

## 2009-2010 STAR Speakers

### Architecture/Construction

Career examples: Architectural Cad Technician, Materials Testing, Appraiser, Construction Estimator, Building Code Inspector, Civil Engineer Technician

**Craig Priskorn**, an instructor in the Architecture/Construction program at HFCC, has a bachelor of science degree in architecture and the professional bachelor of architecture from Lawrence Technical University.

Mr. Priskorn is a licensed architect in the state of Michigan, with 10 years of professional experience at Rogvoy Associates before he began teaching. Mr. Priskorn still works in the field along with his teaching duties. He has been an instructor at HFCC for 26 years.

### Biology/Biotechnology

Career examples: Genetic Counseling, Marine Biology, Natural Resources and Conservation, Forensic Biology, Veterinary Medicine

**Dr. Jolie Stepaniak** is a biology instructor at HFCC. She earned a bachelor's degree in microbiology from Michigan State University, a master's of public health degree in hospital and molecular epidemiology from the University of Michigan, and a doctorate in immunology and microbiology from Wayne State University. Dr. Stepaniak teaches a number of biology courses at HFCC, including *Microbiology for the Allied Health Sciences* and *Cells and Molecular Biology*. She is involved in the development and implementation of a biotechnology program at HFCC.

### Business

Career example: Manager, Accountant, Customer Service Specialist, Entrepreneur, Economist

**Corinne Asher** is the lead faculty for the management programs at HFCC. Corinne started her career as an auditor with Coopers and Lybrand and has experience with many businesses and industries. She also has spent part of her career as an internal auditor with the Handleman Company and has managed a computer end-user support department for Manufacturers Hanover Mortgage Co. where she was an assistant vice president. In addition to being a certified public accountant, Asher has a bachelor's in accounting from Michigan State University, and a master's in business administration from the University of Michigan.

**Douglas Langs** is a business and economics instructor at HFCC. Mr. Langs worked for the General Motors Corp. for 22 years, all in financial areas including international trade and finance, treasury administration, budgeting, risk management, economic forecasting and benefit analysis. In 1996 Langs began working in the educational field while still working full time at GM. He began with volunteer work through Junior Achievement and started teaching economics at the college level in 2003.

He holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Albion College, a master's in management supervision from Central Michigan University, a master's in economics from the University of Detroit and a master's in economics (completed all courses as a Ph.D. candidate) from Wayne State University.

**George W. Strugs, Jr., Esq.** is a practicing attorney in the State of MI.; and, has taught Accounting and Business at HFCC since the Fall of 2007. Mr. Strugs received his BBA degree in Accounting from U of D, a JD (Labor Relations and Business) from the U of D School of Law and an MBA in Accounting from the University of Atlanta, Barrington.

Previous to joining the HFCC faculty Mr. Strugs taught various Accounting and Business courses at Edison College, Naples, FL; Davenport University, Dearborn; Lane College, Jackson, TN; Wayne State U.; Baker College, Auburn Hills; and Highland Park Community College.

### Career Counseling

*Could your students benefit from a presentation which discusses transfer options between HFCC and four year institutions? Are they still unsure about a career field? If you answered yes to one or both of these questions then you may be interested in scheduling Debora Gates to visit your class.*

**Debora Gates** has a bachelor's degree in French and Spanish and a master's in guidance and counseling from the University of Detroit. She is a national certified counselor as well as a licensed professional counselor. She has taught and counseled in the Archdiocese of Detroit for 15 years and has been counselor at HFCC since 1989 where she specializes in developing and implementing transfer and articulation agreements between HFCC and four year institutions. Gates will speak with your students about the many options available to those who wish to continue their education after taking courses or earning a degree at HFCC. She also will discuss a variety of career tests and inventories that are provided by the HFCC Career Resource Center for undecided students.

### Computer Information Systems

*Career example: Network Administration, Programming, Web Developer, Computer Support, Software Installation and Repair*

**Brian Stewart** holds a master's in information security from Walsh College. A graduate of HFCC and Davenport University, Stewart is an instructor in the CIS department. Stewart started his career working as a network administrator for a mid-size company in Michigan. He has worked in several areas of computing and has been a guest speaker at many conferences. Stewart has worked with several local organizations to secure co-op opportunities for HFCC students and graduates of the CIS program. Recently he has worked with the HFCC assisted learning services office to develop viable solutions for students with disabilities who need to use computers in everyday life.

### Cisco-Computer Networking Academy

*Career Examples: LAN/WAN Technician, Cabling Installation Technician, Computer Network Support Specialist, Network Administrator, Network Engineer*

**Todd Browning** has a bachelor's degree in business education from Eastern Michigan University and a master's degree in education from Wayne State University. He has been a computer (Cisco) networking academy instructor at HFCC for eight years and holds a Cisco certified networking associate certification along with a Cisco certified academy instructor certification. Before coming to HFCC, he taught business and computer applications and started the Cisco networking academy program in the Wyandotte Public Schools. He is also a Wyandotte city councilman elected to office in 2000.

### Criminal Justice

*Career Examples: Prison Corrections Officer, Probation/Parole Officer, Social Work, Federal Law Enforcement, Police Officer, Law School, Border Patrol*

**Greg Osowski** is the director of HFCC's Criminal Justice program. He earned bachelor's degrees at Wayne State University in criminology and psychology and a master of science degree in law enforcement from the University of Detroit. He has 27 years of experience with the Detroit Police Department and was an instructor at the Detroit Police Academy.

**Daniel Lemisch, Esq.** has an undergraduate degree from Temple University and a law degree from the U of D School of Law. He has been a civil attorney, a state prosecutor in Oakland County, MI and is currently a federal prosecutor at the US Attorneys Office in Detroit, MI. Mr. Lemisch has lectured on various criminal law issues to judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys and legislators in Indonesia, Russia, Nigeria and Serbia.

## Culinary Arts

Career Examples: Chef, Restaurant Owner, Management, Resort and Tourist Operations, Recreational Centers, Catering Business

**Chef Eric Gackenbach** provides leadership and direction to the Hospitality Studies and Culinary Arts department at HFCC. He values formal education and industry experience and brings both to his role at the college. Chef Gackenbach received an associate in applied science degree in culinary arts from Schoolcraft College, a bachelor of science in Hospitality Services Administration from Central Michigan University and a Masters in business administration from Wayne State University. After traveling for ten years as a Regional Manager for a global food service company, Chef Gackenbach chose to balance corporate training, business development and financial planning & accounting with his love for professional cooking and outstanding service. He learned about wine and food from a number of local chefs and restaurants as well as through his experience with Hyatt Hotels as a Chef de Cuisine of Palladio, a white tablecloth Northern Italian restaurant in Rochester, NY. Currently Chef Gackenbach teaches the advanced cooking class that serves diners every Wednesday evening at the 5101, the student run restaurant at HFCC.

## English

Careers Include: Teacher/College Professor, Writer, Law School, Manager, Editor

**Jennifer L. Roderique** has been employed as a full-time English faculty member since January of 2006. She teaches the full range of composition courses, from developmental through advanced, and literature as well. She is also a lead instructor for the Honors Program, currently teaching the Great Works course and serving as a directed study advisor. Roderique is a Ph.D. candidate, completing her dissertation at Wayne State University on 1880s American labor novels and the teaching economic theory to the general public. She also serves as an advance placement grader for the English language exam and has served as a certified advanced placement course auditor for the College Board.

## English Language Institute (ELI)

*This office provides services to help expedite the learning and language development of foreign students by offering them sessions of intensive language study. The program helps students who speak English as a second language to achieve their goals as well as efficiently increase their English Language Proficiency for academic and professional purposes.*

**Dr. Mary Assel** holds a bachelor's in teaching English from the University of the State of New York, a master's in teaching English methods from Wayne State University, and a doctorate from Wayne State in curriculum design. She is co-director of the English Language Institute at HFCC and was a key-player in establishing the institute in the fall of 2001. Her marketing and public relations efforts have helped to expand the program and attract students from 70 different countries. She also helped revise the English division's ESL classes to reflect the needs of a non-native speaking audience. Dr. Assel is the recipient of the 2007-2008 lectureship award at HFCC. She is an active member in various campus and off-campus committees that embrace all areas in the teaching of English as a second language. She has taught English as a Second language in Africa, the Middle East, and the US for over 30 years. She is Vice-Chairman of the Muslim American Youth Academy Board of Trustees in Dearborn, Michigan and was one of the co-organizers in the construction of the Academy's middle school.

## Henry Ford II Honors Program

Program graduates have earned admission and full scholarships to many top universities across the country including UM-AA, MSU, WSU, UNY and NYU. Qualified students will take courses in English composition, science and the humanities and develop advanced skills in independent research and critical thinking.

**Dr. Nabeel Abraham** is the Director of the Henry Ford II Honors Program at HFCC and also an anthropology instructor. Dr. Abraham received his bachelor degrees in sociology and anthropology at Wayne State University. He completed his graduate studies and received his Ph.D. in anthropology at the University of Michigan. Dr. Abraham writes and lectures about U.S.-Arab relations and has published several books. He has been an instructor at HFCC since 1985.

### **Industrial Distribution**

*Career examples: Business Managers, Buyers, Customer Service Representatives, Inventory/Warehouse Managers, Technical Product Line Specialist*

**John Masek** is Vice President of Bearing Service, Inc., an independent distributor of bearings and power transmission products servicing industrial, automotive and manufacturing industries throughout Michigan. With 26 years experience in the industry, Masek's current responsibilities include human resources, marketing and strategic planning. He formerly served in various sales management capacities with Bearing Service. Mr. Masek graduated from the University of Michigan-Dearborn with a bachelor of science in human resource management. He has been active in several industry associations, currently serving on the board of directors of the Great Lakes chapter of the Electrical Apparatus Service Association, and is President of the Power Transmission Distributors Association. Mr. Masek was one of the original members of the industrial distribution advisory committee at HFCC.

### **Mathematics**

*Career Examples: Teachers, Actuarial Science, Operations Research, Finance, Engineering*

**Dr. Rama Chidambaram** has a Doctorate in Mathematics from Arizona State University while her Undergraduate and Master's work was completed in India. Dr. Chidambaram has been a mathematics instructor at HFCC since Fall, 2008 and greatly enjoys teaching mathematics. She became a teacher to help students overcome the fear of mathematics and to help them succeed in the subject. As a teacher she strives for her students to develop a life long passion for learning and knowledge. She believes that given time and encouragement, any student who is willing to learn can understand mathematics. Previous to joining the HFCC faculty, Dr. Chidambaram taught for five years at UM Dearborn.

### **Music**

*Career Examples: Performers, Teachers, Producers, Composers, Music Therapy*

**Richard L. Goward** has been teaching since 1975. He received his Bachelor's degree in music from Central Michigan University and a Master's in music from U of M with additional course work at MSU. His memorable professional performances include appearances with Aretha Franklin, the Rich Little Show and Marie Osmond along with the Plural Circle Big Band, Vanguard Brass and many area orchestras.

Goward has been director of bands at HFCC for 26 years. HFCC band members have had the opportunity to perform at music festivals throughout the USA and Europe. Prestigious performances include Carnegie Hall, the Edinburgh Jazz Festival, North Seas Festival, Montroux, Switzerland Jazz Festival, Euro Disney, New Orleans Mardi Gras and the Presidential Inaugural Balls in Washington D.C. in 2001, '06 & '09. He and the HFCC Big Band recently received the Wayne County Executive's Award for outstanding cultural contributions in SE MI.

### **Nursing**

*Career Examples: Licensed RN's can work in hospitals, clinics, home care environments, factories, military, schools, public health, etc.*

**Sophia Beydoun** graduated with Associate degrees in art and science with a concentration in nursing from HFCC. Beydoun also has a Bachelor's and Master's degree in nursing from Madonna University. Prior to becoming a full-time faculty member at HFCC, Beydoun worked as a staff nurse at Henry Ford Hospital. She

also reads new materials for text companies to ensure they are accurate and up to date for clinical practice. Her interest is in adult medical- surgical nursing, concentrating in all areas.

**Kim Lindquist** holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from EMU and a Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Toledo. She is in her third year of teaching in the Nursing Program at HFCC and specializes in medical/surgical nursing and nursing leadership and management. Before coming to HFCC, Ms. Lindquist spent most of her nursing career working in the emergency room. She also has experience in administrative nursing and staff development.

### **Pre -Education (Pre-Elementary, Pre-Secondary, and Pre-Special Education)**

*Career Example: Teacher Elementary, Secondary, Special Education (Upon Completion of Bachelor's Degree, Child Development Centers)*

**Deborah Zopf** completed her bachelor's degree in mathematic education from Purdue University in 1974. She has taught for one year at Divine Child High School in Dearborn, Michigan. For 13 years she was a full-time mother and homemaker. She earned a master's degree in mathematics at Eastern Michigan University in 1988 and re-entered teaching that year as an adjunct instructor at HFCC and the University of Detroit Mercy. In 1991 Zopf accepted a full-time position as a mathematics instructor at HFCC, teaching mathematics at all levels.

Ms. Zopf's work has included curriculum development for technical and health career professionals, as well as teachers. She chaired the committee that designed the nationally recognized pre-education program and the three credit course in mathematics for elementary teachers. She has received the Michigan Mathematics Association of Two-Year Colleges' Teaching Excellence award in recognition of her dedication to teaching mathematics and mathematics teacher education. Pursuing her passion for quality mathematics teacher education, Zopf is a doctoral candidate at the University of Michigan in mathematics education.

### **Psychology**

*Careers Example: Psychologist, Counselors, Teacher, Research*

**Patricia Lanzon** received a bachelor's degree in secondary education from Eastern Michigan University and a master's in educational foundations and educational psychology from Florida State University. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. at Wayne State University in educational psychology. Lanzon was a middle school teacher, union representative, middle school assistant principal and middle school principal prior to teaching at HFCC. She teaches introduction to psychology, educational psychology and coordinates a 50-hour pre-student teaching practicum for students majoring in education.

**Sam Olive** earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Toledo, a master's degree from the University of Detroit and has completed the necessary hours for a specialist's degree. He was a school psychologist for 33 years in the Romulus School District. For 10 years he served as regional director for the Michigan Association of School Psychologists and has served on many county and state committees. He served on the committee to develop the guidelines for learning disabled and emotionally impaired students in Wayne County and the MI-ACCESS committee for developing tests for special education students in Michigan. He presents annually to parent groups on discipline and motivation. He has taught at HFCC for 34 years.

### **Security**

*Career Example: Security, Administration, Investigator*

**Johnny May** is the author of "Johnny May's guide to Preventing Identity Theft." He is a campus safety specialist at HFCC. Mr. May is a graduate of the University of Detroit-Mercy where he earned his bachelor of science in criminal justice and his master of science in security administration. He is an adjunct professor at HFCC and Madonna University.

## **Theater**

*Career Example: Actor/Actress, Stage Production, Stage Design*

**Alexander L. Carr** has a B.A. in English from the University of Michigan, graduating with honors. As part of his major he studied the Arthurian Legends at St. Peter's College at the University of Oxford, Oxford, UK. Mr. Carr is an HFCC Alumnus with two Associate's Degrees, one in Pre-Secondary Education, the other in Theatre/Drama, graduating Summa Cum Laude with honors for both degrees.

In addition, Mr. Carr is a carpenter and certified draftsman with over 15 years of experience in building and design. He has been affiliated with the HFCC theater department for more than 7 years and is currently an Adjunct Faculty member in the HFCC theater department and teaches first year theater courses, as well as coordinating the Technical Theater Lab for theater production. He is one of the department's resident Technical Theater Artists, building, designing, and painting several of the department's scenic and properties units. Mr. Carr is also an aspiring Model & Actor and has several amateur and professional credits in this arena.

**Gerry Dzuibinski**, a Detroit native, studied engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology before transferring to Antioch College to obtain his bachelor of arts in communications and growth environments. He received his master of arts in directing from Antioch University in 1992, where he studied with Marcel Marceau. Returning to Detroit, he has taught theatre and mathematics at an alternative high school for two years before forming his own non-profit production company, the Experimental Performing Arts Association, of which he is still the Artistic Director. He began teaching at HFCC in 1989.

## **World Languages**

*Career Examples: Linguist, Translator, Teacher*

**Robert Cascardo** teaches Italian at HFCC. He studied in Florence and Rome, has worked in Turin and traveled extensively throughout Italy. Cascardo says that, "many people rate Italian as the most beautiful language spoken in the world." He enjoys teaching the Italian culture as much as the Italian language. As part of the culture, students usually partake in an authentic Italian meal and use the internet to listen to contemporary Italian music and watch video and films.