

 **President's Report**

TO: Atlantic Cape Community College Board of Trustees
FROM: Dr. Barbara Gaba
DATE: October 26, 2021
(Mays Landing Campus)

Wind Training Center

Groundbreaking Ceremony

- Atlantic Cape will host the Wind Training Center Groundbreaking Ceremony at the Worthington Atlantic City Campus on October 28, 2021. Grant partners, elected officials, and community partners have been invited to the ceremony. Lieutenant Governor Sheila Oliver and Secretary of Higher Education Dr. Brian Bridges are confirmed to attend.

Wind Training Center Construction

- We are moving forward with the 1,700 square foot training center with a 24-foot-high climbing pole. Bidding for the construction is scheduled to open October 29 with a due date of November 30.

Sea Survival Training Location (Gardner's Basin)

- The Atlantic City Solicitor's office has begun the preliminary work of drafting an agreement between the City of Atlantic City and the college for the use of Gardner's Basin for the sea survival portion of the training. The college will be using the legal services of Nehmad, Davis & Goldstein, P.C. for the land lease.

Partner Visit

- Our Global Wind Organization (GWO) partners (Christian Ennerfelt of Arcon Training Center in Maryland; Geoff Croft of AIS Survivex in the United Kingdom; and Alan Sharp of 3t Training in the United Kingdom) visited Atlantic

Cape on October 5-6 to update the project plan. During their visit, they had the opportunity to meet the Atlantic Cape team and Dr. Gaba.

WINDPOWER Conference

- Sherwood Taylor, Sr. Director for Workforce Development, attended the American Clean Energy's WINDPOWER Conference, which provided an in-depth view of the wind industry.
- Director Taylor had the opportunity to speak with employers, regulators, and vendors to gain an understanding of the industry. He was also invited, with our GWO partners, to a reception held by the British Consulate General to foster working relationships in the wind industry between the United States and Britain.

Academy of Culinary Arts

- The Academy of Culinary Arts is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. The celebration was kicked off with our new "Second-Year Coat Ceremony" on October 20, 2021. This recognition awarded the 2nd year students a new custom embroidered chef's coat and a new chef's toque. The new uniform will distinguish these students from the 1st year students, recognize their hard work and persistence, and serve as an aspirational goal for the 1st year students.
- The Academy's 40th Anniversary celebration will culminate with the Restaurant Gala on March 31, 2022.

Technology Upgrades

Website

- Atlantic Cape's website now features [virtual tours](#) of our three campuses. Through grant funding, we were able to secure a service that provides a 360 view of each campus along with important information about Atlantic Cape's offerings.

Network and Security Upgrade

- The Information Technology department continues to perform critical network and security infrastructure maintenance upgrades. Over the September 25th weekend, the Information Technology department upgraded critical network and security components within the Cape May and Atlantic City campuses. The upgrades replaced 20-year-old legacy hardware and software improving reliability, redundancy, disaster recovery, and performance capabilities. Additionally, the upgrades position the college for future strategic cloud computing initiatives. In order to ensure the two campuses are secure from all threats and potential breaches, third-party Cyber Security penetration testing was performed, and no issues were discovered.

Atlantic Cape Foundation

- The Scramble 'FORE' Scholarships Golf Tournament was held on October 15, 2021. This year's event was the highest grossing tournament in the Foundation's history, raising over **\$62,000!** This was the 17th annual tournament hosted by the Mullock Family at Cape May National Golf Club in Erma.
- The Cape May County Women's Commission and the Atlantic Cape Foundation are co-sponsoring the 2021 Women of Wonder luncheon on November 10. Three award recipients were selected from a pool of 15 nominees at the Commission's September meeting. The recipients are Michele Gillian, Director of Ocean City Chamber of Commerce; Marilyn Miller, Director of Middle Township Senior Center; and Chase Jackson, Executive Director of Ocean City Arts Center.

Community Outreach

- Atlantic Cape accepted the Nuestro Organizational Amigo/a Award at the 2021 Nuestro Pueblo (Our Community) Awards presented by Stockton Unidos & The Hispanic Association of Atlantic County (HAAC) on October 9, 2021. This award is given to an organization that has demonstrated outstanding social responsibility to the Latino community through participation and support of

issues, programs, or events related to the Latin community. The college has worked to increase its social outreach by leading and collaborating on projects that directly address the needs of the local Hispanic community, such as food drives, hot meal distributions, free COVID-19 testing, vaccination clinics, DACA information sessions, consulates, and a wide array of community events and resource fairs.

- Atlantic Cape participated in the Atlantic City Latino Festival, produced by the Hispanic Association of Atlantic County (HAAC), on September 25, 2021. In addition to sharing college information, resources, and programs with the community, Atlantic Cape hosted and sponsored carnival games for children. The Men's Basketball team volunteered at the event and assisted with the children's games.
- Atlantic Cape supported the Atlantic City Arts Foundation's 7th Annual "Chalk About AC" event at Brown's Park in Atlantic City on October 9, 2021. Victor Moreno, Manager of Community Outreach, was featured in the [Press of Atlantic City's](#) coverage of the event.
- Atlantic Cape hosted the FEMA-Emergency Disaster Preparedness Workshop at the Worthington Atlantic City Campus, sponsored by Atlantic City's EnVision Cyber Center, on October 9, 2021.
- Atlantic Cape hosted an "Investing 101: Stock Market for Beginners" interest meeting at the Worthington Atlantic City Campus on October 19, 2021, sponsored by the City of Atlantic City Mayor's Office. This was free to Atlantic City residents, and Howard University Alumna and former Wall Street Analyst Ashley M. Fox, CEO of Empify, delivered a presentation.

Professional Development

- Atlantic Cape will host the Chair Academy Leadership Training at the Worthington Atlantic City Campus on October 25-29, 2021. The Academy is an international leadership development organization for higher education and organizational leaders. Their mission is centered around advancing academic and administrative leadership across all levels of higher education. With a 30-year history offering world-class, competency-based leadership development

programs and services, the Academy develops transformational leaders. Atlantic Cape faculty and staff participating in the training are: Laura Batchelor, Executive Director of Marketing and College Relations; Sandi Greco, Systems and Hardware Projects; Maria Kellett, Dean of the Cape May County Campus and Senior Advancement Officer; Dr. Augustine Nigro, Associate Professor of History and Government; Michelle Perkins, Director of Instructional Technology; and Stacey Zacharoff, Senior Director, Center for Student Success.

Student Support

- The College Transfer Fair returned to all three campuses October 12-14, 2021. There were between 19-27 schools represented from across New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and beyond. The majority of institutions provided students with information on their programs and conducted Instant Admissions Decision meetings.

Athletics

- Atlantic Cape Student David Coit was interviewed for the [*Press of Atlantic City*](#) about his three Division I scholarship offers. David received offers from NJIT, North Carolina A and T, and Northern Illinois University.
- The Women's Volleyball team's 2021 season has gone very well with the team ending the regular season with a 10-6 record and ranking #5 in the region. The team enjoyed a 9-win streak over the season, during which they won against Rowan College of South Jersey-Gloucester, the #8 ranked team in the nation.
- The team will now proceed to the Region 19 Tournament game on October 25. This will be the team's first region tournament appearance in the last 10 years. If they win on October 25, they will then play in the Region Championship on October 30. The winner of that game will proceed to the NJCAA National Tournament held in Minnesota on November 11.

Alumni Success Stories

Ineabel (Bella) Alameda, ACPO Victim Witness Advocate

- Ineabel (Bella) Alameda, an Atlantic Cape alumna, has worked as a Victim Witness Advocate for the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office (ACPO) since 2019. As a bilingual advocate, Alameda provides much-needed services to victims of crimes who may possess a language barrier.
- Alameda graduated from Atlantic Cape with an A.S in General Studies and A.A.S in Paralegal studies. She also graduated from Thomas Edison State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and is currently working toward a Master of Arts degree in Child Advocacy and Policy at Montclair State University.
- In recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month, the ACPO [recognized](#) Ms. Alameda for her contributions to the ACPO and her community.

Executive Chef John Zaitoun

- At just 29 years old, John Zaitoun, who took classes at the Academy of Culinary Arts, is the Executive Chef of Sandpiper Coastal Bar & Grill, a new tapas-style restaurant at Hard Rock Casino. The restaurant is a "true celebration of food" and a positive review was featured in the [Press of Atlantic City](#). Before opening Sandpiper, Zaitoun held positions as Sous Chef of Sant Anejo in Nashville and the Omni Nashville Hotel.

Gabriella Mannino Tomasello, Mannino's Cannoli Express

- Gabriella Mannino Tomasello's Hammonton food truck, Mannino's Cannoli Express, was featured on Food Network's America's 26 Best Food Trucks in recognition of her incredible pastry creations. Mannino's was also a great success at the 2021 Restaurant Gala. Tomasello took classes at the Academy of Culinary Arts.