

Quilting Bee

Faculty and staff donate Underground Railroad quilt



Several members of the faculty and staff volunteered to put together a quilt to recognize Adrian College's ties to the Underground Railroad. The quilt was donated to the College, and might be used for educational purposes in area schools in the future.

The quilters met once a week during lunch for most of a year, and did most of the sewing by hand. The quilt is a "sampler" that incorporates several patterns used as a code to communicate to escaped slaves. When a certain pattern was hung out, it gave clues about which way to go or when to stock up on supplies.

Adrian College was founded by abolitionists, and the county where it is located is known for its Underground Railroad activity.

The project was organized by Nancy Van Over in the interior design department. Fellow quilters included Louise Kleinsmith, interior design; Lori Lancaster, secretary; Elizabeth Maertens, librarian; and Katie Bosio, residence life.

Service Group Honored

Cambios nominated for Governor's Service Award



President Caine poses with Idali Feliciano, director of Cambios, at the 2004 Governor's Service Awards.

Cambios was one of five nominees for the Exemplary Community Service Program Award at the 2004 Governor's Service Awards. Members of the Cambios board attended the ceremony in Grand Rapids in May.

Presenters at the event included Gov. Jennifer Granholm and First Gentleman Daniel Granholm Mulhern. Both the governor and her husband are involved in volunteer activities, and they praised the nominees for their creative and diligent efforts to make the world a better place.

Cambios (www.cambios.org) is dedicated to increasing the appreciation of diversity and combating racism, through a multicultural

reading program in Lenawee County. The organization's main office is located at Adrian College, and there are people from the College who are involved with Cambios in a variety of ways. Adrian College President Stanley Caine nominated Cambios for the award.

According to the state of Michigan's website, the Governor's Service Awards began in 1993 to recognize and celebrate the outstanding work of Michigan's volunteers. The nominees represent the best of Michigan's "highly motivated and incredibly committed volunteers."

New and Improved

Academic programs get tweaked

There have been some notable changes to some of AC's academic programs. For one, a bachelor of social work is now available. The degree was added in anticipation of new and higher standards in the state of Michigan for licensing social workers. The department has a new name; "social work" replaces "human services," making it the sociology, social work and criminal justice department. A major change to the curriculum is a greater emphasis on practicums, to give students supervised work experience in the field.

The computer program has been tightened and focused. The program is shifting away from more traditional computer science to a more contemporary, web-based approach. Students who minor in computer information systems will significantly enhance their majors with employable computer skills.

Finally, a philosophy major is back in the College catalog again. The major was dropped in exchange for a philosophy/religion major when there was no full-time philosophy faculty member in the philosophy and religion department. Now that there is a full-time professor again, the major has been restored.