

Cuba Patriot – 3/4/09

## *Students offer free income tax preparation*

HOUGHTON—Accounting students at Houghton College will offer free income tax preparation services to residents of Allegany County in the coming months.

Supervised by Assistant Professor of Accounting and CPA Lois Ross, students have been trained by their course in Federal Taxation as well as certified through an online examination given by the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA). The Houghton Business Department has coupled with the efforts of the IRS through VITA to provide tax preparation and assistance free of charge to those who make less than \$42,000 per year.

“This income tax prep not only allows us to take what we’ve learned in the classroom and apply it to a real-life scenario, but it presents us with the opportunity to serve the citizens of Allegany County,” said student coordinator Helena Oden.

Services include the filing of federal and NY returns as well as special credits such as earned income tax credit and child tax credit. Sessions are offered every Wednesday evening from 6 - 8 pm (excluding Feb. 25th) as well as Saturday March, 7th from 9 am - 4 pm. Tax preparation will conclude on April 8th.

Filing must be scheduled before hand. Please contact Helena Oden at [helena.oden@houghton.edu](mailto:helena.oden@houghton.edu) or call the Houghton College Public Events Office at 585.567.9210 to set up an appointment.