Congratulations May Graduates!

Barbara Kling will continue to work with the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program in Colchester and hopes to “branch out to other programs where I can teach new Americans.”

Lindsey Harhen addresses her classmates and their guests.

Photographs courtesy of Muhammad Jufrianto and Leigh Smith

Muhammad Jufrianto (left) was interviewed at Commencement by Burlington television station WCAX. See the interview at http://www.wcax.com/story/25487262/a-dream-come-true-for-st-michaels-grad. Awouignandji L. “Ebenezer” Ylonfoun (MATESOL ‘15) is pictured at right.

The Closing Ceremony for the spring graduates was held on May 8.

Dr. Fox joined the other guests to celebrate.

Graduates shared their motivations for joining the TESOL field.

Friendship and community: Graduates and classmates enjoy the Closing.
In the winter of 2012, Mary Lou Leavitt (Diploma ’11) launched T-Shirt Dresses for Girls, a group designed to create and distribute dresses to young girls in need around the globe. After attending a sewing event hosted by Mothers Without Borders in Bristol, Vermont where she helped make dresses for girls in Zambia, Leavitt was inspired to organize a similar group in upstate New York. Today Leavitt’s sewing circle comprises eight members and a network of volunteers who deliver the dresses.

“We hope that we are contributing something useful to little ones without a safety net, while at the same time reducing what might otherwise go into the landfill by recycling fabric remnants, little ones’ shirts, donated thread, and used suitcases in usable condition,” said Leavitt.

Since its start, T-Shirt Dresses for Girls has provided more than 2500 dresses to storm victims in the U.S., as well as to young girls in Africa, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. The group relies on donated materials and its distribution network to bring the dresses where they are needed.

In January 2014 Leavitt’s group was awarded a Martin Luther King Day of Service mini-grant from the United Way in Plattsburgh, New York, part of the United Way of the Adirondack Region, Inc. This grant will be used to help defray the cost of shipping dresses to areas not served by volunteers, particularly those regions affected by natural and economic disasters. The dresses also will be sent to New Mexico for distribution to orphans on the Mexican border. These children are victims of drug cartel violence and poverty in Mexico.

To become involved with T-Shirt Dresses for Girls, by donating materials or delivering dresses to an area in need, please contact Mary Lou Leavitt at spanishteacher3@hotmail.com.

Photographs courtesy of Melissa Holzman
In early March, the Applied Linguistics Department celebrated Grammar Day with soup and a webinar. After socializing over bowls of warm chicken noodle and zucchini soups, students participated in Stacy Hagen’s webinar “Trends in Grammar: The Critical Role of Listening in a Grammar Class.”

Ms. Hagen discussed recent research in listening, the importance of teaching decoding skills, and demonstrated why listening belongs at all levels of a grammar class.

The spring mid-semester party coincided with the St. Patrick’s Day weekend. Guests donned their green, and shared a potluck meal, including Professor O’Dowd’s corned beef and cabbage. The evening included games and dancing.

Photographs courtesy of Muhammad Jufrianto and Elizabeth O’Dowd

Masayuki Kudo (MATESOL ‘97) was awarded a Ph.D. in Education from International Christian University in Tokyo. His dissertation was titled “Effects of Worked Examples on Stress, Cognitive Loads, and Performance in Online Collaboration.”

Dylan Renca (Diploma ‘13) received a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant (ETA) Award. Renca will teach conversational English to Indonesian high-school students beginning in August 2014. The award also encourages recipients to engage in community service projects in the local area.

In June, Dr. Mahmoud Arani, Chair of Applied Linguistics; Sean Dailey, Instructor of Applied Linguistics; and Richard Gamache, Associate Professor of Applied Linguistics, attended a briefing and discussion at the University of Vermont in Burlington titled *China: Comprehending the Country, Communicating with the People*.

An interview with Dr. Elizabeth O’Dowd, Director of Graduate TESOL Programs, was featured on MastersinTESOL.net. In it, O’Dowd discusses the SMC TESOL programs and the field of TESOL. The interview is available at http://www.mastersintesol.net/.

Many Languages, One Humanity

DO YOU HAVE NEWS TO SHARE?
Please contact Melissa at mholzman@smcvt.edu.

Mutahar Al-Murtadha (MATESOL ‘09)

International Christian
University in Tokyo. His
dissertation was titled
“Effects of Worked Examples
on Stress, Cognitive Loads,
and Performance in Online
Collaboration.”

Masayuki Kudo (MATESOL ‘97)

Lopez (MATESOL ‘11) is
serving as an adjunct
instructor, teaching Core and
Oral Skills courses in the
Intensive English Program at
Saint Michael’s College. “It
has been a priceless and
rewarding experience since I
started working with students
from around the world at
the Intensive English
Program,” said Lopez.

Dylan Renca (Diploma
‘13) received a Fulbright
English Teaching
Assistant (ETA) Award.
Renca will teach
conversational English to
Indonesian high-school
students beginning in
August 2014. The award
also encourages
recipients to engage in
community service
projects in the local area.

In June, Dr. Mahmoud
Arani, Chair of Applied
Linguistics; Sean Dailey,
Instructor of Applied
Linguistics; and Richard
Gamache, Associate
Professor of Applied
Linguistics, attended a
briefing and discussion at
the University of Vermont in
Burlington titled *China:
Comprehending the Country,
Communicating with the
People*.

An interview with Dr.
Elizabeth O’Dowd, Director
of Graduate TESOL
Programs, was featured on
MastersinTESOL.net. In it,
O’Dowd discusses the
SMC TESOL programs and
the field of TESOL. The
interview is available at
http://www.mastersintesol.net/.

Alumni News

Faculty Notes

Calendar of Events

September 1—Fall semester opens

November 21—Thanksgiving recess begins after last class

September 29—Feast of Saint Michael

December 19—Last day of classes

October 17—No classes

January 12—Spring semester begins

November 16—Feast of Saint Edmund

Mutahar Al-Murtadha

International Christian
University in Tokyo. His
dissertation was titled
“Effects of Worked Examples
on Stress, Cognitive Loads,
and Performance in Online
Collaboration.”

Masayuki Kudo

Lopez (MATESOL ‘11) is
serving as an adjunct
instructor, teaching Core and
Oral Skills courses in the
Intensive English Program at
Saint Michael’s College. “It
has been a priceless and
rewarding experience since I
started working with students
from around the world at
the Intensive English
Program,” said Lopez.

Dylan Renca (Diploma
‘13) received a Fulbright
English Teaching
Assistant (ETA) Award.
Renca will teach
conversational English to
Indonesian high-school
students beginning in
August 2014. The award
also encourages
recipients to engage in
community service
projects in the local area.

In June, Dr. Mahmoud
Arani, Chair of Applied
Linguistics; Sean Dailey,
Instructor of Applied
Linguistics; and Richard
Gamache, Associate
Professor of Applied
Linguistics, attended a
briefing and discussion at
the University of Vermont in
Burlington titled *China:
Comprehending the Country,
Communicating with the
People*.

An interview with Dr.
Elizabeth O’Dowd, Director
of Graduate TESOL
Programs, was featured on
MastersinTESOL.net. In it,
O’Dowd discusses the
SMC TESOL programs and
the field of TESOL. The
interview is available at
http://www.mastersintesol.net/.

September 1—Fall semester opens

November 21—Thanksgiving recess begins after last class

September 29—Feast of Saint Michael

December 19—Last day of classes

October 17—No classes

January 12—Spring semester begins

November 16—Feast of Saint Edmund