

Fall 2015

Division of Academic Affairs

Dear Colleagues,



I am pleased to share the most recent issue of the “Academic Communicator.” In it you will read about the many wonderful initiatives in which our faculty, staff and students are engaged. I am grateful for everyone’s hard work.

We have had a busy fall at WCC, and I have enjoyed spending time with all of you as we discuss the new Schools Initiative and how we can work together to create a student-ready campus that provides clear pathways for our students. I have had the privilege to visit with so many of you and participate in many events. I will highlight some of the events and initiatives below, but please also see “The Days and Nights of the VPAA” for a photo tour of some of my activities.

Earlier this month, we had a visit from our Achieving the Dream (ATD) coaches Dr. Mary Fifield and Dr. Jovanavich, and I was pleased to see so many staff, faculty, students and administrators spend so much time talking with them about how WCC can employ the ATD framework: Committed Leadership; Evidence-based Decision Making; Broad Engagement; Systemic Improvement and Equity. I was impressed with the engagement from our WCC team and I think all who met them agree

that Drs. Fifield and Jovanavich are engaging, committed coaches who can help us in our transformative work here at the College.

I am delighted by the number of faculty, staff, and administrators who have signed on to various committees to “Achieve the Dream,” and look forward to working together to help our students succeed in finishing what they start.

Last week, I had the pleasure of attending the American Association of College and Universities LEAP Forum in New York City, where I joined colleagues from two and four year institutions across the country, as well as policy makers and representatives from private foundations, in discussions about making good on America’s promise of a high-quality education. We focused on “making excellence inclusive,” and the day’s sessions revolved around on Essential Learning Outcomes; Principles of Excellent, High-Impact Educational Practices; Authentic Assessments; and Students’

Signature Work. I am pictured here with Dean Seessel and Dr. Martha Kanter, the former United States Undersecretary of Higher Education. It was truly inspiring to talk to so many of our fellow colleagues



whose colleges and universities are engaged in similar work.

The next day, WCC's General Education Task Force Chairs Professors Elise Martucci and Melissa Dreyfus sponsored a discussion with AACU's Tia McNair Brown. Dr. Brown's engaging presentation gave us some exciting ways to think about our general education work moving forward.



The day after, I had the pleasure of hearing Kevin Michael Connolly talk about his book, *Double Take*, which is WCC's

2015 Common Read book. It was humbling to hear his amazing story of resilience and wonderful to see how many students, faculty, administrators and staff attended this talk. Many thanks to the Common Read Co-Chairs Professors Margaret Eiden and Helen O'Brien for their leadership on this initiative.

Since my arrival in March, I have spent time with many of you looking at our systems and reallocating and investing resources based on your input to make our work efficient and effective.

On my listening tour and in subsequent follow-up meetings, it became clear that several budgetary and grant reallocations were needed and Academic Affairs sprung into action. We invested significant capital in an expansion of DegreeWorks; an update of S-25, an automated classroom scheduling system; and Curriculog, an automated system that will replace the "Golden Rod" forms for course approval. With input from Assistant Dean Al Ugoji and Professors Paul Robinson and Laurel Senft, we purchased the long-awaited Task Stream, which will help us streamline our assessment practices. In addition, Perkins funds brought us the Completion Coaches, Job and Internship Coaches, and ETS Success Navigator, all aimed at increased engagement and student success.

The faculty, deans, Dr. Miles and I are working on articulation agreements with local colleges and are exploring a variety of academic partnerships to best support students and align curriculum with both high schools and four-year institutions.

We are proud to be one of seven SUNY community colleges participating in a Columbia University study that looks at best practices in placement. We are launching a "Multiple Measures" placement study in order to most accurately place our students and help them succeed at the college. Many thanks to Hope Barcus and Vice President Tony Scordino for their partnership on this initiative.

I hope you will be as impressed as I am as you read about all the wonderful work our colleagues are undertaking on behalf of our students.

As the weather turns chilly, I thank you for all your hard work and dedication and wish you a warm Holiday Season.

Sincerely,

Peggy F. J. Bradford, J.D., Ed. D.
Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs
(Interim)

THE DAYS AND NIGHTS OF A VPAA: A PHOTO TOUR



One of the many joyous occasions during Dr. Miles' inauguration was a luncheon sponsored by the generosity of the WCC Endowed Chairs. I am pictured here with Professor Joanna Peters,

Dr. Miles, Dr. Christine McPhail, Vice President Eve Lerner, Dr. Martha Kanter and others to celebrate Dr. Miles' inauguration.



I was honored to join Trustee Toni Cox Burns, Professor Scorpio Rogers and Chairwoman and Chief Executive Officer of Xerox Corporation Ursula Burns at WCC when Burns talked to us about strategies to help underrepresented minority girls develop interest in STEM fields.



Here, I am with County Legislator Mary Jane Shimsky, Dean Seessel and WCC students at our Transfer Fair. We are in front of our Heads Up America banner. We had many students, faculty and staff tweet to #HeadsUpATD to endorse the free community college movement.



Professor Anne D'Arazio and I were delighted to bring WCC students (some of whom are pictured here) to see Angela Davis speak at Pace University. It was a memorable evening!



Student Trustee, Kimani Muthra and I visit with Jeb Bush, Jr., who visited our campus as part of his work on his father's campaign.

OFFICE OF ADJUNCT SERVICES, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND ACADEMIC OPERATIONS

Dr. Annjanet Woodburn, Associate Dean (Interim)
Location: Science Building, Room 251
(entrance through Room 252)
Phone: 914-606-6977

The Office of Evening Services has been redesigned into the **Office of Adjunct Services, Professional Development and Academic Operations** to operationalize policies and procedures to better support the work of adjunct faculty as it pertains to student learning and engagement. Through professional development activities, our goal is to encourage more involvement of adjunct faculty in ways to increase student success and completion, one of the strategic plan's focus areas. The first professional development workshop, "A New Era of Service and Success: Engaging Adjunct Faculty for Student Success" took place on August 29, 2015.

STAFF NEWS

The Office of Adjunct Services, Professional Development and Academic Operations is pleased to welcome Ms. Genevieve Holland, part-time assistant. Genevieve received her Associate's degree from Westchester Community College and a Bachelor's degree from Pace University.

DIVISION OF ARTS & HUMANITIES

Dr. Jessica Seessel, Associate Dean (Interim)
Location: Hankin Academic Arts Building, Rm. 509
Phone: 914-606-6949

12th GRADE TRANSITIONS PROGRAM

An anonymous donor gave the Westchester Community College Foundation funding to launch a multi-pronged Transitions Program that targets 12th Grade students in our largest feeder districts who are on track to graduate, but who are not college ready – students who will most likely place into remedial classes and therefore have a much greater likelihood of not persisting and graduating.

WCC's Transitions program addresses three key areas: Reading and Writing readiness, Math readiness, and non-cognitive support. Faculty from WCC and local high schools worked last year and over the summer to create these curricula and are meeting regularly. Students in this program take a 12th grade Transitions ELA and/or Math course that will prepare them for college-level course work, participate in quarterly visits to WCC, and receive regular "push in" counseling and advising support.

The first group of participating high schools are Alexander Hamilton High School, New Rochelle High School, Ossining High School, Riverside High School in Yonkers, and Sleepy Hollow High School. Over 200 students attended a Kick-Off Event in September to tour the campus and to start interacting with our own WCC students. They returned two weeks ago to attend simulated college classes on such subjects as memory and learning, mathematical dimensions, and problem solving. In the spring, the transitions students will return twice more, for more lessons and interactions with current WCC students and faculty.

The course curricula, teaching and counseling support, and campus visits all aim to make for a smoother, more successful transition for the participating high school students to Westchester Community College, setting them up for a more successful college experience overall. Ultimately, this will benefit not only the students, but the college and the community as well.

PATHWAYS IN TECHNOLOGY EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL (P-TECH) PROGRAMS

WCC is partnering with Saunders and Riverside High Schools in Yonkers in two P-Tech grants. Riverside High School, in conjunction with WCC, will offer pathways to an A.A.S. in either Electrical Technology or Cyber Security, and Saunders will offer a pathway to an A.A.S. in Civil Technology. WCC faculty from these disciplines are working with Saunders and Riverside faculty to align curricula and create increased articulation agreements. In addition, WCC Faculty from English and Math are collaborating with faculty at these high schools to "unpack the Common Core" and align high school curricula with college

coursework. At a recent visit to Saunders High School with a WCC team that included Dr. Miles, we saw students in action working on architectural drawings, creating 3D models and planning a local library. It was quite inspiring!

ACADEMIC UPDATES

WELCOME NEW FACULTY

The Communication, Journalism & Media Arts Department is very happy to have two new full-time faculty members joining us this school year. Both came from our adjunct ranks and you'll find brief bios for them below:

JULIO RODRIGUEZ-RENTAS has worked on staff and/or as a consultant to a variety of institutions such as non-profit community organizations; an NGO bank corporation; an ad agency; a regional multi-cultural dance company; and a law school, a medical school, and a private national university. In these institutions, he worked on managing the development and maintenance strategic marketing communication initiatives to enhance the image and identity, and strengthening the reputation of each. Bringing these experiences to the classroom, Mr. Rodriguez has taught communication courses at Pace University (Pleasantville, NY), Western Connecticut State University (Danbury, CT), and at Iona College (New Rochelle, NY), where he developed a new course which has been made mandatory for all students in the mass communication department. He continues to present at a number of local, regional and national conferences on research topics and publications that he has published. Mr. Rodriguez holds a Bachelor's in Business Administration from Pace University - New York City as well as a Master's degree in Media Communication from Pace University - Westchester.

RODEENA STEPHENS is a Communications Executive with more than 15 years' experience in communications, marketing and social media. She earned a B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies from New York Institute of Technology and an M.A. with distinction in Communication Arts also from New York Institute of Technology. Prior to joining WCC, Ms. Stephens served as Director of Communications for The Greater Allen

A.M.E. Cathedral & Related Corporations where she strategically developed a strong corporate brand for the 24,000-member institution. She steered online and offline communication strategies and execution by launching its communications & media department, as well as its dedicated global social media division, navigating brand management, interactive technology, marketing, advertising, and public relations. She has also worked with some of New York's leading media companies, which include: Sesame Workshop, Ogilvy & Mather, PRIMEDIA, Reuters and TV Guide. Ms. Stephens has received numerous awards that include the "Dynamic Women Who Leave No One Behind Award," and the Liz Hoover Award for outstanding volunteer service presented by New York Women In Communications, and two Emmy Certificates for her contribution to the Emmy Award-winning children's series, Sesame Street. Ms. Stephens is currently a member of the prestigious New York Women in Communications (NYWICI), the premier organization for communications professionals.

INTERNSHIP AND JOB LINKAGE NEWS: DIGITAL FILM – JOB LINKAGE GRANT

The Digital Film Program won a Job Linkage grant to strengthen their internship program to better prepare students for the workforce. They are partnering with the Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville to create a pathway from local high schools to WCC, then on to transfer to a 4-year institution, ultimately entering into the job market. Jacob Burns has invited WCC to partner with them on their Creative Community Support Initiative, which seeks to create “a space for professional and pre-professional makers that promotes collaboration and the sharing of resources.” Faculty members Professors Craig Padawar and Jenny Evans are working with Burns to create a county-wide student film festival that will bring together high-school, community college, and 4-year college film students along with industry professionals.

FACULTY NEWS

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

PROFESSOR CYNTHIA ROBINSON'S newest play *Dancing on Eggshells* has been nominated for two AUDELCO Awards: one for Outstanding Ensemble Performance and one for Outstanding Choreography. Professor Robinson attended the 43rd Annual AUDELCO Recognition Awards for Excellence in Black Theatre which was held on November 16, 2015 at the Peter Norton Symphony Space in NYC where nominated plays were honored and awarded. **PROFESSOR RICKY WERNER**, along with faculty from SUNY Rockland, and SUNY Sullivan County, is participating in a SUNY Innovative Instructional Technology Grant to study how ePortfolios impact student learning, especially in accelerated developmental writing courses.

PROFESSOR HEATHER OSTMAN has co-edited (with Kate O'Donoghue from Suffolk Community College) a new book published by Palgrave Macmillan, *Kate Chopin in Context: New Approaches, which also features her essay, "Maternity vs. Autonomy in Chopin's 'Regret.'"* The collection also features an essay by Professor Patti Schulster, titled "American Refusals: A Continuum of 'I Prefer Not Tos' As Articulated in the Work of Chopin, Hawthorne, Harper, Atherton, and Dreiser."

PROFESSOR GEORGE WALLACE was featured poet at the Ledbury Festival in England, where he also conducted a poetry writing workshop and gave a lecture on Walt Whitman. Additionally, he participated in a collaborative dramatic work at the Festival d'Avignon Fringe Festival in Provence, France.

PROFESSORS CHRISTINE TIMM and **EVE PACKER** read their poetry on stage at "The Beats Take on Jazz" event at the Cornelia Street Café in Greenwich Village. Christine Timm has also been invited back to The Nuyorican Poets Café on the Lower East Side to co-host the New York City College Poetry Slam and Open Mic for this academic year.

PROFESSOR LIZ AXELROD'S Poetry Chapbook *Go Ask Alice* was a finalist (Fifth Place) in the Finishing Line Press New Women's Voices Series Competition and will be published by Finishing Line Press in 2016.

PROFESSOR JOE SGAMMATO presented a paper called "A Recurring 'Nightmare' Creates a Teaching Opportunity" at the NEPCA (Northeast Popular/American Culture Association) 2015 Fall Conference held at Colby-Sawyer College in New London, NH October 30-31.

STAFF NEWS

ALFREDA S. WILSON joins Westchester Community College as a full-time Office Assistant in the Division of Arts & Humanities. Ms. Wilson brings 11 years of experience working in human resources for a not-for-profit foundation. In her last role, Ms. Wilson assisted in the implementation of core HR systems – payroll, time management, recruiting and onboarding. Her prior work experience expands over the healthcare and insurance industries. Ms. Wilson has an Associates in Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Computer Information Systems from Monroe College.

SUNDUS TARIQ, joins our Division as a part-time student worker. The following is Sundus' biography, as told by herself:

"I am Sundus Tariq. I am from Pakistan. I have been in the United States with my family since July 2014. My native language is Urdu; but I can speak and understand the English language. In high school, I studied all of my subjects, except for Urdu, in English. After graduating high school in Pakistan, I enrolled as a freshman at Westchester Community College. My major is Human Services (A.A.S). My goal is to succeed in every field of life and earn my college degree so that I can get a job and become successful in life."

The Division of Arts & Humanities is excited to have Alfreda and Sundus join us here in HAAB – 509, Division of Arts and Humanities. Please feel free to stop in and introduce yourself.

CURRICULUM NEWS

The Communication, Journalism & Media Arts Department is pleased to share that we are continuing to work on our A.A. degree curriculum and have some great ideas in the pipeline, including a "Media Writing" course specifically geared towards today's media environment in a variety of areas, as well as a revamped approach to our broadcast communications courses that incorporates digital technology in a more meaningful way. The guiding principle behind our work revolves around what we're calling "The Four A's" which forms the bedrock for our vision by asking four simple questions: "Is this course Affordable for students?", "Is this course Applicable to the A.A. degree and/or transfer?," "Is this course Accessible for students in terms of scheduling and method of instruction?," and "Is this course Advantageous for students in that it has inherent educational value?" Reminding ourselves about the importance of providing our students with "The Four A's" has been an effective tool in charting our curriculum course.

STUDENT NEWS

The Journalism program is a proud participant in the Pulitzer Center on Crisis Reporting Student Fellowship program and is proud to introduce our 2015 International Student Reporting Fellow, **BETSY SAAVEDRA**. Born and raised in Lima, Peru, Saavedra's Pulitzer project involves traveling back to her birthplace to explore how people who cannot afford housing use dynamite to build "invasion homes" in the hillsides; she is investigating the nearly 10,000 families struggling with homelessness and displacement.

RINO DAVITA received a \$1000 scholarship from the Italian Labor Council.

DANIEL DARRETTA and **CLAUDIA TUFANIO** participated at the Italian Heritage Culture Celebration with County Executive Robert Astorino on October 5, 2015.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT DEAN OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Danielle DiGrazia, Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs, Location: Hartford Hall, Room 16
Phone: (914) 606-6719

ADVISING STUDENTS WITH 31+ CREDITS

As we work together to move the needle on graduation rates, this semester full-time faculty members were assigned advisees with 31 or more completed credits and a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher. In order to access her/his advisees, faculty should go to MyWCC to the Faculty Center and to the Advisor Center tab. Students were directed to PeopleSoft to identify their newly assigned faculty advisor. We thank faculty for reaching out to students to ensure their pathway to completion.



Many training workshops have been delivered and will be repeated in future semesters:

- DegreeWorks Basics
- DegreeWorks Advanced
- PeopleSoft Basics
- PeopleSoft Advanced
- Advising Basics
- A Comprehensive Advising Process

TRANSFER ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS

With major program revisions behind us, communication has begun with many colleges regarding articulation agreements that maximize alignment of programs between institutions. Those agreements close to completion include Chamberlain University, Excelsior College, Lehman College, and Mercy College. Others in progress include Concordia College, Pace University and Purchase College. Those on the horizon include College of New Rochelle, Manhattan College, and many CUNY schools.

If faculty members are speaking to respective institutions with whom we think WCC should to

partner, please direct colleagues from other institutions to www.sunywcc.edu/partnerarticulationrequest to formalize their request to articulate with Westchester Community College. This will allow WCC to pursue all possible program alignments between the institutions.

DEGREEWORKS UPDATE

The College is in working to integrate data between DegreeWorks (the graduation audit system) and PeopleSoft (the clearinghouse for student data). One major initiative for this project includes the development of educational plan templates that will create a framework from which a counselor can draft a semester-by-semester plan of coursework (to graduation!). We look forward to rolling this out soon.

CURRICULOG & 25-LIVE

Plans to implement Curriculog and 25-Live are underway! Curriculog is a program that will allow the College to create an electronic workflow of course, program, and policy revision and development. Soon various campus constituents, including committee chairs and others, will be called upon for input as the structure of the program is designed.

25-Live, a scheduling software, will help to automate the room assignment of courses. Once implemented, it will provide a greater understanding of the space usage on campus. We look forward to how these uses of technology will increase effectiveness and efficiencies.

DIVISION OF LEARNING RESOURCES, LIBRARY, MEDIA AND INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY AND ONLINE EDUCATION

Pamela Pollard, Associate Dean
Location: Library, Room 148
Phone: 914-606-8581

The Division of Learning Resources, Library, Media and Instructional Technology and Online Education is offering a host of interesting workshops and instructional activities for the 2015-2016 academic year.

New to our division is the Coaching Connection. The program is staffed with five Completion Coaches. Their role is to help our students be successful, keep them on track, and be proactive in using all the academic and student support services that will help them complete their degree requirements and graduate.



Library, Room G36 (Ground Floor)
914-606-6158
coachingconnection@sunywcc.edu

The remaining ASC Workshop dates for students to improve their study skills and reduce test-taking anxiety are:

- Take the Test, Wednesday, Dec. 2
- Review of Study Skills and Test-Taking Skills, Wednesday, Dec. 9.
- P.L.A.N. for Final Exams, Wednesday, Dec. 16

In the Harold L. Drimmer Library, the librarians moved the location of the Reference/Information desk; it is now located at the corner of the Circulation desk. Look for the "Need Research Help? "Ask A Librarian" sign.

Faculty can learn how to access the resources and services available at the Harold L. Drimmer Library by going to the Library's NEW on-line **FACULTY TOOLKIT**, found on the library's homepage under **FACULTY SUPPORT**. By using the toolkit, Faculty can schedule an information Literacy session, embed a librarian into their Blackboard shell, access customized course and general research guides, and suggest material for purchase.

A new bookshelf on the ground floor of the library showcases selected titles added to the collection within the last year. We also have added hundreds of new e-books, which are accessible on and off-campus. Also, try our new **DISCOVERY SEARCH**, a multi-search tool, to search books/e-books, articles and videos.

To find out more information about these services and resources go to the library website www.sunywcc.edu/student-services/library.

The Testing and Assessment Center administers over 9,200 exams as part of the Admissions process. For the testing schedule, FAQ and sample questions visit www.sunywcc.edu/testingcenter

OFFICE OF LEARNING INITIATIVES AND SUCCESS

Timothy Magee, Assistant Dean of Learning Initiatives and Success (Interim)
Location: Library 133
Phone: 914-606-6195

As the college strives to comprehensively support students from their transition to completion, there are many exciting new initiatives, programs, support services and positions at the college. I am honored to serve the college and students as the Interim Assistant Dean of Learning Initiatives and Success. This is a reimagined position that utilizes the previous position of Assistant Dean of Developmental Education with a broader focus to support students in the key areas of readiness, engagement, learning and completion. The Office of Learning Initiatives and Success will work closely with the Director of Institutional Advancement to help develop, administer, and report funding opportunities that will directly impact student

retention and completion. As part of this effort, Completion Coaches have begun their work with students in the Career and Technical Education programs to encourage and ensure a timely path to graduation.

The Office of Learning Initiatives and Success is also working closely with the Academic Master Plan Committee and the Developmental Education Advisory Council to work toward increased student success in course completion and degree/certificate completion.

DIVISION OF BUSINESS, BEHAVIORAL/SOCIAL SCIENCES, PUBLIC & HUMAN SERVICES

Maria Boada, Associate Dean (Interim)
Location: Classroom Building, Room 201
Phone: 914-606-6435

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

Global Business: The Global Business Curriculum was recently revamped in accordance with the College's Gen Ed alignment initiative, and the SUNY Pathways' initiative. Some noteworthy changes are:

- A Statistics track has been added to the curriculum to offer students more flexibility in terms of meeting the mathematics requirements of the schools to which they transfer.
- Management Information Systems was added as a requirement in alignment with the infused Gen Ed Information Management competency. This course will also give students more and better skills in MS Excel and other critical technology that will serve them well in their future studies and careers.
- The physical education requirement was eliminated.
- Only one Natural Science course is now required.
- The number of credits was reduced from 67-70 credits down to 64 credits. This allows students to complete their degree in Global

Business in a more cost-effective way, while simultaneously reducing Financial Aid burdens.

Discussions have begun with Manhattanville College to explore an articulation agreement in Global/International Business.

FASHION MERCHANDISING:

There are exciting things happening in the Fashion Merchandising department this semester. We began with taking a look at new industry trends and will follow up by bringing in a panel of fashion experts to answer all career and industry-related questions. Look out for the FIT transfer seminar and follow everything that is happening in our new fashion newsletter “The Runway.”

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

PROFESSOR MELISSA DREYFUS is the new Chairperson for the Human Services Department.

The Human Services Department continues to place students in internships across Westchester County as well as in Manhattan, the Bronx, Rockland and Putnam counties and Connecticut. We are in the process of updating our Agency Placement listing, to add increased opportunities for students in our for Human Service, Early Childhood, and Chemical Dependency programs.

Over the summer we began working on more efficient ways to handle our final semester field site evaluations of our students, which should allow us to have a 100% accuracy rate.

Faculty members continue to attend and present at local, national, and international conferences. In October, members of the department from both the Human Services and the Early Childhood Education Curricula will be attending the International Reconceptualizing Early Childhood Education Conference in Dublin, Ireland. The conference theme is Narratives of Difference: Translations, Transgressions, and Transformations and Professor O’Brien will be one of the presenters.

The Early Childhood Education Curriculum has a new Introduction to Special Education course titled “The Exceptional Child.”

Two Human Service courses have been added to the General Education list to satisfy the Social Science requirement.

The Early Childhood Education Curriculum Chair will be working on revising current transfer agreements as well as exploring new opportunities for articulation. Many students have been hired by their field placement sites while they continue their studies.

The department has one new full time faculty member, Professor Sara Braun, who will be teaching Group Dynamics and Leadership, Intro to Human Services, and Human Behavior Social Development/Lifespan, CLA 5, Tele: 914-606.6249. Please stop by to say “hello.”

We have one new adjunct faculty member, Professor Mary Baker, and she will be teaching on the Valhalla Campus.

Professor Kathy Pressler has retired as a full-time professor but will continue teaching in adjunct capacities.

ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT

A departmental initiative to provide additional career courses for our students has been well received with QuickBooks and Federal Income Taxation at peak enrollment levels. While QuickBooks has always been a highly enrolled course, its combination with Federal Taxation has made our program more sought after by students in and out of our major.

Two new adjunct instructors have reached senior status: **PROFESSOR RENEE BALOTTI** and **PROFESSOR PHILIP OLIO**.

PROFESSOR CAROLYN CHRISTESEN conducted a training program in May, 2015 for faculty to learn computerized homework management systems. While these systems have been used by the full-time faculty, Professor Christensen’s goal is to help more adjuncts use

these homework systems to improve student performance.

PROFESSOR DORIS WARMFLASH continues to work quite effectively with area high school teachers and administrators that have adopted the ACE program for high school students wishing to earn our WCC credits in business and accounting subjects.

We look forward to Professor Christensen's continued leadership of the Accounting Club. This highly active club has more than a dozen events every semester including trips to local businesses and Wall Street, the annual etiquette dinner, a graduates dinner, and a variety of guest speakers. Area colleges' department chairs address our future graduates in the offerings at their schools. The Accounting tutorial will be in full swing early in the academic semester. Hundreds of our students find help in the labs with their highly capable peers. The Accounting Department Fall 2015 offerings are finding great student acceptance. Almost all of our classes are at maximum enrollment.

CURRICULUM UPDATES:

Paralegal AAS/Certificate and the Criminal Justice Police/Corrections degrees have all been updated to reflect the changes in the new Westchester Community College Core. LAS/Social Sciences AA has changed significantly to align more clearly with transfer to the Liberal Arts degrees at 4-year institutions. Transfer paths for Anthropology, Economics, History, Psychology, and Sociology have been developed and will be implemented in 2016.

DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION:

We have 22 full-time faculty members, many of whom are pursuing initiatives both inside and outside the college. Some of the highlights include: **PROFESSOR LORI MAIDA**, Co-Director of the Davis Global Scholars Program, was awarded the status of SUNY Distinguished Professor. **PROFESSOR PAUL SIEGEL** has been conducting summer research with several Westchester Community College students in a brain imaging study and works with the Bridges Program that links WCC students to Purchase College.

PROFESSOR DWIGHT GOODYEAR, as Co-Director of the Honor's Program, has been working on redeveloping and implementing a program assessment for the campus-wide Honor's Program.

PROFESSOR KAMIL HAMAOU has been involved with developing new assessment plans for Psychology and the Department.

PROFESSOR GARY KLEIN has continued to work with faculty across campus on improving their pedagogical skills through the NPOP (no pressure observation program) he developed two years ago. Several new members of the Department

Professors KAMIL HAMOUI, ELIZABETH MILLER, GEORGE KETEKU, ROSE GILMORE, DANIELA MEDINA AND

DEPARTMENT CHAIR JO STOKES attended the Teaching Professor National Conference in Atlanta, Georgia in the spring and will be providing information back to the department gained from the trip.

Departmental actions include standardizing assessments, providing updated student learning objectives for all courses, and revising the SUNY General Education listings for our Department.

NEW FULL-TIME FACULTY

MICHAEL SKIBO ~ Behavioral/Social Sciences Department

Professor Skibo received his PhD in Developmental Psychology (University of Rochester) and has been teaching at the University of Rochester since 2009. His dissertation was titled "Testing Functionalist Assumptions: An Examination of Emotion Regulation Strategy Utilization as a Function of Emotional Goals." Professor Skibo received the Breadth Fellowship for 2013-2015 from the University of Rochester and also received the Nowlis Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2013 from the University of Rochester. Professor Skibo taught 5 General Psychology (PSYCH101) courses during the fall 2015 semester.

SARA BRAUN ~ Human Services Department

Professor Braun has a M.S.W from Columbia University School of Social Work and a B.A. in Psychology/Philosophy from Bingham State University. She was adjunct professor at Fordham

University Graduate School of Social Science, where she also did academic advisement. She has taught courses in Human Behavior in the Social Environment; Social Welfare Policy; Social Justice;--Macro Practice; Human Rights; Social Work Practice with Gay and Lesbian Clients; Human Service Organizations as the Context for Practice. Prof. Braun will be teaching the following courses in the Department of Human Services: Group Dynamics and Leadership with Field, Introduction to Human Services, and Human Behavior Social Development/Lifespan.

STUDENT SUCCESS STORIES

LINDSAY PECKHAM

The Division is proud to announce that CIS student Lindsay Peckham has been selected by the Westchester County Association to receive the Women in Technology Student Award. Her nomination was submitted by Prof. Watkins. Lindsay is an example of perseverance and determination, overcoming many obstacles in the path to achieve her professional goals. As stated by Prof. Watkins in the nomination submission, Lindsay “has overcome personal struggles to become a leader in her field. She is a role-model for other young women who wish to excel in the increasingly demanding field of Cybersecurity.” Lindsay is a member of the Cybersecurity Club and Intern in the CIS lab. She is a Computer Information Systems tutor volunteer and a strong advocate for woman in computing – most specifically in Cybersecurity. As an Intern, she is building a sustainable model that will reach high school students – especially girls - to encourage them to pursue hobbies, education, and careers in technology and information security.

DIVISION OF MATHEMATICS, COMPUTER, ENGINEERING, AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES & TECHNOLOGIES

Maria Boada, Associate Dean (Interim)
Location: Technology Building, Room 106
Phone: 914-606-6787

NEW COMPUTER SCIENCE FULL-TIME FACULTY

SWEETY MARIAM VARGHESE

Professor Varghese has 13 years of work experience across various platforms including web-based internet technologies to product-based data management systems. She has a MS in Computer Science from Pace University. Professor Varghese has also been teaching face-to-face classes here at WCC since 2010, and teaching online classes for Southern New Hampshire University since 2013. Mariam's office will be located in TECH 157.

STEVE MILLER

Professor Miller is a 1999 graduate of WCC (A.S., Computer Science), and also an "alumnus" of IBM where he spent 13 years in various technical and system administration roles. He received his BS in Computer Science from Binghamton, and his MS in Computer Science from New Paltz. He has been an adjunct at WCC since 2009, teaching both Networking and Computer Science courses. Professor Miller's office will be located in TECH 157.

‘EVERYONE LOVES MATH’

The Mathematics Department has a full range of courses from developmental levels to a complete spectrum of advanced courses including Calculus (I, 2 and 3), Statistics, Linear Algebra, Elements of Geometry, and even Differential Equations; these courses are taught by top-notch, experienced and dedicated educators. The Math-Physics Tutorial Center as well as our Academic Support Center support students at all levels.

The Mathematics Department is proud of Professor Sheela Whelan for her pioneering work with the modularized Aleks software. Professor Whelan was recently featured in Slate magazine.

During the year, there are many special events for students. The Math Club, for example, sponsors field trips, seminars and contests. The Math Department encourages interested students to engage in statewide and national math contests (and we have had some really high scorers!). During each spring semester, we have a "MathFest" Event to which our students (and many from local high schools) may attend keynote presentations and hear or even participate in fascinating demonstrations and special lectures.

For further information, feel free to contact the Chairman of the Math Department, Prof. Louis Rotando, at Louis.Rotando@sunywcc.edu.

UPGRADING THE MECHANICAL TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

...to incorporate countless technological advancements in our programs for the benefit of our students.

New equipment means recreating the CAD curriculum to incorporate 3D printing and scanning capabilities with Stratasys UPrint SE Plus machines and Makerbots.



Figure 1- Uprint 3D Printer – (2 already in use)



Figure 2- Makerbot Replicator 3D Printer



Figure 3- Makerbot Digitizer - 3D scanning laser



Figure 4 - CNC Milling Machine

INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS

Our local Industry Partners, including Putnam Precision, Monster Tool, Kimber America, Fryer Machines, and Zierick Manufacturing, continue to enthusiastically support our Engineering and Technology programs.

CERTIFICATIONS

We are coordinating efforts with industry-validated and recognized certification provider, Certiport, for certifications in all Autodesk products taught at the College, including AutoCAD, Revit, Maya and 3DSMax. We are also working with Siemens Motion control for certification for our state of the art CNC equipment.

“IN THE MACHINE SHOP”

Upgrading our mechanical lab space with new high speed CNC (Computer Numerical Control) milling and turning machinery from a local manufacturer, Fryer Machines.



Figure 5 - CNC Slantbed lathe

AND MORE COMING SOON....

We are also planning and developing a combined-use technology space for students to use for more extensive 3D printing, scanning, and elective projects to further delve into the field of engineering in the Technology building.

This is an exciting time for our programs and students here at Westchester Community College.

For further information, contact the Curriculum Chair, Professor Len Spina at Leonard.Spina@sunywcc.edu.

DIVISION OF NATURAL & HEALTH SCIENCES

Dr. Lisa Marling, Associate Dean (Interim)
Location: Science building, Room 252
Phone: 914-606-6910

BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

The Biology Department houses three curricula: Environmental Studies and Environmental Science, chaired by Professor Michael Priano; and Liberal Arts/Math Science, chaired by Professor Chad Thompson (Secretary of the Faculty Senate and chaired the Faculty Chapter of the Middle States Self-Study). The eleven full-time faculty members are engaged throughout the campus on committees serving students and faculty on a broad range of topics. Professor Gary Bernardi has served as part of the Chemistry and Nursing Departments' departmental committees for a number of years. Professor Angela Casella recently served as Chair of the Central Committee. Professor Alex Zemcov is a member of the UFT Executive Committee. Professors Iris Cook and Michael Priano are contributors to the Collegium (The Institute for Lifelong Learning) and Dr. Cook serves on the Collegium Board of Directors as well as the WCC Foundation Board. Professors Kim Walsh and Robbie Collis serve as webmasters for the department's website and are assessment chairs for the Department. Professor Glen Richards runs the Bridges to the Baccalaureate Program with Purchase College and Binghamton University and has since its inception. Professor Margaret Eiden serves as the liaison for the Extension Centers.

Two courses have undergone name changes. Biological Science I is now Principles of Biological Science and Biological Science II is now Human Biology.

We offer classes seven days a week and in the evenings and at our extension centers throughout the County. Several of our members teach on-line courses routinely, most notably, Professors Eileen Walsh, Robbie Collis, Glen Richards and Joanne Gala. Between 35 and 40 adjuncts are part of our regular staff.

WCC has been part of Mercy College's Grant for developing students interested in teaching careers (MISTI) along with Bronx Community College and Rockland Community College for the past two years, and Professor Kim Walsh has been part of Mercy's summer teaching team. WCC students have taken part in the summer scholarship program as part of this grant.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The Department of Prehospital EMS has seen many changes recently. Major curriculum revisions for the Paramedic Certificate and A.A.S. programs recently received their final approval and will begin this spring. The newly revised courses include an emphasis on student centered learning initiatives such as case-based group discussions, flipped classroom techniques, and an increased amount of laboratory scenario exercises. A new capstone course was also created that includes a field internship and high fidelity simulation exercises. The August paramedic program graduates had a 100% passing rate on the practical skills exam for the National Registry of EMTs and an 82% passing rate on the NY State paramedic exam! Department Chair, Rob Gurliacci, recently attended the New York State EMS Conference along with a few students. Prof. Gurliacci and adjunct professor Christiana Corrado were accepted to the Field Internship Student Data Acquisition Project's annual research summit.

Professor Matthew Cataldo recently conducted a series of workshops updating currently certified EMTs on the new statewide protocols for spinal restriction.

NURSING DEPARTMENT

The passing rate of our graduates who took the professional nursing licensure exam this year was 100%! Each one of the graduates of our 2015 Registered Nurse Program who took the test passed. To put this in perspective, the average pass rate of the other associate and bachelor's degree programs in the state was just under 81%. We are far above that state average. Congratulations to those who passed this rigorous exam!

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

The Radiography Program graduated 25 students in 2015. They were eligible to sit for the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists certification examination. To date, all of the graduates have been successful with **100%** passing the exam! All graduates have entered the job market while some are pursuing advanced-level examinations in Computed Tomography (CT), Magnetic Resonance (MR). The Sectional Anatomy course offered in Semester Four enables the graduates to sit for these advanced level examinations with much success. A group of students from the graduating class of 2015 attended the Annual American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) Conference in July. They were mentored by board members from the ASRT and WCC faculty. They attended scientific presentations and participated in student activities. This experience allowed them to view the collaboration of various agencies within the professions. They were impressed and plan to maintain their membership after graduation. Faculty and clinical instructors participated in the annual educator's conference. Our department was well represented: Barbara Wilson Chakmakjian was the parliamentarian; Hildy Oberstein, Co-chair; Robert Wong and clinical instructors served as Sergeant at Arms. Some served on several committees.

New groups of radiography professionals are "born" every year as our students graduate from WCC. We know that the Program will continue to prepare them to go out and improve the radiologic technology profession. That is our mission and with WCC's help will pursue it with excellence.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH ACTIVITIES:

The students are quite generous in supporting the Food Pantry in Dobbs Ferry. They also support the "Midnight Run" helping to feed the hungry and less fortunate.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Virginia Marx Children's Center at Westchester Community College celebrated its 30th year of programming. Located by the Knollwood Gate on the main campus in Valhalla, the Virginia

Marx Center is fully licensed by New York State and accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The Center enrolls the children of WCC students, faculty & staff, as well as community members. The Center serves children between the ages of 6 weeks and 5 years 9 months in its own building, surrounded by playgrounds and fields.

The Virginia Marx Children's Center is recognized for quality programming, and as a teaching resource on a local and national level. The Center is integrated with the college's Early Childhood Department. This allows us to collaborate with leaders in the profession, ensuring that innovative and creative practices are maintained. Children have the opportunity to explore, learn, create, and discover in a nurturing environment that is safe and healthy. The Children's Center is open from 7:00am-6:00pm, Monday through Friday, 51 weeks of the year. Nutritious lunches and snacks are provided daily (all food allergies observed). If you are interested in enrolling your child or would like more information about the Center, please call (914) 606-6644 or email susan.zucker@sunywcc.edu.

Special discounted rates are available for WCC faculty, staff and students.

The Children's Center's annual Art Exhibition showcases and honors the works of our children. Recent examples from the children's art show:

