Middbury-Monterey Language Academy: an Introduction

“Do you have a language immersion program for high school students?” is a frequent inquiry to the Language Schools. And now, “yes, Middlebury-Monterey Language Academy” is the answer!

The Middlebury-Monterey Language Academy (MMLA), a four-week language immersion summer camp for middle and high school students, will offer its inaugural session this summer, June 28–July 26, 2008. Four languages—Arabic, Chinese, French, and Spanish—will be taught.

A fundamental goal of MMLA is to create an authentic language and cultural immersion in which pre-college students are engaged in rigorous study while also enjoying all the fun of a typical summer camp...in a second language.

The MMLA program is specifically targeted to meet the learning styles of middle and high school students, while providing a fun, dynamic summer camp experience. Like their Language School counterparts, MMLA student campers will take the Language Pledge® and live their language of study in every moment of the day, speaking the target language not just during instruction time, but during meals, hikes, games, and a whole roster of recreational activities.

Operating as an off-campus Middlebury program, the MMLA’s administrative offices are located in White River Junction, a reviving downtown area. MMLA has four administrative employees and, just like the Language Schools, a roster of language directors and faculty from all around the country who will work during the summer session.

The MMLA staff working from the White River Junction office are director David Toomey, administrative coordinator Virginia Davidson, operations manager Linda Gray, and student coordinator Ann Malone Smith.

(continued on page 2)
Change to the BlueCard® Health Care Provider Network

A few weeks ago EBPA/CBA (the third-party administrator for our self-insured medical plan) finalized an agreement with Blue Cross/Blue Shield of VT, which will be of benefit to us. Under this new arrangement, EBPA/CBA’s self-insured customers have the ability to access the extensive BC/BS health care provider network and thereby take advantage of its substantial discounts. Middlebury College has decided to accept this offer: Effective January 1, 2008 our current provider network (CompNet) will be replaced with the BC/BS network, called The BlueCard® program.

Why we are making this change: The BlueCard® program will allow in-network access to doctors and hospitals almost everywhere in the US, with extensive network access in all 50 states including: 482,120 primary care physicians, 828,414 specialists, and 5,752 hospitals. When a member uses a BlueCard® provider, both the member and the College benefit immediately as the plan takes advantage of the savings that BC/BS has negotiated, which frequently results in reduced cost share for both the member and the College. Over the long-term these discounts are expected to help us keep future medical plan premium increases down; an on-going benefit to both employees and the College.

Important facts about the transition:
- The provisions of our medical plan will not be changing. For example: we are still self-insured, we have the same deductible and out-of-pocket maximums, RESTAT is still our pharmacy benefits manager, the covered/noncovered services in our plan remain unchanged, etc. It is only the provider network underlying our medical plan that will change.
- This change does not require participants to use in-network providers; out of network coverage is still available.
- The change from CompNet to The BlueCard® program will be effective January 1, 2008: claims incurred prior to that date will be processed under the existing network.
- While EBPA/CBA will continue to be our third-part administrator, our claims will now be processed by the company’s Vermont location (CBA), rather than New Hampshire (EBPA) location. Customer Service will also now be handled by the CBA office in South Burlington.
- The BlueCard® program will allow in-network access to doctors and hospital physicians, 828,414 specialists, and 5,752 hospitals. When a member uses a BlueCard® provider, both the member and the College benefit immediately as the plan takes advantage of the savings that BC/BS has negotiated, which frequently results in reduced cost share for both the member and the College.

What this means to you: Participating employees and their enrolled family members (if any) will be receiving new medical plan ID cards, at their home addresses, prior to January 1. Please watch for this important mailing: the return address on the envelope will be CBA Blue. Families with 4 or fewer members will receive 2 ID cards; families with more than 4 members will receive 4 ID cards. Additional cards (for example, for a dependent child away at college), can be requested by calling the customer service number listed on the new cards.
- Among other information, the ID cards will contain the BC/BS logo and will say “CBA Blue” on the top; they will include the CBA address for billing and the toll free customer service number, as well as our new group number.

Watch your mail at home prior to January 1 for your new medical plan ID cards. The return address on the envelope will be CBA Blue.

Because our group number, network, and billing address are all changing it is imperative that you show your new cards to all of your health care providers at the first visit in the new year. Failure to show the new card will result in payment delays.

MMLA is a bi-coastal operation, with sites at two small college campuses: St. Michael’s College near Burlington, Vermont, and Menlo College near Palo Alto, California. In addition, MMLA and the Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth are partners for a camp at Hampshire College in Amherst, Mass. At this site, MMLA will provide curriculum, faculty, and staff, while CTY handles admission and administration.

We invite the Middlebury community to visit the MMLA web site, http://www.mmla.middlebury.edu, to learn more details about the camp program, and spread the word—whether it’s to kids who would make great campers, or to experienced speakers of Arabic, Chinese, French, and Spanish who would make great faculty and staff!

~ David Toomey, Director, Pre-College Language Program

- We recommend that you also keep your old ID cards until you are certain that any outstanding bills have been paid -- remember, claims incurred in 2007 will need to be processed under the old ID number and the CompNet network agreement and so should be sent to EBPA at the New Hampshire address on the old cards.
- After the new program goes live on January 1, you will be able to identify participating BlueCard® providers by searching our customized CBA medical plan site through a link on the HR Benefits webpage, or by calling the 800 number on your new ID card.

Over the next few weeks Human Resources will be working on updating our Summary Plan Description, web links, etc. to reflect this new change. Please bear with us as we get up-to-speed with this very recent development. As always, please feel free to contact Human Resources at x5465 if you have any questions.

Cheryl Mullins, Benefits Manager
College makes transition to new graphic identity

Dear Colleagues,

As we come to the end of the year, some of you might be considering ordering new stationery for 2008. This seems like a good time to review the new graphic identity guidelines and direct your attention to the Middlebury Web site that provides templates for letters and information about the College seal and the Middlebury wordmark. We want to make the transition to the new graphic identity as easy as possible for all members of the community.

During the process of creating the new logo for the Middlebury Initiative we asked our design firm to also review our College seal and the way we represent ourselves graphically. The goal was to find a system that would visually link all the parts of Middlebury in a coherent way, including the College, the Summer Language Schools, Schools Abroad, Bread Loaf, and our affiliate Monterey Institute of International Studies.

Our design partners, Chermayeff & Geismar, simplified and modernized the College Seal, and recommended using it for academic occasions and communications. For day-to-day use, they recommended using the Middlebury wordmark— the word “Middlebury” set in Bembo typeface. The usage guidelines for both can be found at http://www.middlebury.edu/administration/communications/graphic_identity. Here you can see the new letterhead and business cards, which can be ordered through Reprographics.

The Middlebury wordmark set in Bembo typeface

We have created templates in Microsoft Word for letterhead to make it easy for people to write letters. Templates are available for both blank copy paper and for pre-printed stationery.

These templates and jpgs of the wordmark are password protected and can only be downloaded by Middlebury faculty and staff. (Please note that Microsoft Word can be a temperamental program. If you encounter a problem, please contact Maggie Paine, Lyn DeGraff, or the Help Desk, and they will be happy to help sort it out.)

Finally, the Middlebury Communications office also has updated our editorial style guide, which will be available to review or download in January, at http://www.middlebury.edu/administration/communications/info/.

I hope this makes it easier for you moving into the new year. Thanks to everyone who helped us through the process of developing the new graphic identity.

Best wishes to all for a very happy 2008!

Michael McKenna
2nd Annual Middlebury College Ski and Snowboard Fun Race Series

Get a team of 6 together and register today. Save these dates…

Friday, January 11
Friday, January 25
Friday, February 8
Friday, February 15
Friday, February 29

(Supervisors, where possible, please be flexible in scheduling to allow those interested staff to participate in this event!)

Approximately 70 College employees participated in last year’s race series, and great fun and healthy competition was had by all. The course will be open from 12:30-3:30 p.m. Participants should plan on making two runs down the course sometime during that time period. Skiers and boarders should be comfortable on the Allen.

The 6-person roster can be comprised of any combination of men, women, locals, students, faculty, staff, snowboarders, and telemarkers.

Special Rates!
Lift Tickets: $7 for the afternoon
Rentals: $10

Apres Ski: Of course, each race will be followed by an apres ski event at local establishments between the hours of 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. where league members can gather for drinks, race results, laughter and free munchies. Locations will be announced at a later time.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. COMPLETE FORM BELOW!

For additional details about how it works on race days, the point system, results, and the coveted Middlebury Ski Bum League Championship Cup, please visit the Human Resource web site and click on “Fun Race Series.”

2nd Annual Middlebury College Ski and Snowboard Fun Race Series Registration Form
Send/E-mail form to Beth Miller – Human Resources by Dec 21
bqmiller@middlebury.edu

TEAM NAME____________________________________________________

Team Captain contact info: Name______________________________ Campus Phone__________________________

Campus Address_________________________________________________ E-mail ________________________________

Members:

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Faculty, Staff or Student?</th>
<th>Age Category</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Skiing, Snowboarding, or Telemarking?</th>
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Age Categories: Under 31; 31-45; 46-60; Over 61
Dates in 2008 for On-Campus Counseling with TIAA-CREF Consultant

If you are interested in scheduling an on-campus, one-on-one visit with Erik Moreau, consultant with TIAA-CREF, to discuss your retirement plan investments, he has confirmed dates he will be on campus during 2008. Erik will be here the third Tuesday of every month, and there are six Wednesday appointments scheduled every other month as well to accommodate as many people as possible:

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<th>Third Tuesday of the month:</th>
<th>Additional Wednesdays:</th>
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The schedule through April is posted on the TIAA-CREF Microsite link. To schedule an appointment, visit the Human Resources webpage, click “Benefits,” and click the TIAA-CREF Microsite link, or go directly to https://ifs2.tiaa-cref.org/cgi-bin/WebObjects/ARS. Click on “Set up a Meeting” in the blue bar on the bottom of the main microsite page, and select “Vermont” in the drop down box. If you do not have easy internet access, feel free to call Erik’s assistant Melissa, toll free, at (866) 904-7801 to arrange an appointment.

One stop for all of your forms

Many of the forms you need from Human Resources have been reorganized and are easily accessible out front in the holders shown at right. You will find forms for the retirement plan, taxes, direct deposit, change of address, flexible spending, dental and health insurance claims, NEMOP prescription transfer, prescription advance purchase, and statement of domestic partnership, among others. Stop in at Human Resources and check it out!

Human Resources • Service Building, 2nd floor • 802-443-5465 • hr@middlebury.edu

MiddPoints is published approximately twice per month by Human Resources for the faculty and staff of Middlebury College. The issue schedule and deadlines are listed on the Human Resources Web site. MiddPoints is mailed without charge to regular full time and part-time employees. MiddPoints is Human Resources’ primary communication vehicle on policy changes, upcoming events, news, and other items of interest to employees. Entities outside the campus may not advertise in MiddPoints.

New Employees

Lindsay Dobucki
Coordinator of Off-Campus Study

Dan Quesnel
Custodian Facilities Services

Laura Stewart
Custodian Facilities Services

Lorraine Titus
Asst. to Major Gifts Officers, College Advancement

Linda Wakefield
Library Services Assistant, LIS
Classifieds

Classified ads are free for members of the staff, faculty, student body and alumni of Middlebury College. Ads must be submitted seven days prior to the publication date. Guidelines for ads can be found on the MiddPoints section of the HR Website. Please send ads to Classifieds, MiddPoints, HR, Service Building, or e-mail to middpoints@middlebury.edu (electronic submissions preferred).

Auto

For Sale: Queen waterbed, Boyd Evolution 4500 series. Quilted pillow top, sentry digital heater, oak frame & headboard w/ shelves & mirror. Padded rails w/ corner seats. All in excel. condit. $500 obo. 388-7026 or 989-5614.

For Sale: Traditional coffee table; large square 4’ x 4’ w/ glass inserted top, bronze finish iron scrollwork under glass, wide wooden legs, $300. Two-piece armoire; 3 glass doors on top, drawers on bottom piece, $250. Call 989-2220.

For Sale: Baby items! Wood highchair, $30; Pack & Play (hardly used), $40; L.L. Bean baby backpack (up to 40 lb. child), $25; baby/toddler activity/play cart (has blocks, magnet, letters, beads, chalk board, etc. - all wood), $20 (was $50 new, excel. condit.). Photos of items avail. upon request. Call Stacey x5898 or 989-1309.

For Sale: 48” Sony Projection TV w/ screen protector. HD capable. Excel. condit. $1,500 new, will sell for $500 obo. 388-7026 or 989-5614.

Real Estate

For Sale: 3 BR, 1 BA, well maintained raised ranch w/ sunny open floor plan on one acre only 4 miles from the heart of Middlebury, at 2115 Case St. Brand new kitchen w/ tile floor, maple cabinets, jenn-air range, all new applian. Patio doors open to deck overlooking open fields, western views, beautiful sunsets. Wood stove in LR. Full basement. $199,000. 802-453-4011.

For Rent: Lake Dunmore farmhouse & attached apt. together or separately. Furnished, both 2 BR, avail. immediately thru end May or June. Private, $850/mo. each, incl. everything. Rent both and price negot. E-mail cometovt@gmail or call Lori at 247-0157.

Free
Free: Upright Piano. For more info. call Gary x5141 or 462-2129.

Free to a great home: A great dog, Ruckus, a one year old ½ Eng., ½ Amer. Foxhound. Sweet, loving, cuddly, energetic & fun. He would be perfect in a household without kids, but he gets along great w/ other dogs. He has a home again chip, is neutered & vaccin., and comes w/ an oversized crate. He is very special to us and we want to provide him w/ the best home possible. Please call Sheila at 802-922-5951.

Wanted
Wanted: House/Dog Sitting, etc. I’m graduating from Middlebury this Feb. but am not ready to leave VT. Interested in house sitting anytime from Feb. 1 through June; will care for family pets. Contact Izzy at emarshal@middlebury.edu or 952-237-9647. For references, please contact Beth Ross at eross@middlebury.edu.

where on CAMPUS?

Have you seen these sounds?
If so, e-mail the editor at MiddPoints Editor in Outlook or Entourage, or middpoints@middlebury.edu.
Look for the answer in the January 11 issue of MiddPoints.

College Book Store

The College Book Store will be closed from 4pm Friday, December 21 through Tuesday, January 1.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!