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Midnight Oil

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Gingrich Delivers Speech at Graveside

The 205th anniversary of Millard Fillmore's birth was celebrated on January 7 at his graveside in Forest Lawn Cemetery.

Larry R. Gingrich, associate dean of Millard Fillmore College, placed a wreath on Fillmore's grave on behalf of the University at Buffalo. Col. George A. Waskoski, commander of the 107th Refueling Wing of

the New York Air National Guard, laid a wreath from President George W. Bush.

In his speech, Gingrich said "We should not overlook, nor forget that Millard Fillmore recognized the importance of access to and the value of higher education for citizens in Buffalo and Western New York. He then went on to detail the his-

tory of the college. Gingrich concluded with this statement: "Indeed, Millard Fillmore College has served as the gateway to opportunity for thousands of men and women seeking to better their lives through a university education."

A video of Gingrich's speech is available at: <http://devo.buffalo.edu/streaming.htm>.



Col. George A. Waskoski, US Air Force, salutes as Mark Filsinger plays "Taps"

Larry's Column



Larry R. Gingrich,
Associate Dean

Happy New Year! The new year and semester will bring new and exciting learning opportunities to our students, faculty and staff.

We have had a couple of positive developments already this semester. First, MFC has

a new boss, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education Mike Ryan. We look forward to working with Dr. Ryan to improve our college.

Also, the Kish Scholarship is going to be offered again. This scholarship will provide non-

traditional students (working adults over 24 years old) with tuition for one student per semester. Please visit the MFC website for more details in the near future.

I wish you the best of luck this semester.

THOUGHTS...

"Adult education is not merely an apologetic for lost or neglected educational opportunity. It is a call to continued development through study."

Clarence Marsh
(1926)

MFC Golf Shirts for Sale

Swing into spring! — MFC is selling nifty blue or white golf shirts for only \$25. The shirts are available in large and extra large sizes, and are made from

pima cotton. Each shirt has "Millard Fillmore College" under the interlocking UB logo. To get one, please contact Janet or Carmen in the



MFC office (128 Parker) at 829-3131.

Did You Know...

...MFC is a leader at UB in distance education? This spring MFC is offering 33 courses, 19 of which are offered online.

...The School of Nursing has a very good UBLeArns demonstration? Check it out at: http://nursing.buffalo.edu/ublearns/SO_index.html.

...MFC is a proud sponsor of UB Athletics? Look for our sign (see p. 4) when you attend a women's or men's basketball game.

...MFC will evaluate all online courses for spring semester using UBLeArns? Look for an announcement from your instructor approximately one week before your course ends.

Interview with MFC Instructor Olga Possé

OLGA A. POSSÉ is the instructor for one of MFC's most popular courses, Paralegal Principles and Procedures (MFC 332). She is a member of the NYS Bar Association and the Erie County Bar Association.

Why did you choose to be both a lawyer and a teacher?

I chose to be an attorney and a teacher because being of service is very important and rewarding for me. I started teaching as an undergraduate science student at NYU. Upon graduating, I became a chemistry instructor at Texas Woman's University as part of a teaching fellowship. Upon earning my master's in science education and biochemistry, I became a Naval Officer for the next six years. Even then, as a Training Officer, I had teaching duties at two Naval Reserve Centers. While in the Navy, I studied in the evenings to

earn my second master's degree (literature, theology, and philosophy). I also had duties involving the JAG Corps and became interested in the law. After serving in Desert Storm, I was offered a scholarship to attend law school. Upon graduating, I accepted a job in Buffalo as a criminal defense attorney. Then, roughly six years ago, I was hired by MFC to develop and teach my paralegal course. During those years I also developed a research and writing course and a family law course. Instructors at SUNY Buffalo may take one free course each semester under the UUP program. I took advantage of that to earn my third master's degree, in school administration, and also obtained permanent certification. I now intend to pursue a doctorate in school administration. After that, I do not

know what degree will come next. I consider myself to be a lifelong learner.

What do you enjoy most about teaching?

What I enjoy most about teaching is the face to face interaction with my students, which is also why I favor my seated classes to the online classes. I also enjoy the diversity of students at this university. I get to teach students of every age, race, creed, and background. The university facilities are great, and faculty support from the MFC administration is outstanding. I know that MFC values every student and is achievement oriented.



Olga Possé

"...What I enjoy most about teaching is the face-to-face interaction with my students..."



What makes MFC Different? Our Faculty!

Millard Fillmore College instructors are different from traditional UB faculty in that they are practicing specialists. That is, in their "day job" they work as professionals and are recognized leaders in their respective fields. They bring that real world knowledge to their classes at UB when they put on their "MFC instructor hat."

We plan to have all of our faculty tape a short personal introduction and a brief description of their course for the redesigned MFC website (coming in Summer 2005). For now, you can meet Olga Possé, Marge Hewlett, Marc Adler and Jim Gerland by visiting: http://devo.buffalo.edu/streaming/streaming_mfc.htm.



Millard Fillmore College

Continuing and Professional Studies

Midnight Oil Staff:

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Millard Fillmore College is an administrative college of the University at Buffalo. Founded in 1923, it is named after UB's first chancellor—and the United States' 13th president—and is dedicated to providing continuing and professional studies for non-traditional students. MFC courses, both seated and online, carry academic credit that can be applied to MFC certificates and UB degrees. Presently MFC offers certificates in Computing and Network Management, Entrepreneurship, International Trade, Paralegal Studies, Public Relations/Advertising, Health Care Administration, and Health and Human Resources.

UB Photos

