By Lew Wheaton

Bergen Community College’s Fulbright scholar-in-residence this semester teaches aspiring actors to disappear. Rafael Bianciotto, who is teaching movement theatre at BCC and Ramapo College under the Fulbright program, is a student and teacher of mask theatre, which allows the actor to create another person, he said.

“When you put on a mask, you become someone else, you disappear,” he said. Bianciotto is a disciple of (Continued on page 3)
Bergenstages to present “Compleat Female Stage Beauty”

By Jim Bumgardner

What a great opportunity to explore an era that is talked about so often and yet about which no play had ever before been written. The western theatre had been dominated by only male actors allowed to perform on stage since the early Greeks, but during the Renaissance, it all began to change.

The Italian commedia troupes allowed women to perform, the corrals during the Golden Age of Spanish theatre allowed women and even the French Comedie Francaise allowed women. England was the last holdout. That is, until King Charles II regained the throne and was easily persuaded to make the change…and the change became law.

In “Compleat Female Stage Beauty” we are introduced to Edward Kynaston, one of the most celebrated male actors who performed female characters: Desdemona in Othello and Ophelia in Hamlet. But, once the law was passed, he found himself out of a job and, worse, confronted with having to tutor these novice actresses.

A dark comedy about change and the reluctance of some to do so, the play is directed by Michael LaPointe and is sure to be a tour de force. It’s a definite ‘costume’ show, set in 1662 England, so our costumer, Marie Natali, is in her element. Performances are April 10, 11, 16, 17 and 18 at 7:30 p.m. and matinees on April 11 and 18 at 2 p.m. Tickets are $15.00 for General Admission, $10.00 for BCC and Seniors (65+) and $5.00 for students, and are available in the Ciccone Box Office or online at tickets.bergen.edu. The show is Rated R – adult language and adult subject matter.

The author is the director of Bergenstages, and a director and assistant professor of performing arts in the School of Arts, Humanities and Wellness. He can be reached at jbumgardner@bergen.edu or 201-493-3615.
Mario Gonzalez, the world-renowned creator of commedia dell’arte mask theatre. “Now I teach his technique to put your ego away, to use creativity to touch the soul of the other person.”

Bianciotto’s Fulbright was arranged by BCC Professor Jim Bumgardner, whom he called an excellent organizer, communicator and host, and Ramapo Professor Terra Vandergaw. Bianciotto will direct Candide at Ramapo this month with Vandergaw.

Born in Argentina, Bianciotto was studying computers at the University of Buenos Aires when he was lured into the theatre “by the energy of Eros,” because that’s where the pretty girls were. “I still remember my first play,” he said. “I was beyond myself, I became someone else.”

While working in computer science to pay the bills, he traveled to Europe for what was to be a year but became a life’s work. He settled in Paris and studied with Gonzalez, who “changed my life,” Bianciotto said. He learned Gonzalez’ technique to get rid of oneself and “become someone else, to try to give the audience what it needs. It’s a very healthy way to learn about yourself.”

Bianciotto became Gonzalez’ assistant and a director in his company, Zéfiro Théâtre, where he is the artistic director and his wife directs. In 1995, he created the New York Mask and Clown Workshop. He has taught at the Conservatoire Régional d’Orléans in France, the National Conservatory of Sweden and the Iceland Academy of the Arts. Fluent in Spanish, French and English, Bianciotto said he gets by in Italian and Icelandic.

After his semester in New Jersey, he heads to teach in Iceland, where he said he has been “clownizing” the island for the past 20 years. “This is wonderful for me,” he said, “because the more you teach the more you learn.”

The author is an associate professor of journalism in the Division of Arts and Humanities. He can be contacted at 212-612-5314 or lwheaton@bergen.edu.

Open Educational Resources to Enhance Learning
Monday, April 13

12:30-1:30pm – Room TBA
Captivate Your Students using Open Educational Resources

2:00-3:30 pm – L205
Create Learning-Centered Collections to Enhance Student Engagement

Please join us for an informative session with John Shank, author of Interactive Open Educational Resources: A Guide to Finding, Choosing, and Using What's Out There to Transform College Teaching on how we can move beyond traditional course resources and enhance our instructional efforts by using interactive open educational resources (OER) to connect with our students and gain their full attention. To attend any of the session register at http://www.bergen.edu/citlworkshops.
BCC Environmental Club alumnus Matt Perez, now at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, has gotten a job at a book publisher and started contributing to a blog for and about amateur herpetologists. Go to http://herpersguide.com/virtues-etiquette-field-herping/ to check out his first post about field herpetology, or “herping.”

I asked Matt if he plans on eventually writing a book about the environment, and he said “yes!” Right now he plans on publishing journal articles because, he said, that eventually helps you get a book published. He’s majoring in literature at UNC after graduating from BCC in 2012.

One of our long-time collaborators and the executive director of MEVO (Mahwah Environmental Volunteers Organization), Eric Fuchs-Stengel, is looking for gardeners and farmers for the MEVO farm, which plans to add chickens and ducks. Have your students contact him at ericjfs@mevoearth.org. We’re also looking for gardeners and farmers for the BCC Garden; contact is Dr. Charles Sontag at csontag@bergen.edu.

Another alumnus, Ron Subramaniam, is also looking to hire students. Ron is the new assistant parks director of Bergen County Parks. He says he needs to hire students for the county zoo, educational center and golf ranges. Please have interested students contact him at rsubramaniam@co.bergen.nj.us or (201) 336-7257.

The author is an assistant professor of developmental math in the Division of Technology, Science and Mathematics and advisor to the Environmental Club. She can be reached at rwieland@bergen.edu or 201-612-5340.

On March 7, 2015 Bergen Community College at the Meadowlands hosted the fourth annual Tri-State Best Practices Conference dedicated to innovation and creativity in the college classroom. The theme of this year’s conference was Culture, Learning, and Learning Cultures: Teaching and Learning in a Diverse Environment.

The conference program included close to 100 presenters from 23 different two- and four-year colleges throughout New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. The keynote speaker was Dr. Alicia Harvey-Smith, president of River Valley Community College in Claremont, New Hampshire and a recognized spokeswoman for diversity in higher education.

The conference organizers, Maureen Ellis-Davis and I, would like to thank all the participants in this year’s conference and especially the members of the conference committee: Mary Crosby, Mecheline Farhat and Anthony Yankowski, and the incredible team at the Meadowlands: Dean Linda Emr, Kim Meekins, Maggie McCarthy, John Cartier, Joshua Gordon and Margaret Calamari, without whose support this conference could not take place. We also thank Vice President William Mullaney for his ongoing support of the conference and its work.

The author is an assistant professor in the Department of History and coordinator of the Tri-State Best Practices Conference. She can be reached at sshurts@bergen.edu or (201) 301-1261.
The Flipped Classroom: a new approach to teaching
Presented by Dr. Fred Marton & Prof. Ellen Feig

Monday, April 20 at 12:30 in C325

One common approach to teaching is to deliver content in class and then require students to complete homework assignments, papers, projects, etc., on their own outside the class. But what if that were not the case? What if class time could be used for problem solving, discussion, experimentation, and other active learning activities that engage students more? One method is Flipping the Classroom, which is gaining popularity in college classrooms.

To learn how flipped instruction works and how other BCC educators have been using it in their classrooms, please join us for this Faculty Development workshop presented by Fred Marton, from the Physical Sciences Department, and Ellen Feig, from the English Department. In this workshop, they will share their experience by using this method and how it can impact student learning.
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

April 7, 2015

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Idahlynn Karre

The Hero’s Journey/The Student’s Journey

Dr. Idahlynn Karre has spent her 45-year professional career as a professor, leader, administrator, speaker, consultant and coach. With an award-winning professional career as a university professor, scholar, and author she now devotes her time and energy to professional speaking, writing, and consulting for healthcare, colleges, universities, businesses, corporations, and professional associations in the US, Canada, United Kingdom, Europe, Asia, China, and Australia.

Dr. Karre has been recognized for excellence in teaching, speaking, research, and leadership. Repeatedly chosen as Favorite Professor by her university students (1969 – 2002), recognized as University Scholar (2000) and University Woman of the Year (2001). National Teacher of the Year (1992), National Speakers Association Outstanding Professor (1992), US Master Teacher Award (WSCA, 1995), 2000 recipient of the Paul Elsner International Leadership Award, Gallup Vision Award (2008), citations for Speaking Excellence from the Fortune 500, and in 2011 Idahlynn was honored by the International Leadership Academy with the distinction of having the International Exemplary Leadership Award given by the Leadership Academy to be named in her honor.

Idahlynn (PhD., University of Colorado, 1975) serves the Gallup Organization and StrengthsQuest as a consultant, speaker, and writer. She is on the Gallup StrengthsQuest Advisory, creates learning resources for StrengthsQuest including: Creating Moments That Matter, Leader to Leader, Stories of Strength, Action Items for Leaders, Managing Through Strengths, Engage and Energize: Strengths for Success. She serves as a speaker and coach on integrating StrengthsQuest into leadership, teaching, student and professional development on behalf of the Gallup Organization and StrengthsQuest in the US and Canada.

Her research and authored curriculum have been apart of the Chair Academy and the Academy for Leadership and Development for over 25 years. She has served as Editor of the Academy Journal: Leadership, author and curriculum designer of numerous Handbooks for Leadership and Development used by the Academy in their foundation and advanced leadership training and development programs. She is senior scientist and auditor for research on leadership programs and author of Leadership Tips and Tools with many titles including: Being a Strengths Based Leader, Leading in Times of Change, Moving from Good to Great, Feedback and Performance Management, and The Courage to Lead.

Achieving the Dream Panel Discussion

1:30-2:30pm in TEC128

♦ Dr. Martha Ellis – Dean of the Graduate Faculty and Professor for the Community College Leadership program at the Roueche Graduate Center
♦ Dean Bill Morrison – Co-leader of AtD at Passaic Community College
♦ Prof. Nancy Silvestro – Co-leader of AtD at Passaic Community College
♦ Dr. Bill Mullaney – Moderator – Vice President of Academic Affairs
Afternoon Breakout Sessions (2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.)

1) **Worth A Thousand Words:** Finding the Perfect Pix out of Artstor's Millions—Dr. Suzaan Boettger—Room TEC214
Images augment lectures and provide what art historian Suzaan Boettger calls “productively ambiguous” topics for discussion. Or they illustrate historical protagonists (actual and fictional) and illuminate circumstances. Dr. Boettger will explain Artstor's image database, available to you on any internet platform and viewed either on its website or downloaded, and apply her broad knowledge of historical images to guide you to toward the most apposite pictures to enhance pedagogical aims. Join us -- if only to do practice searches for inspiring paintings.

2) **Mindfulness for Educators** – Dr. Peter Dlugos—TEC201
This workshop is not about introducing students to mindfulness, but rather about becoming more mindful as an educator, whatever your role(s) might be: instructor, librarian, counselor, or academic leader. Participants in this interactive workshop will be introduced to some basic mindfulness practices and their benefits for educators, and will learn how to combine mindful awareness with Deweyan reflective inquiry in order to tap into inner resources for clarity and creativity in their work.

3) **Dealing with Math Anxiety** – Prof. Alineh Malik & Prof. Mark Wiener—TEC204
Anxiety is something that students in all subjects, and especially mathematics, may struggle with in an academic context. This workshop will offer a brief introduction into the definition and characteristics of such anxiety, with special attention to math and math test anxiety. It will also address possible methods to lessen the impact of anxiety as it affects students in all disciplines.

4) **Growing Together** – Partners in Learning – Prof. Gail Fernandez & Dr. Joan Tscherne—TEC205
Partners in Learning offers you a unique opportunity to see yourself as your students do. Paired faculty visit one another’s classes throughout the semester and make observations about one another’s teaching style, effectiveness, and “how they come across to students.” This program provides faculty with constructive means to become better instructors.

5) **Learning Communities** – Prof. Eileen Fitzgerald & Prof. Maria Kasparova—TEC119
Join BCC Learning Communities: Reinvigorate your Teaching, Enjoy your Colleagues, and Support Your Students' Success. Please join us for an informal informational workshop to discover all the benefits that Learning Communities offer for faculty, students, and the community. We will review national trends, examine the most recent BCC Learning Communities initiative, and explore possible course connections that will allow you to pursue your academic passions in a collegial atmosphere that supports student success.

6) **Teaching Multigenerational Students** – Prof. Joe Mamatz—S140
This discussion is focused on the study of the population of students that are in the college classes today. Student learning styles, values, attitudes, and needs will be explored. Potential classroom strategies will be offered and collaboratively discussed.

7) **Cybersecurity** – Keeping Safe in the Electronic World – Dr. Peter Rossow—TEC202

8) **Financial Essentials** – Mark Brownstein & Steve Eugene—TEC203
Join us to learn the basics of making the most of your money - how can you save more, spend smarter, and keep more of what you earn. In this session you'll learn how to build a successful path to retirement. Regardless of your current career stage, this workshop can help you find answers to your fundamental questions:

- What is tax deferred investing and why should I start saving now?
- I'm retiring soon, how do I know if I'll have enough income in retirement?

Don't miss this opportunity to learn how you can take control of your retirement picture.

Faculty Focus newsletter is published twice each semester by the Faculty Development Committee. Chair: Annemarie Roscello, Editor: Lew Wheaton. Submissions for the September edition should be emailed to aroscello@bergen.edu or lwheaton@bergen.edu by August 17, 2015.
Got a Moodle question? I can help.

By Patrick Simms

I have been a member of the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning for about 13 years. I’m responsible for the Learning Management System, which is currently Moodle. Since I started working at Bergen Community College, I have overseen the expansion of LMS usage from approximately 50 course sites per semester to about 1,900 course sites in Moodle this semester.

Other than Moodle, I am also responsible for Turnitin, Respondus and Respondus Lockdown Browser. I ensure that the integration with these applications and Moodle is working, and I also test any updates that are to be rolled out for these software applications.

As the technology improves, publishers are introducing Learning Tools Interoperability (LTI) which allows instructors to connect to the publishers’ content via Moodle. The content can be embedded in Moodle, or the grades can be imported into Moodle after the students complete tasks on the publishers’ sites. All these LTI integrations have to be set up and tested by me before they are provided to the users, and if there are any connectivity issues I need to resolve them.

In my role, I provide assistance to faculty members who are using Moodle. I ensure all course sections that need to use Moodle have a site with all the students enrolled. With the huge usage of Moodle, faculty require assistance with various Moodle tools. Frequent requests lately include assisting users to set up the attendance tool in their classes, using the attendance reporting tool and exporting course data.

I also assist faculty with setting up and resolving issues with the assignment, quiz, discussion forum and other Moodle tools. Third-party software such as Turnitin, Respondus and Respondus Lockdown Browser at times have prompted some faculty to seek assistance. Finally, after a semester ends, the Moodle sites are backed up and archived in case there is a need to retrieve the content from that specific semester.

The author is a professional assistant in the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning. He can be reached at psimms@bergen.edu or 201-612-5581.

The Faculty Development Committee is pleased to announce the Request for 2015-2016 CIRD Mini-Grant Proposals

Below are examples of the types of projects that we are considering for funding in each of the interest areas.
Creative and pilot projects are welcome.
- Teaching and Curricula
- Scholarship
- Training
- Community Partnerships

A formal call for proposals will be sent via email. CIRD Grant Applications are due to Annemarie Roscello, aroscello@bergen.edu or deliver to A219, by Friday, May 15.