Michigan Campus Compact, KCC offers a nationally recognized Service Learning program and has spent years strengthening the relationship between the campus and the community. This

has transformed KCC from "simple service provider" into a real change agent in our community and state.

Service learning courses are offered throughout a wide array of disciplinary studies, ensuring that students will leave KCC with a heart for service and a mind for civic engagement.

In the most recent years, Kirtland has maintained a focus on strengthening its ties with River House, Inc., a local community partner that provides safety and empowerment to survivors of domestic and sexual violence and homelessness. This mutually beneficial collaboration has been fortified through the Michigan Campus Compact AmeriCorps\*VISTA position and other initiatives.

To find out more about Service Learning at KCC, keep reading this special edition of **The Math Locus**, then feel free to peruse the Kirtland Web site.

Service Learning at KCC is located in the Instructional Center (INS). Nick Holton is the primary contact and he can be reached at 989-275-5000, ext. 245, or by E-mail at [holtonn@kirtland.edu](mailto:holtonn@kirtland.edu).

# Leading the way

Nick Holton has called Kirtland Community College home since 1996 and is a full-time faculty member in the Mathematics Department.



**Nick Holton**

Since 1997, he has been the coordinator for Service Learning at KCC. In this role, he not only helps students integrate community service components into their traditional curricula, but he also conducts college faculty and administrative workshops on Service Learning and is involved in Service Learning leadership on an international scale.

Although his recent emphasis is on Service Learning and the special challenges of rural areas, Holton is a nationally certified Appreciative Inquiry facilitator and has presented nationally on such topics as: mathematical modeling, alternative assessment in mathematics, Service Learning, critical thinking in mathematics, rural issues, tech prep and career prep, grants and grant writing, program facilitation, career pathways in K-14 education, creating high-performance teams, curriculum development, conflict resolution, small/family business organization and working with individuals and teams. He has presented in more than a dozen states, including Alaska.

His business clients range from small family owned businesses to large urban community colleges to an academy in Bangalore, India. In 1998, Holton received an award from Northwood

University for Outstanding Professionalism. In 1999 he was a Michigan Campus Compact Outstanding Faculty Award winner. In 2001 he was honored with the COOR Intermediate School District Above-and-Beyond Award.

His Service Learning program is recognized as a national model of exemplary service by Campus Compact. In 2005, Holton won the NISOD Award for Leadership Excellence.

Holton earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Western Michigan University, a master's degree from Central Michigan University, a certificate at the University of New Hampshire in teaching undergraduates and has taken courses at Portland State University in Oregon and Franklin University.

Does he look familiar? Before coming to Kirtland, Holton, of Rose City, was a math instructor for 16 years at Ogemaw Heights High School in West Branch. He serves on the local school board and is president of the local educational foundation.

# KCC's first VISTA rep

In addition to the faculty and staff at KCC who support Service Learning, the college has been honored to host a member of a service-related organization this year in the

person of Monica Martinez. Monica works for the AmeriCorps\* VISTA — Volunteer in Service to America — program.

AmeriCorps\* VISTA is a full-time



**Monica Martinez**

national service program

designed specifically to develop lasting solutions to the problems of poverty in America. People like Martinez have been on the front lines in the fight against poverty in America for more than 40 years.

Hailing from Mineola, Texas, Martinez graduated from Austin College with a bachelor's degree in both political science and philosophy. She was actively involved in student government at Austin College and was a Hatton Sumners Scholar in Political Science. While serving as student body president, she organized various campus-wide events, worked with the college administration to improve the quality of student life, budgeted all student organizations and developed a process to provide money to unbudgeted organizations.

Martinez was also a Global Outreach

*See VISTA, page 8*

# *Service and Service Learning at KCC*

## It's been quite a year

### September 2009

- 11 — National Day of Service  
It was a day to break out into the community and serve those who need it most.

### October

#### *Domestic Violence Awareness Month*

- 1: Coat Drive to benefit the clients at River House began.
- 5: Cut It Out Training — River House staff taught cosmetology students about domestic violence, particularly the warning signs and what to do when a client is domestically abused. The students, in turn, provided River House clients with gift certificates for free makeovers.
- 15: Food Drive to benefit the COOR Intermediate School District began.
- 20: Domestic Violence Awareness Month Balloon Launch, to remember the victims and honor the survivors of domestic violence in Michigan.
- 24: Make a Difference Day — A national day of service where Phi Theta Kappa led KCC to River House to paint the shelter.
- 28: Empty Bowls Project to increase awareness about hunger all across the world, even in our state. KCC took the Empty Bowls Project and made it into an entire month-long art show as a means of poverty awareness. The bowls that students made were auctioned to raise money for River House.
- 29: River House representative

talked to KCC's human sexuality class to discuss domestic and sexual violence, as an effort to put the community back into the community college.

- 31: Last day of coat drive

### November

- 6-8: Olivet College students came for a service project at River House. This year they stayed at KCC and finished the painting project at River House.
- 11: Poverty Awareness Luncheon — an interactive event during which students learned about poverty by taking on the roles themselves. The roles they were assigned determined where they sat, how much they received to eat, and when they got to eat.

### December

- 11: Last day of food drive

### January 2010

- Staff members from River House taught the Police Academy section on domestic violence and sexual violence. These two factions will someday collaborate in the fight against domestic violence.
- 18: MLK Day of service — KCC members gave back to their community.
- "Volunteers in the Community" Service Learning course began, dedicated to exploring what it means to be a volunteer, what it means to be a citizen, and how to properly and most effectively give back to one's community.

### February

#### *Black History Month*

- 9/10: State-wide Institute on Service Learning and Civic Engagement. Nick Holton and Monica Martinez presented.

### April

#### *Sexual Assault Awareness Month*

- 5: Clothesline Project in the Student Center. T-shirts, made by the clients at River House with messages about sexual assault, brought sexual assault awareness to campus.
- 14: March Against Sexual Assault around the KCC campus.
- 21: Disc Golf Tournament fundraising event for River House.
- 22: KCC Community Garden inaugural meeting.

### May

- 2-9: International Service Learning trip to Guatemala — 17 students, staff and faculty traveled to Guatemala to do service activities and learn about the culture. See the article on page 6 of this **Locus**.
- 6: High Tea fund-raising event for River House — included a silent auction at Camp Grayling.

### June

- 12: Golf Scramble for River House, Inc. — River House will be hosting a golf scramble at Side-winders. The tournament entry fee is \$240 per team. It will begin at 8 a.m. Lunch is included, along with a River House hat and a day of fun!

# JUNE 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<i>Summer at last!</i>		333°	Binary Base	9 <sup>(1/2)</sup>	64 <sup>(1/3)</sup>	V
D-DAY	Number of days in a week.	2 <sup>^</sup> 3	Lives for a cat	Number of digits on two hands	One less than a dozen	XII in Roman Numbers
Baker's Dozen	Unlucky number plus one	One half days in June	2 to the fourth	The second consecutive odd integer after 13	(3)(3!)	The quotient of 38 and 2
Five times two squared	First day of SUMMER	X + 3 = 25	Next consecutive integer	4!	Five squared	Two baker's dozens
(3)(3)(3)	TWO WEEKS	Last odd no. in June	6! Divided by 4!	SPECIAL SERVICE LEARNING EDITION!		

# PUZZLES TO PONDER

## Number Fill-Ins: How to solve

Number fill-in puzzles have become widely popular in the last five years.

Here's how to solve them: when you are done with the puzzle, each

of the nine boxes that make up the puzzle - each of which contain nine squares - should be filled with the digits 1 through 9. In addition, all of the nine horizontal rows and nine

vertical columns - each of which contain nine squares - should contain the digits 1 through 9. No duplicates or missing digits are allowed, in either the boxes, rows, or columns.

### Puzzle 1

		8		2			1	
	1		8		9			3
3		2		6		5		
8				9		2		5
	2		3		5		9	
	4		6		2	8		7
		4		7			5	
5			2		6	1		9
	7	9			8		4	

### Puzzle 2

	7		3		5		8	
8		5			9	2		1
9	4			7	2		3	
2			7					5
		9		5		4		3
	1		2		3	6	9	
4				3				2
	2				1	7		
	5		6				4	

## About Us

*Continued from page 1*

This publication praises those math teachers at KCC who give of their talent and time to their students. Service Learning is about giving back to the community.

The full-time math teachers at KCC are **Marcell Romancky** (department chair), **Nick Holton** (Service Learning coordinator), **Doug Mace**, **Kevin Baughn** and **Jane Lange**. The adjunct retired math teachers are **Dan Korman**, **Sondra Doran**, **Helen Scheer**, **Jerry Neigh**, **Ron Mulka**, **Diane Phelps** and **Bob**

### Rickar.

Other adjunct math teachers who take time from their busy schedules are **Dani Utecht**, **Erinne Baughn**, **Nick Baker**, **Matt Murray** and **Brenda Kauffmann**.

The first issue of **The Math Locus** was published on March 17, 2004. Because of this you will notice a green shamrock in the corner of the front page with the motto: "One With the Math."

Past issues of **The Math Locus** may be found online at <http://kirtland.edu/themathlocus>.

*Serving, learning — south of the border*

# Kirtland students take education beyond the classroom in Guatemala

By **Monica Martinez**

Seventeen participants traveled south to Guatemala May 2-9 for Kirtland Community College's first International Service Learning trip. By way of a grant from the Kirtland Foundation, the trip became a more accessible educational resource for all students, allowing them a transformative experience.

This international opportunity allowed KCC's Global Awareness department to become truly global and for Service Learning to expand beyond borders. In the past, Global Awareness has focused on bringing the culture to Kirtland as a means of increasing cultural awareness, while Service Learning has focused on bringing students to the local communities.

It was time to bring Kirtland students to the sites themselves and to finally and truly internationalize our Global Awareness department.

By way of engaging in service learning on the international scale, students became Kirtland Community College's global ambassadors, representing country, state and college in their humanitarian efforts abroad.

On this trip, faculty and staff reinforced the current strengths of the departments by way of cultural awareness while helping students identify themselves as global citizens.

Students have returned with a strengthened sense of service and will hopefully be seeking volunteer opportunities in our local communities that will be enriched by their experiences abroad.

One of the goals of this trip was to recognize that the students of Kirtland Community College are our future leaders. Our nursing students will be serving in our hospitals; our criminal justice students will be patrolling our streets; and our other students may be teaching our children or creating great works of art.

No matter what field of study, our students are destined to be a part of a future that is, on the whole, determined by their vision. Seeing as we have these students for a small space of time at Kirtland, we are charged with a responsibility to equip them with an education that is suited for the future and also capable of transforming it.

This is a huge responsibility, one that transcends fields of study, and is, in essence, the overarching umbrella that is "higher education."

A holistic education that focuses not solely on theory, but also on practice, will be vastly beneficial to students' academic careers and lives. The service learning trip to Guatemala has placed this educational benefit in an international setting, thereby providing a cultural attunement to the Kirtland Community College campus.

This was a new project for Global Awareness and Service Learning and created a distinct pathway for future collaboration between the two departments. This international service learning trip was also endorsed by the Michigan Global Awareness Consortium of community colleges, distinguishing Kirtland as a leader among its peers in international efforts and cultural awareness.

This project is different from other projects at Kirtland that are geared toward cultural and poverty awareness because it is an immersion experience. This is the epitome of "learning by doing." Students were exposed to another culture and thrust into learning situations every second of their stay in Guatemala.

On campus, once the class is over students can go back to their homes and, with the click of the remote, immediately forget about the issues. However, in Guatemala, the issues were right before the students' eyes.

The issues were no longer simple words on a page of a book that the student could close at his or her leisure. Instead, the issues were presented by way of beautiful Guatemalan sites and tragic global dilemmas that encompass the essence of humanity and our international community.

It is said that immersion is the best way to learn a language and that "doing" is the best way to learn a theory. On this trip, the students were learning the language of these cultural and societal issues while also being given a chance to "do something" about them.

They learned what it means to be a citizen in the world and are expected to become culturally aware and civically engaged as a result of their experiences.

It is expected that Kirtland Community College will become the key to the world for its students, opening up doors to the international community and the educational benefits that accompany travel and service abroad.

# *KCC named to community service honor roll*

ROSCOMMON – The federal Corporation for National and Community Service in March announced that Kirtland Community College was among the more than 700 institutions recognized and being honored by the CNCS on its 2009 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for exemplary Service Learning efforts, including a commitment to volunteering, service learning and civic engagement.

“Kirtland recognizes the importance of the role of community service in preparing its students to be engaged citizens,” said Kirtland president Dr. Tom Quinn. “We believe that a community college has a responsibility to be a leader in modeling civic engagement for its citizens. This is especially important in our rural area where our closest university partners are many miles away.”

Launched in 2006, the Community Service Honor Roll is the highest federal recognition a school can achieve for its commitment to service learning and civic engagement. Honorees for the award are chosen based on a series of selection factors, including scope and innovation of service projects, percentage of student participation in service activities, incentives for service and the extent to which the school offers academic service-learning courses.

“Congratulations to Kirtland and its students for their dedication

to service and commitment to improving their local communities,” said Patrick Covington, CNCS chief executive officer.

“Our nation’s students are a critical part of the equation and vital to our efforts to tackle the most persistent challenges we face.”

Nick Holton, a math instructor and Service Learning coordinator at Kirtland, said the local two-year college has a long history of reaching out to the communities it serves. But, he said such efforts have taken on new meaning in recent years.

“Within the last few years, we have made a concerted effort to increase the college’s impact on our local communities so that our students gain even more valuable community service experience,” Holton said.

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**“Congratulations to Kirtland and its students . . .”**

*Patrick Covington*

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Kirtland also recently completed its first international Service Learning trip in early May, with students traveling to take part in various community projects during a week-long stay in Guatemala.

Holton said college officials are hoping such trips will become an annual event to help expand student exposure to concerns, such as poverty, in other countries.

“One goal is to provide an international experience for our students,” he said. “Our students increasingly need to see that they are part of a bigger world. They are no longer able to hide out in their little corner of northern Michigan.”

Overall, the CNCS honored six schools with Presidential Awards. In addition, 115 were named as “Honor Roll With Distinction” members and 621 schools as “Honor Roll” members. A full list of those honored is available at [www.nationalservice.gov/honorroll](http://www.nationalservice.gov/honorroll).

The CNCS is a federal agency that engages more than five million Americans in service through its Senior Corps, AmeriCorps and Learn and Serve America programs. The Honor Roll is a CNCS initiative in collaboration with the Department of Education, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the President’s Council on Service and Civic Participation. The President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll is presented during the annual conference of the American Council on Education.

About 3,200 students annually attend a variety of certificate and two-year degree programs at Kirtland’s three locations – the main campus near Roscommon, the Michigan Technical Education Center (M-TEC) in Gaylord and in West Branch – with the college’s service area including all or parts of Crawford, Oscoda, Ogemaw, Roscommon, Otsego, Kalkaska, Missaukee, Gladwin and Alcona counties, and the surrounding areas.

For more information on Kirtland’s Service Learning efforts, visit online at <http://kirtland.edu/service/> or call 989-275-5000, extension 412.

# BACK-PAGE BUSINESS

## VISTA

*Continued from page 2*

Fellow and Lilly Service Scholar, which allowed her to live and serve abroad; she then brought the lessons learned overseas back to her campus by way of presentations and media compilations.

Since last fall, Martinez has been serving the Michigan Campus Compact as the Kirtland Community College AmeriCorps\* VISTA representative, working to strengthen the collaboration between KCC and a local nonprofit, River House, Inc., through service learning and awareness projects.

River House is a nonprofit agency that serves vic-

tims and survivors of homelessness, domestic abuse and sexual violence in four northern Michigan counties: Crawford, Ogemaw, Oscoda and Roscommon. The main facility is located in Grayling and there is an outreach office in West Branch. Advocates travel to locations throughout the four counties to meet with survivors.

To learn about the busy year Martinez has had, be sure to read the calendar of KCC service events she helped organize (Page 3) and the summary of Kirtland's recent Global Awareness and Service Learning trip to Guatemala (Page 6), in this special edition of **The Math Locus**.

## PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

Puzzle 1

7	5	8	4	2	3	9	1	6
4	1	6	8	5	9	7	2	3
3	9	2	1	6	7	5	8	4
8	3	1	7	9	4	2	6	5
6	2	7	3	8	5	4	9	1
9	4	5	6	1	2	8	3	7
2	6	4	9	7	1	3	5	8
5	8	3	2	4	6	1	7	9
1	7	9	5	3	8	6	4	2

Puzzle 2

6	7	2	3	1	5	9	8	4
8	3	5	4	6	9	2	7	1
9	4	1	8	7	2	5	3	6
2	6	3	7	9	4	8	1	5
7	8	9	1	5	6	4	2	3
5	1	4	2	8	3	6	9	7
4	9	8	5	3	7	1	6	2
3	2	6	9	4	1	7	5	8
1	5	7	6	2	8	3	4	9

### Classifieds

TUTORS AND TUTEES are needed for mathematics.

Apply at the Kirtland Community College Tutoring Center, Instruction Building (INS) Room 20.

It is the policy of Kirtland Community College that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, sex, disability, physical proportions, sexual orientation, marital status, or genetic information be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to, discrimination during any program, activity, service, or in employment. For information, or to register a grievance, contact the Director of Human Resources, Room 226 ADM Building, 10775 N St Helen Rd, Roscommon, MI 48653, 989-275-5000 x 271 or 239.