

# Women Supporting Women Newsletter

**Fall 2010**

**The Re-entry and Multicultural Center**

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**Fall Hours**

**Monday - Friday**

**8:30am-5:00pm**

Welcome to our Fall Newsletter! We are ten weeks into the semester and we are feeling confident that this will be yet another remarkable semester. This fall is one of transition for our program. We have several new changes coming our way. The Re-entry and Multicultural Center (REMC), formerly known as Women's Programs, has taken new direction in leadership. Vice President of Student Services, Caribia Anderson and Dean of Student Services, Laurence Walker, have welcomed us to their extended Student Services family. Our previous Director, Sarah Mawhirter, has moved strictly to academics, as she is now the Chair of Women's Studies. The REMC will continue supporting students with services and resources.

Given the change of leadership and the retirement of Jeanne Costello, we are no longer able to offer personal counseling. Student Health Services has MFT interns that students can see for immediate personal counseling. Also, the trained staff of General Counseling, EOPS, TRiO, and Supportive Services can assist students. And lastly, coming spring 2011, The REMC, along with other student services, will be moving to the new Student Services Building. Having all these student services centralized will eliminate the across campus journey for students and allow stronger collaboration between departments.

**History of The REMC**

The REMC has had a long history at MPC. Women's Programs, now referred as REMC, was intended to serve a large population of MPC students with classes and support services funded by allocations from The Carl Perkins Vocational Education Act. This federal program was designed to support women and men, single parents, displaced homemakers, re-entry and students majoring in a field non-traditional for their gender. By 1991 the Social Science Division voted to assigned a small classroom as The REMC to serve re-entry students to acquire support and services.

By 1993 MPC Women's Programs was winning annual competitive Perkins' grants of \$60,000 and \$100,000 to provide childcare, transportation, counseling and other supportive services to nontraditional students who qualified for the funds. Many of the services were provided for the general student population, espe-

cially re-entry students, through additional support and funds raised by Dr. Phyllis Peet, Jeanne Costello, Carolyn Griffin, Kate Miller, and many other dedicated staff and faculty at MPC. Over the years the program won many awards for its success in producing high numbers of students who achieved success, graduated and entered the job market. In order to meet the needs of additional re-entry women who struggled to support their children and remain in college, the community in collaboration with Monterey Community Foundation initiated **Women Supporting Women (WSW)**. The three founders, Pat Faul, who had supported students for many years as spouse of Monterey Peninsula College's long time President Dr. George Faul; Karin Strasser-Kauffman, former Political Science instructor and elected Supervisor for Monterey County; and Ilene Tuttle, a community leader and currently on the MPC Foundation Board of Directors, helped in making WSW a successful emergency fund that has assisted hundreds of students.

The REMC has served as a place of refuge, a meeting ground, a study area and a place to share some coffee and conversation. It is a unique space on campus, open and welcoming to all. The Center walls have seen hundreds of students pass through them over the years. At off times during the year when most everywhere else on campus closes its doors, the center has remained open. This continuous accessibility, as well as the relationships built between center staff and students, has made the REMC a place of both comfort and convenience. As one student stated, "The Center is available and interested in the students as people. The staff is on campus and involved with the students. They know what is going on at the school and get to know the students on a personal level." The REMC brought many students and great vitality to the Social Science Building for nearly 20 years. Though the center may be changing, it is certain that the memory of what it has represented to so many will long be remembered.

Lastly, we want to acknowledge and give a special thanks for all the support we have received from the Social Science Division, staff, and faculty. Thank you for your collaboration in helping MPC students become successful college students.

## Farewell to Sarah Mawhirter

The news may come to some people's surprise that our very own Sarah Mawhirter of the Women's Studies department and teacher, will be leaving Monterey Peninsula College. It will be a great loss for the students, yet we always knew Ms. Mawhirter was always bound for greater things long ago.

This much was evident when Sarah issued subjects that many had never considered, much less thought about, and presented them in such a light that allowed us to learn, understand, and move us to have our own opinion. She is a true example of what students are taught in their speech classes: No subject is too controversial to discuss as long as it is in a considerate approach. She also helped students become aware of their surroundings, recognized what they do and don't like about our world and showed that any challenge we faced can be accepted, no problem too big. Students learned that they did, in fact, have power and were open minded to consider a world of possibilities. To educate others that no longer call themselves students became a new topic for discussion. Conversations with women from family to the woman at the neighboring table beside you became a new fascination and point of study to learn more about what we were capable of withstanding as human beings. Sarah reinforced the known truth that learning happens outside the classroom, whether it is academic or simply life inspiring.

Sarah, thank you for teaching us all so much, for giving us challenging subjects in bite sized pieces, for your sense of humor, and for being a friend! We wish you the very best in your new adventures. We know that you will achieve anything you put your mind to, but that isn't really a surprise, is it?

Affectionately your former student,

Jessa Diaz

## Re-entry & Multicultural Center Services

**Textbook Loan Program** is one of our most used and needed service. The cost of textbooks is an overwhelming expense to our students, with some prices costing more than tuition. Because of the high need, Monterey Peninsula College Foundation awarded our program with a \$10,000 grant. With this grant we were able to purchase 150 textbooks. Together with our textbook collection, we were able to loan 1,212 textbooks to 710 students! With the average price of textbooks costing a full-time student well over \$500, our Textbook Loan Program provides students with the opportunity to focus on other educational expenses.

**Emergency Food Pantry/Personal Necessities** is available for students

to access anytime during the semester and receive food assistance for them and their families. In addition to healthy (sometimes organic) food, our pantry also stocks diapers, shampoo, detergent, and other personal necessities. So far, we have been able to assist 33 students with 42 bags of groceries.

**Food Counter/Center** is a comfortable and welcoming environment for all students. We have coffee, tea, and bread donated from Paris Bakery. In addition to the goodies provided, students are encouraged to hang out, meet other students, do reading/homework, or check their email. There is also a microwave that students can use to warm their lunch. We do our best to provide an open door for all students.

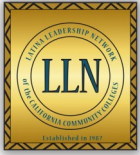
**Women Supporting Women** is normally available for students during the fall and spring semesters. With the new changes, it is now available during our summer session. Over the summer we were able to assist two students facing financial emergencies. With this fund our students were able to continue their education without any other financial interruptions.

**Events** are planned for the remainder of fall 2010. We have new topics and interests. We hope you can join us. Please check our events on pages 4-5 for more information.

**Student Clubs** are an excellent approach to reaching out to our students. We have three students clubs that are bringing cultural and social awareness to MPC. Please see our student clubs on page 3.

## Student Clubs

### Latina Leadership Network, Monterey Peninsula College Chapter



The Latina Leadership Network is a mutual support and advocacy organization committed to providing effective opportunities to develop innovative approaches to increase the participation of Latinas in leadership roles and to promote and maintain “la cultural Latina” and non-sexist familial values. Latina Leadership Network of the California Community Colleges is state-wide organization that was developed to create and to improve the representation of Latinas in the higher education system.

The Latina Leadership Network, Monterey Peninsula College Chapter is committed to empowering Latinas at Monterey Peninsula College in providing them with leadership opportunities on campus and in our communities. For instance, we have our first sponsored event this Fall. Pastora Gutierrez, director of Nueva Vida, will be visiting our campus and bringing an exhibit of Zapotec rugs made from women in the southern state of Oaxaca, Mexico. Not only does this bring cultural awareness to our campus, but it also allows for students to connect with women leaders around the world who are making a tremendous difference in changing the inequalities that exist in their communities.

### The Latino Club

The Latino Club at Monterey Peninsula College is dedicated to empowering and educating students on campus. Every semester the club is committed to bringing cultural awareness by sponsoring cultural events on campus. This semester, in honor of Latino Heritage Month, the club invited Dr. David Hayes-Bautista, renowned researcher, author and speaker to address the, “The Contributions of Latinos to this Country and Education.” Our club members were engrossed by the profound knowledge Dr. Hayes-Bautista shared. We all walked away feeling inspired!

The club participates and sponsors the Annual Latino Recognition Ceremony. This spring we will be celebrating our 10th annual ceremony! This event has become one of the most moving and inspirational events we participate in. Most students are first generation, underrepresented, low-income, English as a second language college students who have conquered various educational barriers. A majority of these students transfer to 4-year and private universities and continue their studies into graduate school. In addition all fundraising from The Latino Club benefit this ceremony and MPC Latino Scholarships.

### The Culture Club, “Creating Positive Social Change”

The Culture Club of Monterey Peninsula College is committed to creating positive social change in our local and global communities. Formerly known as the Gender Studies Club, its members possess an unwavering dedication to making a positive impact in a variety of areas within our culture. The club has organized activities ranging from a blanket drive benefitting the home-

less population of Monterey County to a fundraiser aimed at assisting relief efforts in Haiti. It’s members have expressed themselves through a spoken word event titled, “Social Justice – Empowerment by Example” and have sought to raise awareness of little known areas of discrimination such as the stereotypes and stigmatization faced by unmarried adults through the event Singled Out.



This club is comprised of creative and determined individuals whose commitment to social change is tremendously inspiring. The Culture Club demonstrates that activism takes many forms and that each one of us is capable of making an impact. As one member stated, “Being part of the Culture Club tells us that we don’t have to wait until we are free of college to let our actions have an effect, we can begin now.”

## Events to Look Forward to

Latina Leadership Network, Monterey Peninsula College Chapter Presents



### Zapotec Women's Weaving Exhibition

A rare opportunity to see traditional handmade 100% wool rugs with organic dyes created by a group of indigenous Zapotec women from Teotitlan del Valle, Oaxaca.



Photo by Cary Massoni

Hear about fascinating dyeing process, using only natural materials such as plants, bark, nuts and a dried insect. Learn about some of the traditional Zapotec designs passed down through generations.

**Wednesday, November 10, 2010 from 2:30-4:00 p.m. Sam Karas, LTC**

For more information contact The Re-entry & Multicultural Center at

(831) 646-4276 or [womensprograms@mpc.edu](mailto:womensprograms@mpc.edu)

# **THE HURT LOCKER**

## **Film Screening and Discussion**



In honor of Veteran's Day, The Re-entry and Multicultural Center will be hosting a screening of the film *The Hurt Locker*. Following the film there will be a discussion with a panel of veteran students and the Monterey Peninsula College Psychological services staff. This event is aimed at raising awareness and understanding of what soldiers have experienced and what challenges are involved in readjusting to civilian society.

**November 9, 2010, 6:00pm-9:00pm**

**Sam Karas Room located in the Library and**

**Technology Center at Monterey Peninsula College**

For more information please contact The Re-entry and Multicultural Center

Phone: (831) 646-4276 Email: [womensprograms@mpc.edu](mailto:womensprograms@mpc.edu) Social Science room 204

## Women Supporting Women Funds

Dear Women Supporting Women Donors,

We would like to provide you with additional information in regards to how our funds are being used and distributed to Monterey Peninsula College students. We have had a busy start to fall 2010 semester and now that our fund is available for summer sessions, we anticipate an increase for next year.

The collaboration with other student services programs such as TRiO, EOPS, CalWorks, and Supportive Services, has enabled us to reach out to a greater student population. In addition to helping students with financial emergencies, we are ensuring that students are staying connected with their academic counselor and others on campus resources. This empowers students to use all possible resources and finish their studies at MPC successfully.

Here is a breakdown of Fall 2010;

- 18 Students with **Rental Assistance**: \$6,450
- 14 Students with **Transportation Assistance**: \$875
- 8 Students with **Utilities Assistance**: \$1,518.62
- 4 Students with **Car Repairs Assistance**: \$1,451.47
- 3 Students with **Health Insurance Assistance**: \$696
- 3 Students with **Car Payment Assistance**: \$963.89
- 2 Students with **Medical Bill Assistance**: \$400
- 2 Students with **Phone Bill Assistance**: \$328.79
- 1 Student with **Car Insurance Assistance**: \$406.22
- 1 Student with **Dental Care Assistance**: \$205.66

**Totaling \$13,295.65 in financial assistance.**

In past years, most of our requests have been for transportation assistance. However, financial assistance for rent has seen a tremendous increase over transportation.

Some students are on the verge of being evicted and becoming homeless. CM, a full-time student, was facing a 3-day notice when she came to see us in early fall. We expedited her application and got her assistance in time to avoid eviction. Most students are either facing eviction or are late with their rent. However, AJ's circumstance was a bit different. She was transitioning from a homeless shelter to getting her own place for she and her daughter. The fund was able to provide her with the appropriate financial assistance for a housing deposit.

When students are facing numerous bills, rent tends to be the priority. Because rent takes most of the student's budget, students are left struggling to pay their additional bills. TR had sufficient money to pay her rent in August. However, she had 3 pending utility bills; water, sewage, PG&E. All three bills amounted to \$616.62; all past due. As a single mother and recently relocated to the area, TR was in a tough position to either pay her utilities or buy food for her family. The fund was able to assist her with all 3 bills thus relieving her of the financial emergency that was threatening her ability to stay in school.

We are half way through our fall semester and we foresee more applications from students as the semester winds down. Your donation will help us continue supporting students at MPC with financial emergencies. When we assist students from these stressful financial difficulties, they are more equipped to continue their studies and prevent other educational barriers. A successful college student is a benefit to all, especially our community.

Thank you for your continuous support to MPC students. The REMC staff and students greatly appreciate it!

## Boosting Student Success

Women Supporting Women has assisted many students throughout the years. To date, in the fall 2010 semester, the fund was accessed 51 times. It was used to assist students facing financial emergencies relating to everything from dental care to car repair. Below you will find the stories of two students who have received support through Women Supporting Women in recent months. Their words demonstrate the success of the fund as well as their strong dedication to pursue their educational goals by both students. Here is what Debra and Halleigh have to say:



**Debra J. Quarles and Halleigh J.C. Farley, Fall 2010**

Women Supporting Women has helped me with my rent on more than one occasion, and at another time when I had the tire on my car blow out on me and was riding on my spare. Women Supporting Women graciously gave me the help I needed to get a new tire for my car so I could continue to make my way back and forth to school. If I had not received the help that I got from them during those hard times, I would have had to dropout school and look for work in order to stay afloat and not lose my apartment or my car while I do my best to achieve my degree in a higher level of nursing.

*Debra J. Quarles*

As difficult as working and attending classes naturally is, you should not have to deal with the occasional stress of, "In order to have food, I can't pay the water/PG&E bill" or "I can't afford a bus pass this month, so I must walk to make my classes." The Women Supporting Women fund took those stresses out of the picture, allowing me to maintain my school schedule without worrying about cutting into bill money. I have an AS in Accounting, am working on a 2<sup>nd</sup> in Business Administration, and programs like Women Supporting Women were key to these accomplishments.

*Halleigh J.C. Farley*

## Women Supporting Women Donors

|                       |                        |                        |                         |
|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Dorothy Abbott        | Lacy Williams Buck     | Becky Flavin           | Kip Hudson              |
| Joanne Albert         | Jody Bunn              | Darcie Fohrman         | Monica Hudson           |
| Charlotte Allen       | Nancy Burnett          | Marjorie Foote         | Phyllis M. Hughes       |
| Eva Anderson          | Mary Buskirk           | Jeanne Fosnot          | Ripple Huth             |
| Marla Anderson        | Deb Busman             | Nancy Foy              | Suzanne Irwin           |
| Marilyn Anton         | Yesenia Calderón       | Amelia Franke          | Chisato Ishimura        |
| Bettina Aptheker      | Joni Caldwell          | Susan Freeland         | Ann Jealous             |
| Anita Arellano        | Dana Calhoon           | Joan Friend            | Suzanne Jenifer         |
| Paula Arnold          | Chris Campbell         | Mary Anne Frisone      | Dolores Jerez-Moya      |
| Frances Arriola       | Mary Carl              | Jennifer Fry           | Jane Jewett             |
| Yvonne Ascher         | Caroline Carney        | Virginia Fry           | Barbara Johnson         |
| Lucy Ash              | Ruth Carter            | Linda M. Gabrielson    | Barbara L. Johnson      |
| Grace Ashby           | Martha Casanave        | Sarah Gamble           | Ann Jory                |
| Stephanie Atigh       | Carol Cassidy          | Ellen Gannon           | Diane Kabat             |
| Susan Aucutt          | Lynne Chester          | Mary Anne Garner       | Karen Kadushin          |
| Eleen Auvil           | Nancy Chien            | Frances Gaver          | Evelyn Kahan            |
| Jeanette Ayers        | Yoshiko Chung          | Alice Gill             | Jeanelle Kaminske       |
| Barbara Babcock       | Maribeth Clark         | Elizabeth Gill         | Carol Kaplan            |
| Frances C. Baca       | Kay Cline              | Tia Gindick            | Judy Karas              |
| Zanie Bactad          | Sandra Collingwood     | Maureen Girard         | Sandra Kasky            |
| Betty Jo Baker        | Arabella Colton        | Frieda Golding         | Karin Strasser Kauffman |
| Bonnie Jean Baker     | Pat Condren            | Lisa Danielle Gonzales | Forbes Bastian Keaton   |
| Bonnie R. Baker       | Patricia Berry Conklin | Wendy Graham           | Marcia Keely            |
| Kathleen Baker        | Jeanne Costello        | Diane Fearn Green      | Patricia Keil           |
| Barbara Baldock       | Lydia Criley           | Mary Green             | Susan Kendall           |
| Rosanna N. Barnette   | Mary Kay Crockett      | Nancy Green            | Renee Kezirian          |
| Jo Barton             | Phyllis Crockett       | Helena Greenwood       | Susan Kingsley          |
| Gail Bartow           | Jean Curtis            | Carolyn Griffin        | Shirley Kirkpatrick     |
| Peggy Downes Baskin   | Bella Cutino           | Katherine Griffin-Hart | Norma T. Klevan         |
| Julia Batchev         | Pamela Dally           | Mary E. Griffin        | Kate Kluetmeier         |
| Barbara Batista       | Grace Darcy            | Renate Griffin         | Susan Klusmire          |
| Joanne Bauer          | Grania Darcy           | Sandra Grimmer         | Brook Knowles           |
| Anna Beck             | Jacqi Davis            | Adrienne Grover        | Margaret Koenig         |
| Julie Work Beck       | Norma Davis            | Marilynn Gustafson     | Nada Kovalik            |
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| Roberta Bialek        | Lee A. Drewitz         | Ellie Hattori          | Norma Larson            |
| Melanie C. Billig     | Amy Driscoll           | Gretchen Hausmann      | Sharon Larson           |
| Kimberly Birdsong     | Susan Watts DuCoeur    | Janet Isak Hawley      | Carol Lasquade          |
| Jean Black            | June Duran Stock       | Elizabeth Helfrich     | Mavis Lautaret          |
| Phyllis Blakemore     | Artie Early            | Anne Helms             | Mary Leslie             |
| Barbara Drake Blevens | Sally Eastham          | Helen Hempel           | Karen Levett            |
| Betsy Bliss           | Dina Eastwood          | Noemi Hert             | Duncan Lewis            |
| Carole Bogue-Feinour  | Natalie Eberly         | Feesie Heuer           | Norma Lewis             |
| Mary Wolfe Bogue      | Kathy Eckerson         | Judy Higgerson         | Patricia Lilley         |
| Nan Borreson          | Ilene Eisen            | Lisa Hoivik            | Sarah Lincoln           |
| M.G. Bradbury         | Lilyan Eldred          | Carol Lee Holland      | Barbara Livingston      |
| Mary Branson          | Morag Elizabeth        | Cindy Holley           | Mary Anne Teed Lloyd    |
| Jessie Bray           | Barbara Emerson        | Lisa Mitchell Hollo    | Karin Locke             |
| Jean Brenner          | Ginna Engle            | Jeanne Holmquist       | Vikki Logan             |
| Elizabeth Brinton     | Carole Erickson        | Joan Hooker            | Shirley Loomis          |
| Wendy Brodie          | Roseann Erwin          | Alice Hopkins          | Marjorie Love           |
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| Barbara Brooks        | Fran Farina            | Claire Horn            | Ann Peterson Mahoney    |
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| Morley Brown          | Gail Barish Feuer      | Rosemary Houser        | Ann Manes               |
| Leslie Bruhn          | Dorothy Finell         | Marcia Gambrell Hovick | Meredith Manhard        |
| Courtney Brunn        | Quincy Fingerote       | Phyllis Hubbard        | Martha Manson           |

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 Maureen Mason  
 Rosemary Matson  
 Betty Matterson  
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 Tey Roberts  
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 Deborah Ruiz  
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 Rosaleen Ryan  
 Carolyn Samson  
 Marilyn Sanders  
 Jennifer Lloyd Santee  
 Dawn Sare  
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 Diana Thelander  
 Illia Thompson  
 Tweet Thorngate  
 Cammy Torgenrud  
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 Nancy Tuckwab  
 Linda Tunney  
 Ilene Tuttle  
 Ruth Upton  
 Shirley VanLieu  
 Betty Van Meter  
 Joyce Vandevere  
 Christine Vincent  
 Suzanne Von Drachenfels  
 Cecil Wahle  
 Marie Wainscoat  
 May Waldroup  
 Catherine Horan Walker  
 Susan Walter  
 Marilee Wandke  
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 Ruthie Watts  
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 Hope Williams  
 Peggy Williams  
 Judith Wills  
 Madelyn Winterbourne  
 Kathi Wojtkowski  
 Thuy Wong  
 Pamela Wootten  
 Patricia Work  
 Darby Moss Worth  
 Emily Woudenberg  
 Constance Wright

Jane Wynn  
 Katherine Yamada  
 Collyn Youngman  
 Marsha Zeitlin  
 Barbara Zellmer  
 Jan Ziessow

**In Memoriam**

Carolyn Ahern  
 Margaret Bates  
 Pat Boles  
 Beth Bosworth Brando  
 Blanche DePuy  
 Carol Baker Doty  
 Jean Ehrman  
 Alison Faul  
 Liesel Griffin  
 Gladys Harrison  
 Nancy Hayward  
 Joan Irwin  
 Leda Jelinek  
 Edie Karas  
 Richard Kauffman  
 Phyllis Krystal  
 Dominique Legrand List  
 Dorothy McEwen  
 Hildegard Mitchell  
 Catherine O'Boyle  
 Margaret W. Owings  
 Caroline Page  
 Sue Skipper  
 Mary Lou Stutzman  
 Irene Towles-Reaves  
 Ruth Vreeland  
 Kay Webster

**Corporate/Organizational Members**

All Saints Episcopal Church  
 Altrusa Club  
 Big Sur International Marathon  
 Carmel Valley Women's Club  
 Carmel Valley Women's Network  
 Community Foundation for Monterey County  
 DPIC Companies  
 Duke Energy Fossil-Hydro CA, Inc.  
 F.E.W. Central Coast CA Chapter  
 First Saturday with Nancy Raven  
 Knight Ridder Newspaper  
 PEO Sisterhood Chapter HT/NJ/ST  
 Professional Women's Network  
 Quota International of Monterey Peninsula  
 Robert Talbott, Inc.  
 The Women's Fund of the Community Foundation for Monterey County  
 United Hunger Relief, Inc.  
 Zonta Club of Monterey Area

## **The Re-entry and Multicultural Center**

Social Science, Room 204  
980 Fremont Street  
Monterey, CA 93940



Want to donate to Women Supporting Women?

All donations may be mailed to:

**Foundation of Monterey Peninsula College-Women Supporting Women**

**980 Fremont Street**

**Monterey, CA 93940**

Your donation helps many students focus and finish their educational goals at Monterey Peninsula College.

Thank you for your support throughout the years, we wouldn't be able to do it without you!

### **The Re-entry & Multicultural Center Staff**

Yesenia Calderón, Re-entry Counseling Specialist

Erin Miller, Re-entry Counseling Specialist

April Celestino, Work Study

Thelma Dennis, Work Study

Laurence E. Walker, Dean of Student Services

Carsbia W. Anderson, Vice President of Student Services

***For more information about our program or services, please contact us at (831) 646-4276 or [womensprograms@mpc.edu](mailto:womensprograms@mpc.edu)***