Welcome Back Students!

Dear Marist Student-Athletes,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome both our upperclassmen and freshmen to Marist for the 2012-2013 academic year! It’s hard to believe we are back in the swing of things already after a very busy summer here in the Enhancement Center.

In 2011-2012, our student-athletes not only excelled in the classroom, but made us proud when they represented us in June in Indianapolis. Here are some of their accomplishments:

- 11 consecutive years leading the MAAC in student-athletes named to Academic Honor Roll
- 237 student-athletes named to 2012 MAAC Academic Honor Roll
- 7 CoSIDA/Capital One Academic All-District honorees in 2011-12 school year
- 3 student-athletes participated in the NCAA’s National Career in Sports Forum in Indianapolis

This semester, we have a few new faces in the Center. Dasha Cherkasov is the new Academic Advisement Fellow and Theresa Beretta is the new Office Assistant. You can read more about Dasha and Theresa on the next page. This is the biggest “team” the Center has ever had and we are committed to making your academic “seasons” the best ever!

Some of you are familiar with our services because you have been mandated to them or you’ve sought us out on your own. We encourage all of you to use the facility to study or meet with a tutor, to talk to one of us about your plans after college, or to learn more about community service or other programming we offer. There’s definitely something for everyone here, so we hope to see each of you in the Center!

Cammie, Dasha Theresa, and I look forward to another great year and hope that your success in the classroom mirrors your success on the field, court, course, track, river, and in the pool!

Sincerely,
Alyssa M. Gates
Director of Student-Athlete Enhancement

Summer Community Service Spotlight

While it may have seemed quiet at Marist College this past summer, several incoming basketball freshmen were already attending classes and giving back to their new community.

Students participating in the Pre-Freshmen Summer Program attended weekly service projects that not only gave them a chance to give back to Poughkeepsie but also was an educational experience for everyone involved.

Students were able to visit four prominent non-profits in the area, including The Poughkeepsie Children’s Museum, Locust Grove, Vassar Warner Elderly Home and Catharine Street Community Center. The freshmen were able to hone their leadership and creativity through fun projects, like “tie dyeing” t-shirts at The Children’s Museum’s “Celebrate Summer” event, bingo and Wii bowling at Vassar Warner, gardening at Locust Grove and of course participating in a basketball skills clinic at Catharine Street Community Center.

The student-athletes showed that they are, without a doubt, equipped to be leaders at Marist College and really showed their maturity and leadership throughout the six-week program. The Center for Student-Athlete Enhancement is very proud of the freshmen class and looks forward to highlighting more community service efforts for the remainder of the semester.
Meet the new staff!

Over the summer, our office was lucky to add two new additions to our staff. Dasha Cherkasov will be the new Academic Fellow for the 2012-2013 academic year and Theresa Beretta will be the Center’s Office Assistant. Please come by the office to welcome them to Marist and check out a little information on the entire staff below!

**Alyssa Gates**: Alyssa is from Windsor, NY (outside of Binghamton). Her favorite color is blue, and she loves cheese. Outside of the office, she enjoys cooking and what she likes about working in the office is all the different personalities!

**Cammie Jones**: Cammie is from Dallas, Texas and she loves burnt orange and blue. Her favorite food is anything that is a dessert except coconut. What she enjoys about the office is seeing students grow into young adults and reach their goals. The service projects are a plus as well.

**Dasha Cherkasov**: Dasha is from Eastchester, NY and her favorite color is turquoise. Her hobby is reading funny books. As for her favorite food, it’s basically everything (no joke). What she likes about working in the office is that she gets to work with student-athletes and help them succeed in multiple areas. Having amazing co-workers makes her day even better.

**Theresa Beretta**: Theresa lived in Edison, NJ, grew up in the town of Newburgh, NY and currently resides in Wappingers Falls, NY. She is married with two boys; Raphael, 14 and Valentino, 13. Her favorite color is blue, she enjoys photography and her favorite food is sushi. What she likes about working in the office as a new employee are her co-workers. “The McCann Center and Marist staff, coaches, assistant coaches, etc, have all been so welcoming and kind. The students are filled with enthusiasm and have such positive attitudes and are extremely respectful.”

**Campus Opportunities**

There are several ways for students to get involved this semester. Below are just a few ways of getting connected. Check back each month and through the list serv for future updates.

1. **LEAP OLEAPICS** - On September 16 at 6pm in the front of McCann, LEAP will be hosting a kick off event, Olympic style, for all female student-athletes interested in learning more about LEAP, our members, and how to get involved. Email Kristina D. for more info and to RSVP: kdhoops50@aol.com.

2. **SOCCER PINK OUT** - Support women’s soccer on Friday, September 21 at 7pm at their annual PINK OUT Game. Proceeds from the game will go towards Miles of Hope Breast Cancer Foundation.

3. **LIBRARY ASSISTANCE FOR ATHLETES** - If you need help with research for upcoming term papers throughout the semester or would like to speak with a librarian personally, feel free to visit with Pepper in the Enhancement Center or check out the new library page specifically for student-athletes and their research needs! http://libguides.marist.edu/RedFoxes

**Important Reminders**

- **Study hall** is held every Sunday from 4-9pm and Monday through Thursday 10am-6pm.
- **The last day to withdraw from a class** is October 29, 2012 at 5pm. If you have any questions, please visit your athletic academic advisor before changing any classes.
- **Mandatory Freshmen seminars** will occur on Mondays, September 17, 24 and October 1. Check with your coaches and our staff to see which time you must attend.