



Division of Academic Affairs

Dear Colleagues,

This issue of the *Academic Communicator* is dedicated to the academic administrative support staff, faculty and administrators who serve our



students every day. It is through these collaborative efforts that our students will achieve their respective academic goals. Enjoy Spring Break!

Also, congratulations to John Sheridan, Division Secretary of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, who has been awarded a 2016 Staff Excellence Award. John has served the college for 7 years is being honored for his dedication, work ethic and service to the college. Please join us in congratulating John!

Sincerely,

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

OFFICE OF ADJUNCT SERVICES, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND ACADEMIC OPERATIONS

Dr. Dana Wilkie, Associate Dean
Location: Science Building, Room 251
(Entrance through Room 252)
Phone: 914-606-6977

Office of Adjunct Services, Professional Development & Academic Operations is working to foster a sense of community among our valued faculty members, and promote the continual exchange of ideas about teaching and learning at Westchester Community College. Dr. Dana Wilkie, Associate Dean, has just launched a virtual Faculty Resource Center (FRC) through the Blackboard platform. All faculty will be enrolled in the FRC and will have access through their Blackboard platform beginning April 1, 2016. The FRC serves as a centralized source of information and professional development resources for all Westchester Community College full-time and adjunct faculty. It is intended to be a place where faculty can come to find information and interact with other faculty members. Within the FRC, all faculty will have access to a digital library of over 300 webcasts of fast, focused, and intensive faculty development programs. The convenience and flexibility of having these sources available for faculty is essential for continuous, cutting edge, professional development. In collaboration with the Center for Teaching and Learning, Dr. Dana Wilkie will present new information and updates on a regular basis.

The Office of Adjunct Services, Professional Development & Academic Operations is partnering with the New York State Association of Two-Year Colleges to host a joint Faculty Development Conference to be held in the Gateway Center on Thursday, April 14, 2:00 p.m. - 5:00p.m. & Friday, April 15, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. The purpose of the conference is to provide professional development opportunities for full-time and part-time faculty at WCC in alignment with the vision and mission of the college. The theme of the conference is *Challenges and Innovations in Two-Year Colleges*.

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Teaching Portfolios as Self-Reflective Tools
- A Framework for Expanding Applied Learning Outcomes
- Viking Allies – Safe Zone
- Creating Multiple-Choice Questions: A User’s Guide
- Project-Based Learning as a Tool for Student Engagement
- Early Interventions and Community College Retention and Graduation

DIVISION OF ARTS & HUMANITIES

Dr. Jessica Seessel, Dean

Location: Hankin Academic Arts Building, Rm. 509

Phone: 914-606-6949

The English Department has developed a new course, English 99, a co-requisite remediation model that allows students to begin their college-level course work and receive extra support as they do so. They hope to pilot this course Fall 2016.

Professor Cynthia Robinson travels to Bogota, Columbia to attend a premier of her play and present at a theater festival. Sponsored by New Perspectives Theatre Company in NYC, Professor Cynthia Robinson’s social justice play “Peola’s Passing” will be performed before an international audience in Bogota, Columbia at the Alternative Theatre Festival (Festival de Teatro Alternativo) on March 22nd, put on by the Colombian Theatre Corporation. Professor Robinson will also present at the festival on “Writing the Political Play.”

ARTS, HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES HIGH SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

WELCOME NEW INTERIM ASSISTANT DEAN – ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, BETTINA WEIL

The Office of High School Partnerships is pleased to welcome Bettina Weil as the Interim Assistant Dean. Bettina comes most recently from WCC’s collaboration with Yonkers Partners in Education (YPIE), where she worked on the high school transitions program and developed bi-lingual programming for students and families. She brings years of experience in program development, budgeting and administration.

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

Westchester Community College is an active participant in P-TECH, an innovative HESC program that connects high school, college, and the world of work through college and industry partnerships. P-TECH is shaping a new vision for college and career readiness and completion with its unique 9-14 model, by which an unscreened population of students is able to complete high school and an Associate’s degree within six years. Collaborating in this project are Riverside High School and Saunders Trades and Technical School in Yonkers, and Westchester Community College departments of Math, English, Electrical Engineering, Civil Engineering, and Cybersecurity, as well as industry partners in their respective disciplines.

Last month, P-TECH representatives from New York State visited the sites and described what they saw as “an example of one of the best high school-college partnerships” in this statewide program. Our collaboration will be presented as a model for other colleges and high schools working on this grant.

STEPUP

Our StepUp program (formerly “12th grade Transitions”) is growing and gaining traction! Thanks to a generous grant by an anonymous donor in the Westchester Community Foundation, WCC

faculty and high school teachers created a new curriculum for 12th graders, which is being implemented at some of our partner high schools. This pilot program targets seniors in high school who are on track to graduate but are not “college ready”, and will likely need remedial courses when they arrive in college. The **StepUp** curriculum intends to bridge that gap and advance the students to college level English and math, while they are still in high school. This year, the participating schools were Riverside, Ossining and New Rochelle. We are now in the process of incorporating Saunders, Sleepy Hollow and Portchester for the upcoming year. Our faculty holds monthly meetings with the teachers at the high schools to continue to build bridges, problem-solve and maintain the spirit of collaboration that is key to this work.

SUMMER PLANS

The Office of High School Partnership is busy planning summer programs! Our goal is to bring high school students on campus to get acquainted with college life, enjoy our beautiful grounds, and brush up on academics. For the incoming freshmen, we also intend to ease their transition and get them ready to be college students. The main focus of the summer programs are the cohorts of P-tech students and the 12th grade **StepUp** graduates.

The 120 P-TECH students will be on campus for one week at the end of June, participating in a hands-on Science camp. This year, the theme will be “Building a Super School.” The program will be developed as a collaboration between the Arch for Kids – a non-profit organization that works on urban planning activities for children – and WCC departments of math, English, Cybersecurity, and Civil and Electrical Engineering.

Additionally, we will also host on our campus a bridge program for the **StepUp** students who have successfully completed the program in high school and are ready to transition to WCC. The incoming freshmen will be paired with a WCC student “peer mentor” who will meet with the students throughout the summer to ensure that all the steps for registration have been completed. This model has been very successful in other colleges and has proven to minimize the “summer melt.”

Also this summer we will host on campus three professional development “boot camps”, for high school teachers and guidance counselors. Both faculty and teachers are building a working relationship in aligning curricula to benefit the students’ transition to college.

DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM

The Office of High School Partnerships is currently reviewing several aspects of the dual enrollment program, and incorporating requirements to comply with national accreditation standards. We started the process of accreditation by NACEP, the national gold standard for dual enrollment. We are working on the creation of processes and procedures for registration, course assessment and evaluation; alignment with on-campus course requirements, systematic reports and data collection.

PRINCIPALS’ FORUM

The high school principals in Westchester County participated in a *Principals’ Forum*, to meet every semester on our campus. The goal of the forum is to create a venue to discuss new programs and initiatives, trends, exchange ideas, and foster relationships with our high school partners. The first **Principal’s Forum** meeting took place on March 9. The agenda included a presentation of new High School Partnerships programs and sharing information regarding the transition of our dual-enrollment programs from Workforce Community Education to Academic Affairs.

Dean Seessel and Dr. Bradford travelled with a team from Westchester Community College to Atlanta for the DREAM 2016 Conference. They presented a paper called “Emerging Student Assessment and Placement Systems: Implementation and Research using a Data Analytics Approach” with Elisabeth Barnett from Teacher’s College at Columbia University, Dan Cullinan from MDRC and Anne DeLand from Onondaga Community College. During this presentation, they shared Westchester’s participation in the Multiple Measures of Placement study.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT DEAN OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

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

DECEMBER COMPLETION CELEBRATION

On Thursday, December 10, 2015 Westchester Community College established a new tradition: the December Completion Celebration. With over 500 students who petitioned to graduate at the end of the fall term, the college paused to celebrate students' accomplishments before they departed for new ventures. It was a wonderful opportunity to send our soon-to-be alumni off with a special farewell. This was a collaborative event coordinated by Academic and Student Affairs, namely Sabrina Hall, Associate Director of Community Building and Co-Curricular Programs, Danielle DiGrazia, Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs, and Professor Timothy McGee. Many thanks to the Culinary Arts students under the leadership of Professor Phil McGrath, Curriculum Chair, for catering the event. The Viking hats provided by the Bookstore were a special hit for taking selfies!

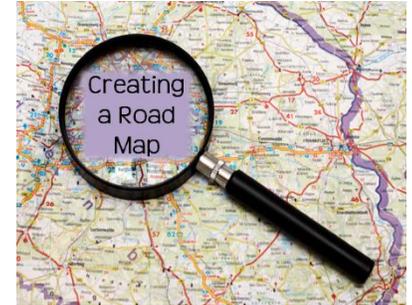


(Left) Dr. Peggy Bradford, Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs (Interim) and Danielle DiGrazia, Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs (Above) The Culinary Arts students, faculty and administrators

DEGREE WORKS WORK in the WORKS!

In line with the completion agenda, work is underway to create full and part-time templates to assist counselors and faculty advisors not only in advising for the upcoming semester, but also in mapping out students' entire plans of study at WCC from start to finish.

When using the 'plan templates' an adjustable full- or part-time "skeleton" of courses will pre-populate all semesters with course



requirements; this will ease the advising process and identify clear pathways to completion and graduation. Many thanks to the Curriculum Chairs for their work in crafting the templates! The templates are being built for Fall 2016 incoming students. Counselors will be trained in late spring/early summer, and faculty advisors will be trained in the fall. Once everyone is using the Degree Works plan templates, the College can then a) use a Degree Works feature called "Off-Plan Tracker" that alerts students when they are taking courses that are not in their required plan and b) the College will have trajectory information to plan for course demands in future semesters. And this, is only part of the enhancements being worked on in Degree Works...stay tuned for more updates coming soon!

FACULTY WORKSHOPS ON TECHNOLOGY & ADVISING

In preparation for Fall 2016 advising and registration, the Division of Academic Affairs is pleased to offer training workshops on PeopleSoft, Degree Works and Comprehensive Advising again this semester. Please refer to the email dated 2/29/16 from Dr. Dana Wilkie, Associate Dean of Adjunct Services, Professional Development and Academic Operations for dates, times, and to RSVP to the sessions. Many thanks to the 72 faculty members who attended in the fall semester...feel free to return for a brush-up!

“KNOW YOUR STATUS” WORKSHOPS FOR STUDENTS ON DEGREE AUDITS AND DEGREE WORKS



In collaboration with the Student Government Association, workshops are being held for students to better understand their degree audit, to identify remaining courses to graduate and to learn how

to use the “What If” functions in Degree Works. Students break out into two computer labs, one for those whose degree audit is in Degree Works (whose plan requirement date is Fall 2013 forward) and the other lab is for those with audits in PeopleSoft (whose plan requirement date is prior to Fall 2013). The plan requirement date is when the student started his or her program of study. The remaining student workshops will be held on **Wednesday, April 6 and Wednesday, May 4, 11:00am, Classroom Building, Room 320.** Please send your students!

Drop-By Degree Works Assistance for Students

As the registration period approaches, students will begin to consider which courses to take next semester. In the lobby of the Student Center, with laptops in hand, we are able to pull up student records and provide them a quick overview of their degree audit. And it doesn't hurt that we have graduation applications on hand for them to fill out too! Students can stop by with Degree Works questions at the Degree Works “tabling” events between 11:00am and 1:00pm in the lobby of the Student Center on the following dates: March 21, March 29, April 4, and April 14.

PATHWAYS TO COMPLETION ARTICULATION AGREEMENT UPDATE

In collaboration with the Robin Graff, Transfer Coordinator in the Division of Student Access, Involvement and Success, the articulation webpage is undergoing a facelift! Check on the changes at www.sunywcc.edu/transferarticulation. As progress is made, the goal is to make articulations searchable by program of study or major.

The following articulations have been signed and celebrated!

- ✓ Chamberlain College of Nursing – signed on Thursday, January 21, 2016
- ✓ Mercy College Comprehensive Articulation Agreement – signed on Friday, February 12, 2016
- ✓ Excelsior College Comprehensive Articulation Agreement – signed on Tues., February 16, 2016
- ✓ Excelsior College Concurrent Enrollment Program for Nursing – signed on Tues., February 16, 2016

Additional signing ceremonies are scheduled as follows. Please join us, bring your classes and encourage students to attend. Admissions representatives will also be in attendance:

- ✓ Manhattanville College – Tues., March 29 at 9:00am in the Gateway Building, Davis Auditorium
- ✓ College of New Rochelle – Wed., March 30 at 2:00pm in Gateway Building, Davis Auditorium
- ✓ Pace University – Thurs., April 7, time/location TBA
- ✓ Concordia College – April 13 at 2:00pm in the Gateway Building, Davis Auditorium
- ✓ Lehman College – Date Coming Soon!

In the works:

- ✓ Fashion Institute of Technology
- ✓ Purchase College, SUNY
- ✓ The College of Westchester



Chamberlain College of Nursing

Left to right: Lynette De Bellis, Department Chair of Nursing (WCC), Angela Pawlik, Healthcare Development Specialist - Chamberlain College of Nursing, Dr. Peggy Bradford, Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs (Interim) - WCC, and Dr. Ronald Bloom, Dean of the School of Health Careers, Technology and Applied Learning - WCC (Division of Health and Natural Sciences)



Mercy College

Left to right: Mercy College - Dr. Concetta Stuart, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dr. Timothy Hall, President, Mercy College. WCC- Dr. Belinda S. Miles President, Westchester Community College and Dr. Peggy Bradford, Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs (Interim)



Excelsior College

Left to right: Excelsior College: Dr. Mary Lee Pollard, Dean of Nursing and Dr. Patrick Jones, Vice Provost. WCC - Dr. Peggy Bradford, Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs (Interim) and Dr. Ronald Bloom, Dean - School of Health Careers, Technology and Applied Learning (Division of Health and Natural Sciences)

DEAN'S LIST, FALL 2015

Earlier this semester, 460 students received a letter from the Division of Academic Affairs recognizing their achievements earning a spot on the Dean's List for the Fall 2015 semester. Full-time students who have achieved a semester grade point average of 3.5 to 3.74 are placed on the Dean's List.

2016 ACADEMIC RECOGNITION CEREMONY

Mark your calendars for Friday, May 6, 2016 at 12:30pm in the Academic Arts Theatre to join us in celebrating WCC's outstanding students in each associate degree, certification program and other college programs. In addition, graduates who have

maintained a 3.5 GPA or higher will be honored. We look forward to celebrating with you!

NEW! PERSONAL TRAINING CERTIFICATE

The Division of Academic Affairs is pleased to announce a new certificate in Personal Training available to students starting Fall 2016. Many thanks to Dr. Richard Gennaro, Curriculum Chair, for creating this vision and making it a reality for Westchester Community College! According to the U.S. Department of Labor, the demand for Certified Personal Trainers makes it one of the fastest growing professions, with double-digit growth expected over the next decade. The program is designed for students who wish to enter the fitness industry or who are non-certified personal trainers or fitness-industry professionals pursuing a valid personal trainer credential. Graduates of this program will be qualified to work as personal trainers or fitness instructors, and subsequently, may sit for the certification exam through the National Council on Strength and Fitness (NCSF). The program is now available and applications may be submitted online. Stay tuned, more information on the web will soon be forthcoming!

VISUAL ARTS: CHANGES TO A.S. DEGREE FALL 2016

For students starting the Visual Arts program in the Fall 2016, the Visual Arts degree awarded is an Associate of Science (A.S.). This change was made because the majority of the students in the program are opting to transfer! This will ease the transferability of coursework to four-year institutions. Please note that students whose plan requirement date is prior to Fall 2016 will be awarded the Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree. Many thanks to Professors Melissa Hall (previous Curriculum Chair) and Nicole Tschampel, Curriculum Chair, for their work on this application.

NEW! CONCENTRATIONS

Starting Fall 2016, the Liberal Arts degrees will have concentrations limited to Guided Pathways for students in specific disciplines. In addition, the concentrations align with the State University of New York (SUNY) seamless transfer pathways, thus guaranteeing transferability for students! The

following concentrations will be available, in addition to the general degrees:

- Liberal Arts and Sciences: Social Sciences with a concentration in Anthropology
- Liberal Arts and Sciences: Social Sciences with a concentration in Economics
- Liberal Arts and Sciences: Social Sciences with a concentration in History
- Liberal Arts and Sciences: Social Sciences with a concentration in Psychology
- Liberal Arts and Sciences: Social Sciences with a concentration in Sociology
- Liberal Arts and Sciences: Humanities with a concentration in Art Studio
- Liberal Arts and Sciences: Humanities with a concentration in English
- Liberal Arts and Sciences: Humanities with a concentration in Spanish

Many thanks to George Keteku, Curriculum Chair of Liberal Arts and Sciences: Social Sciences; Jo Stokes, Department Chair of Social Science; Elise Martucci, Curriculum Chair of Liberal Arts and Sciences: Humanities; Adis Fazzino, Department Chair of Modern Languages; Melissa Hall, Visual Arts faculty, for their leadership in developing these concentrations. Details will be outlined in the Fall 2016 undergraduate catalog coming out in early April. Stay tuned for additional concentrations in Liberal Arts and Sciences: Mathematics and Science, as well as Engineering, which are both pending New York State Education Department approval.

COURSE EVALUATION UPDATE

New this semester, faculty are submitting their course evaluation preferences via a Google Docs form. Many thanks to the **105** individuals who have already responded! The Google Docs form has helped to streamline the courses identified for evaluation, requests for additional evaluation questions, and computer lab requests. The deadline for faculty to submit requests is **Monday, March 21st** and the evaluation process will take place April 18 through May 8. Refer to details sent out from CourseSelections@sunywcc.edu email address on 3/1/16.

CURRICULOG UPDATE

Paper, paper, go away! Yes, the course, revision, policy revision and creation process and general education approval process will soon transition to electronic workflow processes, thanks to the use of the Curriculog program from DigArc. Many thanks to the cross-functional WCC implementation team working hard this semester to make this happen: Karen Barnstable, Software Engineer, Danielle DiGrazia, Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs, Craig Fischer, Publications Manager, Amy Mozingo, Applications Support Specialist, Laura Nudi, Academic Scheduler, John O'Donnell, Manager of Application Development, Matthew Sokol, Math Instructor, Curriculum Committee member, Dana Wilke, Associate Dean of Adjunct Services, Professional Development and Academic Operations.

Once DigArc has created the electronic workflow processes, all curricular transactions will be transparent to the campus, and parties involved in the review/approval process. Campus-wide training will be rolled out for all users over the summer and fall.

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

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

ACADEMIC SCHEDULING OFFICE

The College is well on its way towards the implementation of **25Live** space scheduling software. The first phase involves the utilization of S25. The *Schedule25*[®] (S25) scheduling system automatically figures out the optimal allocation for our classes, maximizing space efficiency. It will save the Scheduling Office weeks of scheduling



time, eliminating scheduling conflicts and room conflicts.

Full compliance with the SUNY Applied Learning Initiative will take place Fall 2016. To make this information easily accessible, there will be some amendments to tables in PeopleSoft. The Instruction Mode will drop *Field Study* (FS) and begin using Applied Learning (AL) for all courses meeting this criteria. More information will be forthcoming before the new school year begins.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTER

Information pertaining to Academic Support Center Hours, upcoming workshops and the student support service award can be found on our web page: www.sunywcc.edu/asc

Information pertaining to the WCCFT Scholarship can be found at the following web address: <http://www.sunywcc.edu/student-services/scholarships/>

<http://researchguides.sunywcc.edu/unionscholarship>

Saturday Hours and Super Saturday events: A campus wide announcement will be disseminated closer to the actual dates of these event.

HAROLD L. DRIMMER LIBRARY

For over five years, the Harold L. Drimmer Library in collaboration with the Academic Support Center resumed their annual Food for Fines program. For every nonperishable food item donated, the library waived \$1.00 of outstanding fines. During Fall 2015, the food drive collected over 150 pounds of food that was donated to the Food Bank of Westchester who provides food and technical assistance to over 265 member food programs. For more information on the many resources the library has to offer, please go to our website <http://www.sunywcc.edu/student-services/library/> and click on Faculty Toolkit link.

LEARNING INITIATIVES AND SUCCESS DEPARTMENT

Dr. Sophia Ward, Assistant Dean of Learning Initiatives and Success
Location: Library 133
Phone: 914-606-7238

Dr. Sophia Ward is co-chairing the Developmental Education Advisory Council (DEAC). The Council is drafting an executive plan that will house current efforts and explore how we can create a successful and clear pathway for developmental students as a community.

MEDIA & INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Westchester Community College will host the 27th Annual Media Arts Festival produce by the New York State Media Arts Teachers Association (NYSMATS) on March 15, 2015 at 9:00am in the Classroom Building. The Media Arts Festival entails students from local high schools within the Lower Hudson Region showcasing their artwork and videos in competition against their peers. The artwork and videos will be judged by faculties of the high school and the winner is awarded a stipend. The Media & Instructional Technology staff help to coordinate and work closely with the faculty at the high schools to ensure successful operation of the event.

ONLINE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

For registration in Online Education for Blackboard training in Spring 2016 visit:

<http://www.sunywcc.edu/academics/online-education/workshops/>

As part of SUNY's Shared Services initiative, WCC will begin using Ensemble Video:

<https://ensemble.itec.suny.edu/app/default.aspx>.

Ensemble provides streamlined video content management and publishing and is integrated directly into Blackboard. Anyone interested in participating in piloting Ensemble, please reach out to the Online Education office:

online.education@sunywcc.edu.

TESTING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER

The Testing and Assessment Center administers approximately 6,500 students (including Special Programs and High Schools (ACE, YPIE, etc.) in the

Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 semesters. Testing is still being administered to students at high schools and we anticipate testing through June 2016.

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

Dr. Carmen Martinez-Lopez, Dean

Location: Classroom Building, Room 201

Phone: 914-606-6435

INTERNATIONALIZATION OF THE ACCOUNTING PROGRAM

The head of recruiting in North and South America for Ernst & Young, a global leader in assurance, tax, transaction and advisory services, visited WCC to speak to students about developing an executive presence (their personal brand) and how to prepare for job interviews. Professionals from different areas of accounting talked to the students about dinner etiquette, CPA Exam updates, keys to success, and career paths. The students had a private tour and presentation at the Federal Reserve Bank, a tour and an ethics presentation at the New York State Society of CPAs, and a private tour of the New York Stock Exchange where they heard the closing bell. These events were organized by the Accounting Club.

The club officers and Professor Carolyn Christesen attended the annual Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) Student Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida during Fall 2015. Students had a chance to meet other students from all around the country, and attend concurrent sessions such as: work-life balance, taking the Certified Management Accountant Exam, etc.

Professor Carolyn Christesen worked with Professor David Kent, our IT department, and Certiport to allow the students enrolled in the QuickBooks course to take the certification exam. They took the exam on December 23, 2015. It was a great opportunity for students to add a credential and build their resumes. Based on the initial results, course edits are in the works this semester. The department administered our first departmental assessment after the first four (critical)

chapters. The results were good – more data will be generated.

Professor Carolyn Christesen is offering the Bookkeeper Capstone course for the first time. This course will prepare students to take the national certification exam to become certified bookkeepers. Again, students will add a credential and important skills. The advisory board was emphatic in their articulation of the growing need for skilled bookkeepers. Initial test results were positive (students took the first one of four parts, and the vast majority passed).

Accounting alumni accomplishments are as follows: first, Betty Salinas completed her bachelor's degree at Pace University in May 2015. She was awarded the Lubin School of Business Public Accounting Award for the top student in her major. She is currently working as an auditor in the Stamford office of Ernst & Young. Second, Amy Jianping Zeng will receive an award as one of Pace's Top 100 Scholars. This program recognizes the top 100 undergraduate students from the Westchester and New York City campuses for their hard work and commitment to sustaining a high grade point average from semester to semester.

HAPPENINGS IN THE CYBERSECURITY PROGRAM

Our cybersecurity students have been very active in participating in four competitions. First, WCC cyber students won 1st and 2nd place in the 5th Annual Intercollegiate Computer Security and Forensics Competition. The event was created in 2011 by Professor John Watkins and Professor Robert Albano, so community college students could express their skills in the art of computer forensics. This year the event will be hosted by Rockland Community College in April. Second, they participated in the National Cyber League (NCL); in individual competitions, students were awarded the bronze and silver, and in the group competition, students placed 17th in the country, competing against four-year schools. Third, they participated in the National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition (NCCDC). Our team, after months of training, was not able to compete due to the snowstorm that

closed the campus. They did participate online from home in order to experience the event. Finally, twelve teams are currently participating in the Black T-shirt Cyber Forensics Challenge.

The Cybersecurity Club now has a record number of members, reaching out to more than 50 students. They meet every Wednesday and some of the events this year include: drones testing and piloting, cyber challenges, programming, documentaries, discussions, and a trip to the TECH-WEEK Conference. Also, two female cybersecurity students got awarded grants to attend the Women in Cybersecurity Conference (WiCys 2016) in Texas this year. At this event, they will be able to acquire information about how to find a mentor and will receive suggestions for when to start their first internships based on their knowledge and skills.

The Cybersecurity program has two partnerships for certifications with EOC in Yonkers and TIA. Students who are close to graduating are now utilizing the services from EOC in Yonkers, acquiring Microsoft Certifications in order to enhance their competitive advantage when applying for jobs. The CompTIA partnership offers the students large discounts to purchase vouchers for certifications, such as A+, NETWORK+, and SECURITY+.

The High School P-TECH Articulation started in the fall semester with our P-TECH agreement with Riverside High School in Yonkers. The projected number of students that are going to be coming out of P-TECH is more than 160 students. To strengthen this relationship, students from the Cybersecurity program are organizing on-campus events for Riverside High school students and faculty. Last year, the first Cybersecurity Alumni event was held. It was a very successful networking event with our graduates.

SOCIAL JUSTICE & COMMUNITY SERVICE

Professor Anne D’Orazio students from her Honors International Law and Organizations class completed a major project in the area of social justice. On the anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, her

students presented on four current issues in the on-going struggle for human rights (immigration, refugees, human trafficking, and workers’ rights). Building teamwork around advocacy issues was a successful end result of the project which will now be a permanent part of her honors classes. During the Spring 2016 semester in her Topics in Global Civilizations class, students will present a dramatization of the 1963 Nelson Mandela trial to the campus community on Monday, May 2, 2016. The students have assumed their roles in the trial and are preparing diligently for the event. This event, too, will be a permanent part of the class in an effort to recruit more students to the Honors Program and to publicize the substance of what our students are learning and achieving in the classroom. In another human rights activity, she contributed to a presentation at the August 2015 Biennale in Venice on the denial of fundamental rights to immigrant workers in Abu Dhabi. Using an experimental interdisciplinary approach to teaching Global Civilizations, two colleagues and Professor D’Orazio piloted a course integrating work and art into a traditional world history class and presented the results at an international conference on workers’ education in Lima, Peru in December 2015. She also wrote a play about the Jewish ghetto of Venice, which will be performed to commemorate the 500 year anniversary of the establishment of the ghetto in 1516.

Professor Lori Maida, is the Co-Director, with Kent Trickel, of the Kathryn W. Davis Global Community Scholars Program. Each year their program brings together diverse students who are committed to academic growth and excellence as well as community service. Their present cohort consists of 21 students. They are working in small groups to design, develop, and implement original community service projects. This year they have students teaching ESL to children at the Don Bosco Center in Portchester, NY; working with developmentally disabled adults at the Prospector Theater in Ridgefield, CT; developing workshops on diversity for children in White Plains, NY; leading discussions with adolescents at Mt. Vernon High School in conjunction with United Nations initiatives; and working with foster children on resume building and college admissions before they

age out of the system. Students will be presenting their service projects to the campus community in May 2016. This program received two million dollars from the Davis family in September 2014.

EXPOSING STUDENTS TO TECHNOLOGY & SERVING OTHERS THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

We are pleased to report that Professor Phyllis Fein's Marketing Management students have entered the #WestchesterSmart Mobile App Development Bowl, a competition that challenges high school and college students to develop apps that improve life for all people age 65 and older. As part of their research, the students intend to meet with our lifelong learners in the Knollwood Center, as well as seniors in the community, in order to learn what their needs are so that the team can develop the best app.

Professor Deirdre Verne initiated and ran a free LinkedIn headshot photo day for students in Fall 2015. The goal was to help students prepare for interviews by setting up LinkedIn pages with a professional photo. Fifty students attended and received a free professional headshot.

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The Human Services Club (advised by Professor Sara Braun) is hosting a program called First Degree, where they will show the HBO documentary of the same name – First Degree. The Executive Director of Hudson Link will come and speak with the college community. The Early Childhood Education classes visited the Ella Baker School in Manhattan for a workshop on Emergent Curriculum in primary grades. The Early Childhood Education Curriculum is hosting a lecture and workshop featuring a Child's Work over Time from the Prospect Center Archive housed at the University of Vermont.

Sheila Hanna will be presenting a Review of Practice at the Sarah Lawrence College Art of Teaching Post Graduate Saturday Seminar. The Early Childhood Club (advised by Professor Mary Lou Sgro) is having a children's book drive for the Child Care Council, collecting supplies for the Stuff

My Bag Charity; is co-sponsoring a film for Women's History Month, "Iron Jawed Angels," with the League of Women Voters; and is hosting staff from the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility for Women to discuss the Moms and Babies program. Finally, Professor Helen O'Brien was appointed as the endowed chair for Human Services.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY & FASHION DESIGN

Two fashion design events will be held during the spring semester. The first event is a fashion industry panel that will be held on March 30, 2016 in the Davis Auditorium in the Gateway Center; this panel will be comprised of professionals from the fashion design and merchandising industry. The second event is the spring fashion design show, Storytelling, and a non-textile competition on April 28, 2016 in the Hankin Auditorium in the Academic Arts Building. Finally, the fashion design students are volunteering at the Operation Prom Great Dress Giveaway at the County Center and the Westchester Mall Fashion Show in May 2016.

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

Dr. Kwesi Amoa, Dean

Location: Technology Building, Room 106

Phone: 914-606-6787

PROFESSOR LOU ROTANDO RETIRES & NOMINATED PROFESSOR EMERITUS

Louis M. Rotando started his career in teaching in 1965 at Westchester Community College. During his tenure, he established a reputation for teaching excellence in an entire range of mathematics course offerings from developmental math to calculus. He consistently established a record of significant academic and professional accomplishments, with a proven capacity to work effectively in educational leadership roles with students, faculty and community constituencies. He retired officially Spring 2016 and is still with us as an adjunct.

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

JOHN COLLINS

Professor John Collins received the New York State Society of Professional Engineers Westchester/Putnam Chapter 'Engineer of the Year' award.

SHEELA WHELAN

Professor Sheela Whelan attended the Achieving the Dream Conference a few weeks ago and has continuously represented the Mathematics faculty as an Achieving the Dream Core Team member.

DENNIS RAMOS kicks off project meeting to develop smart phone apps that will be useful for the college. The first apps we develop will most likely be for student use, but over time, our intent is to develop apps for the entire college community.

MICHAEL PRIANO

In November, 2015 Prof. Michael Priano represented WCC at the annual conference of the Environmental Consortium of Colleges and Universities held at Vassar College. Based upon his experiences at WCC, he participated in the roundtable discussion focused on infusing sustainability themes into college curricula.

Professor Priano has recently solicited two of his students to participate in the NYS DEC citizen science volunteer eel monitoring project. The project engages students and volunteers in collecting data on incoming juvenile eel numbers in several streams from NYC to Albany during the spring 2016.

Next week we will be have our NYSMATYC competition. The NYSMATYC (New York State Mathematics Association of Two Year Colleges) contest is a competition among the WCC students, and also between the students of WCC and those of the 50+ community colleges in the state held every semester. The top three scorers win prizes from the math club and from NYSMATYC.

On March 23, 2016 we will have our annual Math and Computer Science Event for high school and community college students.

DIVISION OF NATURAL & HEALTH SCIENCES

Dr. Ronald Bloom, Dean

Location: Science building, Room 252

Phone: 914-606-6910

DIETETIC TECHNICIAN PROGRAM

In its February 26 edition, the Rivertowns Enterprise, a local Westchester County newspaper, featured a story about WCC's Dietetic Technician Program. The article focused on the Arduus on Hudson Nursing Home, a residential facility for the elderly in Hastings, and WCC students, who are studying for an associate of applied science degree as dietetic technicians and completing an internship at the facility. Students participate in the internship program at Arduus two days a week in partial fulfillment of the 450 hours of professionally supervised clinical practice that is required to sit for a qualifying exam as a Registered Dietetic Technician. The article described the professional supervision that students require in order to learn interviewing practices, administer nutritional assessments and safely handle food. Terry Schlanger, a Registered Dietician, Associate Professor and Director of the Dietetic Technician Program at WCC discussed the classes that cover topics such as sanitation, geriatric nutrition, and kitchen management that prepares students for the internship experience. Professor Schlanger also talked with great pride about the diversity of her students and the accomplishments of WCC graduates.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

On Thursday, February 11th, Paramedic student, **Tori Hughes**, and **Steve O'Brien** (2015 Paramedic program graduate),



successfully resuscitated a 51 year old male. During an ambulance internship, Hughes responded to a call for a “man down” at a convenience store with her field training preceptor, O’Brien. They found a 51 year old male in cardiac arrest with no pulse and immediately began CPR. While supervising the efforts of other responders, Hughes and O’Brien initiated advanced cardiac life support interventions. Due to their efforts and quick thinking, the patient was successfully resuscitated and stabilized before they transported him to a nearby hospital. A few days later, the man regained consciousness and is expected to recover.

The Paramedic Program utilizes 911 ambulances throughout Westchester, New York City, and the Hudson Valley to allow students to apply their knowledge in real-life situations.

FACULTY NEWS

ROBERT GURLIACCI CHRISTIANA CORRADO

At the beginning of February, Department Chair Rob Gurliacci and Adjunct Professor Christiana Corrado travelled to Minneapolis, MN to attend the FISDAP Research Summit. EMS educators from around the nation met to collaborate on various research topics affecting the EMS community at large. Professor Gurliacci presented the findings of his project entitled Impact of Learning Environment on Paramedic Student Critical Thinking; Professor Corrado presented her project on Pain Management Disparities Across Gender, Race, and Age. The findings from this summit provide research-based data for EMS educators nationwide to help direct policies and protocols.

JAMES MCMULLEN

Adjunct Professor James McMullen was recently recognized by the NY State Department of Health as a Certified Instructor Coordinator. Professor McMullen completed the EMT program and paramedic program at Westchester Community College and proved himself to be not only an excellent student, but an exceptional paramedic as well. Professor McMullen joined our faculty a few years ago, and has proved himself to be a phenomenal instructor as well.

The EMS Club has implemented a successful peer tutoring program that pairs senior paramedic students with new emergency medical technician students. On March 3rd, the EMS Club went on a private tour of the Phelps Memorial Hospital’s hyperbaric facilities. This facility houses the largest hyperbaric chamber in the northeast, and one of the largest in the nation. The chamber is roughly the size of a 727 jet and can seat up to 12 people. Hyperbarics uses high concentration oxygen with increased atmospheric pressure for such things as wound treatment and pressure sickness.

NEW! PERSONAL TRAINING CERTIFICATE Approval received from SUNY & NYSED!

This exciting two-semester program leads to a certificate in Personal Training; it is a 32 credit hour program, which will be offered starting with the Fall 2016 semester. Personal Trainers are fitness professionals responsible for educating clients of all ages in multiple aspects of wellness including: exercise, general health, nutrition, and athletic performance. They work in a variety of fitness settings such as: public and private fitness centers, schools, adult centers and corporate wellness programs. According to the US Department of Labor, the demand for Certified Personal Trainers makes it one of the fastest growing professions, with double-digit growth expected over the next decade. The program is designed for students:

- Who wish to enter the fitness industry
- Who are non-certified personal trainers or fitness-industry professionals pursuing valid personal trainer credential

Students who complete this 1 year program will receive a Personal Training Certificate from Westchester Community College, and will be eligible to sit for the National Council on Strength & Fitness (NCSF) professional credentialing exam.

The core of the curriculum consists of: Personal Training, Personal Training Internship, Nutrition, and Health & Fitness for Life. The life sciences courses, Anatomy and Physiology, and Exercise Physiology, give students a

practical and functional understanding of the effect of exercise on the human body. Coursework in communications, business, psychology and mathematics, help prepare students for the diverse situations they may encounter as entrepreneurs or workers in the fitness industry.

Employment Venues:

- Public and private fitness centers
- Athletic venues and sport-specific training centers
- Spas and rejuvenation centers
- Public and private schools
- College recreation centers
- Hospital based wellness centers
- Hotels and condominiums
- Resorts and cruise lines

Personal Trainers work with:

- Individuals on client specific goals
- Athletes on improving performance in key areas of performance-based fitness
- Older adults on a wide variety of health and function-based needs

Graduates will be qualified to work as Personal Trainers, Fitness Facility Managers or Fitness Instructors in a variety of settings including: public & private fitness facilities, schools, adult homes, corporate wellness programs and physical therapy facilities. Several of the local health club facilities that support this program offer career advancement statewide, nationally and internationally. Graduates may also become entrepreneurs who create their own fitness business, which will create jobs for others.

Salary range will be affected by:

- Job location
- Private Studio vs. Fitness Club
- Total number of service hours worked
- Credentials & experience

According to the U.S. Department of Labor:

- “Jobs for fitness workers are expected to increase much faster than the average for all occupations (over the

next decade). Fitness workers should have good opportunities due to rapid job growth in health clubs, fitness facilities and other settings where fitness workers are concentrated.”

- “Employment of fitness workers is expected to increase 27% over the next decade, much faster than the average for all occupations. These workers are expected to gain jobs because an increasing number of people are spending time and money on fitness, and more businesses are recognizing the benefits of health and fitness programs for their employees.”

Anyone who has questions or interest in this program, should contact Dr. Gennaro at: richard.gennaro@sunywcc.edu

APPLIED LEARNING

In May 2015, the SUNY Board of Trustees passed a resolution stating that SUNY shall develop a plan to make approved applied learning activities available to SUNY students enrolled in the 2016/17 academic year, and that this plan will include individual campus plans. Studies have suggested that student engagement in Applied Learning enhances motivation, facilitates career readiness, and promotes students’ degree completion. Applied Learning is an educational approach that engages students in the direct application of skills, theories and models. Students use the knowledge and skills that they have acquired in the classroom setting to approach and analyze real-world settings, hands-on projects and directed research or writing assignments. In turn, students apply what is gained from the applied learning experience to academic learning.

To address the SUNY Resolution, WCC established a Steering Committee to coalesce campus resources in order to enhance the breadth and scope of applied learning opportunities for students at Westchester Community College. The Steering Committee is co-chaired by Dean Ronald Bloom and Prof. Gelaine Williams. The Committee’s work supports the development of a framework for departments who have not previously had an applied learning

component in their program of study. Further, the Committee is investigating the feasibility of including applied learning as a degree requirement.

The Committee has presented the SUNY initiative to the Faculty Senate and completed its first report to SUNY which essentially inventories current courses that meet the SUNY criteria as an approved applied learning experience. The Steering Committee which includes Sandra Ramsay, Director of Scholarships/Foundation Office, Leonore Rodrigues, Adjunct & Credit ESL Administrative Coordinator High School Pathways, Mirosława Sakrajda, Faculty/English Department, Craig Padawer, Department Chair & Curriculum Chair/Digital Film & Photography (*sabbatical*), John Watkins, Curriculum Chair/Cyber Security, Sue Hacker, Senior Adjunct Counselor and Frank Maddalena, Faculty/Modern Languages, is presently developing a campus-level plan to collect data on approved applied learning activities and a method of reporting data on students engaged in approved applied learning activities.

The Applied Learning Steering Committee will present an Interactive Workshop titled "A Framework for Expanding Applied Learning Opportunities at WCC" at the WCC Professional Development Conference on Thursday, April 14th from 3:30pm-4:30pm in the Gateway Center, Davis Auditorium. The workshop will familiarize faculty with the SUNY initiative and the timeline of activities required by SUNY. The benefits of placing work-based applied learning opportunities early in the curriculum will be illustrated through a series of activities. Using case-based scenarios, participants will be challenged to link worthwhile work-based applied learning opportunities to research, writing, presentations and classroom assignments that stimulate student success in their selected field of study.