



# Review of Accomplishments

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# Message from the President

Last year, as we produced the fifth annual publication of the College's Review of Accomplishments, I introduced the concept of "legacy" and shared with our audiences that as the years pass, our achievements and influential moments are being remembered, thus becoming "legacy points."

Since I became President, I have consistently shared my belief that education transforms lives by empowering individuals; this empowerment allows people to achieve, create, and thrive – thereby creating progress. To build momentum and keep everything moving forward, the college community, along with our Board of Trustees, elected officials, business and community leaders, and area partners, share responsibility for supporting the continued development and strengthening of Suffolk County Community College. In so doing, each of these networks has numerous opportunities to take action and make decisions that can propel our College forward – maintaining our goal of being an institution of excellence. I am honored to share with you that between the covers of this document, you will find many examples demonstrating steps already taken in that direction.



Having accomplished so much, we are now poised to build on a legacy that responds to the needs of our local communities here in Suffolk County. The legacy of welcoming people of all backgrounds and abilities, the legacy of good stewardship of resources, the legacy of enhanced academic programs and student services, the legacy of improved facilities, and the legacy of changing lives in a profound way for the better, are all hallmarks of this institution.

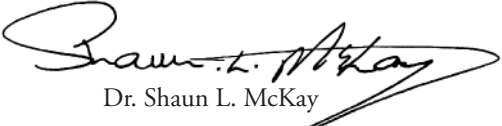
This past year has been a defining moment in the history of the College. When challenged by numerous external demands, so many members of the college community willingly stepped forward to address the work required to meet those demands, enabling all of us to advance the institution and enhance our legacy of excellence.

As I have led our efforts and joined with the college community in completing the hard work required to maintain and enhance excellence within the College, my vision for the institution – the big picture – is to ensure that Suffolk County Community College evolves and is better tomorrow than it is today. The point is not to finish quickly those actions that can be completed in the short-term, but rather to make bold and well-considered decisions that keep our institution moving forward, and building upon our legacy of leadership, innovation, and transformation.

Clearly, our community supports the College's mission and the contributions made by each colleague. Our faculty and staff of professionals, who possess exceptional skills, creativity, and a healthy competitive drive, continue to maintain a student-centered focus and respect for our collective work. I remain grateful to each of them, and I am grateful for the dedication of our Board of Trustees. Through their continued focus and commitment, I know our students and this College will continue to achieve great things. Now, as we start a new academic year, we also commence the next phase in the College's growth, and I join our community in anticipating the newest legacy points that will emerge.

In this way, adhering to our mission, we will generate the transformational power of education that brings success to our students and provides opportunities to create a legacy of change and growth. I am honored to serve as the College's President and I look forward to another exciting academic year. With meaningful actions, such as those chronicled within the following pages, it is clear that we are making purposeful progress in shaping our institutional legacy, while enhancing teaching and learning across the College.

Sincerely,

  
Dr. Shaun L. McKay



# About SCCC

Suffolk County Community College (SCCC) is an exceptional community college. It is considered a gem in the County and has earned its reputation for high quality instruction, outstanding faculty and affordable programs and services. The College operates as a unit of the State University of New York (SUNY), is governed by a 10-member board of trustees, and is sponsored by Suffolk County.

Founded in 1959, Suffolk is the largest community college in the State University of New York (SUNY) system, with an enrollment of approximately 26,500 credit students and 10,000 continuing education and workforce training students. With the Ammerman Campus in Selden, the Eastern Campus in Riverhead and the Michael J. Grant Campus in Brentwood, as well as downtown centers in Sayville and Riverhead, the College is accessible to residents across the County. There are over 480 full-time faculty and 1,700 adjunct faculty teaching 100 degree and certificate programs in business, computer science/information technology, communications, the arts, health, community and human services, liberal arts, and technical, scientific and engineering studies.

The College maintains accreditation from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education and several discipline-specific accrediting bodies, and its curricula are registered by the New York State Department of Education. The College's operating budget is supported by student tuition, the County, and the State. Annual tuition at the College for full-time students enrolled for the 2015-2016 academic year will be \$4,570.



*Veterans Plaza, Ammerman Campus*



*Health, Sports and Education Center, Michael J. Grant Campus*



*Montaukett Learning Resource Center, Eastern Campus*



# Mission and Vision

Suffolk County Community College promotes intellectual discovery, physical development, social and ethical awareness, and economic opportunities for all through an education that transforms lives, builds communities, and improves society.

Suffolk County Community College commits to maintaining high educational standards, fostering and inspiring student success, and creating diverse opportunities for lifelong learning. By attracting strong leadership and distinguished faculty to a college of excellence, we create an enriched learning environment that empowers students to transform their lives.



# Financial Aid and Transfer

The Office of Financial Aid is committed to assisting our students with exploring all of the funding options available. The College awards more than \$61 million in federal and state financial aid to almost 18,000 students annually. In 2014-2015, more than 67% of Suffolk's student population received financial aid.

We share information regarding these resources on our website, via our experienced, professional staff, during site visits at high schools, and through several publications distributed throughout each campus Financial Aid Office. The College website provides prospective students and their families with the SUNY Net Price Calculator, which estimates the cost of a student's education. By inputting family income information, students can determine the federal, state, and college financial aid programs for which they may be eligible to apply. Furthermore, the College provides students with transfer opportunities through articulation agreements with some thirty-five baccalaureate-granting institutions, many of them conveniently located on Long Island.

# Economic Impact

Completion of an educational experience increases lifetime income and provides an increased variety of opportunities for graduates. According to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey-2012, the median annual earnings among people 25 and older who have earned associate degrees or attended some college are 20% higher than for high school graduates. For Suffolk County residents, the difference is 23% per year. Over the course of a working lifetime, associate degree graduates in Suffolk County earn more than \$550,000 more than someone with a high school diploma. All in all, it is estimated that students will receive a 13.8% annual rate of return on their Suffolk educational investment, recovering all costs (including tuition, fees and foregone wages while in school) in 10.8 years. Newly skilled college-trained workers deepen the state and local economy's human capital. This results in higher wages for students, greater returns to property owners, increased tax revenues to municipalities, towns, and to the state, as well as added revenue due to the multiplier effect.



# 2014-2015 Year in Review

## Academic Highlights Advance our Educational Mission

In December 2012, the SUNY Trustees passed a resolution regarding their intention to implement seamless transfer of students between SUNY institutions. Under this mandate, associate degrees in all academic programs are required to consist of 64 credits or fewer. In addition, all A.A. and A.S. programs must comply with “transfer

paths” crafted to align community college curricula with their four-year counterparts. Under my leadership, the Office of Academic Affairs worked closely with Student Affairs, College administrators, program faculty, staff, and governance bodies to meet SUNY’s seamless transfer expectations. Members of the college community completed this monumental task in less than a year. I applaud the professionalism and expertise demonstrated by everyone during this period. As they have shown time and again, our faculty and staff can always be counted on to come together and attain the best results, when those efforts will benefit our students. Of the College’s 77 programs and program options, 66 required some level of revision. All affected programs made sound, necessary curricula revisions in time to meet the December 2014 deadline set by SUNY. New students are now being accepted under the new seamless transfer parameters; continuing students are able to choose between following their existing program requirements or switching to the new streamlined requirements. Messaging was developed and shared with students, counselors, and faculty

advisors who are now engaged in the process of assisting students in making degree completion decisions.



IT NOW TAKES  
FEWER CREDITS  
TO GRADUATE

*Through SUNY Seamless Transfer, academic program requirements will change this fall.*

The 2014-2015 academic year began with the College’s annual Academic Convocation featuring a keynote address by alumnus Eric Martinez (Class of ’86), JD, CPA. Mr. Martinez spoke about growing up in a single parent household and how his Suffolk experience allowed him to believe in himself and his ability to become successful through dedication to hard work and a disciplined approach to education. His message resonated very well with the over 300 students, faculty, alumni and staff in attendance. Professor (ret.) Bud Macy presented the College’s ceremonial mace as the current President of the College’s Retirees Association, an alumnus of the Class of ’68 and a retired Professor of Mechanical Technology. Presidential medallions were bestowed upon Mr. Martinez and Professor Macy. During the afternoon program, the College honored three new professors emeritus: John Hamilton, Jean Ann Scharpf, and Marianne McAuley.

As the largest community college in the SUNY system, we often are expected to provide leadership in areas that will enhance teaching, learning and innovation. I encourage this role and we continue to work with our SUNY partners to accomplish great things. As an example, we have been chosen to assist with the pilot for Quantway Pathway, which is an accelerated program to move students through developmental mathematics sequences quickly and successfully. The College is one of five SUNY institutions participating in the pilot, which includes having members



*Alumnus Eric Martinez ('86) joined me in welcoming the students during Convocation.*



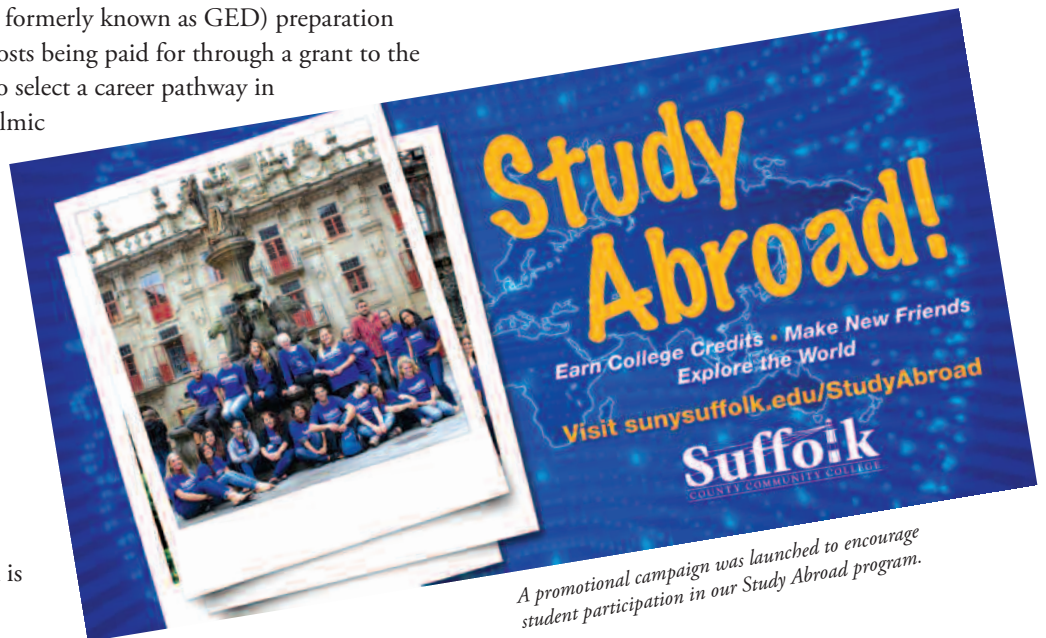
of our faculty be trained by the developers of this program, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. This fall, we will offer ten sections on our three campuses. Assessment of the pilot's success will determine program continuation.

This year, our Academic Chairs came together in an effort to increase the number of Excelsior courses being offered at the College's partnering high schools located across Suffolk County. Through their work, the number of high schools participating in the program will increase by four for the 2015-2016 academic year. The Excelsior Program enables motivated high school juniors and seniors to take Suffolk County Community College courses at their high school campus during their regular school hours, while simultaneously working toward high school graduation. College credits earned in the Excelsior Program can be applied toward a degree at Suffolk or can be transferred, thus minimizing the time it takes to complete a college degree.

Professional development is important to maintaining a vibrant faculty and dynamic curriculum. As such, it stands as a hallmark that I have pressed forward as President, and is something I will continue to emphasize. This year, professional development activities included the addition of online opportunities such as the Monday Morning Mentor series. This series allows participation by faculty and staff that might be unavailable to attend sessions held on specific dates or in specific locations. The Office of Instructional Technology hosted extensive training focused on maximizing the use of our learning management system, Blackboard. An eLearning Academy was also developed and is set to host its first class of participants this September. It will include guest instructors and provide faculty with an opportunity to earn continuing education units (CEU) that can be used to meet faculty promotion requirements.

Continuing education staff delivered an orientation and assessment at United Way Long Island for students participating in the YouthBuild program. Special Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC – formerly known as GED) preparation courses began in November, with tuition costs being paid for through a grant to the College's Foundation. Students were able to select a career pathway in energy, energy efficiency, health IT, ophthalmic tech or pharmacy tech that they will pursue concurrently as they work toward their high school equivalency.

With the increased emphasis on the importance of having a world view and possessing a global perspective, the College implemented enhanced policies and procedures related to its Study Abroad programs. These changes ensure continued safe travel for our students and compliance with College and State Study Abroad protocols. The availability of Study Abroad is considered an important selling point for students, as many colleges now offer these opportunities. With support from the Office of Institutional Advancement, a promotional campaign was launched on our campuses to encourage student enrollment in these programs. The promotion included installation of large, colorful outdoor banners and distribution of posters and brochures, all of which feature our students. This year, our students were able to enjoy summer learning experiences in Spain, Italy (Florence and Sorrento), and St. Lucia.



*A promotional campaign was launched to encourage student participation in our Study Abroad program.*

The College researched implementation of Sharepoint software, which provides a secure place to store, organize, share, and access information from almost any device. Staff met with SUNY Information Technology Exchange Center (ITEC) representatives regarding their ability to host the software and with the vendor to discuss authentication needs. The objective is to eliminate the College's reliance on various shared databases and to improve internal efficiencies. A decision has been made to proceed with implementation and we expect the one-year process to begin this fall.

In line with my focus on assessment as a means toward improving teaching and learning, the College continues to develop a culture of assessment throughout the institution. During the spring 2015 semester, "Assessment Tuesdays" were instituted by the College Dean of Instruction. The Dean utilized this forum to rotate among the three campuses in an effort to ensure there were opportunities for all faculty to meet and discuss action planning and assessment activities during the academic year. Sessions also allowed faculty to engage in more detailed conversations about the completion of the Annual Academic Assessment Activity Report, and provide feedback on the College's academic assessment process. This initiative will continue as part of academic assessment support.

The College's School of Nursing saw a dramatic increase in the first-time pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX). The first-time pass rate for the first quarter of 2014 (January graduates) was 67.66%. By comparison, the January 2015 graduate first-time pass rate improved to 81.82%. The increase is a result of an intense program improvement plan initiated by the School of Nursing Outcomes Committee.

We are now using the results from an efficiency audit on the student use of books, e-books, and digital subscriptions to help us determine how best to invest in library materials. An increase in demand for heavily used digital materials has led to a decline in the use of physical resources.

As part of my presidential goal of building and strengthening relationships with the community, the Office of Continuing Education established a priority goal of building new partnerships to expand access to STEM programs for residents of Suffolk County. This year's milestones include: (1) the Suffolk County Department of Labor partnered with us to offer energy and healthcare programs; (2) College training opportunities have been extended to all County departments; (3) a partnership with Columbia University was developed for health IT training; (4) the Town of Oyster Bay has expressed interest in our energy training options; and (5) the College has entered into a formal agreement with the North Shore LIJ Health System for ophthalmic externships.



*The College's School of Nursing saw a dramatic increase in the first-time pass rate on the National Council Licensure examination (NCLEX).*

Staff revised the Nursing library guide webpage to include useful examples on search strategies specific for nursing, documentation examples, and other evidence-based practice resources. The library guide was updated as an additional action plan in response to the data generated for the program's learning outcomes.

The incoming fall 2015 nursing class enters the College under our new admission criteria. These students sat for the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) entry exam in a new testing facility that was opened in our Sayville Center. The class will also include the first high school cohort of students. Our School of Nursing is





dedicated to the success of this cohort and initiated block scheduling and arranged a “Meet and Greet Night” for the students and their parents so they would have an opportunity to visit with the Associate Dean, faculty, and other enrolled students. Throughout their program of study, data will be collected to assess the needs of this newest cohort as compared to the College’s student body.

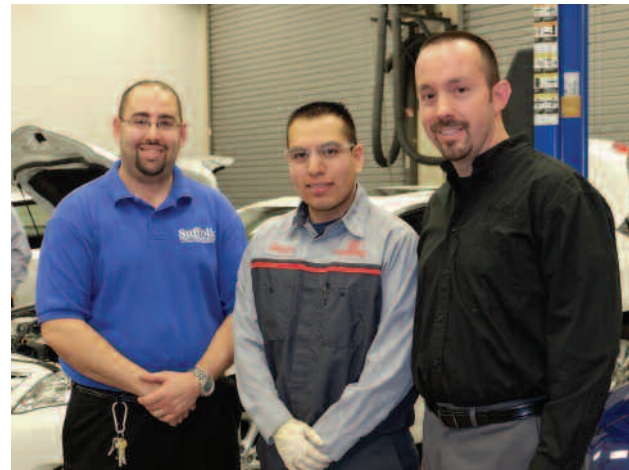
The College has several externally accredited programs and, in spring 2015, hosted a continuing accreditation visit by the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) for our Automotive Service Specialist A.A.S. program. The School of Nursing will be hosting a site visit for continuing accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) for the Practical Nurse Certificate and Associate Degree program in late October 2015. The Emergency Medical Technician Paramedic A.A.S. program is currently a candidate for initial accreditation with the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP) and will be hosting a site visit in the near future.

### **Enhanced Student Life Experiences Lead to Achievement**

In September, the College hosted a Transfer Fair sponsored by the State University of New York (SUNY) at our Health, Sports and Education Center on the Michael J. Grant Campus. The SUNY Transfer Fair was a new SUNY initiative to encourage more community college students to transfer to a four-year SUNY institution after graduating. The event was advertised via email, Facebook, Twitter, direct mail, posters, portal ads, flyers, on-campus digital screens, and on the College’s homepage. There were over 25 SUNY units at the fair. Later that same day, the College went on to host the SUNY College Fair. The College Fair is for Suffolk and Nassau County high school juniors and seniors as well as their parents. This event affords students the opportunity to speak with campus representatives about academic programs. The SUNY Office of Enrollment Services was highly complimentary of the College’s efforts in promoting these events and with the level of student participation and audience generation.

For the first time in the College’s history, we celebrated Spirit Week on all three of our campuses. This concept, created by students from all three campuses, championed by Student Trustee Gardy Amilcar, and supported by me as President, took place from October 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, and included Blue and White Day, where everyone was invited to wear our school colors; College History Day, where everyone had an opportunity to learn about the College’s history through various interactive activities; Completion Day, where students were encouraged to commit to their degree completion; and Opportunity Day, where students interacted with alumni speakers and learned about scholarship opportunities, and Study Abroad Programs. The week concluded with “Suffolk Gives Back” and “Sports Night,” where students were encouraged to get involved in a community service activity and attend a sporting event. The College kept its internal and external audiences updated during the event by sharing photos on its Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, helping to spread College spirit throughout the week. We saw a high level of enthusiasm for this event and look forward to showcasing our new shark mascot during Spirit Week 2015.

In October, we had an opportunity to test elements of our Emergency Response Plan, when the Ammerman Campus addressed a false threat that evolved through a social media app. News coverage at that time, reported that this application had emerged as a common source for a series of similar threats at local schools. We worked closely with the Suffolk County Police Department seeking the offender who issued the hoax message.



*The College hosted a continuing accreditation visit by the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) for our Automotive Service Specialist A.A.S. program.*





*Members of the College supported the ALS Ice Water Bucket Challenge.*



Joined by students and staff, I accepted and fulfilled an ALS Ice Water Bucket Challenge. Initiated as a fundraiser for ALS research, this event grew virally and became a national phenomenon. My participation began when I was challenged by Suffolk County Legislator Jay Schneiderman. Upon completion, I then challenged Suffolk County Legislator and Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory; Noel DiGerolamo, president of the Suffolk County Police Benevolent Association; John Durso, president of the Long Island Federation of Labor; and Dick O’Kane, head of the Building and Construction Trades Council of Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

In 2009, the College’s student loan default rate was 16.4%. Today, I am pleased to share that through a concerted effort orchestrated by our Office of Central Financial Aid, our 2012 student loan default rate has been reduced to 9.1%. This dramatic improvement is the result of our implementation of a Loan Default Prevention Plan. Thanks to its implementation, the number of loans processed at the College has been decreasing, as the campus Financial Aid Offices encourage students to minimize borrowing. One-on-one counseling and offering other options, such as applying for scholarships, are just a few outreach approaches that the campus Financial Aid professional staff has incorporated to assist students with paying for school. In 2013-2014 only 13% of our total student enrollment received a student loan, and 71% of our 2014 graduates left the College debt free.

Research shows that the more actively engaged students are with college faculty, staff, other students, and with the subject matter being learned, the more likely they are to persist in their college studies and to achieve at higher levels. This spring, the College participated in the nationally-administered Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE), which focuses on teaching, learning, and retention in community colleges. Questionnaire items included how students spend their time, the nature and quality of their interactions with faculty members and peers, what they have gained from their classes, and other aspects related to the full college experience. Aggregate responses are being analyzed to inform the College’s ongoing efforts to examine its practices, improve programs and services, and to enhance the student experience here at the College. By measuring student engagement, we can identify ways to help more students succeed, persist and complete their studies.

In the spirit of promoting a safe and secure learning environment for the entire college community, I have endorsed a new student mental health support program which will be in place in time for the fall 2015 semester. This program will provide appropriate assessment, treatment and referral for students experiencing emotional or mental distress. By providing these services to our students, the College will be working to decrease the risk of student self-harm and suicide, and the possibility of harm to others.

The Office of Special Events completed its implementation of 25Live software, meeting the college-wide demand for the ability to view, schedule and post events on a centralized calendar that reflects every event taking place in College facilities on all three campuses. Within one year, we went from purchase, to training, to full operation, and now this software allows us to effectively manage and coordinate support for activities that have been scheduled by both internal groups and the external community at large. We have also created a college-wide shared folder that provides the entire college community with access to tutorials and other event-related documents to make the 25Live process as simple to use as possible.

The College’s Culinary Arts program students prepared about 140 dinners for long-term patients and home-bound seniors of the Dominican Sisters of Hampton





Bays. This marks the sixth year for this initiative, in what has become an annual effort for the program and its students. About 40 students and faculty chefs prepared the meal with ingredients provided by the Dominican Sisters – a dozen 20-pound turkeys; 100 pounds of mashed potatoes; 50 pounds of sweet potatoes; 80 pounds of stuffing; 25 pounds of assorted vegetables; five gallons of gravy, and everything needed to bake enough apple and pumpkin pies. Local elementary school students from East Quogue supported the effort by making box trays to deliver the holiday meals.

Inclement weather this past winter caused numerous class cancellations. I communicated directly with the college community and our faculty throughout each weather episode to assure everyone that any decision to cancel classes is always taken very seriously by the administration. The decision to cancel takes into consideration the academic integrity of our programs along with the federal and state requirements for class hours, and is balanced with input from those charged with safety and security at our campuses. Our goal is to make the appropriate decision to protect everyone from weather-related injury. This year's multiple storms provided the first opportunities for the College to implement the newly approved Board policy regarding class cancellations.

This year, six students from the Michael J. Grant Campus volunteered for an alternative spring break experience. The students flew to the West Coast and worked with Feed America San Diego, an organization that helps with hunger relief, and Father Joe's Village, a local homeless shelter. The Suffolk students distributed food and met with homeless individuals to hear their stories. They also learned about food insecurity – a lack of access to enough nutritionally adequate food. While in San Diego, the group was also able to volunteer with the Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve, helping them in their quest to eliminate invasive species. Upon their return, I asked the students to present a video of their experiences to the College's Board of Trustees, who congratulated them on their efforts to improve conditions in each of the communities they visited.

The College's Get There From Here Scholars were recruited to learn about the Orientation Leader/Peer Mentor Programs. Each year, the Office of Campus Activities and Student Leadership Development selects a group of upbeat, dedicated students to become Orientation Leaders/Peer Mentors who will greet and assist incoming students and family members at our New Student Orientation program in August. Orientation Leaders/Peer Mentors provide a vital service, helping thousands of new students by providing comprehensive information they will need to acclimate themselves to the College.

It is common for our students, faculty and staff to remain engaged in community service activities taking place both on and off campus. On the Eastern Campus, the Humanities Department hosted a Creative Writing Festival for students and the Science and Mathematics Department hosted a Family Astronomy and Planetarium Program. Free Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) Immunization Clinics were conducted on each of our campuses by either the Suffolk County Department of Health or Campus Student Health Services. Harsh winter weather resulted in cancelled blood drives across Long Island, resulting in an urgent need for blood. In response, the Ammerman and Eastern campuses hosted successful blood drives in February.

Considerable work has taken place to ensure a smooth implementation of the College's transition to a new dining service vendor for the upcoming fall semester. Representation from across the major functional areas of the College has been engaged in this process with Aramark Dining Services for months. Staff is methodically reviewing numerous



*Students from the Culinary Arts program prepared about 140 Thanksgiving dinners for long-term patients and home-bound seniors of the Dominican Sisters of Hampton Bays.*



*With record snowfall, the entire college community appreciates efforts made to keep our campus and students safe.*



*Suffolk has begun working with a new preferred vendor for dining services, Aramark Higher Education.*



*Grab-N-Go food options will meet the needs of students' fast-paced lifestyles.*

details ranging from construction and renovation, to billing and refunds, information technology specifications, student ID card production and communications. Together, Suffolk and Aramark will be creating enhanced dining experiences by transforming the campus dining environments, bringing in a mix of national and proprietary restaurant brands, providing knowledgeable chefs, fresh food and healthier options. As part of the transition for the fall, the College will be implementing a \$100 meal plan charge per semester for students taking nine credits or more on the Ammerman and Michael J. Grant campuses. These funds can then be used by students to purchase food or drinks in any of the campus dining locations and campus vending machines. Purchases made through the meal plan are tax-free, creating significant dining value. The Babylon Student Center and Captree Commons main dining area locations will open on the first day of the fall 2015 semester, August 27<sup>th</sup>, with construction activity in certain sections likely to continue through January 2016. Updates on progress being made as part of this initiative are being shared on a special Website that has been created just for this purpose.



*The 15<sup>th</sup> season of the Long Island Shakespeare Festival features an abbreviated performance of *As You Like It*.*

The Long Island Shakespeare Festival offered free public performances of an abridged version of Shakespeare's *As You Like It* during summer 2015. The Festival's 15<sup>th</sup> season was presented at the College's Ammerman Campus in Selden, both under the stars and in the Shea Theatre.

As part of the communications process during Priority Registration, a series of communications were issued to students that encouraged them to enroll for the following fall or spring semester as quickly as possible, in order to secure the best schedule. Messaging also suggested that students may want to consider enrolling for wintersession or summer classes as a means for earning the credits necessary to graduate in as timely a manner as possible. The communications plan included flyers, posters, banners, portal announcements, display screens and mailings.

This year, students from our Honors Program had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Thomas Bailey, director of the Community College Research Center (CCRC) at Teachers College, Columbia University. The CCRC is the leading independent authority on the nation's nearly 1,200 two-year colleges. Bailey has authored or co-authored nine books about various topics connected to higher education. One of his areas of expertise is student persistence, completion, and transfer. Honors students spent a few hours discussing some of the CCRC's research findings in these areas and also had an opportunity to engage Dr. Bailey in a discussion about higher education equity and funding issues. This is the third year that the Honors Program has visited Columbia University. By visiting an Ivy League college for a day, Honors students feel more empowered and motivated to transfer to highly selective colleges and universities. Indeed, many of our Honors students have done so with assistance from the Honors Program faculty and staff.

In an effort to help spread kindness across our campuses, student Evan Feliciano of Hauppauge, created S.H.A.R.K! (an acronym for "Students Here are Really Kind") cards. The cards were distributed whenever students or campus visitors were witnessed being nice to someone.

The College has developed a prototype for its first mobile app. We will arrange to meet with student focus groups to derive feedback that will further direct the look and feel of the app.

This year, the College's Office of Student Affairs began to coordinate college visits for





our transferring students, dubbing the initiative “Position Your Transition.” Working in conjunction with admissions offices at participating four-year institutions, we arrange for groups of 20-40 of our students to visit Long-Island based four-year institutions they are interested in applying to for transfer admission. Those institutions agree to provide roundtrip bus transportation, transfer admission information, speakers, a campus tour and lunch with some of their currently enrolled students. In addition, Suffolk students are eligible for instant transfer credit evaluations and an application fee waiver if they enroll. The visits are a great opportunity for our students to experience another campus culture, discuss their transfer options, and engage directly with current students who attend the college or university under consideration. This year’s transfer trips included visits to Hofstra University, Adelphi University, and St. Joseph’s College.

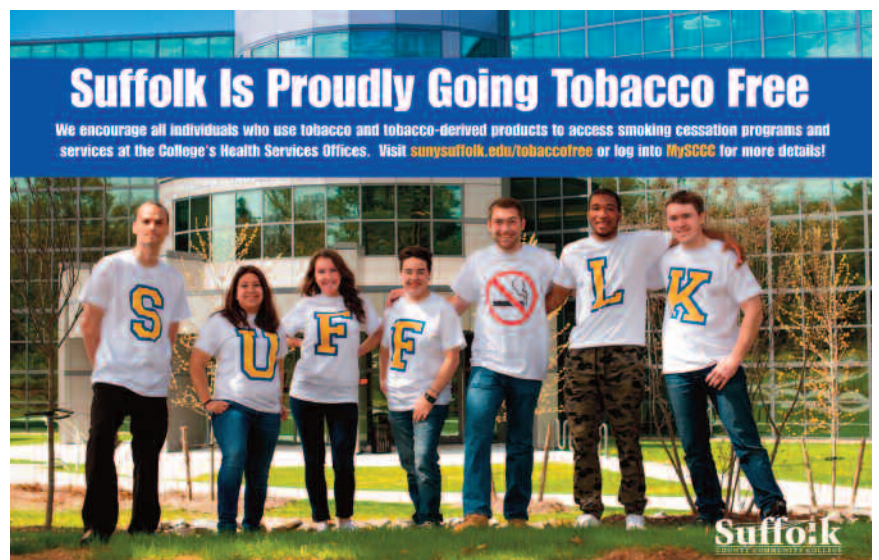
College administrators met with a field representative from the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP). SEVP mandates site visits of all institutions that are certified to issue student visas for international students. During the visit, SEVP was given a complete overview of the College’s international student program, as well as the policies and procedures for the processing of international students’ admission applications. The field representative was impressed by our use of the Google Translator tool, which allows all of the College’s international student admissions Website information to be translated into a student’s native language, leading to easy completion and submission of required documents. Following the visit, the College received approval notification for its recertification submission. This allows the College to continue issuing visas for international students.

In June 2012, the State University of New York’s Board of Trustees passed a resolution endorsing the establishment of a “Tobacco-free SUNY” policy. To gather input on this important health and wellness initiative, at my direction, the College developed an online survey for faculty, staff and students. Nearly seven out of ten respondents (69.9%) strongly supported or somewhat supported the College becoming a 100% tobacco- and smoke-free institution. The Suffolk County Legislature approved the College’s roll-out of smoke- and tobacco-free campuses and passed a resolution giving the College’s Board of Trustees permission to deviate from County parameters related to a ban on smoking and tobacco products. Suffolk County Legislators Dr. William Spencer and Monica Martinez attended a Board of Trustee meeting to show their support for our new tobacco-free policy. I formed an implementation team charged with presenting the college community with education, communication and enforcement elements associated with this policy. Team members included representatives from our partners at North Shore LIJ Health System, the College’s medical director and health services nurses, as well as our communications and Public Safety staff. On August 27<sup>th</sup>, the first day of the fall 2015 semester, the College will officially become smoke- and tobacco-free. In order to provide a clean and healthy campus environment, the policy will:

- Protect Suffolk students, faculty, staff and visitors from unwanted and involuntary exposure to tobacco and passive smoke;
- Prohibit the use of all tobacco and tobacco-derived products on all College grounds; and
- Provide resources for tobacco users to get the help they need to quit for good.



*As part of the “Position Your Transition” initiative, Suffolk students visited Hofstra University, Adelphi University, and St. Joseph’s College.*



*All of our campuses are tobacco free starting on August 27<sup>th</sup>.*



## Operating Budget Submission

For five of the last seven years, Suffolk County has asked the College to formulate its operating budget without providing any increase in the County's contribution. During this period, I have charged the College's administration to be fiscally prudent, including taking actions such as: holding the line on purchasing and maintaining a restrictive hiring practice; monitoring enrollment and expenses to yield efficiencies; renegotiating collective bargaining agreements; tracking the number of sections offered each semester; and managing its master schedule. Through these efforts, the College has ended each fiscal year with a balanced budget. We have accomplished this by implementing very tight controls, and we have shared with the County that such effort is not sustainable indefinitely.

The College finished the 2013-2014 fiscal year with a surplus that was returned to the College's reserve fund. The Board of Trustees authorized \$4.3 million from reserves to be used to balance the 2014-2015 operating budget. I directed College administration to continue its practice of prudent fiscal management and close monitoring of expenses. While we will not close the books on 2014-2015 until the fall, we are trending toward ending the year with a small budget surplus at this time.

### 2015-2016 Operating Budget

The allocation of budgetary resources is closely tied to the College's Strategic Plan and Institutional Goals. Planning and program assessment guide the establishment of budgetary priorities. Our Operating Budget continues to be under considerable pressure, due to projected cost increases related to employee pensions, healthcare, contractual salary agreements and the operation of new buildings. We also anticipate future reductions in the number of graduating high school students, increased costs to maintain an aging infrastructure, and – without a new arrangement – revenue shortfalls caused by reduced or flat State and local sponsor contributions.

Given that our budget model projects increases in costs and the potential for the leveling-off of enrollment, I directed College departments to submit "no growth" budgets for the 2015-2016 fiscal year that assumed zero-percent increases over the total bottom line funding provided for each unit during the 2014-2015 academic year. Exceptions to the no-growth scenario were: 1) costs associated with new facilities, 2) enhanced assessment efforts to align College operations with the Comprehensive Assessment Plan for institutional Effectiveness (CAPIE) and the College's Strategic Plan, and 3) programmatic impacts as a result of assessment efforts to achieve institutional goals.

The College's 2015-2016 operating budget request totaled \$215 million, an increase of \$6.8 million or 3.3% over the prior year's budget. The increase was directly related to: 1) a \$2.3 million increase in employee benefits, of which \$2 million was to cover additional health insurance costs due to an increase in the County plan's rates, 2) \$3.7 million in personal services for contractual salary related expenses, and 3) increased costs related to the operation of the new William J. Lindsay Life Sciences Building, which opened for classes this past spring.

To support this request, the adopted New York State 2015-2016 budget provided an increase in State Base Aid per Full Time Equivalent (FTE) student of \$100 per FTE. This translated to \$2 million in additional revenue for Suffolk County Community College. To ensure that the College operates with a structurally balanced budget that contains sufficient recurring revenue to meet recurring expenses, the Board of Trustees submitted a budget request to the County that included an annual tuition increase of \$180 that brought full-time annual tuition to \$4,570; authorized a transfer of over



*The college community is updated about the budget process through Town Hall meetings at each campus.*



\$2.3 million from the College Fund Balance Reserve; and included a request for a 5% increase in the County contribution, which translated to \$1,988,438. The County Executive responded by recommending a 2.51% increase in the County contribution, which translated to \$1 million. As directed by the Board of Trustees and me as President, the College's administration worked diligently to advocate for the remaining \$988,438 in support from the County on behalf of our students. Eventually, a compromise was reached when the County agreed to contribute \$500,000 to the College's capital budget to be allocated toward purchasing new technology equipment for students. To address the revenue shortfall, the Board of Trustees authorized a \$500,000 reduction in its total operating budget request, as well as the use of additional reserve funds of \$488,438.

The College's 2015-2016 operating budget also includes funding for positions to address accreditation requirements: needs in Criminal Justice and Health Information Technology; Technology and Networking Support for Information Technology; custodial needs for the additional space provided at the William J. Lindsay Life Sciences Building and clerical support for the Culinary Arts Facility. It also enables us to hire staff responsible for program planning and community outreach in anticipation of the opening of our Health and Wellness facility on the Eastern Campus.

It is important to note that the guidelines from our accrediting body, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, recommend that institutions have available 10% to 15% of the operating budget available in reserves. With this latest budget's use of the fund balance, our reserves will stand at approximately 8%.

As President, working with the Board of Trustees and the leadership from our collective bargaining units, I continue to advocate for the implementation of a multi-year plan for sustainable sponsor contributions. I believe such a plan would meet the objective of keeping tuition affordable at Suffolk County Community College and enabling students and their parents the ability to plan ahead for the cost of tuition.

Through a six-month long concerted effort that began in January, which was bolstered by the expertise and passion of our faculty, students and administrators, we gave exceptional effort to advocating our elected officials in a manner that would ensure that Suffolk County Community College had the resources necessary to continue providing outstanding educational opportunities within a comfortable and safe teaching and learning environment. I thank the entire college community for its cooperation and assistance in this endeavor.

### **New Buildings and Improvements to Infrastructure**

Renovations at the Riverhead Building were completed on schedule and the building was available for classes on the first day of the fall 2014 semester. This was a major achievement, given the extensive work that was performed in the building.

In September, the College hosted a site visit for the County Legislature's Education and Information Technology Committee. The visit enabled the Committee's members to view the intersection near the South Coleman Road entrance to the Ammerman Campus, where we had requested traffic mitigation efforts in the form of a traffic circle. The \$450,000 capital appropriating resolution for the project had been tabled by that committee. College administrators and students went on to advocate before the members of the Committee to include this capital funding. I am happy to report that design and construction funding has now been appropriated. Our next step is to issue an RFP for design services, which will be followed by construction next summer.



*The William J. Lindsay Building opened for spring semester classes.*



*Hundreds of guests and members of Legislator Lindsay's family attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony.*



*Our students will benefit from state-of-the-art labs and new equipment.*



In October, I was thrilled to unveil the first new building on our Ammerman Campus since the 1970's. Almost 250 guests, including the Chairman of the SUNY Board of Trustees, attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new 64,000-square-foot William J. Lindsay Life Sciences Building. The dedication program brilliantly showcased this spectacular facility, our wonderful faculty and our very bright students, all while appropriately remembering an outstanding public servant and former Presiding Officer of the Suffolk County Legislature, William J. Lindsay, who was a strong advocate for the College throughout his career. In line with our timeline, we successfully opened the building in time to schedule classes for the spring semester.

Last fall, the College hosted a visit with the Community College Capital Program Manager for SUNY. The purpose of the visit was to tour some of the College's on-going capital projects and review procedures for the next State budget cycle. Included on the tour were the Riverhead Building renovation, and the new William J. Lindsay Life Sciences Building on the Ammerman Campus, as well as a visit to capital sites on the Michael J. Grant Campus.

#### 2015-2016 Capital Budget

As a result of last year's capital program process, all of our capital projects were maintained in the County's capital program. In addition, a Master Plan Update and a fourth phase of Infrastructure College-wide, were added as new projects when the College submitted its 2015-2017 Capital Program request to the County. My main focus this year was to keep all existing projects from being dropped or delayed. Projects currently scheduled for funding in 2015 and beyond now total \$42.3 million.

At its meeting on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, the full Suffolk County Legislature voted to adopt the County Capital Budget. This included approving all of the College's capital project requests as modified by the County Executive. The College's capital projects are funded with 50% coming from our sponsor, Suffolk County, and 50% coming from the State of New York. The College has also submitted its requests to SUNY based on the Adopted County Capital Budget and Program. I am grateful to our elected officials for their leadership on our capital budget requests.

Just as we enjoyed the official opening of the William J. Lindsay Life Sciences Building on the Ammerman Campus in Selden this past fall, among the projects we can now look forward to are a new Health and Wellness Facility at the Eastern Campus, construction of a Renewable Energy/STEM Center and new Learning Resource Center at the Michael J. Grant Campus in Brentwood, along with appropriations for a Plant Operations Building for the Michael J. Grant Campus and Warehouse Building for the Eastern Campus, renovations to Kreiling Hall on Ammerman and to the Sagtikos Building on Grant, a new master facilities plan for the College and a fourth installment of \$10.3 million for college-wide infrastructure projects. It is important to note that the College's larger capital projects will generate numerous good-paying construction jobs that will assist in boosting the regional economy.

Some highlights from among our upcoming capital projects are the following:

#### Health and Wellness Facility – Eastern Campus

This building is vital to supporting a health and wellness focus for eastern Suffolk County. The facility will be used by our students for athletics and recreation – finally allowing the institution to provide a full college experience for those enrolled at the Eastern Campus. The facility will also be made available to community residents for general fitness and recreational use and to train east end fire, police and dive rescue



*The Lindsay family has announced the establishment of the William J. Lindsay Memorial Scholarship Fund.*



teams. Similar to the Field House at the Michael J. Grant Campus, this building will contain convention space. This kind of space, in the dimensions that will be built, does not currently exist anywhere on Long Island's east end or the twin forks. Events scheduled for this venue will serve to bolster revenue to the College, as well as the economic vitality of the region by attracting visitors to the area.

#### Renewable Energy and STEM Center – Michael J. Grant Campus

This year's New York State Budget included the State's portion of capital funding associated with development of a new Renewable Energy and STEM Center on our Michael J. Grant Campus. This facility will be the cornerstone of new academic initiatives (both credit and non-credit) being developed in Energy Management, Alternative Energy Technologies, and Sustainability Studies, as well as Cybersecurity and other STEM disciplines. A steering committee has been assembled, and architectural design conversations commenced this summer. In addition to design, construction and equipment planning for the building, curriculum development for new academic programming is actively underway.

The building will act as a showcase for the merits of renewable energy, provide a facility where the installation, repair and maintenance of renewable energy systems can be taught, and create an opportunity to combine research from Stony Brook University with Suffolk County Community College's expertise in training. The building will house laboratories and classrooms where solar photovoltaics, wind power, geothermal and other renewable energy and energy conservation technologies can be taught. The first floor of this two-story building will be used for renewable energy training and for other STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) related courses. The second floor will serve as an incubator for Stony Brook University professors who are developing new marketable technologies, including energy and digital technologies. Cybersecurity educational opportunities will be an essential component of the second floor for workforce programs, and for degree and continuing education students. Our Stony Brook University partnership in research and development will also provide opportunities to utilize this venue for Suffolk STEM student interns.

#### Master Plan Update – College-Wide

This project will update the existing College Master Plan, which was last amended in 2000. As a comprehensive, long-range plan intended to guide and empower College development, periodic updates are critical. This re-evaluation will ensure that capital projects are aligned with the College Strategic Plan and respond to real needs as academic programs, demographics and economics continue to evolve and existing physical assets continue to age.

#### Infrastructure – College-Wide

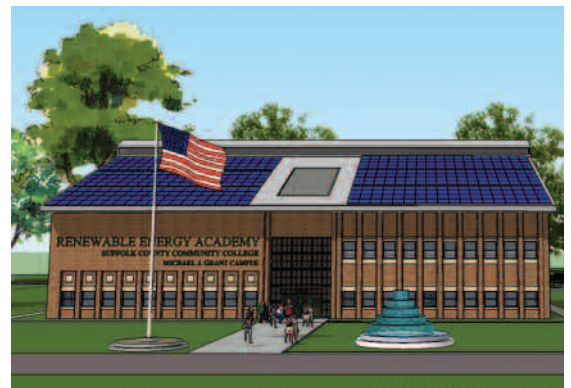
Many College building systems and supporting infrastructure are at the end of their useful life and in poor condition. This capital project will enable us to repair these critical physical assets before they fail.

As part of our partnership with Long Island University, a new modular building is under construction on the Michael J. Grant Campus. We anticipate construction will continue throughout the fall 2015 semester and that the building will be ready for occupancy by students in the spring of 2016. In the meantime, we will continue to accommodate LIU students within existing space on the campus.

Following renovations to upgrade the Alumni Room in the Brookhaven Gymnasium,



*The forthcoming Health and Wellness facility will further allow Eastern Campus students to enjoy a full college experience.*



*The Renewable Energy and STEM Center will enable the College to offer new programming and will serve to educate students regarding renewable energy options.*



new furniture and window treatments were installed. A new playground was installed at the Campus Kids Children's Learning Center on the Ammerman Campus.

In May, over 125 people attended the groundbreaking ceremony hosted for the new Learning Resource Center taking shape on the Michael J. Grant Campus, including members from our Board of Trustees, and student body. Congratulatory remarks from the Suffolk County Legislature were delivered by Sarah Anker, Thomas Barraga, Monica Martinez, Robert Trotta, and Leslie Kennedy. The community was also well represented, with the invocation being delivered by Reverend Daris Dixon-Clark, Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Bay Shore and concluding remarks from Richard O'Kane - President, Building and Construction Trades Council of Nassau and Suffolk Counties. In attendance were community leaders, including Mary Reid and representatives from the Brentwood Library and Eastern Suffolk BOCES. It is estimated that construction will take 18 months to complete.

I believe our teaching and learning environment is important to student success. By investing in new buildings and renovating our existing infrastructure, we are able to maintain a setting where faculty can comfortably engage our students.

### Advocacy

This year, much of my time and focus were dedicated to leading advocacy efforts on behalf of the College, its students, and SUNY. In addition to speaking in support of the College's operating and capital budget efforts detailed in earlier sections of this report:

- I was heavily engaged in emphasizing to members of the State Assembly and Senate the importance of enhanced State Aid support for community colleges in general and Suffolk County Community College, specifically.
- I was one of the College Presidents invited by the New York State United Teachers' (NYSUT) to attend their annual Community College Conference to further develop the strategy for an advocacy launch associated with the "Reclaiming the Promise" effort across New York State. This effort was aligned with the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) nation-wide campaign of the same name, seeking additional investment in public education. By uniting students, parents, faculty, and staff, the community organizers hoped to positively influence the level of funding received by community colleges.
- In October, I was invited to join New York State Governor Andrew M. Cuomo at Mineola Middle School as he received the final report from the Smart Schools Commission. The Commission is an advisory board established by the Governor to gather information on strategies that will help schools to effectively invest proceeds from the proposed \$2 billion Smart Schools Bond. The Commission's findings focused on expanding robust broadband and wireless connectivity for schools and communities across New York to support technology-enhanced learning environments.
- The College supported the Save Student Aid campaign. Under the leadership of the American Council on Education (ACE), this campaign was designed to increase awareness and spur action against congressional threats to curtail federal student aid programs. One proposal currently under consideration would freeze the Pell Grant maximum at \$5,775 for the next 10 years. Students were encouraged to respond digitally to the Save Student Aid Website, and to 'Like' the Save Student Aid campaign on Facebook or Twitter. The College's office of Central Financial Aid sent a mailing to almost 9,000 currently enrolled Pell Grant recipients to support the campaign.
- At the invitation of DuWayne Gregory, the County Legislature's Presiding



*Our students attended Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory's press conference to highlight the need for Pell Grant funding.*



*Students engaged in direct conversations with State elected officials.*



*Suffolk student advocacy included a 4 a.m. bus ride to Albany to encourage enhanced funding for community colleges.*



Officer, individuals from the College attended his press conference to bring attention to the U.S. House of Representatives' effort to freeze Pell funding. Six of our students attended the press conference, including the Board's Student Trustee Gardy Amilcar. Two of our students spoke about the impact such an action would have on their ability to afford college.

- To gain a better local understanding of this issue, the College hosted a public hearing in April at the Michael J. Grant Campus. Presiding Officer Gregory, and the Chair of the Legislature's Higher Education and Information Technology Committee, Sarah Anker, received presentations from administrators representing Stony Brook University and Suffolk County Community College. The elected officials also heard moving testimony regarding what such aid cuts would mean to students if implemented. A number of media outlets picked up on the story, including the local affiliate of National Public Radio.
- I was invited by the New York State Assembly Republican members from Suffolk and Nassau counties to provide testimony at a budget hearing on Governor Cuomo's 2015-2016 Executive Budget proposal.
- In March, I was interviewed by Ernie Fazio on Long Island News Radio. We discussed why Suffolk County Community College is a wise first choice for graduating high school seniors, the economic impact our institution has on the local economy, and our contributions to workforce development and meeting the demands of Long Island employers.
- Under the direction of Trustee Theresa Sanders, President and CEO of the Urban League of Long Island and Board of Trustees Chair, and in collaboration with the New York State Association of Urban League Executives, the Urban League hosted a contingency of Suffolk students as part of the New York State Association of Black and Puerto Rican Legislators Conference in Albany. During this event, students had the opportunity to meet legislators and advocate for the College.
- I joined two busloads of students and administrators from the College who travelled to the New York State Capitol in Albany on March 4<sup>th</sup>, for SUNY Advocacy Day. Our 62 students broke into small groups and covered the Capitol. They advocated before members of the state legislature seeking increased State Base Aid per Full-Time Equivalent student, support for community college child care center appropriations, and the Reclaiming the Promise initiative, asking our elected officials to provide the percentage amount of financial support to community colleges that is written into law. Suffolk was the only institution to attend with student ambassadors. Our students visited every Assemblyperson from the Long Island delegation, as well as most of Long Island's Senators, including Ken LaValle, Chair of the Senate's Higher Education Committee. Through a personal connection, our students were also able to meet with the Assembly's newly elected Speaker, Carl Heastie. The students represented our institution well and they were warmly received.
- During the summer, I joined area higher education leaders and Suffolk County Legislator Sarah Anker and Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory at a news conference hosted by the Long Island Regional Advisory Council for Higher Education (LIRACHE) at SUNY Farmingdale. This most recent press event is the latest in a series of public sessions where I have joined elected officials and other prominent education leaders to discuss the importance of the Pell Grant program to our students. As part of the event, LIRACHE announced its release of a report on the impact that proposed program cuts or a 10-year Pell Grant freeze would have on Long Island students. To emphasize the impact of this program, according to the report, at least one of every 100 Pell Grant recipients in the nation, are from Long Island.



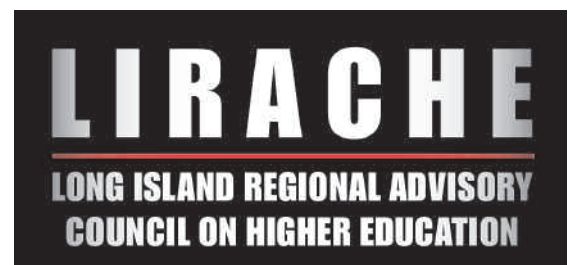
# Pell Grants



*An interview on L.I. News Radio featured the total impact that Suffolk County Community College has on our region.*

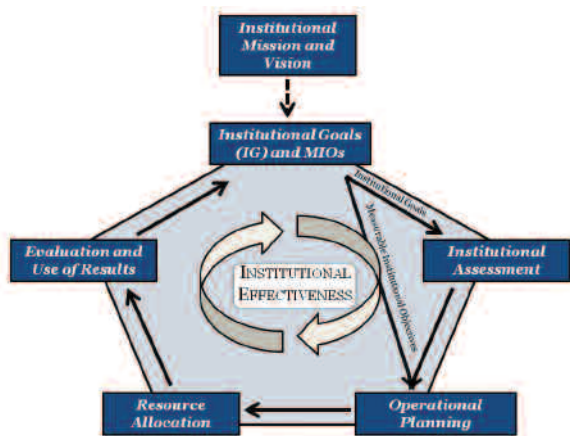


*Student Trustee Gardy Amilcar played an active role in the College's advocacy efforts, representing the student body.*





Suffolk's Corporate Training Center continues to train and certify individuals in machining, welding, and soldering.



Suffolk County Community College Institutional Effectiveness Model

In the spring, the College completed an update to its Economic Impact Report, detailing its effect on the local economy and providing a current measure of how the continued operation of the College affects local wages, job creation, taxes and other value-added contributions to the economy. This information will be further analyzed in a manner that will make it easy to share with various audiences, including legislators, community leaders, parents, alumni, taxpayers, business leaders and members of the press. Similarly, I have begun building a repository of quick-reference facts about the College that could be used as part of these conversations. Among the items of interest are:

- For this most recent academic year, 69% of our students are currently employed; 46% work more than 20 hours per week.
- According to Suffolk's 2013-2014 Alumni Follow-Up Survey, 80% of the respondents were employed within twelve months after completing their program of study and 86.5% of respondents held jobs in Suffolk County. Six months after completing their program of study, 46.6% of respondents were enrolled in additional career-related education or training.
- From September 2012 through December 2014, Suffolk's Corporate Training Center trained and certified over 120 individuals in Machining, Welding, and Soldering. All of these students have been retained by or employed within local manufacturing companies.
- Twenty-six Advisory Committees have been established at Suffolk, which directly link academic programs with 357 regional professionals practicing in the field to ensure course relevancy and program vibrancy. Committees are established in such areas as business and accounting, nursing, paralegal, veterinary science, theatre, and culinary arts.
- Annually, over 500 students hold internships at over 275 regional, state and national companies and organizations.
- The College's extensive involvement in the economic development community on Long Island means that we often receive direct requests from business and industry representatives to help them meet their needs for a qualified workforce. Suffolk works with these leaders and their industry associations to determine specific skill shortages and the types of training required. Data from various sources – Department of Labor reports, industry association studies, and surveys of similar businesses – are collected in order to quantify these needs and to ensure that any new course or program of study is viable and sustainable.

### Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) Accreditation

I am grateful for the continuous effort put forth by the college community in support of our institutional accreditation. By working together, we have successfully proven our compliance with MSCHE standards and expectations, leading to enhanced excellence at the College and continuous improvement of our teaching and learning environment.

During this past academic year, the Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness developed and followed the timeline for meeting the September 1, 2015 deadline for submission of the College's follow-up monitoring report, which will verify the sustainability of our assessment and evaluation efforts. That report has been completed and will be followed by another MSCHE small team visit to the College later this fall.

Earlier this year, I sent a nine-person team to the annual conference of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, in order to familiarize additional College staff members regarding upcoming changes being made to Commission guidelines. Knowledge gained from this conference has already proven to be beneficial in the



Suffolk County Community College Integrated Planning Model



preparation of our monitoring report. In response to the Commission's changing accreditation standards, the Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness developed a compliance database to track the College's adherence to federal, state, and local regulations. Over the next two years, we will ask additional members of our faculty and staff to attend Middle States workshops to prepare for upcoming accreditation events.

I have already initiated planning to address the College's Decennial Self-Study, scheduled to begin next year.

### College Highlights

On May 15<sup>th</sup>, the School of Nursing gathered for a celebration of 50 years of Excellence in Nursing Education. More than 1,000 guests attended this special pinning ceremony to induct the 2015 class into the nursing profession. Highlights from the evening included a procession of alumni who graduated between 1965 and 2014, and a special keynote address by alumnus Richard Menjivar '11, RN, BSN, a United States Army veteran who served as a combat medic in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. State representatives presented proclamations to the School and three graduates received special recognition for their military service. During its long, illustrious history, the College has seen over 8,580 Suffolk nursing graduates. A commemorative journal was produced, with all journal proceeds used to fund a future nursing scholarship.

The College hosted its annual commencement ceremony on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. This year, we incorporated numerous logistical changes that helped to streamline and shorten the program. With 4,306 students meeting the eligibility requirements for graduation, the class of 2015 stands as the largest in the College's history and brings the total number of alumni that have graduated from Suffolk County Community College to over 115,000. I was honored to invite the Suffolk County Legislature's Presiding Officer, DuWayne Gregory, to serve as Grand Marshal for this year's ceremony. The Foundation's Office of Alumni Relations welcomed the Class of 2015, presenting each graduate with an alumni welcome package and encouraging them to stay connected with their alma mater so the next generation of Suffolk students will also succeed.

My series of Campus Town Hall Meetings were completed in both the fall and spring semesters. This year I joined the members of my Cabinet at each campus location, utilizing the opportunity to bring the college community up to date with the latest activities and accomplishments taking place across the College, in addition to answering questions brought forth through the proceedings. Each Town Hall allows for one session directed to faculty and staff, with a second session held exclusively for campus student leaders.

I have established a college-wide Space Allocation Review Committee. This group has been charged with conducting an analysis of space requirements and the efficient use of existing space, inclusive of developing a process for making future space decisions on our campuses and college-wide.

The college-wide Information Technology Steering Committee recommended that the College pursue two new project requests: one for an e-procurement system and one to develop an updated Banner Student Demographic form. The e-procurement project will serve to further streamline the College's purchasing processes, minimize the use of paper transactions, maximize discounts, improve reporting and assure compliance with institutional procurement procedures. Authorized users will have the



*During our celebration of 50 years of excellence in Nursing education, we were honored to be joined by alumni from our earliest nursing classes.*





The College's Open House attracts thousands of potential students from the region.



ability to place orders using online catalogues from entities that the College has contracts with or that have contract authorization from SUNY, New York State or Suffolk County. The solution will be integrated with the Banner financial system to ensure that appropriations are available and that applicable levels of approval are maintained. The Banner project will require students to update their telephone, address and email contact information in advance of our plans to introduce text messaging capabilities as a form of student communication.

Our total Full Time Equivalent (FTE) enrollment for the academic year was very close to the prior year's enrollment figures, which means we made strides in attracting enrollment that was sufficient to make up the difference generated by graduating the largest class in our history. Despite national trends and the experience of both two- and four-year colleges in the area that have lost 5% or more in enrollment, our FTE enrollment is basically flat and has remained level. I have directed that student retention efforts be a priority as we move forward.

The College had successful Open House events for both the fall and spring at its three campuses. The programming for Open House includes having faculty representatives in attendance from all academic programs that are offered at the respective campuses, as well as providing admissions, testing and advising, scholarship, financial aid, career, special services, athletics, transfer and student leadership information. Campus tours are conducted by student ambassadors. This year's overall attendance ranged between 1,000-2,000 prospective and recently accepted students and their families. To attract this audience, a postcard mailing was sent to Suffolk and Nassau county high school juniors and seniors inviting them to attend the Open House, and was also sent to various cohorts of student populations not currently enrolled at the College. An electronic announcement about the Open House was sent to all respondents on the College's enrollment landing page. The event is also widely advertised using the *Newsday* Note, press releases, social media, the College's homepage, online advertisements, along with posters and flyers that are sent to local high schools and libraries.

SUNY Financial Aid Day was held on February 28<sup>th</sup> at all three campuses. Over two hundred parents and students attended college-wide. The Financial Aid Professional staff assisted the audience with a step-by-step presentation on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) process. After the presentation, the staff stayed to answer questions.

In March, a financial aid presentation for English as a Second Language (ESL) students from East Hampton along with their parents took place at the Eastern Campus. East Hampton provided a community liaison and the College provided a representative from the campus Financial Aid Office. The presentation was delivered in Spanish.

### Title III

This year, the College substantially completed its US Department of Education Title III-A Strengthening Institutions Program sponsored project, entitled *Student Engagement through Informed Support* (SEIS). The project began on October 1, 2010 and will end September 30, 2015. This five-year project was designed to dramatically improve student success and engagement by growing the College's capacity to support students with electronically-enabled enrollment and admissions processes, reorganizing and improving faculty academic advising, establishing a new early warning-student intervention system, creating repositories of faculty-developed online learning objects for 20 high-enrollment gateway courses, and unifying on-line and in-person student support resources available through a new Virtual Learning Commons.





This five-year grant from the U. S. Department of Education has greatly benefitted Suffolk students during the past 4 ½ years. Besides streamlining the enrollment and admissions processes, it has enabled the College to improve accessibility to advising, added two new writing centers, and created a library of faculty-developed learning objects to a Virtual Learning Commons (VLC). By fall 2015, the VLC will have increased online academic support from zero courses to 30 courses being supported online. Suffolk now provides students with a robust resource of online support for learning both inside and outside of the classroom for the most common courses students take.

Faculty members have taken advantage of the opportunity to learn new technology contributing to the further development of the VLC. Suffolk students are now able to receive extra help even when they can't get to campus. Instructors can link desired VLC pages to their online course sites in Blackboard to provide seamless extra help. Faculty have shared that they use the VLC to: find approaches to common teaching issues, discover how their colleagues are teaching the same topics, and spend more time on critical thinking and analysis in class.

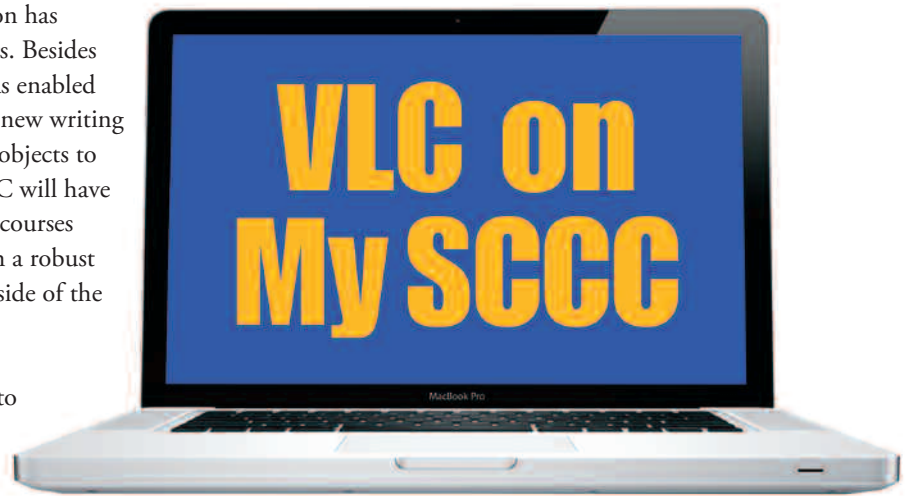
Other online highlights include featuring success stories from Suffolk alumni and members of the community to assist students in determining the right education to attain their career goals; spotlighting professors in order to help students connect with our faculty, increasing the likelihood of degree completion; featuring select learning objects that help students more confidently access the wealth of resources at the College. Tracking shows thousands of visits to the learning areas each month—by students, faculty, staff and administrators.

The grant project has also made it possible for the College to better serve students with disabilities. As an example, to help vision-impaired students online learning access to screen-reading software and voice-output calculators occurred this year.

Looking back over the grant period, we have seen the following improvements to advising:

- The College created three Academic Advising and Mentoring Centers where faculty members interact with students. Thousands of students seek help at the centers every semester and are able to access the support they need to successfully complete their courses.
- Counselors and instructional faculty developed curriculum and materials for advising, and received professional development in holistic advising.
- Instructional faculty went on to create a guide for advising and devised principles for a Mid-term Academic Alert process that lets students know about any academic performance issues in a timely way.

SEIS replaced the College's paper application with a more complete, convenient, and modern web-based online application system. This included the implementation of an e-transcript system so that applicants no longer need to mail paper copies and College staff no longer needs to enter transcripts into the system by hand. Electronic scanners on each campus further eliminated the reliance on paper documents. The project also installed SARS grid for automated scheduling and planning, and sponsored a major upgrade of the College's portal to the Luminis IV system. SEIS also provided the Suffolk Community College Foundation with \$150,000 in





*Faculty support is critical to STEM student success.*

matching funds to strengthen its endowment and increase the College's capability to provide students with financial support.

In line with the grant's completion, I have established a committee to direct the institutionalization of the remaining agreed-upon grant components.

In April, the College's proposal to present a forum session based on its Title III project was accepted for the 2015 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). The presentation, "Support, Success & Completion," was delivered by Dr. Marlene DuBois, Dr. James Keane and Christine Crowe. The presentation was well-received, with a number of requests for follow-up information.

### **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)**

Twenty-five students from Suffolk are serving as STEM student researchers this summer. Of this number, 14 students are Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP) and/or National Science Foundation Scholarships for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (NSF S-STEM) students. Since research opportunities are a primary factor in students' persistence in STEM, our students are well-positioned to continue along the pathway to a STEM degree. The student researchers are participating in the following programs:

#### Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) at Stony Brook University (SBU)

Twelve students are part of the REU experience, with one conducting research in Nanotechnology for Health, Energy and the Environment, seven working under the auspices of the Biology Department's Howard Hughes Medical Institute, one funded through the Stony Brook University Initiative for Maximizing Student Development: Maximizing Excellence in Research for Graduate Education (IMSD-MERGE) Program, and three students studying nanomaterials at the Material Sciences Department's Garcia Center.

#### Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) Summer Research Programs

Eleven students are at BNL, conducting projects focused on cancer research, environmental studies and renewable energy.

#### Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (WA)

One student is studying geology.

#### National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

One student is part of a team studying astrophysics.

I continue to be inspired by the promise and achievements of the young people funded through our two NSF S-STEM grants. At this spring's closing ceremony for NSF S-STEM and CSTEP, it was encouraging to see our existing community college research scholars, our alumni researchers who have since bridged to four-year universities, and those alumni who have finished graduate school and are now employed in research positions at BNL where they are mentoring their "pipeline peers" during the summer. At the event, our current and former NSF S-STEM and CSTEP scholars shared that they are leveraging their Suffolk experiences at some of the nation's best educational institutions, including Cornell, the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Columbia University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and within SUNY. The College was proud to have three of its STEM scholars awarded three of the five inaugural STEM Hearst Foundation Transfer scholarships to Stony Brook University.



*Suffolk students continue to excel as they pursue STEM-related degrees.*





Dr. Candice Foley, Professor of Chemistry and the College's NSF S-STEM PI, addressed the benefits of undergraduate research experiences, the strength and success of Suffolk's STEM scholars and the vital role of community colleges, particularly Suffolk, as crucial entry points and valued partners at a presentation at the national STEMTech Conference. Dr. Foley presented Suffolk's NSF S-STEM program statistics and data to highlight the success of our vast network of collaborations within SUNY, statewide and nationally and the benefits that result for our students, enabling them to bridge from the community college to the baccalaureate level, on to graduate school and into the STEM workforce.

Suffolk's strength in connecting students to real world experiential research opportunities was a strong message articulated by Suffolk's student research scholars who were selected to present their research results in a wide array of local, regional and national conferences including:

- 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Pine Barrens Research Forum – BNL
- Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) – San Antonio, TX
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Educational Empowerment Conference
- NIH Institutional Research and Career Development Symposium
- STEM Diversity Summit – Farmingdale State College
- Long Island STEM Hub Annual Celebration – Cradle of Aviation Museum
- Inaugural SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference – Brockport, NY
- National Conference on Undergraduate Research – Spokane, WA
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual CSTEP Conference – Bolton Landing, NY
- NY City Technical College

STEM scholar research was highlighted at two inaugural events this past year. First, at the dedication of the new William J. Lindsay Life Sciences Building, students presented posters summarizing their research. Each speaker was poised, articulate, and passionate about the benefits of their community college STEM education and how their research experiences impacted their future educational and career aspirations. Next, the Ammerman Campus library dedicated March 2015 as "STEM Month" and featured displays, exhibits, and student research posters. "STEM Month" concluded with a STEM celebration highlighting the work of Suffolk's talented STEM scholars, who presented their research posters to their peers and the college community.

Since 2004, Suffolk County Community College has been one of the strongest pipelines of interns to Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL). We are second only to Stony Brook University in the total number of participants in BNL research programs and our record in obtaining these internships includes competing against strong Ivy League competitors such as MIT, Yale, Cornell and others. Since 2007, more than 120 Suffolk County Community College STEM scholars have been awarded competitive and paid research internships at laboratories ranging from Brookhaven National Laboratory, to Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California, to



**STEM Success Starts Here.**

Improving America's STEM education has become a top priority across the nation. At Suffolk, approximately 1,500 students are currently enrolled in STEM majors and the College's STEM program has been producing award-winning students while providing summer research internships at internationally-renowned facilities, including Brookhaven National Laboratory, NASA, and Oak Ridge National Laboratory, to name just a few.

Contact us to find out why making Suffolk your first choice is a decision that's second to none.

**Suffolk**  
SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
[sunysuffolk.edu/Enroll](http://sunysuffolk.edu/Enroll)



*March was dedicated as "STEM Month" and an event at the Ammerman Campus Huntington Library featured displays, exhibits, and student research posters.*

Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee, Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico, and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Richland, Washington. Among Suffolk students currently engaged in research internships, one has been asked to continue their paid research during the upcoming fall semester, fully supported by their scientist mentors.



I am proud to relate that three of our NSF S-STEM research scholars had their research projects accepted to the 2015 National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) held this year in Washington State. Chosen from more than 3,700 submissions, our students presented their work within a particular field of study to peers, faculty, and staff from around the world. The accepted presentations were as follows: Jonathan Millings, “Effects of Histone Deacetylase Inhibition on Tumor Radiosensitivity Following Charged Particle Irradiation”; Ammara Saeed, “Generation of TALEs to Block REST RE-1 Site Interactions”; and Yao Aleke, “Using Brookhaven National Laboratory’s electric vehicle fleet as grid support.”

Suffolk County Community College is one of a handful of community colleges nationally that have been awarded prestigious grants for STEM scholarships for its students. We have had a decade of support from the National Science Foundation including two back-to-back grants for STEM scholarships totaling \$1.2 million. Work is underway to submit the next grant proposal for continued funding.

### **Philanthropy Fosters Student Success**

The Suffolk Community College Foundation was established in 1989 to foster student success through philanthropy that enables Suffolk County Community College to provide quality educational experiences for its students. Scholarship funds constitute the largest single use of the assets of the Foundation.

Donor investment in the Suffolk Community College Foundation has enabled the growth of new and existing scholarships, and provided an opportunity to expand educational opportunities to benefit students attending Suffolk County Community College. Generous donations received from individuals, corporate partners, foundations and friends contributed to more than \$650,000 in scholarships awarded to deserving students college-wide.

New scholarships that were established include the William J. Lindsay Memorial Scholarship Fund, created to honor the memory and legacy of William J. Lindsay, a public servant who was a champion for the College and for access to education; The Preston Family Memorial Scholarship as a tribute to the Preston family and in support of students in financial need; the Mark Jekel Long Island Street Rod Association Endowed Scholarship in Automotive Technology to honor the memory of car enthusiast Mark Jekel; and the Marilyn Stolzberg Memorial Scholarship to honor her passion for our School of Nursing.

Scholarships were also established to fund specific programmatic areas including the Bethpage Federal Credit Union “Heart of Bethpage” Scholarship for students in our STEM related disciplines; the Paul A. Shackel Student Experience Fund providing students with the opportunity to pursue a program related travel experience either domestically or internationally; the Kenneth E. Senior Aerospace Scholarship for students pursuing a career within the Manufacturing Technology program; the Gordon L. Seaman Electrical Industry Scholarship Fund for students in Construction Technology-Architectural Technology, Electrical Technology, Electronics, Engineering Science, Fire Protection Technology or Manufacturing Technology; the New York



*Student scholarships totaling more than \$650,000 were awarded this past year.*



Propane Gas Association in support of the Albert Stillwagen Scholarship and the John Ganey Scholarship.

The David M. Sperling DREAM scholarship was created to provide financial support for students who do not meet federal/state residency requirements. A generous scholarship gift from Oil Heat Comfort, Inc. benefits students pursuing a career in Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVAC/R). The Foundation also supported experiential learning for our Culinary Arts students through a travel experience to Florence, Italy.

Through a partnership with the United Way, we have created the United Way of Long Island-YouthBuild Long Island-Pathways to Success scholarship, which provides support to help participants gain education and training to become self-sufficient, contributing members of their communities. The Richard and Mary Morrison Student Hardship Fund created by the Richard and Mary Morrison Foundation to benefit students who have an unforeseen financial hardship – to date more than \$30,000 has been raised through the generosity of the Richard and Mary Morrison Foundation, and through faculty and staff contributions. A generous grant from the Island Outreach Foundation will support the College's new Veterans Resource Center, a designated place with resources to address the unique needs of our student veterans.

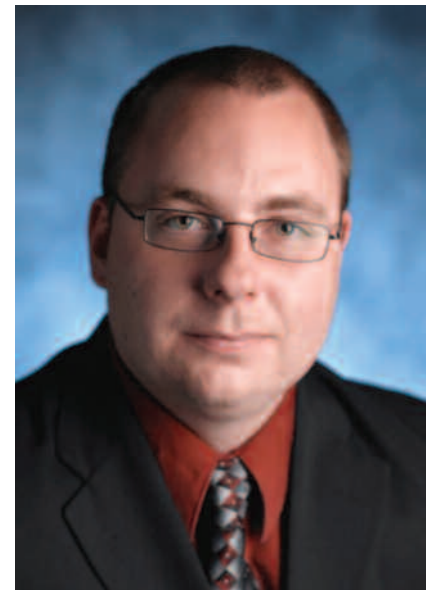
Continued benevolence from The Frey Family Foundation Endowment supports excellence in Math education at Suffolk and ongoing support from AT&T benefits our Liberty Partnership Program for students who require academic services to improve their ability to attain postsecondary education. Gifts in kind from General Motors and Toyota provide our Automotive Technology students with hands-on skills training.

We continue to receive support for our \$7 million major gifts campaign, Vision 2020, in which I have taken a very active role. To date, we have raised \$3.8 million.

In November, the Foundation Board of Directors inducted a new member and treasurer, Mr. Brian T. Petersen, CPA of Albrecht, Viggiano, Zureck & Company, P.C. (AVZ), one of the largest certified public accounting firms on Long Island.

The Campus Governance leadership, the Retirees Association of Suffolk Community College (RASCC) and the Suffolk Community College Foundation hosted the annual Faculty Appreciation Luncheon on November 7<sup>th</sup> at Lombardi's on the Bay in Patchogue. The 2014 Governance Award recipients were: Dr. Catherine Lipnick, Associate Professor of English, Ammerman Campus, Dr. Amy Warena Czura, Associate Professor of Biology, Eastern Campus and Dawn Tracy-Hanley, Academic Chair; Associate Professor of Reading, Michael J. Grant Campus. The luncheon program also included recognition of Suffolk's outstanding recipients of 2012-2013 and the 2013-2014 SUNY Chancellor's Awards, including the College's first award for Excellence in Classified Service, which was presented to Junius Atkins, Jr., who began work on the College's Eastern Campus when it opened 38 years ago.

The Foundation, in collaboration with the Ammerman Campus Faculty Senate, recognized exceptional graduates at the Distinguished Student Achievement Awards held on April 29<sup>th</sup>, where students gathered with their families, friends, administrators, and faculty to celebrate their achievements. Donors had the opportunity to meet their scholarship recipients and see the impact of their philanthropy and their role in helping these students achieve educational success.



*Brian Petersen, Treasurer  
Suffolk Community College Foundation Board*



*The Foundation proudly sponsors the Ammerman Senate  
Annual Distinguished Student Awards.*



*This year's Gala recognized leaders within the financial industry and was attended by more than 300 friends of the College.*

I hosted the Salute to Excellence Gala on May 7<sup>th</sup> celebrating leaders within the financial industry and raising significant funding to benefit student scholarships. More than 300 guests gathered at the Hilton Long Island in Huntington to honor Mr. Bill Brown, Executive Vice President, US Head of Network, HSBC Bank USA, N.A.; Mr. David L. Calone, Founder, Long Island Emerging Technologies Fund, LP; Honorable John C. Cochrane, Sr., Vice President, Commercial Banking and Investment Operations, The First National Bank of Long Island, and Mr. Gregory S. Garritano, CPA, CFO '77, Founder, G.S. Garritano & Associates, CPAs, CFOs and CFO, The Lauro Group. Students were the highlight of the program and the audience was able to enjoy several musical performances from four of our theatre arts students and heard the personal stories of three current students featured in College videos. County Executive Steve Bellone took the opportunity to share his vision of the partnership between the County and the College, and each of the evening's honorees graciously accepted their award and complimented the College, its administration and our students for advancing the institution and its reputation.



*The Foundation's Annual Golf Classic continues to raise funds for student scholarships.*

During the July 10<sup>th</sup> weekend, the Foundation hosted a Trailblazers Reunion for graduates from the classes of 1962 through 1975. Activities included a wine and cheese reception, campus tours, an outdoor performance of "As You Like It," presented by the Long Island Shakespeare Festival, and a buffet dinner with dancing. Members from the Greek societies that were active during the early years of the College were invited to participate. These included Alpha Delta Tau, Beta House, Chi Kappa Psi, Kappa Delta Rho, Phi Delta Omega, and Sigma Tau Lambda among others.

Support from the Foundation enabled the College to remain visible at a number of major events this past year: the Suffolk County Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission's Annual Award Luncheon; the Martin Luther King Empowerment Luncheon sponsored by the Bay Shore Baptist Church; I joined members of my administration and students from the Black Male Network representing the Eastern Campus at the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Breakfast presented by the First Baptist Church of Riverhead; and the Child Care Council of Suffolk's 29<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Champions of Children Luncheon.

The Foundation will celebrate its 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Golf Classic on Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at The Hamlet Golf and Country Club in Commack, where they will honor John C. Gallagher, Suffolk County Police Commissioner (Retired) and former Executive Dean at the College.

The Foundation Board of Directors has elected new officers. The following members will be installed for three-year terms that begin on September 1, 2015: Belinda Alvarez-Groneman - Chair; Michael J. Grant, Jr. - First Vice Chair; Kevin Rooney - Second Vice Chair; Brian T. Petersen - Treasurer; Robert J. Frey, Ph.D. - Secretary.

### **Excellence in Athletics**

Women's Basketball Head Coach Kevin Foley earned his 400<sup>th</sup> Suffolk career win this year, when the team defeated Hostos CC by a score of 86-30. Coach Foley's career coaching record stands at 433-125, and he is the winningest coach in Suffolk County Community College history. Coach Foley's 23-year tenure is also the longest achieved at one college by any coach in the New York metropolitan area. Foley's career includes teams that played in 14 semi-finals, winning six regional championships, and a national title. Additionally, his teams have won 12 regional sportsmanship awards and more than 40 of his former players have continued their intercollegiate athletic careers at four-year Division II and Division III schools. I have announced that the basketball



*Head Baseball Coach Eric Brown was named the American Baseball Coaches Association NJCAA - Division III Regional Coach of the Year.*



court in the Brookhaven Gymnasium will be named in honor of Coach Foley's many years of academic and athletic service and commitment to Suffolk and the community at large. A committee will be formed to raise the necessary funds required to name the basketball court.

Suffolk County Community College Head Baseball Coach Eric Brown was named the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) NJCAA - Division III Regional Coach of the Year. Coach Brown has once again demonstrated that he is a credit to our institution, and I am proud to congratulate him on behalf of the entire college community.

The College was again recognized among the top three in the National Alliance of Two-Year College Athletic Administrators (NATYCAA) Directors' Cup competition. This award is presented annually by the National Association of Collegiate Athletic Directors of America (NACDA) and NATYCAA to the top intercollegiate two-year athletic programs in the country and honors institutions that excel in both men's and women's athletics. Each participating institution is awarded points in a pre-determined number of sports for men and women. The overall champion is the institution that records the highest number of points in their division's standings. Suffolk was ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> out of over 200 two-year colleges at the D-III non-scholarship level and also placed 8<sup>th</sup> nationally among the 538 Division I, II, and III colleges at the two-year level. This is a huge honor for our student-athletes and coaching staff.

The NJCAA national office honored the country's top athletic programs attaining academic success, with the announcement of the 2014-2015 NJCAA Academic Teams of the Year. A total of 24 sports teams at each participating institution (12 men's teams and 12 women's teams) are eligible to be considered for recognition if they accumulate the highest grade-point average in their respective sport during the academic year. Teams are required to have at least a 3.0 grade-point average to be considered for the honor. Suffolk had nine teams qualify for consideration; women's bowling was named Top Academic Team of the Year in their sport.

The Annual Dig Pink Event was another huge success, raising over \$10,000 for breast cancer awareness. Women's volleyball, women's soccer and our cheer and dance teams did an outstanding job getting donations this year. Teams and the audience came out wearing pink to show support and pink head "fins" were seen throughout the Brookhaven Gym. It was a great night to bring administrators, faculty, staff, students, family and friends together for a worthy cause. While the women's soccer team was defeated by Nassau Community College, our women's volleyball team won the best-of-five-games series, also against Nassau Community College. Student support was strong at both events.

The College's Men's Soccer team was Region XV champions, and went on to win their second NJCAA Division III national title this past fall. Freshman forward, Romario Hulea, the Sharks' second-leading scorer, launched the game-winning, unassisted goal in the 49<sup>th</sup> minute. Sharks sophomore goalkeeper Jon Zapata recorded six saves in the championship match and was named the National Tournament's Most Valuable Player. Hulea was named to the All-Tournament team. He was joined by Sharks freshmen Adam Ek (defense), and sophomore Joseph Lopez (forward). Lopez was also named National Player of the Year. Player Keith Marro was named as an All-American. The National Coach of the Year Tournament award was given to Suffolk's Frank Vertullo. The Sharks ended the season with an overall record of 21-4. The last time the Sharks won the national title was in 2010.



*The Annual Dig Pink Event raised more than \$10,000 for breast cancer awareness and research.*



*The College's Men's Soccer team won their second NJCAA Division III national title this past fall.*







*The College launched its first-ever Women's Equestrian team this past year.*



*Student-athlete Leana Wiebelt was named Women's National Cross Country Runner of the Week by the NJCAA.*



Both the College's Men's and Women's Bowling teams finished second in their NJCAA National Tournaments. Named as Men's Team All-Americans, were Michael Ruben and Michael Kissel; named as a Women's Team All-American was Emily Clark.

The Women's Equestrian team completed its inaugural season finishing fifth among 10 teams. We were the only two-year school in the Region and placed ahead of teams representing Hofstra, Molloy, Adelphi, Dowling, and Columbia. Jeanna Hughes was recognized by the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association as a 2014-2015 Regional Sportsmanship Award winner. Within our Region, which includes over 120 riders, this is a prestigious award. Jeanna was the only community college rider to receive this national award – all other recipients were from four-year schools.

Our Men's Lacrosse team was ranked 5<sup>th</sup> in the nation and received an at-large bid to the National Tournament, where they lost in the Championship game.

Thirty members from our Men's and Women's Track & Field teams qualified to compete at Mohawk Valley Community College during the NJCAA Division III National Track & Field Tournament. The Women's Team finished 4<sup>th</sup> and the Men's Team finished 7<sup>th</sup>. Jesse Mattera set a College record in the Decathlon (5315 points). The College did have four national champions as follows: Tristan Bevans – Women's Triple Jump; Josiah Hoshyla – Men's Pole Vault, representing his second consecutive national title; Gabrielle Mason – Women's Pole Vault; and the Women's 4x400-Meter Relay. Nine members from the team were also named as All-Americans: Dora Mayen; Menely Genao; Tristan Bevans; Chris Swensen; Josiah Hoshyla; Gabrielle Mason; Tivoni Taylor; Melanie Sterling; and Leana Wiebelt.

During the season, Suffolk student-athlete Gabrielle Mason was named the Women's NJCAA Division III National Athlete of the Week by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA). Gabrielle broke the College record in the pole vault with a mark of 3.05m (10 feet) at the invitational tournament hosted by the College of New Jersey. She is currently the NJCAA DIII leader in the pole vault. In addition, her mark made her the only NJCAA DIII woman to soar higher than three meters this spring, and in effect ranks her in the top 15 for NJCAA DIII men. Mason has vaulted four times this outdoor season; all four vaults would place her number 1 on the division's descending order list.

Women's Track & Field student-athlete Tristan Bevans was named as the National Track Athlete of the Week twice this season. She is the #1 ranked student-athlete in both the triple jump and 100m hurdles, as well as a member of the #1 ranked 4x400 team and #3 ranked 4x100 team. She also now holds the College's record in both triple jump and 100m hurdles.

Our Women's Cross Country Team finished 7<sup>th</sup> in the nation among a field of 109 teams. Student-athlete Leana Wiebelt was named a Second Team All-American.

Our Men's Tennis Team was the Region XV champions and traveled to Texas to compete in the National Tournament, where they finished third. Named as First Team All-Americans were Anthony Fazio and Daniel Klein; named as Second Team All-Americans were Kevin Lankowicz and Erik Ujvari.

Men's Baseball Head Coach Eric Brown was named Region XV Coach of the Year. The team's starting pitcher, Frank Valentino, was named Region XV Player of the Year.



Highlighting the noteworthy accomplishments that occurred within the area of athletics this year, was the College's selection as the recipient of two prestigious sportsmanship awards. For the 12<sup>th</sup> time in 20 years, our Women's Basketball team received the prestigious Joe DeBonis Sportsmanship Award from the Collegiate Basketball Officials-Metro New York. This Region XV award is being presented for outstanding sportsmanship during the 2014-2015 basketball season. The prestigious Mickey Crowley President's Cup for 2014-2015 is being awarded to the College's athletics program for best exemplifying sportsmanship throughout its teams. This award is given by the Greater NY Metropolitan Officials Association and is voted upon by the officials in each sport. This is the third time that Suffolk has won, with previous wins coming in 2007-2008 and 2010-2011.



Thirteen Suffolk County Community College student-athletes were named Academic All Americans by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). Seven of the students were named "superior" for maintaining a grade point average of between 3.8 and 3.99. Six students are "exemplary" for maintaining a grade point average of 3.6 to 3.79. The students are:

Name	Academic Award	Sport	Hometown
Courtney Bocchieri	Superior	Volleyball	Bay Shore
Matt Carusillo	Superior	Cross Country	West Islip
Jennifer Cibelli	Exemplary	Soccer	West Islip
Larissa Ellerman	Superior	Women's Basketball	Sayville
Nick Hennessy	Exemplary	Golf	Stony Brook
Josiah Hoshyla	Exemplary	Track and Field	Hampton Bays
Billie Longo	Superior	Women's Softball	Bay Shore
Veronica Marino	Exemplary	Women's Basketball	Lake Grove
Gabrielle Mason	Superior	Track and Field	Westhampton Beach
Mary Kate O'Connell	Superior	Women's Basketball	Patchogue
Lena Sorrentino	Superior	Women's Bowling	East Islip
Patrick Stepnoski	Exemplary	Baseball	Southold
Frank Valentino	Exemplary	Baseball	West Islip



SUNY Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher announced 80 recipients of the 2014-2015 Scholar Athlete Award, which recognizes outstanding academic excellence and athletic achievement. Two Suffolk students were among the recipients: Eric Birmingham – Men's Lacrosse, and Larissa Ellerman – Women's Basketball. Larissa also received Honorable Mention to the All-American Team for Women's Basketball at the D-III level. She is one of 20 recipients and was selected from over 1,000 student-athletes that make up the NJCAA D-III women's rosters. Larissa is also a SUNY Chancellor's Academic Award winner. During the season, she placed first in the country for rebounding, second in the country for field goal percentage and fifth in the country for blocks.

For the second straight year, the College hosted the NJCAA Region XV Men's and Women's Basketball Regional Championships. The event was well run. Once again, we received kudos from families and fans, referees and administrators. Athletic Director Kevin Foley and the entire athletic department staff put on another great event and showcased the best of what Suffolk represents. During the tournament, Women's Basketball came up short in the semi-final game, losing to Sullivan CC, 63-50. Sophomore Cindy Edwards was named to the All-Tournament Team. The Lady



*Women's Basketball Head Coach Kevin Foley earned his 400<sup>th</sup> Suffolk career win and is the winningest coach in the College's history.*



*Cheer and Dance teams hosted the East Coast Conference's Sixth Annual Spirit Showcase and helped raise more than \$22,000 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.*

Sharks finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place for the 2014-2015 season. After beating the #2 seed in the quarter-finals, the Men's Basketball team lost in the semi-final game to eventual region champion Hostos CC. Vincent Abmendola was named to the All-Tournament Team.

The Eastern Campus Intramural Flag Football team travelled to the University of West Florida in Pensacola Beach in January for the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association's (NIRSA) National Flag Football Championship. The team earned their tournament spot by emerging as the winner following the College's Tri-Campus Intramural Flag Football competition. That victory gave them the opportunity to face 40 other teams from the Mid-Atlantic region. Suffolk's team won the regional tournament in Maryland, giving them an automatic bid for a run at the national championship. After winning their first game vs. LSU by a score of 14-6, they unfortunately lost their next two games and were eliminated. The team played hard and represented the College well.

In February, our Cheer and Dance teams hosted the East Coast Conference's Sixth Annual Spirit Showcase, where cheer and dance teams from the East Coast Conference and other Long Island institutions performed. In addition to Suffolk's cheer and dance teams, other teams represented Adelphi, LIU Post, Molloy, New York Institute of Technology, Queens, and St. Thomas Aquinas. The step team from Molloy also performed. Coach Gina Caputo has helped organize this event for the past five years, raising thousands for charity. In total, this event has raised over \$22,000 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

### **Partnership Development**

Over the course of my presidency, I have strengthened ties with numerous partners through special initiatives and collaborations. April saw the public announcement and formal signing ceremony for our newest partnership agreement with Long Island University (LIU) – the ExpressSuccess Program. This innovative joint admission program allows incoming Suffolk students to conveniently progress toward earning a bachelor's degree from LIU. ExpressSuccess allows students to be simultaneously accepted into selected programs – from among more than a dozen options – that are offered by both institutions. Suffolk students who enroll in this program and maintain a qualifying grade point average will also be eligible for transfer scholarships of up to \$19,000.

Toyota T-Ten (Technical Education Network), is a two-year automotive training program designed to upgrade the technical competency and professional level of incoming Toyota/Lexus dealership technicians. Three years ago, Toyota changed the T-Ten program then embarked on a schedule of visits to review every one of its programs across the country. Schools had to be recertified as meeting the new standards in order to retain their designation. Suffolk was recognized as meeting the new guidelines and remains as a Toyota T-TEN certified school. At this time, we are the only school in New York that has successfully completed the recertification process. We are considered an A-level program that meets all major areas of automotive service certification: Chassis, Electrical, Engine and Drive Train (CEED). The College's partnership with Toyota combines classroom learning and lab activities, with actual work experience in Toyota dealerships. When students graduate from our program, they have earned a minimum of two Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) certifications. Thanks to a significant investment in Suffolk's automotive technology program, students train using the latest Toyota technology and vehicles. Toyota has donated cars and equipment worth nearly \$60,000 to our program during the past year, and nearly a half-million-dollars in the past five years. The partnership combines



*The ExpressSuccess joint admission program allows incoming Suffolk students to conveniently earn a bachelor's degree from LIU.*



*As a result of its automotive program, Suffolk was recognized as a Toyota T-Ten (Technical Education Network) certified school.*



classroom and lab work at Suffolk County Community College with actual work experience at Toyota dealerships.

United States Congressman Steve Israel announced a new “Cyber College Partnership” between Nassau and Suffolk counties, the College, Long Island University and Nassau Community College to develop Long Island into a national cybersecurity hub. The initiative will focus on aligning curricula at Long Island community colleges and universities to address the growing demand for cybersecurity professionals throughout New York and the United States. I believe that fostering cooperation that leads to educating the next generation of cybersecurity experts will help draw more industry to Long Island.

Board of Trustee member Denise Lindsay Sullivan advised the College that the Hampton Bays School District, where she serves as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, would be recognized as a District of Distinction for the pilot program completed as part of its partnership with the College that was developed to address the number of students entering College needing remedial math and English.

During the past year, I have had numerous opportunities to speak with other College Presidents in our regional area. Most recently, I met with the President and the Provost of St. John’s University and the President of St. Joseph’s College to discuss potential partnership opportunities and to update them on strategic activities taking place at the College.

Staff is establishing a partnership between the Peconic Teachers Center, Molloy College and the Eastern Campus to provide academic coursework in modern language instruction for Eastern Suffolk teachers interested in obtaining English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) certification.

SkillsUSA is a national partnership of students, teachers and industry representatives working together to ensure America has a trained workforce in technical, skilled and service occupations, including health occupations. The Michael J. Grant Campus hosted Skills USA in March.

## Diversity

I have directed that the College invest its resources in support of developing and promoting best practices for inclusion and building a consistent foundation for a true understanding of all the facets of difference that exist within our college community and are reflective of Suffolk County. In order to accomplish this, numerous presentations, extensive outreach, and formalized training sessions took place this year.

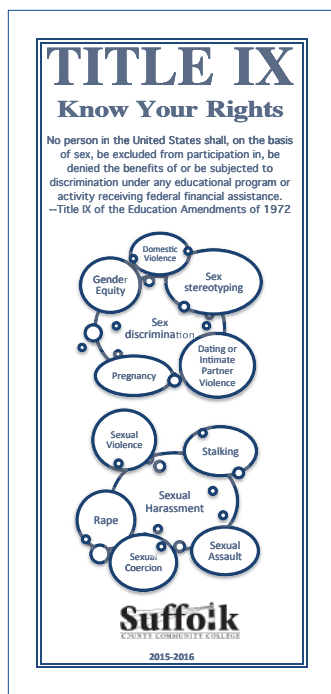
In conjunction with the College’s offices of Legal Affairs and Employee Resources, we successfully implemented the second phase of online training through Workplace Answers, LLC. Through our contract with this vendor, we are able to provide online employee training modules college-wide covering critical topics such as diversity, discrimination, sexual harassment, bullying, FERPA and OSHA compliance, and supervisory responsibility. Six training modules were completed over the course of the past year, with two additional modules due for completion by the end of 2015. All College employees, both full-time and part-time, are required to complete the courses. These online training programs are designed to provide the tools and resources to ensure that everyone understands their rights and responsibilities in the workplace.

Through a targeted calendar of face-to-face training sessions and workshops, we made



*A new “Cyber College Partnership” announced by Congressman Steve Israel will focus on aligning curricula at Long Island colleges to address the growing demand for cybersecurity professionals throughout the nation.*





great strides in creating a culture of involvement and intervention. We delivered affirmative action and compliance training to our Public Safety Officers, Student Affairs staff, and campus and College administrators. We also presented introductory sessions as part of new employee orientation, inclusive of a presentation for newly hired adjunct faculty members, athletic coaches, as well as student sessions for orientation leaders, peer mentors, and student leaders. Among the resources developed in support of this effort, were the production of a new Title IX brochure, and a series of communications that included various email, portal and web messages.

Since 2013, anyone at the College who has served on a search committee for any position available with the College engages in this important responsibility by signing a confidentiality waiver and attending an hour-long diversity training session that is co-delivered by our Assistant Vice President for Employee Resources and our Affirmative Action Officer. Training includes guidance on best practices for conducting an inclusive search and selection process, a review of the logistics involved with the search, an overview of the demographics and statistics related to the applicant pool, and an explanation of the diversity goal within the College's strategic plan. During the past two years, members from over 85 search committees, empaneled at the campus level and college-wide, have completed this training.

In December, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced that the State University of New York would adopt a comprehensive system-wide uniform sexual assault policy for all 64 campuses. The policy included a sexual violence victim/survivor Bill of Rights and a uniform definition of consent. A new Website was launched to provide support tools and other resources. New York is one of the first states in the nation with this type of comprehensive policy. New legislation also provides expectations to combat sexual assault and sexual violence, and outlined specific expectations for safety and responsibility on every campus, inclusive of student code of conduct revisions.

April is sexual assault awareness month, and the College was invited by Suffolk County Legislator Kate Browning to her event in Riverhead that served to highlight support programs and recognize victims' advocates. I was joined by our College Affirmative Action Officer and Title IX Coordinator Christina Vargas, who spoke about the College's efforts to heighten student awareness about available support programs and what can be done to prevent assault and abuse before they happen. In addition, each campus provided comprehensive programming including film screenings, in class discussions, guest speakers, and panel discussions to raise awareness of this important issue.

As a result of all these efforts – training, education, and communication – there is a growing understanding of the responsiveness individuals can expect to receive from the College, should an incident occur. Working closely with our Public Safety officers, we are now streamlining incident reporting to enhance our ability to deliver consistent presentation of incident statistics.

Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Les Payne, headlined the College's Second Annual National Dialogue on Race, by leading a discussion about "The Civil Rights Act of 1964: 50 Years Later." The September 18<sup>th</sup> program took place in the College's Van Nostrand Theater on the Michael J. Grant Campus. On the following day, the College offered three screenings of the civil rights film, "Freedom Summer 1964."

In October, a delegation of eight students attended the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) 28<sup>th</sup> annual leadership conference in Denver,



*Suffolk students attended the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) 28<sup>th</sup> annual leadership conference in Denver.*



Colorado. Juan Ramon and Alvaro Gonzalez Davila were selected as HACU student-track scholarship recipients. The conference provided career development, leadership, and communications workshops; industry specific presentations; guidance on receiving federal internships and served as a networking symposium with students and administrators across the nation.

In November, I delivered greetings at the Suffolk County Human Rights Commission's public forum, held at the College's Van Nostrand Theatre. Entitled "Children: Protecting Our Future," the event included panel presentations, as well as a special keynote address from and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Director and Senior Advisor Dr. Nicholas K. Alipui, who officially proclaimed November 20<sup>th</sup> as Suffolk County Day of the Child to raise awareness of children's welfare issues.

Staff attended a New York City Diversity Recruiting/Advising Special Student Populations Roundtable and Networking at Columbia University, sponsored by Eastern Association of Colleges and Employers (EACE) in January. More and more the Department of Labor offices, state and federal, are stressing the need for employers to be in compliance when engaging in college recruiting and hiring practices for new graduates and interns. This event discussed issues related to these topics and highlighted best practices.

In honor of Black History Month, the College participated in the National African American Author Read-In to celebrate the significant contributions that African-American authors have made to our cultural landscape. Members of the college community were invited to read passages from their favorite African-American writers, discuss the richness of African-American culture, and share the diversity of the African-American experience.

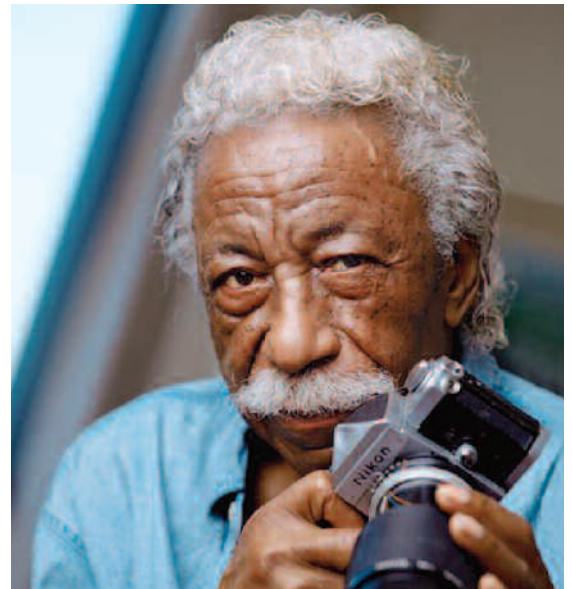
The Gordon Parks Foundation, headquartered at SUNY Purchase, presented the College with a five-volume boxed set of Gordon Parks' photos compiled in *Gordon Parks: Collected Works*. The books represent the most extensive publication of Parks' photographs to date, documenting the more than six decade-long legendary career of the man considered by many to be the pre-eminent African-American photographer of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. His photographs cover subjects ranging from the civil rights movement, urban poverty, and rural life to the worlds of fashion and the arts. The volumes will be made available in each of the College's campus libraries on a rotating basis.

In March, the College received notification from Dr. Carlos Medina, SUNY's Chief Diversity Officer and Senior Associate Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion that Suffolk student Shaun Enright was selected to receive an award through its Diversity Abroad Honors Scholarship Program (DAHSP). The \$1,000 award is dedicated toward funding study abroad. Only one student from each SUNY campus is eligible for nomination to receive this new competitive scholarship and its receipt is a great achievement both for the student and the College. The DAHSP program is committed to expanding students' knowledge of diverse peoples throughout the world and encourages campuses to nominate students who might not otherwise be able to study abroad.

A Dream Act Forum was held on the Ammerman Campus in April. The program included screening a 30-minute film entitled "The Dream is Now" and a student panel discussion.

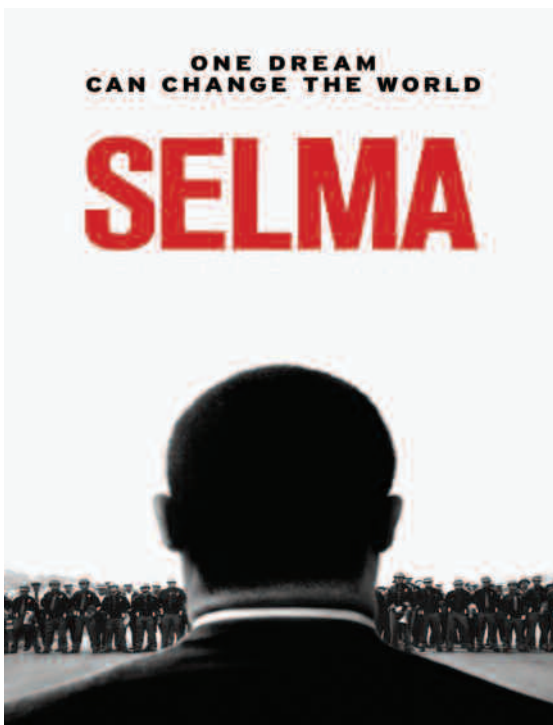


*As part of Black History Month, the College participated in a National African American Author Read-In.*



*The College has received a five-volume boxed set of Gordon Parks' photographs.*





The Suffolk Center on the Holocaust, Diversity & Human Understanding, introduced several Holocaust survivors to each other during an event in May 2013. In November, they were invited back to continue a dialogue about their diverse experiences as victims of the Nazi effort to exterminate the Jewish people and how the Holocaust shaped their lives. The participants were Werner Reich, now of Smithtown, who was born in Germany, moved to Yugoslavia, and was sent to the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp, and Mauthausen; Hannah Robinson, now of Sound Beach, who was born in Germany, and at nine years old her parents sent her with her brother to England; and Ruth Minsky Sender, now of East Setauket, who was born in Poland and forced to live in the Lodz Ghetto, was then sent to Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp, two work camps, and a displaced persons camp in Germany.

For our students, the Office of Multicultural Affairs continued to schedule Diversity Workshops for College Seminar classes; scheduled a screening and discussion of the film “*Selma*”, coordinated a trip to Gettysburg to participate in a Bicycle Challenge for Disabled Veterans, and facilitated an Intercultural Festival with Irish Step dancers, a Jazz flutist, and Native American dancers.

This Office also launched and implemented the Minority to Majority Leadership Academy. This Academy teaches women and underrepresented students leadership skills, assigning them the responsibility for taking the skills they have acquired and applying them at the College or within their community. As part of the Academy experience, instructors and guest speakers dialog with students on perceptions and the reality regarding what it’s like to be a minority or a woman vying for a leadership role. This program has yielded tangible results to the campus, most specifically in finding effective student peer mentors. To be selected as a campus peer mentor, students complete a process that includes a rigorous interview. As a result of the leadership skills developed through the Academy program, students shine in this endeavor. Almost 50% of the peer mentors on the Eastern Campus have participated and completed the Leadership Academy. A new Academy group will start this fall and we plan to expand the Academy to the Ammerman and Michael J. Grant campuses.

The Office of Multicultural Affairs has also developed other programs to support inclusion and dialog among members of the college community and student body. Interested students were invited to participate in the Synergy program, which offers opportunities to engage in conversations with community members, including undocumented immigrants, in an effort to enhance communication with area law enforcement. The office also provided a Disability Awareness program that was offered to the general campus population. This program required students to utilize durable medical equipment, such as a wheelchair, and navigate the campus to experience what it is like to be differently-abled. Students are then required to write a summative report on what the experience was like. This session took place in October, which is Disability Awareness Month.

I have reconvened the college-wide diversity advisory committee. Composed of faculty, administrators, and counselors who have an interest in diversity, the committee is charged with advising the Office of Multicultural Affairs and making suggestions for planning one special program each semester.

I was happy to join the Association of Latin American Students (ALAS) on our Eastern Campus, as the Club hosted a networking luncheon for its club members and members of the campus community. The program included Latin music, food, and demonstrations of Latin dances.





On November 19<sup>th</sup>, the Eastern Campus hosted its annual Multicultural Thanksgiving Celebration, compliments of the Office of Campus Activities and Student Leadership Development and featuring food prepared by staff, as well as food contributed by eight area restaurants. I joined campus administrators to serve over 600 students a free hot lunch, in advance of the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday.

### Scholarship News

To honor and acknowledge the 2015 recipients of Stay on Long Island Initiative (SoLII) scholarships, the College hosted a special luncheon in May. I was deeply touched when each scholar presented me with a personalized thank you note sharing how much the receipt of the scholarship would impact upon their life and their individual academic journey. I launched the Stay on Long Island Scholarship Initiative during my Inauguration in 2010, as a way to ensure that Suffolk's most talented graduating students would be able to remain on Long Island to complete their education at one of the fifteen partnering colleges or universities that are located close to home. Since its inception, the program has awarded 147 scholarships, totaling over \$3.7 million to Suffolk's best and brightest.

The deadline for new student scholarship submissions was March 13<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to a new communications strategy that included email blasts to the high school guidance community, the College received its highest number of new student scholarship applications in its history.

This year, the College purchased a new scholarship management software program. By next year, we hope to have completed the implementation of the software. All pertinent information for every scholarship currently offered by the College's Foundation has been entered into the software database known as AcademicWorks. The committee is ahead of schedule for implementation and the software will be accessible through the College's Website starting this September.

Twenty-nine new top-ranked students have been selected as 2015 Get There From Here Scholars. Based upon their applications and interviews, these students are outstanding and I am confident they will make many meaningful contributions to the College. They join the 27 continuing scholars whose tuition and fees are fully covered through this award.

### Enhanced Institutional Image

This spring, as part of its planning and assessment activities, the Office of Institutional Advancement launched an opinion survey to measure the awareness and impact the College's marketing and communications have upon the general public, as well as among targeted populations (i.e., guidance counselors, high school administrators, high school students, and parents of high school students). The opinion survey generated close to 450 responses and, with assistance from the Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness, a report was created that summarizes the overwhelmingly positive findings. The survey findings include that over 90% of all respondents rated as "effective" or "very effective" how the College is:

- Communicating the quality of Suffolk's programs
- Meeting the educational needs of Long Islanders
- Providing information about the quality of classes and services

In addition, almost 60% of respondents said that their opinion of Suffolk County Community College has "...changed for the positive" over the past few years. Of note, 91% indicated that they were familiar with Suffolk's TV

# SoLII

Stay on Long Island Initiative





*Suffolk's marketing efforts have won 19 national and regional awards this past year and more than 35 during the past six years.*



commercials and 93% of the respondents found the commercials to be effective or very effective. According to the Office of Institutional Effectiveness, the sample size indicates a 95% confidence level, with a sampling error of less than +/- 5%. Considering that the three most admired companies in America (Amazon, Coca-Cola and Apple) have reputation scores in the 81-83% range, this level of positive feedback from important stakeholders within our targeted audiences is quite significant.

Through our engagement with Interact Communications, which is exclusively focused on the community college market and is continuously conducting research to assess the best ways to effectively reach this population, we were able to access survey results about media habits and preferences from approximately 26,000 community college students across the nation. This data has allowed us to see what is trending so we can make more informed decisions about our evolving media mix and where we should invest our advertising resources.

During the past year, the College continued to advance its image and reputation through external and internal messaging across a broad spectrum of platforms including print, TV, radio, online, in-theater, in-arena, direct mail and even in our regional airport. Many of these marketing initiatives and publications have received national and regional acclaim. In fact, this past year, the marketing and communications team has been recognized with 15 national awards, as well as five regional and state awards from the following organizations:

- Two Communicator Awards of Distinction, presented by the Academy of Interactive and Visual Arts for the College's Islip MacArthur Airport Displays
- 11 Higher Education Advertising Awards, presented by the Higher Education Marketing Report in the following categories
  - Gold Award: Outdoor Advertising
  - Gold Award: Annual Report
  - Gold Award: Office of Events brochure
  - Silver Award: *Career Focus* magazine
  - Silver Award: Office of Workforce and Economic Development's Pipeline newsletter
  - Silver Award: Newspaper Print Ads
  - Silver Award: Sharks Poster
  - Merit Award: Honors Program brochure
  - Merit Awards: Sharks brochure and Summer @ Suffolk Direct Mail
- One Bronze Paragon Award, presented by the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) for the College's External Course Schedule
- Three Medallion Awards, presented by NCMPR for the following categories:
  - Outdoor Media: Islip MacArthur Airport display
  - Video Shorts: Student Spotlight Video / Danielle Safaty
  - E-Card: Online Holiday Greeting Card
- Two SUNY Council for University Advancement (CUAD) Awards for the following:
  - Best of Category: Outdoor Airport Display
  - Judge's Citation: Sharks brochure

In all, work produced by our internal marketing and communications team has garnered 36 national, regional and state awards during the past six years.

The offices of Enrollment Management and Institutional Advancement work closely all year long to develop strategies for increasing enrollment. A few of this year's initiatives include more digital and online advertising in addition to traditional advertising; developing a new "pop-up" screen for our current students so that when



they initiated Priority Registration for the fall semester, the pop-up encouraged them to consider summer session registration as well; special mailings to high school juniors and seniors; advertising in SUNY student newspapers across the state; and use of *Newsday* notes which are affixed to the cover of the newspaper, telephone calls, email blasts to identified cohorts, postcards, portal and web announcements, Facebook outreach, and the addition of Saturday hours of operation by our enrollment services professionals, counselors and academic advisors in order to assist students as they pursued advisement and registration, all serving to promote enrollment. Priority Registration initiatives and communication strategies resulted in thousands of students being registered in just the first three days of registration.

This year, we completed production on the latest iteration of the College's award-winning series of "sweatshirt" ads, by featuring faculty members who have come to teach at Suffolk after completing their studies at well-known colleges and universities across the country and internationally. Highlighted in the spot are Steven Lanz-Gefroh, Professor of Theatre-Yale University; Chef Andrea Glick-Le Bernardin; Dr. John Jerome, Professor of Mathematics-Stony Brook University; Dr. Michael Inglis, Professor of Physics-University of Hertfordshire, and Timothy McHeffey, Professor of Business-Suffolk County Community College.

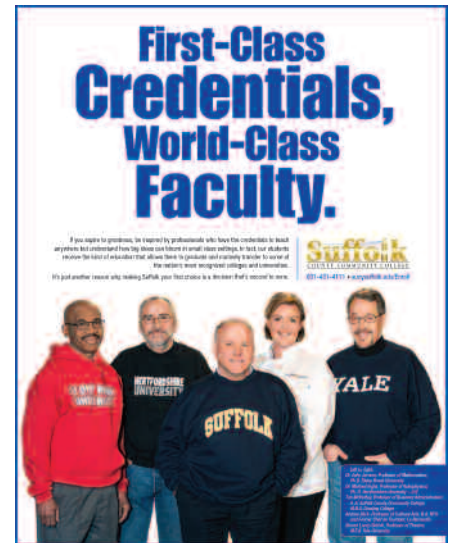
As the popularity of videos continues to grow, the Office of Institutional Advancement collaborated with the Media Services department this past year to create a range of Student and Alumni Spotlight videos. These videos are displayed on the College's Website as part of an overall strategy that helps engage and inform potential students about the way in which Suffolk is continually transforming lives. The videos are available online at: [www.sunysuffolk.edu/Videos](http://www.sunysuffolk.edu/Videos).

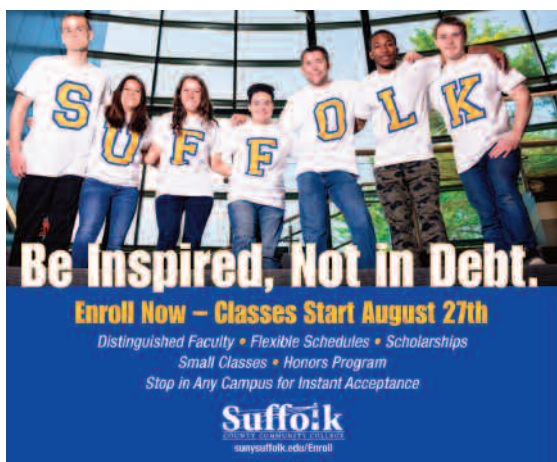
This past spring marked the seventh annual issue of *Career Focus* magazine. This past issue shared many stories about the College's programs and services, including the cover story highlighting 50 years of nursing at Suffolk. *Career Focus* was distributed to more than 440,000 households in Suffolk County, as well as to all regional high schools, libraries and BOCES facilities. It is also available on our Website as an online magazine.

The Institutional Advancement team continues to collaborate with the college community on the production of a wide range of publications and communications materials, including a new Viewbook and brochures for Veterans Services, Financial Aid, Disability Services, the Honors Program, Radio & TV Production and Suffolk Athletics. It is worth mentioning that we saw a significant increase in interest for our welding program following a feature story about welding opportunities in the recent *Career Focus* magazine. In fact, within just a few weeks after the magazine came out, we had filled two classes and already had a waiting list for two more.

In support of enrollment management efforts for the 2015 fall semester, the Office of Institutional Advancement partnered with Cox Media on a new recruitment initiative to access their database of over 51,000 parents with children aged 16-17 who reside in Suffolk County. The College issued an email to the list; those who clicked "learn more" were linked to our current enrollment landing page and encouraged to provide contact information so that enrollment management and admissions staff could follow-up with them. To date, we have received over 4,000 responses to this communication.

A review of the click-through rates and the number of impressions generated by the





College's digital banner ads indicates that from October 2014 to May 2015, the online banner ads have generated 5,833 clicks and tens of thousands of impressions. Through this period, the ads have included messaging for fall, wintersession, spring and summer session enrollment, as well as information about Open Houses and *Career Focus* magazine.

### Office of Grants Development

During 2013-2014, Suffolk County Community College and its associated non-profits were awarded \$3.54 million in grants and subawards – a 10% increase over the previous year. The College's largest awards were: (1) the Perkins IV/CTEA-Career & Technical Education Act grant (\$520,403); (2) SEIS Student Engagement through Informed Support Title III-A Strengthening Institutions Program grant from the U.S. Department of Education (\$399,997); (3) New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation Green Innovation Grant Program (GIGP) - Campus Stormwater Initiative (\$393,043); (4) Liberty Partnerships Program grant from the NYS Education Department (\$350,000); (5) U.S. Department of Education TRIO Student Support Services grant (\$261,787); (6) Science and Technology Entry Program (STEP) from the New York State Education Department (\$217,212); (7) Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) from the State University of New York (\$176,210); and (8) Scholarships for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (S-STEM) supported by the National Science Foundation (\$119,133). In addition, Suffolk County Community College received 30 other grant awards that together totaled \$1.1 million, including \$237,500 awarded to the College through the Next Generation New York Job Linkage Program.



The College hosts four projects sponsored by the National Science Foundation: the Advanced Technological Education (ATE) program entitled *Leading Innovation through Green High Tech Engineering & Sustainability* (LIGHTES), the *Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math* (S-STEM) program, the *Science Education for New Civic Engagements and Responsibilities* (SENCER) program, and the *Long Island Alternative Energy Consortium* (LIAEC) program. The LIGHTES project was completed this year and the final report was issued. A new proposal was submitted to the NSF ATE program last fall to build on the project's accomplishments and the project team learned in the spring that NSF will fund the new effort. This three-year program, entitled *Leading Innovation through Green High Tech Engineering, Sustainability, & Security* (LIGHTES2), was awarded \$699,346 and began its work in June 2015. These NSF-sponsored projects are establishing the College as a regional leader in alternate and sustainable energy technology and cybersecurity, building towards the goal of hosting an ATE Regional Center at the College. Such centers concentrate on particular areas of technical workforce development and serve as flagship programs that address key regional and national needs in strategic fields.

The National Institutes of Health is continuing to sponsor two long-term projects at the College: BioPREP and IRACDA. These two programs work in concert with the College's NSF-sponsored S-STEM program and New York State-sponsored Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (C-STEP), to provide authentic research experiences and significant support to the College's community of STEM students and faculty. Each year through these programs, Suffolk students travel to research universities and national laboratories across the country to participate in research, while post-doctoral scholars visit the College's campuses to interact with students and faculty in community college classroom settings. The IRACDA program, entitled *Consortia for the Advancement of Postdoctoral Scholars* (CAPS), will provide the College with approximately \$140,000 over the life of the project to expose postdoctoral





students to classrooms and Suffolk students to top research.

This year, the College was informed that its Chemical Dependency Counseling certificate and associate degree program was awarded \$282,353 for the first year of a three-year grant-funded program that will expand the College's capacity to train certified behavioral health paraprofessionals. The College was one of 18 programs nationally, and the only program in New York State, to receive the Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training for Paraprofessionals (BHWET) grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The three-year award will total \$847,059, at least 85% of which will support tuition, fees and supplies for students enrolled in the Chemical Dependency Counseling program. The project will increase the capacity of the Chemical Dependency Counseling certificate and associate degree program by 71%, to educate 120 students each year. No other Long Island community college program offers this training. Graduates fulfill all the educational and internship requirements set forth by the New York State Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) to become a Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor Trainee (CASAC-T) and by the International Credentialing Reciprocity Consortium (ICRC) to be prepared to sit for the Credentialed Alcoholism Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC) exam. This program is critical to our region, as youth drug abuse on Long Island continues to rise. In Suffolk County, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders reported that their first drug use occurred at 14.3 years of age, while 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders reported first using drugs at 11.5 years old (2010-2011 Long Island Regional Youth Development Survey). Among the 18,724 individuals served by chemical dependency treatment programs in Suffolk County in 2012, alcohol was self-identified most often as the primary drug of abuse (40.5%), followed by heroin (18%).

The College received support from the non-profit American Association of University Women (AAUW) to develop an innovative program on the Eastern Campus to encourage women to pursue STEM careers. Students interested in learning about STEM careers were hosted at several events including a visit to Brookhaven National Laboratory where they met with prominent women scientists and engineers.

Other programs around the College benefitted from sponsorships. A SUNY Innovative Instruction Technology Grant (IITG) piloted a mobile maker space in the Eastern Campus library, giving students hands-on access to 3-D printing technology. The College completed work on the development of a cybersecurity laboratory on the Ammerman Campus sponsored by the SUNY High Needs grant competition and in preparation for the launch of a new, two-year A.A.S. degree in cybersecurity. A proposal submitted to the US Department of Agriculture, in partnership with Auburn University, received \$125,000 in funding to develop an educational "Virtual Chicken" with input from graphic design and computer game design students on the Eastern Campus.

Last fall, the Office of Grants Development hosted a series of three interactive grant-writing workshops for faculty in Science, Technology, Engineering or Math (STEM) disciplines. These National Science Foundation (NSF) Interactive Web-Based Workshops (IWBWs) were developed for community colleges by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Louisiana State University, and NSF. The workshops are a direct change that was made as a result of assessment findings. In this case, the Office of Grants Development's Unit Review pointed to the need for significant faculty professional development and support in order to increase the pool





of grant project writers and directors and to improve grants productivity at the College. The web-based workshops are intended to help address that need and will assist in preparing faculty to write grants and participate in upcoming grant-funded projects in strategic areas including cybersecurity, alternate and sustainable energy, and personal digital design and fabrication.

The Leading Innovation through Green High-Tech Engineering, Sustainability & Security project (LIGHTES2) will enable the College to create a new degree – Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S) in Cybersecurity. Components of the program will be integral to programming at the College’s soon-to-be-built Renewable Energy and STEM Center. The grant supports us in creating pathways for students to enter a high technology field, and for those in industry to retrain and advance skills in cybersecurity. This is a local, national and global need. The new program represents another important step in achieving the College’s goal of developing the quality educational options necessary to produce advanced technical graduates capable of strengthening the nation’s workforce in the STEM fields.

### Sustainability

Last August, the College hosted an Energy Industry Leader Roundtable in order to gather input on workforce needs and opportunities in the renewable energy field. Among those in attendance was Roger Ebbage, Coordinator of the Institute for Sustainable Practices at Lane Community College in Oregon—one of our sustainability initiative mentors. We have partnered with Lane under the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) mentoring institution program, so that we can identify best practices and develop sustainability strategies for our own local efforts. Ebbage made the Energy Management Program at Oregon's Lane Community College a national model and has been a technical advisor on a number of national and international curriculum development projects. Mr. Ebbage is assisting with preparations that are underway to program curricula and classes for Suffolk’s proposed Renewable Energy and STEM building that will be the first of its kind in the State’s community college system.

As a framework for the implementation of its Sustainability strategies, the College has adopted the basic tenants of the Seven Dimensions of Sustainability in Higher Education as formulated by the University Leaders for a Sustainable Future ([www.uslf.org](http://www.uslf.org)). These seven dimensions consist of:

- Institutional, Mission Structure & Planning
- Faculty & Staff Development & Awards
- Curriculum
- Student Opportunities
- Operations
- Community Outreach & Service
- Research & Scholarship

These elements, including policy guidelines related to the Energy Performance Contract have been presented to the College’s Board of Trustees, and received Board approval.

We continue to move forward on implementation of a behavior based energy performance contract with Cenergistic. Through our partnership, we will analyze and monitor energy use in classrooms, offices, athletic facilities, kitchens, and other areas of the College to ensure energy is being used efficiently. This effort underscores our commitment to conservation, sustainability and the reduction of our carbon footprint. By increasing our operational efficiency, we reduce our institutional impact on the environment and can direct a greater percentage of our budget to our core mission of educating students. All heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems





will be optimized by lowering thermostats in buildings not in use. Utility bills will be reviewed and analyzed using industry software that will help identify billing errors and energy saving opportunities. College staff will be educated about using the energy under their control, and conservation will be encouraged. Each of the College's buildings will undergo energy audits throughout the year to ensure that all systems are working efficiently and as designed.

As part of this year's Earth Day festivities, the College celebrated the installation of six electric vehicle charging stations – two at each campus. This project, which was primarily funded by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) is intended to encourage the use of environmentally preferable electric vehicles by providing the infrastructure to make this option viable. Each station can rapid-charge two electric or hybrid/electric vehicles and is connected to the Chargepoint Network for recovery of utility costs. The College installed the charging stations to promote use of environmentally friendly vehicles by students, faculty and staff at the College.

The College has agreed to act as the educational partner to two municipalities' application in the Solarize NY program which streamlines residential solar installations at the local level. The Solarize Brookhaven and Solarize South Fork programs will provide a bulk discounted group purchase model of pre-screened solar installations, as well as expedited project permit review for residents of Brookhaven, Southampton and East Hampton Towns.

Several important sustainability-related transportation initiatives have been undertaken in the past year. Working with 511NYRideshare, a State Department of Energy sponsored not-for-profit, over 200 students, faculty and staff have been registered on its ridesharing portal, which facilitates car-pooling and other sustainable transportation options. In addition, approximately 85 Suffolk students pledged to go car-free during 511NYRideshare's second annual Car Free Day-Long Island in September.

A comprehensive survey of student transportation concerns was developed in cooperation with the College's Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness. This is being shared with the Suffolk County Department of Public Works to identify opportunities for service enhancements.

A new Website has been developed, along with a Facebook profile and Twitter feed to keep the campus community updated about activities and opportunities associated with the College's sustainability initiative, and to foster additional engagement for all interested stakeholders.

### **Computer Information Systems (CIS)**

The Office of Computer and Information Systems has accomplished much this past year and has begun several exciting new projects. The department has also seen past projects delivering well on planned outcomes.

Collaboration with various functional groups has resulted in operational improvements in several areas. Thanks to an interface built between the College's online learning system and Banner, students now have quick access to their Blackboard course accounts shortly after registration.

As part of a major collaboration among Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and the Computer Center, the College was able to meet SUNY's new degree credit



*Our campuses now have electric vehicle charging stations to accommodate a growing demand for electric vehicles.*

**511NYRideshare**





requirements. Significant changes were needed in both Banner's degree audit configuration, and in the information published to students for fall 2015 registration.

The new MySCCC portal has completed its first full year of use and delivered on its planned outcomes of providing increased uptime and servicing significantly more simultaneous users. New this year, has been the ability for students to pay for multiple semesters in a single transaction saving students on transaction fees and further encouraging early bill payment.

Several infrastructure projects that were initiated last year have been completed and have delivered on needs identified from past assessments. The new intercampus Wide Area Network (WAN), and server and PC upgrades have brought promised improvements in redundancy, sustainability, and security. Building upon these successes, Networking and Telecommunications has begun upgrades to the College's on-campus fiber plant and network infrastructure while the Computer Center and Desktop Services has begun plans for the transition to the next software versions for email and MS Office. Together the three areas are working with the campus Educational Technology Units to improve security through a new authentication system on academic computers, and working with Instructional Technology on a print management system for student labs. These latter projects are being piloted now with an expected go live in the fall of 2015.

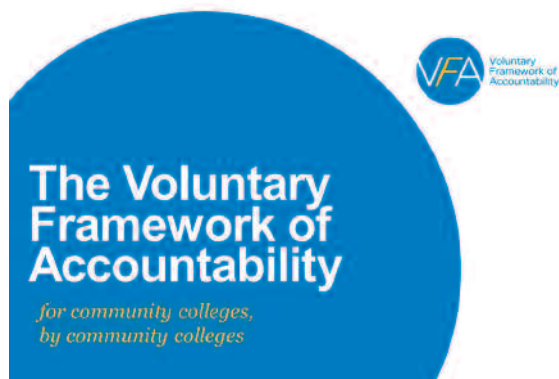
This past year saw the beginning of a concentrated focus on mobile devices with the start of several new projects targeted to the College's Measurable Institutional Objectives (MIOs) of Access and Affordability (3.0) and Communications (5.0). Beta testing is underway for the implementation of a text messaging system for student communications and a pilot is underway to utilize tablets for better access to information for executive decisions. In addition, the College is poised to release its first phone app and a redesigned Website. The app is in beta testing and will provide students with timely information and allow them to handle many college-based transactions from their mobile device. The new Website has been designed to display equally well on phones, tablets and computers. It required the purchase of new web development software which is currently being implemented. Each of these new projects is planned to go live this fall.

### **Strategic Planning and Assessment**

The Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness has worked with all areas of the College to develop operational plans to work toward meeting the Institutional Goals set forth in our Strategic Plan. In January 2015, I received the first ever College Institutional Effectiveness Report, describing the progress made in meeting these goals.

Through the effective use of data and evidence, we are assessing, informing and improving our teaching and learning environment. This work will continue as we further advance our collective knowledge and experience in planning and assessment. The Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness is providing exceptional leadership across the academic programs and administrative support units of the College to ensure that this development continues to occur. The forthcoming year will see an enhanced focus on planning activities related to compliance with federal, state, local, SUNY and State Education Department guidelines.

All academic programs and administrative and support areas of the College have continued in developing assessment and evaluation efforts to improve teaching and learning and student support, and to provide information necessary to the budget and





resource allocation processes. These assessments and evaluations have resulted in the development of action plans in many areas of the College, designed to improve the teaching and learning environment and to become more efficient in support services.

Many of these assessment and evaluation efforts were helpful as academic departments worked to comply with the SUNY Seamless Transfer initiative which sought to align curricula between two and four year schools, and to hold total program credits to a reasonable level. Tools like curriculum maps and program reviews were used to make decisions on curricular changes.

At my direction, the College joined the Voluntary Framework for Accountability (VFA), an effort of the American Association of Community Colleges, which seeks to collect data and develop metrics that can be used to better gauge the effectiveness of community colleges.

The Strategic Planning Council and Assessment Advisory Council have been active in looking at metrics available to determine the effectiveness of College programs and to review and strengthen our assessment practices. In addition, the Comprehensive Assessment Plan for Institutional Effectiveness (CAPIE) was reviewed by a subcommittee of the Strategic Planning Council, resulting in a streamlined document that clearly outlines the College's assessment and evaluation processes. This review was recommended by Middle States to ensure the plan was practical and sustainable.

The Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness developed the College's first ever Fact Book, which became available online this summer, and has created Program Vitality Dashboards, which can be used to evaluate the health of our academic programs.

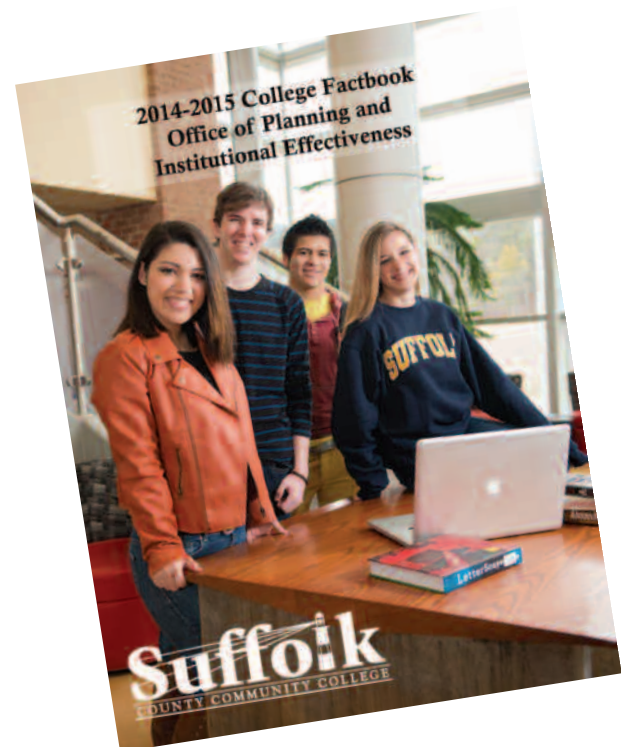
In response to Middle States changing accreditation standards, the Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness developed a compliance database to track the College's adherence to federal, state, and local regulations.

### **Workforce and Economic Development**

In the past year, workforce training has seen continued growth in the area of Advanced Manufacturing. There has been strong demand in the areas of welding, soldering and CNC Machining. We have placed an emphasis on bringing outside companies to our facilities so that they can witness our in-progress programs. This has allowed these companies to make valuable suggestions on ways in which we can further improve the relevancy of our training programs. Accordingly, it has enhanced the input we have received from our Advisory Board and developed a better pathway for our graduates to be hired.

Associate Vice President for Workforce and Economic Development John Lombardo presented the final outcomes for the College's Wyandanch Rising workforce training project to a working group of the Long Island Regional Economic Development Council (LIREDC). With support from a state grant offered through the LIREDC, the project offered certification training in soldering for displaced workers from Wyandanch, leading to national certification and employment offers for program participants. Our staff has been active in increasing awareness about this project through speaking engagements at many community events.

As a leader in workforce development education, the College continues to deliver relevant programs driven by the findings in a state and local skills gap analysis. This analysis has become the driving force behind numerous presentations hosted by the



*The workforce team has supported the changing landscape of Long Island, including the New York State Regional Economic Development Council's project, "Wyandanch Rising."*



Town of Islip, Suffolk County, the Long Island Association (LIA), and local Chambers of Commerce and Industrial Development Agencies (IDAs).

The Workforce and Education work group of the Long Island Regional Economic Development Council (LIREDC) met this summer to review prospective project proposals for the upcoming fifth round of program funding. The working group is co-chaired by John Durso-President of the Long Island Federation of Labor, Dr. Hubert Keen-President of SUNY Farmingdale, and me. The College has submitted proposals eight times since 2011 as part of this funding competition, and has received four awards totaling over \$548,000 during that time.

In June, we were a presenter at the Town of Islip's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Summit, which focuses on industry needs and helps support successful growth within the Town. Topics covered during the presentation included: career sustainability, industry clusters, College-industry partnerships, and training the workforce of the future. We highlighted the efforts of the College's Advanced Manufacturing Training Center and its Corporate Training Center, including our newest training initiative for the pharmaceutical industry that emphasizes programs for quality awareness and control, ESL and computer graphics. This initiative is currently being piloted with LNK International under a SUNY Workforce grant.

The Office of Workforce and Economic Development continued to support growth within the Aerospace and Defense sectors, especially with many small- to medium-sized subcontractors.

Taken altogether, these efforts continue to support our vision of transforming lives by delivering programs that meet the varied needs of our regional workforce.

### Veterans Services

Suffolk County Community College has a long history of assisting Veterans in maximizing their benefits and achieving their educational goals. During the past academic year, the College made significant strides in improving student life for our Veterans.

During the week surrounding Veterans Day, various College activities took place. These included having a special guest speaker from the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America visit the Michael J. Grant Campus; inviting representatives from the Northport VA Medical Center to provide medical exams and benefit information to Veterans at the Ammerman Campus; hosting Student Veterans to discuss their experiences in the military on the Eastern Campus; and arranging a flag raising ceremony by the Student Veterans Association, which was followed by a special Veterans breakfast. The week concluded with a college-wide Veterans Day ceremony, which included remarks by the first Ammerman Student Veterans Association president, Oscar Salgado, and the inaugural challenge coin presentation to our student Veterans.

In April, the College hosted "Empowering Defenders of our Freedom" a daylong Veterans career conference. The program featured a keynote address by widely acclaimed inspirational speaker and wounded Marine Officer Justin Constantine, a human resources panel that provided expert advice on finding employment, and opportunities to meet with "veteran mentors" from companies in financial services, health care, pharmaceuticals, and many other industry areas. The conference program was designed to empower Veterans with the knowledge and skills required to complete a successful transition to college life or the workforce.





The College participated in a meeting hosted by the Department of Defense (DOD) that presented information on a new online college advisement tool. This tool, called the Degree Program Management Tool, will be the newest item in the suite of services that reside on the Go Army Ed Website. This tool has been designed to streamline the College search and advisement process for active duty soldiers and reservists. Suffolk will take the necessary steps to: (1) review and update our profile on the Go Army Ed site, and (2) upload the data requested by the DOD to the new Degree Program Management Tool. Our presence and participation in this new site will help demonstrate our continued commitment to providing exceptional service to our students that are Veterans. It will also make the College and its academic programs highly visible to active military members looking to further their education.



The College's Office of Media Services produced a series of Veterans videos entitled, "Transitions: Veterans on Campus." The series has seven parts and features content that is both informational and educational. You can access the video series from the College's home page by clicking on the "View SCCC Videos" link.

Suffolk student Fabrizio Bustos, a U.S. Army Combat Veteran and Purple Heart recipient, addressed Veterans, community leaders and corporate partners at the United Way's Earth Day graduation in April. He joined fellow Veterans to celebrate the graduating class of VetsBuild, a partnership program with United Way of Long Island that helps Veterans find employment opportunities in the green construction industry in areas such as energy efficiency, renewables, weatherization, HVAC and Energy-Star construction and home restoration.



A search to fill the new position of College Director of Veterans Affairs was completed with the selection of Shannon O'Neill. Ms. O'Neill was formerly in charge of Veterans Affairs at St. Joseph's College. I was pleased to accept the recommendation to include student veterans in the search process.

The College has once again been cited as a "Military Friendly" institution, reflecting our commitment to providing the best possible services to student Veterans and active military members.

I am very proud to report that we received a major gift from the Island Outreach Foundation in recognition of our efforts to support Veterans. Our selection was based upon our commitment to establishing a Veterans Resource Center that would serve as a single point of contact and support for Veterans across the College, as well as our willingness to create a new College Director of Veterans Affairs position.

Suffolk alumnus Charles Taylor '11 returned to the Ammerman Campus in March, as part of the Soldiers Project of Long Island, a free confidential therapy program for post- 9/11 Veterans and their loved ones. Charles spoke about his personal experience as a student veteran at Suffolk, his military background as a paratrooper, and the difficulties that student Veterans face as they transition from service member to college student. Charles welcomed the opportunity to engage with our faculty and staff, shared his expertise on how to address the unique needs of student Veterans in the classroom and agreed to serve as an ongoing resource for the College.





*In June, Theresa Sanders became the newly elected Chair for the College's Board of Trustees.*



*Denise Lindsay Sullivan was appointed to the College's Board of Trustees last fall.*

### **Board of Trustees**

In September, the Suffolk County Legislature's Education and Information Technology Committee recommended appointing Denise Lindsay Sullivan as a member of our Board of Trustees, to serve a seven-year term replacing Trustee Arthur Cliff who chose not to seek reappointment. Trustee Sullivan is the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum for the Hampton Bays school district and is the daughter of the late Presiding Officer of the Legislature, William Lindsay.

In March, New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo appointed Bergre Escorbores, Ed.D. as a member of our Board of Trustees for a term to expire on June 30, 2017. Dr. Escorbores is a principal in the Brentwood School District and succeeds Belinda Alvarez-Groneman, whose term expired in 2010.

In April, Eastern Campus student, Maria Gomez, was elected by the College's student body as the next Student Trustee on the College's Board of Trustees. Her term of office will be July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

Trustee Paul Pontieri accepted an invitation from the College's ESL program to deliver the keynote address during at the ESL Certificate Completion Ceremony in May.

At its June 2015 meeting, the Board voted for the following slate of officers for the forthcoming year: Theresa Sanders - Chair; Jim Morgo - Vice Chair, and Bryan Lilly - Secretary. My Cabinet and I look forward to continuing to work with our Board and with its new leadership.

### **Community Leadership**

In October, the Suffolk Center on the Holocaust, Diversity & Human Understanding, together with the Suffolk County Human Rights Commission and the Suffolk County Interfaith Anti-Bias Task Force, initiated a series of conversations to identify the state of difference and the actions needed to overcome the obstacles to a fully inclusive society. There were several panel discussions, each taking a view from a unique perspective and each open to the general public. The first session began with an Embracing Our Differences reception that featured a panel of artists including Patricia Lannes as moderator, and Robert Carter, Juan Lopez, and Chang-Jin Lee. The next session featured a panel of members from the Multi-Faith Forum that discussed how differences within and among religions have kept people apart, and how religion can become a force for positive change. The final session was our annual Unity Day program. This year's program featured a keynote address by James Banks, the College's Coordinator of Multicultural Affairs, a panel discussion led by student leaders, and a panel discussion led by community leaders who were members of various town Anti-Bias Task Forces.

As part of the College's Institutional Goals associated with community outreach, I participated as a member of the Bank of America's Long Island Selection Committee for its Neighborhood Builders Award. Following serious deliberation, the committee reviewed and ultimately selected the award recipients. The organizations that will benefit from this award will really make a difference on Long Island. I was honored to serve as the committee's only individual representing the field of higher education. Robert A. Isaksen, Bank of America's Long Island President, is an alumnus of the College.

During the fall, the College hosted the Long Island Regional Advisory Council for Higher Education (LIRACHE) Presidents and Superintendents Partnership meeting





at the Workforce Technology Development Center on the Michael J. Grant Campus, followed by a meeting of LIRACHE's Steering Committee, upon which I serve as a member. LIRACHE continues to address college readiness as a priority issue. The group is attempting to define a regional definition of college readiness, to ascertain descriptors of the successful college student, and to encourage higher education institutions to work with K-12 partners to expand sustainable collaborative readiness efforts, including using the Suffolk County Community College-Hampton Bays Initiative as a model. Staff members from the Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness are providing support for the effort.

In January, I attended the annual organizational meeting for the Suffolk County Legislature in Hauppauge. Among those installed to leadership positions, were DuWayne Gregory, who was re-elected as Presiding Officer and Jay Schneiderman, who was re-elected as Deputy Presiding Officer. I also attended the inauguration of the Honorable Kimberly Jean-Pierre, New York State Assemblywoman for the 11<sup>th</sup> AD, which was held at Babylon Town Hall.

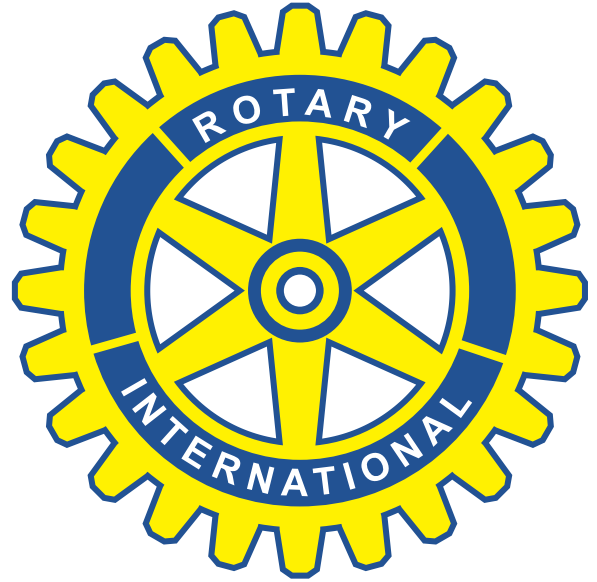
In February, I served as the keynote speaker for the Sayville Rotary's breakfast meeting. In addition to a large audience that included numerous elected officials, the Rotary Club had arranged for a group of 20 high school students from Islip and Central Islip high schools to be in attendance. Rotarian Chestene Coverdale visited my office the following week to share with me that many of the parents in attendance had expressed their enhanced interest in seeing their children enroll at Suffolk. She also expressed the Club's appreciation and support for the College.

In April, the College hosted a Youth Entrepreneurial Financial Literacy and College Preparation event with Wyandanch High School students. The Entrepreneurial Assistance Center was awarded a grant through the Long Island Regional Economic Development Council- Opportunity Agenda to create an entrepreneur program at Wyandanch High School. The goal is to get students focused on improving their academic, business, technology, and life skills. Some of the topics covered were developing a Business Plan, Financial Statements, Marketing, Characteristics of the Successful Entrepreneur and Pay Yourself First.

College staff and I attended the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Bay Shore-Brightwaters Distinguished Citizen Award Dinner held in April, honoring Mary Reid. The event was hosted by the Chamber of Commerce of Greater Bay Shore and the Bay Shore Business Improvement District. I was among the group of Long Island leaders invited to share their experiences working with Mary during her years of public service to Suffolk County's communities.

This past spring, the College hosted a symposium on Common Core Mathematics that was deemed a major success. As this topic generates strong reactions across Long Island, participation exceeded expectations. More than 100 high school teachers, college faculty and school district superintendents participated. Many speakers from SUNY were on hand to discuss the Common Core curriculum, what it was supposed to accomplish, what it has become, and how to improve it through proper pedagogy.

The College, along with the Riverhead Chamber of Commerce, and the Southampton Business Alliance collaborated to host a symposium on May 1<sup>st</sup> at the College's Culinary Arts & Hospitality Center. The goal of the symposium was for attendees to leave with new strategies to encourage professional growth in their current and future positions. The morning session was targeted toward currently employed people who





*The College was visible in our local community through its participation in the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Puerto Rican Hispanic Day Parade.*



*Dr. Christopher Adams, Vice President for Student Affairs*



*Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Vice President for Academic Affairs*

wish to improve their skills in problem solving and team building. The afternoon session was targeted toward those seeking employment and included basic information such as resume preparation and interviewing tips. The event was offered free of charge.

In June, I attended the 49<sup>th</sup> annual Puerto Rican Hispanic Day Parade. Also in attendance were Trustees Irizarry and Escorbores. As part of the College's strategic priority to have a presence in our communities, I was able to address VIP members of the audience who were present to celebrate the heritage and culture of the area.

For the second consecutive year, the College hosted the Yonex U.S. Open Badminton tournament inside the Field House on the Michael J. Grant Campus. Staff reported an increase in the number of people attending the earlier rounds and indicated that this trend continued throughout the tournament. Local and international media provided extensive coverage of the tournament and the players. I was interviewed several times during the tournament and used those opportunities to emphasize how happy we were to host the event. This tournament enables us to showcase Long Island and the College's facilities, while simultaneously boosting the local economy.

### **New Leadership Roles and Human Resources**

Earlier this year, I was pleased to announce the promotion of Dr. Christopher J. Adams to the position of Vice President for Student Affairs. Following a period of review, Dr. Adams determined it was necessary to implement a number of administrative changes within the division: Ms. Anna Flack was named College Associate Dean for Master Schedule/Registrar; Ms. Cheryl Eldredge was appointed to the position of College Assistant Director for Master Schedule/Registrar; Kevin Foley's title was changed to Director of Athletics and the term "Interim" was removed; Ms. Rose Bancroft was named to serve as College Director of Financial Aid; Ms. Sylvia Camacho was appointed to serve as College Director of Career Services; Dr. Thomas Tyson was appointed College Associate Dean for Mental Health Services; and Dr. Patty Munsch was named College Assistant Dean for Student Engagement Assessment.

I also took some time to evaluate the College's Organizational Chart, and quickly decided that it was a priority to pursue filling the Cabinet-level position of Vice President for Academic Affairs and to successfully complete a search for an Executive Dean on our Ammerman Campus. I am pleased to share that Dr. Suzanne M. Johnson accepted an appointment to the College as Vice President for Academic Affairs coming to us from Oregon, where she had served as the Interim President at Portland Community College's Sylvania Campus in Portland. Her experience includes leadership in curriculum development and improvement, assessment and accreditation, as well as mentoring and evaluation of staff. She is well-versed with the priorities of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, having served as Co-chair of Dowling College's Decennial Accreditation Review.

I am also happy to announce that P. Wesley Lundburg was appointed as Executive Dean of the Ammerman Campus. Mr. Lundburg most recently served as Dean of the New Bedford Campus of Bristol Community College in Fall River, Massachusetts. A veteran of the United States Coast Guard, he began his career in higher education as an adjunct professor, teaching developmental and English courses at the University of Alaska. He went on to gain progressive academic and administrative experience, serving in the roles of Dean of Academic Affairs, Dean of Instruction, and Interim President and CEO at various institutions in Minnesota and Alaska.

Throughout 2015, we were able to consistently attract strong pools of exceptionally



talented candidates that were interested in furthering their careers by joining Suffolk County Community College. As a result, we were able to announce the following appointments: Dr. Lauren Tacke-Cushing, and Dr. Paul M. Beaudin were named College Deans of Instruction; we welcomed Carol A. Wickliffe-Campbell to the role of Chief of Staff to the President; Beatriz Castano accepted the position of Administrative Director of Business Operations; and Melanie Morris was hired as Assistant Director for Sustainability.

During the summer, the Foundation's Executive Committee asked to have Dr. Sylvia Diaz, promoted to Executive Director of the Foundation; and Christopher A. Williams was appointed Director of Development within the Foundation.

I want to express my appreciation to the search committee members for their efforts that resulted in the successful selection of these exceptional candidates, and I have been delighted to welcome our new colleagues to these important roles at the College.

During the course of the past year, I also realigned administrative reporting so that the College's Office of Public and Fire Safety would report to Dr. Christopher Adams, Vice President for Student Affairs; the College's Office of Information Technology would report to Gail Vizzini, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs; and the College's Office of Facilities would report to College General Counsel Louis Petrizzo.

Our institution said good-bye to two gentlemen who spent long careers with the College. We wish all the best for relaxing years of retirement to Ammerman Campus Executive Dean George Tvelia and Associate Dean for Student Affairs Dr. Gary Campbell.

The College successfully negotiated with the various bargaining units to implement a paperless payroll for all College employees. As a result, the College no longer issues Direct Deposit notices. A paperless payroll is an environmentally friendly solution to communicate accurate and timely pay information. It has helped the College save on costs like paper, printing and postage. Payroll information is now accessible online anytime.

### **Building Ongoing Relationships**

U.S. Congressman Lee Zeldin held mobile office hours at the College's Culinary Arts & Hospitality Center in downtown Riverhead.

The Empire State Development Corporation held a half-day "Access to Capital" event at the College's Eastern Campus, which was attended by a variety of vendors.

The Office of Special Events is hosting summer camp at the Michael J. Grant Campus for the third consecutive year. SPORTS PRO Camps provides children ages 3-15 the opportunity to be safe and physically active during the summer months.

The Office of Special Events submitted a three-year bid to host the New York State Girls and Boys High School Volleyball Championships that normally take place during November upstate in Glenn Falls. The College's Field House was ultimately selected to serve as the tournament venue starting in November of 2016. This is a huge accomplishment, as hosting these types of events allows us to generate revenue and showcase our facilities to prospective high school students and their families.

Similarly, we continue to host Section XI high school track and field each spring. We normally average around 1,000-1,500 athletes and parents per event through



*Carol A. Wickliffe-Campbell, Chief of Staff  
for President McKay*



*Dr. Sylvia Diaz, Executive Director,  
Suffolk Community College Foundation*





mid-February. This year, we also hosted the Section XI high school boys and girls County basketball Championships as well as a national cheerleading event, Epic Cheer, which attracted 3,000 individuals from the Tri-State area.

To assist in efforts to market our space, the Office of Special Events worked with Google to complete a virtual tour of the Lecture Hall, Field House, pool and fitness facility. We now have the ability to reach a broad audience, allowing them to feel like they are inside our facility even if they are miles away.

In October, Ammerman Campus Nursing Department chair Susan Dewey-Hammer organized and led a meeting in Albany for all of the Deans and Directors of associate degree nursing programs from across New York State.

I appointed Dr. Candice Foley to serve as Suffolk's "point of contact" liaison for the inaugural SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference (SURC), which took place at SUNY Brockport in April. In this capacity, Dr. Foley was responsible for receiving and sharing SURC information with campus constituents and for encouraging eligible students to submit presentation proposals, with the goal of having student representation from all 64 campuses at the Conference.

### Advanced Institutional Reputation

I was reappointed by the Board of Directors of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) to its Commission on Diversity, Inclusion and Equity. This latest term runs through June 30, 2017. In his letter to me, AACC CEO Walter G. Bumphus stated, "We are sure that your insights and leadership will significantly contribute to the Board's decision-making process and its ability to serve the interests of all AACC member institutions." It is a distinct honor to serve on this Commission and I look forward to being a strong and vocal advocate on behalf of our students as well as the more than 13 million students who attend community colleges across the country. Included among the major programs and issues that will be addressed by this Commission are: leadership development, job shadowing, preparing students for STEM careers and closing the achievement gap for students of color and low income students.

I was also elected to the AACC's Presidents Academy Executive Committee (PAEC), where I was appointed to a three-year term that commenced on July 1, 2015. My appointment to the committee resulted from a vote taken by my peers. I look forward to bringing positive attention to the College and its accomplishments during my term on this nationally-recognized committee.

In July, I attended the American Association of Community Colleges' (AACC) Presidents Academy Summer Institute. The Institute provides an opportunity for presidents from institutions of higher education to come together and learn from each other by establishing mentoring relationships and attending workshop sessions on leadership.

I was honored by my selection as one of this year's John & Suanne Roueche Excellence Awards honorees. This prestigious recognition celebrates outstanding contributions and leadership by community college faculty and staff and marks the third consecutive year that someone from Suffolk County Community College has received the award. The recognition ceremony took place in Boston as part of the League for Innovation's annual conference.

Nearly a dozen Suffolk County Community College students are spending their





summer living and interning at Disney's World Resort in Florida, as part of an internship program that began 26 years ago. The program allows participants to network, take part in personal and career development classes, and build transferable skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, guest services and effective communication. This fall, 13 additional students will join the program, including two of our theater students, who will work in costuming with a former Suffolk student.

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, Walter Hazlitt, whose term on our Board of Trustees had recently ended, received one of the 2014 Donald M. Mawhinney Trustee Leadership Awards at the New York Community College Trustees' (NYCCT) Awards Banquet. The awards ceremony was part of the NYCCT's Conference entitled "Celebrating 60 Years of Trustee Education and Leadership." In attendance to represent the College's Board, were Chairwoman Dafny Irizarry, Vice-Chair Theresa Sanders, and Student Trustee Gardy Amilcar.

Staff presented a poster titled "Best Practices for Increasing Alumni and Employer Feedback in Curriculum Evaluation" at the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual National Conference on Professional Nursing Education and Development at the Mayo Clinic, MN.

Five Suffolk students were chosen from among more than 30 students representing institutions from across the East Coast, to be part of the NBA All-Star 2015 event's technology "Dream Team." The students: Justin Owens (Shirley); David Hachikian (East Northport); Jaime Silverman (Shoreham); Bryan Seidenspinner (Sayville); and Raymond Thompson (Bayport), set up and maintained all Internet and wireless communications at the All-Star Basketball events. The students learned about technology configuration and deployed technology at the Barclays Center and Madison Square Garden. The NBA All-Star Game is a world class sporting event that will rely on these students to implement the network that will carry the event. The students are enrolled in the College's Cisco classes, where they prepare for the CCNA (Cisco Certified Network Associate) exam. The courses teach students how to design, configure and manage an IT network either in a local company or world-wide interconnection. The CCNA is recognized in the industry as a technical professional working with traditional Cisco-based networks that predominantly include local area network (LAN) and wide area network (WAN) routers and switches.

My schedule allowed me to travel to San Antonio, Texas for the 2015 Spring Conference hosted by the Higher Education Research and Development Institute (HERDI), followed by the American Association of Community Colleges' 95<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention. As part of the Annual Convention, AACC schedules its various commission meetings, so in my role as a Commissioner, I was able to attend the Diversity, Inclusion and Equity Commission meeting. I was also able to attend my first AACC Presidents Academy Executive Committee (PAEC) meeting. During the conference, I served as a panel moderator for one of the presentation sessions and participated on an additional presidents' discussion panel before returning home.

The College's campus chapters of Phi Theta Kappa, the honor society for two-year colleges, came together collaboratively to host the New York Region's Phi Theta Kappa Honors in Action conference at our Ammerman Campus in October. I was invited to address the assembly during this event, which was the first time Suffolk hosted a regional Phi Theta Kappa conference on this scale. We enjoyed bringing students and their advisors from all over New York to Suffolk County.



*Congratulations to former Trustee Walter Hazlitt for his selection as a recipient of the 2014 Donald M. Mawhinney Trustee Leadership Award.*





## Scholarly Presentations, Awards and Recognition

The 2014-2015 SUNY Chancellor's Awards for Excellence have been announced. The following individuals have been selected for this honor:

- Professor Mark Bourdeau-Excellence in Teaching-Ammerman Campus
- Professor Jerry Chen-Excellence in Teaching-Ammerman Campus
- Professor Jo Curtis Lester-Excellence in Teaching-Ammerman Campus
- Professor Leanne Warshauer-Excellence in Faculty Service-Ammerman Campus
- Jason Kankel-Excellence in Professional Service-Ammerman Campus

The Chancellor's Awards for Excellence are system-level honors conferred to acknowledge and provide system-wide recognition for consistently superior professional achievement and to encourage the ongoing pursuit of excellence. Through these awards, SUNY publicly proclaims its pride in the accomplishment and personal dedication of its instructional faculty, librarians and professional staff across its campuses.

Staff developed and submitted nominations for the 2014-2015 Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Adjunct Teaching. This was the first time that the College offered this award. Adjunct faculty members provide consistently excellent instruction and are a key component of our staff as we seek to increase access, completion, and success among students. The following members of our adjunct faculty were recognized as having demonstrated extraordinary dedication to their students and an exceptional commitment to quality teaching: Kelliann Schrage Flores, Assistant Professor of Foreign Language - Humanities and Women Studies and Krystyna I. Janicka-Wlodek, Assistant Professor of Mathematics. Congratulations to both of them.

An article authored by School of Nursing faculty members Dr. Cheryl Shaffer and Lisa Aymong, RN, was featured in the October issue of *Nursing 2014*. Entitled, "Administering Vaccines," the article discusses proper vaccine administration, storage, documentation and patient education. Dr. Shaffer, who serves as the College's Associate Dean of Nursing, was also selected for training as an Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) program evaluator.

In February, I participated on a panel during the Hauppauge Industrial Association's 2015 Long Island Economic Summit. Approximately 200 members of this important trade organization within our region were in attendance, including Trustee Anne Shybunko-Moore. The session was used to unveil the 2015 Long Island Economic Survey and Opinion Poll conducted by the CPA firm of Albrecht, Viggiano, Zureck & Company. Panelists received a detailed list of questions to consider ahead of the event so they would be prepared. Education questions were centered on keeping youth in our region, college affordability and college loans, workforce needs and training, and the decline in government funding. I was joined on the panel by: Lucy Mazany-Senior Vice President of Signature Bank; James Pratt-Chairman at Pratt Brothers; Dr. Kimberly Cline-President of LIU; and Kevin Dahill-President of the Nassau Suffolk Hospital Council.

Deborah Wolfson, Associate Professor of Mathematics and Excelsior Program Liaison, was a recipient of a 2015 Idahlynn Karre Exemplary Leadership Award. This award recognized Ms. Wolfson's ability to advance academic and administrative leadership on our campuses. In recognition of her award, she was honored at the Chair Academy's 24<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference, *Leadership in the High-Definition Age*, held in Seattle in April.



Dr. Cheryl Shaffer accepts a proclamation from New York State Senator Philip Boyle.



Associate Professor Sean Tvelia (Physical Sciences) and Professional Assistant Joan Horn (Physical Sciences) collaborated with Nassau Community College to convene the second annual Supporting and Advancing Geoscience Education in Two-Year Colleges (SAGE 2YC) and the National Association of Geoscience Teachers (NAGT) workshops, in March.

Peter Eckstein, an adjunct professor of physics at the College, was elected as the 2016 Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE-USA) president. He will serve as president-elect in 2015. IEEE-USA promotes the public policy interests of more than 200,000 engineering, computing and technology professionals. Eckstein is retired from Northrop Grumman Corp. He has taught at the College since 1981.

Adjunct Instructor Thaddeus Nelson (Anthropology) presented “From Fine Fabric to Rough Rags: Interpreting Textile Variation in the Iron Age II Levant from Functional Analysis of Loom Weights” at the annual conference of the American Schools of Oriental Research, held last November in San Diego.

Professor Albin Cofone (Sociology and Geography) presented a series of lectures on Modern American History and Geography to senior students at the Solihull School, located in the West Midlands just north of London, England. This is Professor Cofone’s second time at Solihull, which was founded in 1560 and has been rated by *The Times* (London) as one of the top 100 independent schools in the United Kingdom.

Professor Steve Schrier (Political Science) was named “Person of the Year” by the *Times Beacon Record* for his work as Executive Director of the Suffolk Center on the Holocaust, Diversity and Human Understanding.

Scott Mandia, Professor of Physical Sciences and Assistant Chair is part of a prestigious international team of select science department researchers who contributed to a new course offered by The University of Queensland (Australia) that uncovers why the topic of climate change is so controversial. The free Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) includes renowned researchers from universities in Canada, the United States and United Kingdom. This course explains why there is such a huge gap between the scientific community and the public when it comes to the topic of climate change. Removing this gap is an important step in supporting policy development to ensure that decisions are made using peer reviewed science, leading to maximum benefit for communities, economies and the environment. The seven-week course began in April and was offered to anyone in the world through the not-for-profit online learning platform edX. Thousands of students from more than 130 countries enrolled. Professor Mandia also received the American Geophysical Union’s Ambassador Award in recognition of “outstanding contributions to the following areas: societal impact, service to the Earth and space community, scientific leadership, and promotion of talent/career pool.” During the year he later served as a guest speaker at the Environmental Science, Policy and Engineering Winter Seminar Series sponsored by Union College (Schenectady, NY). His presentation was titled, “Communicating Climate Change: Sometimes It’s Not About the Science.”

Dr. Rosa M. Gambier, the Ammerman Campus Biology Department Chair, was one of 350 international scientists, academics, educators and representatives from 65 countries who took part in a three-day event, *Botanists of the Twenty-first Century: Roles, Challenges and Opportunities* conference, organized at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Headquarters in



*Associate Professor Deborah Wolfson was a recipient of a 2015 Idahlynn Karre Exemplary Leadership Award*



*Among other citations, Scott Mandia was recognized for his contributions as a member of a prestigious international team studying climate change.*



Dr. Rosa M. Gambier was part of an international team that took part in a conference organized at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) headquarters.



Associate Dean Nina Leonhardt was a recipient of the 2015 Inspiring Women in STEM Award.



Dr. Maria DeLongoria, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, was recognized by the Suffolk County Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission.

Paris, France. The conference brought together participants from many regions of the world with a particular interest in the plant kingdom and sought to develop forward-looking perspectives for the botanical profession in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Noted Sag Harbor author, Ammerman Campus English professor, and Suffolk County Community College alumnus (Class of '74), Tom Clavin's *The Heart of Everything That Is*, co-written with Bob Drury, appeared on The New York Times Best Sellers List. The book is a biography of Red Cloud, the influential Sioux leader, and examines Red Cloud's life, his military prowess, and the changing way of life for the Plains Indians during the 1850's and '60s. The book appeared in the number 10 position on The Times' paperback non-fiction list.

Associate Professor Anindita Ghosh (Physical Sciences) recently delivered a poster presentation at the fall meeting of Project Kaleidoscope, which highlighted multidisciplinary sustainability in STEM education. His presentation demonstrated a framework involving students, faculty, local industry, environmental agencies, and Brookhaven National Lab, integrating the investigation of biodiversity, water chemistry and habitats for aquatic life. Professor Ghosh also attended the Transforming STEM Higher Education Conference hosted by the Association of American Colleges & Universities.

Adjunct Assistant Professor Philip Harrington (Earth Science) recently published two articles in Astronomy magazine: "10 Top Winter Binocular Treats" in the January 2015 issue and "iOptron's CEM60 Mount Tested" in the February 2015 issue.

Assistant Professor of Nursing Elisa Mancuso, has been chosen by the New York Chapter of the American Nurses Association to attend the Academic Progression in Nursing Conference in August, where she will learn more about New York State nursing education models that expedite the educational path to a Bachelor of Science degree.

### Recognition and Awards

Associate Dean Nina Leonhardt was a recipient of the 2015 Inspiring Women in STEM Award. This prestigious national award is presented by the publication *INSIGHT Into Diversity* in recognition of Nina's inspiring work as a woman in the STEM field. She will be recognized in the upcoming September issue of the magazine as one of 100 women being honored. This issue will publish on August 24<sup>th</sup>. In addition, at this year's New York State STEM Education Collaborative Summer Institute, Dean Leonhardt received the Margaret Ashida STEM Leadership Award in recognition of her efforts to promote the scope and integration of STEM education as a statewide and national model. Among the judging criteria considered, were the degree to which Dean Leonhardt's service and actions have made a lasting contribution to STEM career path options for individuals in our communities.

The Suffolk County Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission recognized Dr. Maria DeLongoria, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, as one of the recipients of their 2015 awards presented at Hyatt Regency Wind Watch Hotel in Hauppauge.

During the Wyandanch High School graduation ceremony in May, the College was recognized with a special award. BOT Chair Theresa Sanders was joined by Daphne Gordon, Project Administrator of the College's Entrepreneurial Assistance Center, as the College was acknowledged for the innovative programming consistently implemented by the Center for the students attending the high school.



The College was recognized for having one of the best SUNY Campus photos of 2014 based on Instagram user interactions. This SUNY effort was meant to showcase the beauty of SUNY's campuses through photographs taken by SUNY students. The photo featured our Montaukett Learning Resource Center on our Eastern Campus.

Vickie F. Calderon, Ed.M. was honored in March by the National Coalition for Campus Children's Centers (NCCCC) as the 2015 Director of the Year. Ms. Calderon's selection was based upon her history of work in early education, her commitment to excellence in teaching, and most of all, her leadership and positive impact on early care and education on our Michael J. Grant Campus. The Children's Learning Centers at Suffolk County Community College are State licensed and provide a comprehensive, developmentally appropriate child care program for children between the ages of six weeks and five years of age. The Learning Centers are open to children of college students, faculty, and staff; Suffolk County employees; and community residents. The National Coalition for Campus Children's Centers (NCCCC) is a nonprofit educational membership organization supporting excellence in programs for young children in communities of higher learning by providing opportunities for leadership, professional development, research, networking, and advocacy.

In June, Linda McGuire one of our child care infant lead teachers, received the Marcia Brady Excellence in Early Care and Education Awards at the SUNY Early Care and Education Annual Conference. The Brady Excellence Award was created to celebrate the administrators, center staff and community partners who have made significant achievements in the improvement and advancement of early care.

The Career and Transfer Center on the Michael J. Grant Campus received honorable mention recognition from the Metropolitan New York College Career Planning Officer's Association (MNYCCPOA) for its submissions, "Career Conference 2014" and "Career Planning 101."

Associate Vice President for Workforce and Economic Development John Lombardo spoke to a group assembled at Stony Brook University's Wang Center on the subject of Manufacturing Training and the Educated Workforce. This economic development meeting was titled, "Economic Gardening" and was sponsored by County Executive Steve Bellone. Other speakers included College Trustee Paul Pontieri and Dean Yachov Shamash from Stony Brook.

### **Student Awards and Recognition**

Michael J. Grant Campus student Tricia Wildman, was selected as a member of the 2015 All-USA Community College Academic Team. She is one of only 20 students selected to receive this prestigious national honor from among more than 1,700 nominations. The All-USA Community College Academic Team is sponsored by Follett Higher Education Group and presented by *USA TODAY* with additional support provided by the American Association of Community Colleges and Phi Theta Kappa. As part of this recognition, she was featured in a special section of *USA TODAY* in April. As an All-USA Community College Academic Team member, she received a \$2,500 scholarship and special medallion. The award was presented at the Presidents Breakfast held during the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) Convention in San Antonio, Texas. I was honored to be in attendance at the conference, which enabled me to be present as Tricia received her award. We congratulate her for this outstanding, national academic achievement.



*Vickie F. Calderon was honored by the National Coalition for Campus Children's Centers as the 2015 Director of the Year.*



*Associate Vice President for Workforce and Economic Development John Lombardo spoke at Stony Brook University's Wang Center about Manufacturing Training.*



*Tricia Wildman was selected as a member of the 2015 All-USA Community College Academic Team.*

# JACK KENT COOKE FOUNDATION



*Steven Curcio was selected as the College's ninth recipient of the Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship from The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation.*

In May, as part of NASA's Community College Aerospace Scholars (NCAS) project, Ian Kotler of Lake Grove, an Earth & Space Sciences major with an Astronomy emphasis who attends the College's Ammerman Campus in Selden, was invited by NASA to visit the Johnson Space Center in Houston. As part of the NCAS application process, Ian completed a series of exams, earning a perfect score. He then delivered a design proposal for a Mars Rover. His design included operational specifications, mission objectives, project timelines and public outreach initiatives.

Ammerman Campus student Steven Curcio, was selected as a recipient of a 2015 Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship from The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, which will provide him with a scholarship that covers tuition, fees, books, and living expenses for up to a total of \$40,000 annually, for up to three years. This award is intended to cover a significant share of the student's educational expenses – including tuition, living expenses, books and required fees – for the final two to three years necessary to achieve a bachelor's degree. The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Scholarship is the largest private scholarship awarded to community college transfer students in the country. Steven is one of 90 Scholars selected this year to receive the award. This is the College's ninth Jack Kent Cooke Scholar in its history.

On March 9<sup>th</sup>, the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation announced its Community College Academic Team. Two of New York's seven 2015 Coca-Cola Scholars were from Suffolk County Community College. They were Steven Curcio and Emily Rooney. The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation recognizes 50 Gold, 50 Silver, and 50 Bronze Scholars, and provides nearly \$190,000 in scholarships annually. Selection as a Coca-Cola Scholar is based on scores earned in the All-USA Community College Academic Team competition, for which more than 1,700 students applied this year. Bronze Scholars each receive a \$1,000 scholarship and a special medallion that will be presented to them during the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) Annual Convention taking place in San Antonio this April.

On behalf of the New York State Education Department (NYSED), the Nontraditional Employment & Training Program (NET) at the Center for Women in Government & Civil Society-SUNY Albany, announced the winners of the Vanguard Award for the 2014-2015 academic year. The Vanguard Award is presented to select students in New York State who are enrolled in secondary or postsecondary Career and Technical Education Programs that prepares them for careers not traditional for their gender. The NET program is committed to promotion of gender neutral educational strategies and practices. This year, eight winners were selected from a statewide pool of nominees. For the first time in its history, Suffolk County Community College has two winners in one year. Our students, Brianny Amaya from Bay Shore, who is enrolled in our Electrical Engineering Technology program, and Shailee Joshi from Coram, who is enrolled in our Engineering Science program were recognized in Albany with a dinner in their honor. They will also appear in a videotaped interview that will be posted on the NET Website.

Biology Participation in Research and Education Program (BioPREP), is an NIH-funded program that encourages underrepresented community college students who wish to further their education and pursue careers in biomedical sciences. BioPREP participant, Ashley Markstaller, a student from our Biology program recently received an award for her research in the fields of Microbiology and Molecular Biology. She was recognized during the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS), which took place in San Antonio, Texas in November. Ashley conducted her research in the laboratory of



*Suffolk County Community College's SUNY Chancellor Award for Student Excellence recipients.*





Dr. Dan Moloney, in the Department of Biochemistry at Stony Brook University.

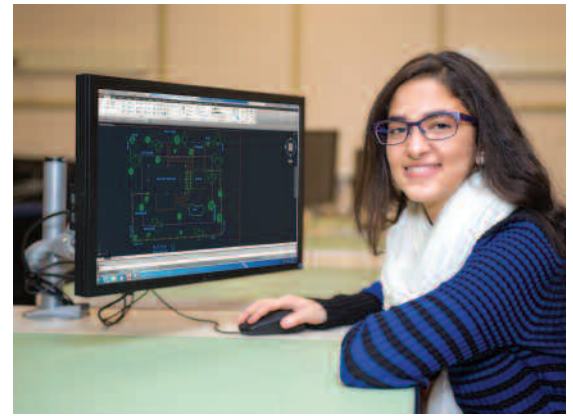
The Ammerman Campus Alpha Zeta Nu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) attended the New York Regional Convention. This three-day event takes place each spring and all 59 Phi Theta Kappa chapters in New York send representatives. The program includes fellowship events, leadership learning opportunities, the election of regional officers, and awards. This year, Ammerman's Chapter received five regional awards. For the second year in a row, Alpha Zeta Nu earned the honored distinction of Five Star Chapter, which is the highest distinction a chapter can receive. Student Amie Bernstein received the New York Region Distinguished Chapter Officer Award and the New York Region Distinguished Regional Officer Award. Selection for these awards is based on the recipients' demonstration of leadership, promotion of Honors in Action and other engagement in the Society, as well as enthusiasm for the Society's hallmarks.

The Alpha Zeta Nu Chapter also received The Horizon Award, which is given to select faculty advisors who have shown outstanding service to the region during the year. This year there were three Horizon Awards presented in the New York Region; two were awarded to the College's PTK advisors, Professor Bridget Young and Professor Heidi Kiley. The Distinguished Advisor Award is presented to advisors who make significant contributions to the growth of individual members, serve as chapter advocates on campus, and encourage the chapter to be involved on the local, regional and/or international level of the organization. Only advisors with four or more years of service are eligible for this award. This year, the New York Region Distinguished Advisor Award was presented to Suffolk Professor Bridget Young. Clearly, our PTK chapter was able to attain noteworthy recognition due to the hard work and diligence of its membership and its faculty team of advisors.

Leonardo Figueredo won Suffolk County Community College's culinary competition, *Battle for the Beach*, with a delectable baked airline chicken breast with natural au jus and butternut squash risotto seasoned with cream and fresh thyme. Nearly a dozen culinary program students participated in the competition, which took place at our Culinary Arts and Hospitality Center. Student contestants were presented with a mystery basket of ingredients – a whole chicken and butternut squash—that they had to turn into a mouth-watering dish. The competition is similar to the popular reality television show “Chopped” airing on the Food Network. The judges—myself, along with five of Suffolk's faculty chefs—evaluated each student's creation on creativity, presentation and taste. Huntington's Victoria Shannon placed second and Candice Weiss of Bayport placed third. Mr. Figueredo won a seven-night stay at the Sheraton Clearwater Beach Resort in Florida, and an opportunity to work under the supervision of the resort's executive chef. The prize included round-trip airfare and ground transportation.

In March, six of our students were recognized as Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) All-New York Academic Team members for 2015, during an awards ceremony and luncheon in Albany. Award winners were: Ammerman – Steven Curcio and Nicholas Contess, Eastern – Brittney Improbe and Satoko Matthews, and Michael J. Grant – Emily Rooney and Tricia Wildman. Each was presented with a medallion and certificate.

A team of culinary students from our Eastern Campus represented the American Culinary Federation (ACF) as the Eastern Long Island Chapter, winning the ACF Northeast Region's Culinary Knowledge Bowl. Andrea Glick, chef instructor, coached the team, which then advanced to compete for the national title at the ACF



*Vanguard Award winner Shailee Joshi of Coram.*



*Leonardo Figueredo won Suffolk County Community College's "Back to the Beach" culinary competition.*



*College Student Trustee-elect, Maria Gomez*

Convention in Orlando this July. The team successfully placed second in the nation for the second consecutive year.

Ammerman student Dennisse Madrigal was named a recipient of the prestigious 2015 Programma Ponte Scholarship sponsored by the Association of Italian American Educators. The Programma Ponte is a four-week summer program of study in Rome that offers a unique academic, cultural, and linguistic opportunity for exceptional students of Italian -American heritage. Dennisse, who is currently studying Intermediate Italian, will garner first-hand experience in Italy through course work, visits to important Italian and European institutions and direct contact with the Italian culture. She will be expected to make a presentation about her experience in September.

Ammerman Campus student Amie Bernstein was selected as one of five students to serve a one-year term as an international officer of the prestigious Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society. Holding international office is considered the pinnacle of leadership within Phi Theta Kappa.

The College's Student Trustee-elect, Maria Gomez, was awarded a 2015 "Unidad Latina Scholarship" at the New York State Senate-sponsored Unidad Latina Conference, where Dr. Sylvia A. Diaz was also honored. Dr. Diaz requested that the New York State Senate award a scholarship to a Suffolk Community College Student and Maria was selected from over 100 applicants.



*Amie Bernstein was selected to serve as an international officer of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.*

W.W. Grainger has announced that the following students were selected to receive a one-time \$2,000 Grainger Tools for Tomorrow award to be used for tuition, required fees, books and course-specific supplies: Nhat Duong – Electrical Technology and Juan Suarez – Automotive Technology. The students met all eligibility requirements, including enrolling in a full-time undergraduate course of study at Suffolk County Community College, and will receive a Westward Tool Kit from Grainger upon graduating.

A record number of the College's STEM scholars presented research at the inaugural Science Undergraduate Research Conference held at SUNY Brockport. We had the largest cohort of community college students at this event.

The forensics team from the College's Michael J. Grant Campus took home several awards from the annual Emerson College speech and debate tournament in Boston. Team President Nick Krauss took first place in Informative Speaking, first place in Impromptu Speaking and second place in Persuasive Speaking. First-year competitor Jake Salemo placed first in Persuasive Speaking and second in Informative Speaking. Suffolk placed second in the overall team awards and qualified in five events for the National Speech and Debate Championships held at Ohio University in April.

The forensics team from the Ammerman Campus competed in two regional tournaments, receiving Championship designation for Alyssa Coia and Gregg Kowlessar in the Duo Interpretation category at the Tournament at West Chester University and Championship designation for the team in the category of Limited Team Sweepstakes at the Southern and Northern Atlantic Forensics Union Tournament.

I am pleased to report to you the continued success of our students at the regional Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) held at Cape Cod Community College this year. Twenty Suffolk Theatre actors competed for the Irene



*The forensics team from the Michael J. Grant Campus was recognized with several awards at the annual Emerson College speech and debate tournament in Boston.*



Ryan Acting Scholarship, two for the Barbizon Awards for Theatrical Design Excellence, and two for the Regional Stage Management Award. Gregg Kowlessar was awarded Best Performance of a Comedic Scene for all of Region 1, including Eastern New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, and Maine, while Mike Fales was selected as Best Scene Partner.

### Start Up New York

The College's Start-Up NY application has been completed and, in accordance with New York State Economic Development Law, shared for review and comment with the Suffolk County Executive's office, the municipalities of Brookhaven and Babylon (locations of the proposed Start-Up NY sites) as well as our College's union leadership, governance councils and student government leadership. The application was developed with input from the Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning and includes 63 acres of Suffolk County owned land on College Road that is adjacent to the Ammerman Campus, as well as a portion of a yet-to-be-built building in the Town of Babylon's Wyandanch Rising project. Potential companies have inquired about our status as a Start-Up NY host and we have kept them updated regarding our application's progress. We anticipate submitting our application to the State sometime in early September.

### Looking Forward

This past year has been a defining moment in the history of Suffolk County Community College. Our faculty, staff, administrators and students, as well as our Board of Trustees and our State and County partners, have all been instrumental in the progress that has occurred and we have, collectively, contributed to transforming teaching and learning at the College. When challenged by numerous external demands, so many members of the college community willingly stepped forward to address the work required to meet those demands, enabling all of us to advance the institution, thus enhancing our legacy of excellence. With sincere appreciation, I thank all of you for providing so much of your time and talent to these important efforts.

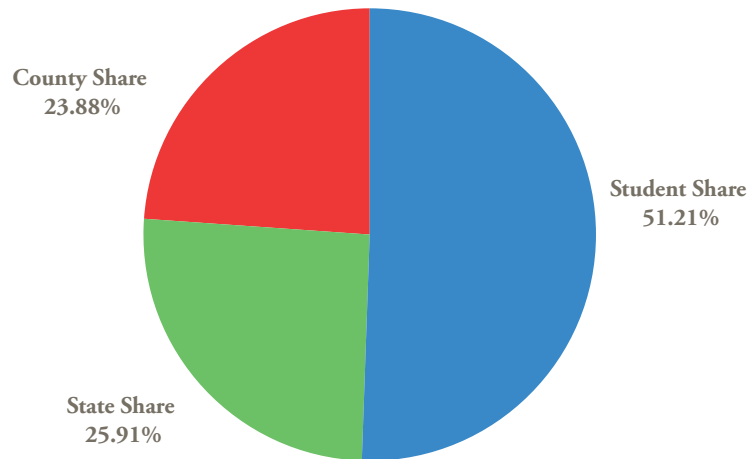


*Our students continue to impress at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF).*

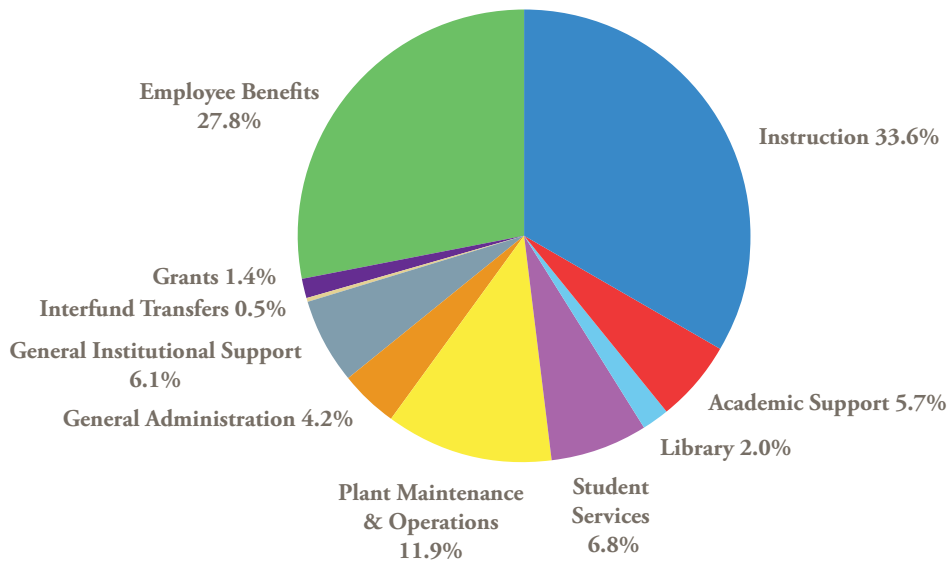


# Suffolk at a Glance

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