

 **President's Report**

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TO: Atlantic Cape Community College Board of Trustees  
FROM: Dr. Barbara Gaba  
DATE: November 26, 2019  
(Mays Landing Campus)

### **Partnerships – High Schools**

- Signing Ceremonies for our new Early College agreements were held with six area high schools. Four high schools in Atlantic County (Greater Egg Harbor Regional High, Charter Tech, Schools, Egg Harbor Township High School, and Atlantic City High School) and two high schools in Cape May County (Middle Township High School and Ocean City High School).
- These Early College agreements will afford students the opportunity to earn college credits from Atlantic Cape while in high school, saving them time and money and raising the likelihood that they will earn a college degree.
- And a special thanks to Donna Vassallo, Dean of Professional Studies, High School Initiatives & Internships. Dean Vassallo has been instrumental in crafting these agreements and in strengthening the partnership between our institutions.
- Trustees Money and Furman attended some of the signing ceremonies.

### **Recruitment**

#### *Media Day 2019*

- Atlantic Cape Community College hosted more than 100 high school students and teachers for the "Exploring Digital Horizons" conference on Thursday, October 24. Students from Oakcrest, Cedar Creek, Lower Cape May Township, Egg Harbor Township and Absegami High Schools had the opportunity to participate in hands-on workshops led by Atlantic Cape faculty, staff, students and industry professionals

- The event was kicked off with a video address by John Clark, NBC Sports Philadelphia.
- Presentations were made by Susan Adellizzi-Schmidt of Suasion Communications Group, who also sponsored the event; Scott Cronick, Media Professional; and Peter Brophy, former editor of the *Press of Atlantic City*.
- The workshops held that day included:
  - Video Production Demo presented by Martin Fiedler, owner of JustRightTV and Adjunct Instructor at Atlantic Cape;
  - Digital Audio Production, presented by the Atlantic Cape Radio Club;
  - Drone Demo, presented by Tim Cwik Atlantic Cape Division Chair, Aviation;
  - Social Media, presented by Erin Mercer, Atlantic Cape Social Media and Public Relations Manager;
  - Public Relations, presented by Susan Adellizzi-Schmidt owner of Suasion Communications Group;
  - Augmented Reality, presented by Bo Zilovic, Assistant Professor of Information Systems and Aviation Studies; and
  - Journalism, presented by the Atlantic Cape Review and Richard Russell, Assistant Professor of English.

### **Retention**

- Student Affairs conducted “Pop-Up Advising” at all three campuses and “Pop-Up Registration” at various locations throughout the Mays Landing Campus. Rather than waiting for students to visit an office for advising and enrollment services, this retention effort is bringing services directly to students.

### **Student Support**

- Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week (November 14-21, 2019)

- An Oxfam Hunger Banquet was at the Mays Landing Campus to bring attention to hunger and homelessness in our nation and to educate participants on the disparate experiences of people of different income levels.
- A food drive for the Food Pantries was held on all three campuses where boxes of food from the FoodBank of South Jersey were distributed to students. Students at the Mays Landing Campus also received information about services available through NJ SNAP.

### **Community Engagement – Atlantic County**

- Natalie Devonish, Dean of the Worthington Atlantic City Campus and Workforce Development has been invited to join the board for a new community initiative -- **IMPROVE AC. I Must Prevent Reduce Overcome Violence Everyday/Everywhere**
- In partnership with AtlantiCare the goal is to provide education and work opportunities as alternatives to violence. AtlantiCare has applied for the grant on behalf of the organization and the hope is to partner with Atlantic Cape for workforce and college services. Grant responses are expected mid-December.
- The Chicken Bone Beach Historical Foundation, Inc. will hold its annual Jazz Camp at the Worthington Atlantic City Campus. Participants learn to play several instruments to prepare for an annual performance during the summer. The camp participants range from 6 to 16 years old, and the camp runs from now through August 2020. Atlantic Cape students are also invited and encouraged to attend at no cost.
- On November 19<sup>th</sup> the Atlantic City Campus held their first Community Information Session meeting with the purpose of connecting non-traditional adult students to college and workforce opportunities.
- Dean Natalie Devonish met with the following organizations with the goal of introducing herself while promoting the college and Workforce Development: Hispanic Association Alliance, NAACP, City of Atlantic City, the Fellowship of Churches, and various civic and community associations.

- Atlantic Cape continues to partners with La Casa Dominicana. On December 6, La Casa Dominicana will graduate over 45 students from their four classes. Atlantic Cape's Workforce Development department will coordinate and assist these students with their navigation into Title II ESL programs or college credit programs.
- The Buccaneers Baseball team is giving back to the community by helping prepare more than 1,000 Thanksgiving meals for the disadvantaged in our community at the Atlantic City Rescue Mission.

### **Community Engagement – Cape May County**

- The Cape May County Prosecutor’s Office held a seminar on “College Sexual Assault & Violence” at the Cape May County Campus on October 23. Members of the Prosecutor’s staff, partner agencies, and the State of NJ Attorney General’s Office participated in the seminar. Approximately 50 students, staff, community members and faculty attended the excellent and informative presentation.

### **School Shooting Prevention Leadership Forum**

- Dr. Gaba delivered welcome remarks at the “School Shooting Prevention Leadership Forum” held at the Mays Landing Campus on November 13-14. The forum was a partnership between the FBI National Academy Associates (FBINAA), the School Safety Advocacy Council, and the Atlantic Cape Community College Criminal Justice Program.
- The audience included law enforcement and fire/EMS executives from federal, state, and municipal agencies; school administrators; and security firms from across the country.
- The Forum provided the attendees with the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to improve the overall security of their community's schools while developing a coordinated plan for a crisis response.
- Guest speakers included Mr. Sean Burke, President, School Safety Advocacy Council; Mr. Curtis Lavarello, Executive Director, School Safety Advocacy Council; and Chief Tony Pustizzi (Ret.), a 30-year veteran with the Coral

Springs Police Department who responded to the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in Parkland, Florida on February 14, 2018.

### **Workforce Development**

- For the third straight year, Workforce Development's Title II, Consolidated Adult Basic Skills and Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education Grant Program, was the *#1 performing consortium in the state based on contracted outcome measures*.
- Bally's Casino Hotel has been a partner in this program since its inception and hires qualified dealers from this program.
- **New Financial Aid Eligible Programs:** Workforce Development has redesigned three programs to meet financial aid requirements: Certified Fundamentals Cook (CFC®) 630 hours; Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA®) 684 hours; and Paramedic Science Program, 1456 hours. The culinary and medical assistant program modules are sequenced to allow for internships and apprenticeships.
- Workforce Development is partnering for a second year with the Atlantic City Free Public Library on a New Jersey Department of Labor grant, which provides basic computer literacy classes and AHLAEI Certified Guest Service Professional classes. The Atlantic County One-Stop Career Center is also a partner in this grant, acting as the program's primary referral source. The second-year began Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> and ends September 30, 2020.
- **Cape May County Initiatives:** Recruitment continues for the new Out-of-School Youth grant. We have provided program information to local churches and schools. We have also attended the Safe Surrender event, Trunk & Treats, and local Halloween parades. Visited the Family Success Center, and delivered a presentation to the Cape May Recovery Court on the new program
- Scott Griffin, Workforce Solutions Manager, held an information session at the Cape May County Campus for potential employers to explain the current UPSKILLS Grant Opportunity. Eight (8) hotel and motel owners attended the meeting to receive information on joining the consortium. Workforce Solutions

has also added new clients for workforce incumbent worker training: Ocean Resorts, Icona Avalon Resort, and South Jersey Federal Credit Union.

### **Academic Affairs**

- Professional Studies, Psychology and English Advisory Boards met this month. These Advisory Boards include industry professionals that give input into the curriculum.

### **Professional Development**

- Today the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office assisted Atlantic Cape's Security team to train Cape May County Campus staff and faculty on how to respond in an active shooter situation.
- New full time faculty hires completed an eight-session New Faculty Orientation Program coordinated by the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence.
- Faculty and staff are now required to complete online training monthly on a series of topics relevant to community colleges. In November, staff will be trained on Discrimination Awareness in the Workplace. Previous trainings include Active Shooter: Run, Hide, Fight; FERPA: Confidentiality of Records; Password Security Basics; Email and Messaging Safety; Cybersecurity Overview; and Browser Security Basics.

### **Faculty and Staff Recognition**

- Rick Luderitz, Assistant Director, Paramedic & EMT Training, made a presentation at the National Conference on EMS held in Atlantic City on November 16, 2019. His session, "Dunning-Kruger & the Philly Special," explored lessons that can be gleaned by an understanding of the Dunning-Kruger Effect (a cognitive bias in which people mistakenly assess their cognitive ability as greater than it is) and some of its corollaries. Using examples from the sport of football, he discussed how these concepts relate to the "team sport" of EMS and how they are, in fact, universal.