Opening Remarks

Well, it's another Fall semester, core courses in full swing (you guys finish your iterations ye?), the X-Files season premiere is over, and Star Trek is in re-runs, so it seemed like the department's favorite aperiodical should make its appearance once again. As usual, anyone who would like to contribute to this literary bastion need only contact me--contributions can be money, Coke (the drink, not the drug), a Nissin 300 SZ...but mostly I'd settle for something in writing. Didn't anyone see "I Love Trouble?" Don't you want to be like Julia Roberts and Nick Nolte? Well, OK, but you could still write articles...

MSAC News

REALLY BIG NEWS!!!! We have NEW OFFICERS! The lucky ducks are:

Co-President/Treasurers: Lisa Young
Wendy Quiggley

VP/Faculty Liaison: Michael Simmons

Secretary: R. Michael Swain

Something the newer students should be aware of is that there used to be more officers, but then the department needed money so we sold them into white slavery... Seriously, there used to be six officers on the MSAC board: President, VP in charge of faculty relations, VP in charge of social functions, VP in charge of public relations, treasurer, and secretary. You will notice that these positions have been combined or eliminated. In fact, this was not due to the white slave trade, but to the fact that no one ever wanted to take the responsibility, and it was just too much of a pain in the butt to fill the positions. So what's the point? Well, there are three points: (1) These four people, particularly Lisa and Wendy, are pulling the weight of six or more, for YOUR benefit--help them out when ever possible; ie, show up to meetings, volunteer when asked (don't wait to be begged), etc. (2) Do these brave souls a favor and let them escape at the end of their term. New students who are into student government, helping out, or want to work on their administrative skills (it's a great way to make connections) should start thinking about taking an officer's position next year. Then elections won't be like pulling teeth, and people won't be afraid that volunteering will leave them in that position till they graduate. And finally, (3) Lisa really should have known better than to get roped in, since her husband Tom already did the President thing...(Thanks Lisa, going in KNOWING is even braver than going in blind!)

SUPERSTARS--This year it's Saturday, October 22. For those who are unfamiliar, this is an annual event which benefits the Marine Science Enrichment Fund and MSAC. Do we work for our money? Well, not really--it's too much fun to call it work, and this year we even get free breakfast and lunch! Where and how and what? Superstars is a day-long corporate olympics which MSAC students help organize and orchestrate (time keepers, score runners, referees, etc). In the past, it has always been held in North Shore Park (just around the corner, behind the Bayfront Center), which means you get a full day of sun, a little beach, and a lot of park. Come watch the Executive Assistant Operations Manager Technicians throw footballs while blind-folded, see the testosterone levels rise before your very eyes! There is a sign up sheet on the lounge door, or you can contact Scott Harrison. BE THERE!

Kudos

To the seemingly endless stream of new parents in our department:

Michael & Joan Simmons
Ray & Tiffany Pribble
Strawn & Craig Toler  
John & Lisa Compton  
Iffy Davis

And anybody else I forgot--please don’t take it personally, it just means I forgot to grab one of the posters before it got taken down. Congrats to you all, and I hope your children are sleeping through the night now so you can too.

To Stcve Hawcs’s band, for their coverage in the Sunday St. Pete Times, and having their music be on the Times Line.

To everyone involved in the Coastal Clean-up, who faced hordes of mosquitoes in the name of a better environment, and especially to Nan, who rounded everybody up.

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New Building

Just a few comments, which follow the theme of "The good, the bad, and the ugly."

The good: We have to start with Bob Jolley--we are frankly amazed that he has handled the transition to the new building, the continued renovation of the old building, and basically everyone’s complaints about everything, WITHOUT having a heart attack. So which is the best headache relief medication, Bob, Bayer or Anacin 3? You’re amazing, and we just thought you ought to know that. Another thing that’s nice is the fantastic view from any one of the corner lounges on each floor--you can watch planes land, take off, and crash. Electrical storms are also really cool. Inhabitants of the old building are cordially invited over to see these lounges and visit us whenever convenient--we miss seeing you in the halls! And finally, the plethora of garbage cans--we are truly blessed with garbage cans. We have red cans for biohazard garbage, yellow cans for radioactive garbage, brown cans for regular garbage, little grey cans for around-your-desk garbage, blue cans for recycling glass, and some new cans for recycling aluminum cans. Again, everyone is invited to see our collection of hip, 90’s garbage cans. We’ll even let you use them.

The bad: Most of us find walking into a meat locker slightly warmer than stepping into the new building. While realizing that there is a lot of expensive and sensitive equipment that has temperature requirements, is there not a way to selectively cool those rooms (like the xerox room in the old building) while conserving energy in the halls and offices? Bottom line: wearing a sweater and jeans to work when it’s 95° outside is ridiculous. The other big complaint (ignore this Bob, delegate it to someone else) revolves around an essential: FOOD. We still have to walk over to the old building to leave lunch in the refrigerator, then back over to microwave it, and back again to get a soda. Yes, we know the microwave and fridges for the lounges are coming, but we want them now (whine, whine, sniffle). As to the vending machines, we’re ready to throw our money at you--why won’t you come to the new building and take it?!

The ugly: I think this goes without saying.

The open house is October 28th; y’all come.

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Free Unclassifieds

Social editor(s) desperately needed for the MSAC RT. Present editor works all the time and has no life, but misses being able to run stories about (1) who got drunk at the wine and cheese party and ended up throwing a pound of Gouda down the shark’s gut; (2) games of three-man involving towels on people’s heads; and (3) stag parties where bathroom doors got pulled off their hinges. If you go to some or most of the formal and informal MSAC get togethers, you are who I need. Please contact Chris Kellogg.

Melrose Place--I’ve missed the season premiere and the two episodes after that; can someone give me a brief synopsis of the action? Email me: slick@marine.

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Trivia

What famous director made a cameo appearance in "The Blues Brothers" as the Cook County Assessor?

(grebleipS sehpetS)