

 **President's Report**

TO: Atlantic Cape Community College Board of Trustees
FROM: Dr. Barbara Gaba
DATE: August 23, 2022
(Mays Landing Campus)

Cape May County Campus

Program Updates

- The new evening Nursing program cohort and the Academy of Culinary Arts program will begin at the Cape May County Campus this Fall Semester. The Nursing program begins on August 29 and the Culinary Arts program begins during the 13-week Fall session on September 19. We are thrilled to make these programs more accessible to our Cape May County students.

Technology Upgrades

- Our new Applicant Tracking System is up and running. All new applicants for Atlantic Cape employment opportunities will now need to complete an electronic employment application, eliminating the need for paper applications. This new tool also will open more online recruitment venues for the college, allowing us to reach a more diverse, comprehensive applicant audience.

Board of County Commissioners Update

- Dr. Gaba was invited to speak at the Atlantic County Board of County Commissioners meeting on August 16th to provide an update on the projects funded by the *Securing Our Children's Future Bond Act*, for which the County provided a \$1.33M match. In addition, she provided an update on the Wind Training Center at the Worthington Atlantic City Campus.

Trustee Development

ACCT New Trustee Governance Leadership Institute

- Trustee Monica Kyle, Trustee Flora Castillo, Dr. Gaba, and Jean McAlister attended the Association of Community College Trustees' New Trustee Governance Leadership Institute (GLI) on August 4-6.
- Dr. Gaba was a presenter at the conference for a session titled, "*CEO Evaluation as a Teambuilding Strategy and Retreats as Strategic Vehicle for Board Cohesion.*" She will present on this topic again at the ACCT Leadership Congress in October; Dr. Gaba and Trustee Byrne will also present on the college's food insecurity initiatives at that conference.

Grants

NACUBO Grant

- Atlantic Cape is 1 of 26 institutions from across the country awarded a grant through the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) to develop strategic finance models that prioritize and sustain student equity, success, and completion initiatives. To achieve these outcomes, chief business officers from a diverse set of institutions will contribute their expertise and lead their respective institutional teams in the testing and development of the models.
- Leslie Jamison, Chief Financial Officer, is serving as the College's lead on the grant. In July, she attended the convening of the institutions in Denver, CO. and participated in the working group of twenty-six CBOs, referred to as the Network Improvement Community (NIC). This three-year grant will produce frameworks, tools, and models, through the use of proven practices of improvement science, that can be replicated and used by other colleges and universities. This project will transform how colleges and universities fund and operationally sustain student equity and success initiatives.

Community College Opportunity Grant (CCOG)

- The State of New Jersey budget included an expansion of the Community College Opportunity Grant (CCOG) Program with an additional \$8 million in funding to allow individuals in households with an Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) between \$65,001 and \$80,000 to receive at least some CCOG tuition assistance on a sliding scale.
- Financial Aid has begun awarding CCOG to students in the extended CCOG Tier of an AGI between \$65,001- \$80,000.

Student Engagement

New Student Orientations

- New Student Orientations were held in-person this year for the first time since September 2019. The College hosted orientations on both the Mays Landing (186 students and 52 parents in attendance) and Worthington Atlantic City campuses (36 students and 4 parents in attendance).
- The events were led by Dr. Sattik Deb, Senior Director of Enrollment and Recruitment, and coordinated by Dr. Tammy DeFranco, Director of Cape May Student Affairs and One Stop Services and Lisa Givens, Manager of Student Engagement. The Atlantic Cape Community College Education Association (ACCCEA) sponsored snacks for the new students.
- The Cape May County Campus New Student Orientation is scheduled for September 7.

Food Pantries

- The Food Pantries on all three campuses are stocked for the Fall Semester. The Food Pantries have been an invaluable resource for many of our students in need of assistance keeping food on the table. Continuing the Food Pantries is made possible by many generous donors, including Happy Hour for Hunger. The Atlantic Cape Community College Education Association (ACCCEA) recently donated \$600 worth of food to the pantries.

Community Engagement – Atlantic County

National NAACP Convention

- Atlantic Cape participated as an exhibitor at the 113th National NAACP Convention at the Atlantic City Convention Center on July 15-19, 2022. The 51st Annual *NAACP Experience* served as a one-stop shop, where corporate, government, minority, and non-profit exhibitors displayed their products and services. The *NAACP Experience* is one of the highlights of the Annual Convention as it provides the greatest opportunity for sponsors, partners, companies, civic organizations, and vendors to access both the NAACP membership and the local community during the convention.

AtlantiCare Community Health Fair

- Atlantic Cape Community College hosted AtlantiCare on our Worthington Atlantic City Campus for their annual *Community Health Fair* on August 12, as part of the celebration for National Health Center Week. This event has been held in support of AtlantiCare's HealthPlex Center in Atlantic City, which cares for approximately 10,000 unique individuals a year.
- Atlantic Cape had the opportunity to host this successful and well attended event on our Worthington Atlantic City Campus for the second year in a row and received a warm welcome from Dr. Gaba.
- Sixty (60) agencies attended and included those that provided healthcare, housing, health insurance enrollment and financial assistance, and other programs, supports and services. Additionally, packaged meals, giveaways and COVID-19 vaccinations were provided.
- Atlantic Cape received "kudos" from AtlantiCare staff, community members, as well as compliments from internal staff on how well this event was managed and organized. The success of this event was coordinated by Victor Moreno, Senior Manager of Campus Operations and Community Outreach.

Inlet Neighborhood Redevelopment Plan

- Atlantic Cape coordinated the application for a \$50,000 planning grant (awarded in November 2021 from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs) to develop the *Inlet Neighborhood Revitalization Action Strategy*. Atlantic Cape demonstrates its commitment to supporting the needs of our local residents and students by leading this effort. The college has been an integral partner in the Atlantic City community, and the Inlet Neighborhood specifically, and maintains a strong and involved presence in Atlantic City.
- Atlantic Cape, in partnership with Rutala Associates, presented our final *Inlet Neighborhood Revitalization Action Strategy* for the Inlet section of Atlantic City in June. Over the past year, the process has brought together residents, community groups, local institutions, non-profits, city representatives, and local businesses to discuss how they envision their neighborhood improving over the next decade, and how they can work together to achieve their vision. This Strategy represents countless hours of work volunteered by resolute residents and stakeholders wishing to make the Inlet a better place to live, learn, play, and do business.
- The next step in the process is to establish the *Inlet Community Development Corporation*, a 501(c)(3) that will lead and implement the Inlet Neighborhood Strategy Plan (Resolution #6). The Corporation's three members will be: Dr. Natalie Devonish, Vice-President of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management; Cydnee Phoenix, Director of the Worthington Atlantic City Campus & Community Outreach; and Victor Moreno, Senior Manager of Worthington Campus Operations and Community Outreach.

La Casa Dominicana Graduation

- The La Casa Dominicana Graduation Ceremony was held on the Worthington Atlantic City Campus on June 30, 2022. Jean McAlister, Chief of Staff and Chief Advancement Officer, delivered remarks on behalf of the college, and our Admissions Department was available to the students.

- The college has provided space at no cost for this non-profit for the last three years so they can offer entry-level ESL and citizenship classes. The students then can progress to Atlantic Cape's Title II ESL no-cost program as they improve their English.

Stockton Goals Gear Up

- On Thursday, July 14, Community Outreach collaborated with the Admissions Department to host *Stockton Goals Gear Up* at our Mays Landing Campus for an interactive day filled with hands-on workshops. The Goals Gear Up program serves over 180 students in grades 7 through 12 at Atlantic City and Pleasantville Public School Districts.
- Workshop included information and demonstrations from the Academy of Culinary Arts, Aviation Studies, Allied Health and Nursing, and New Medical Studies, as well as Atlantic Cape athletic opportunities. Dr. Josette Katz, Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs, provided welcome remarks.
- *Stockton Goals Gear Up* is a grant-funded program in which Stockton introduces the participants to a variety of higher education opportunities. At the end of the year, the students will celebrate where they are attending college.

Community Engagement – Atlantic and Cape May

Smithsonian Voices and Votes Exhibit

- Atlantic Cape was proud to host the Smithsonian Institution's traveling "*Voices and Votes: Democracy in America*" exhibition at the Mays Landing Campus this summer, July 11-August 13, made possible through a \$7,500 grant from the *New Jersey Council for the Humanities*. This effort was coordinated by Dr. Denise Coulter, Dean of Professional and Liberal Studies.
- The reception opening the exhibit was held on July 7. Maureen Kern, Chairwoman of the Atlantic County Board of County Commissioners, and Trustee Ellen Byrne spoke at this event. This event received much publicity.

National Night Out

- Atlantic Cape participated in nine (9) *National Night Out* events on August 2nd. *National Night Out* is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. The college participated in the following cities: Atlantic City, Buena Vista Twp., Egg Harbor Twp., Galloway, Hamilton Twp., Middle Twp., Pleasantville, Somers Point and Wildwood.

Summer Symposium Series

- This year the college hosted a *Summer Symposium Series* consisting of enrichment programming, free and open to the public, on a variety of topics led by local experts in their fields. The series included:
 - “The Astro-Molecular Mechanism of Life in the Universe”, presented by Dr. Francis Toriello, Atlantic Cape Assistant Professor of Physics
 - “The Suffrage Timeline”, presented by Carolyn Schultz, Pat Supplee, and Donna Connor of the League of Women Voters
 - “Human Trafficking”, presented by Danielle S. Buckley, Esq., former Atlantic County Assistant Prosecutor
 - “Media Influence on Adolescent Health”, presented by Madison Russ, Research Coordinator at Annenberg Health Risk Communication Institute's CHAMP project and Atlantic Cape Adjunct Professor of Communication

Kids College

- Kids College was held on the Mays Landing and Cape May County campuses in July and August. 117 students participated, and 13 sessions were held (12 at the Mays Landing Campus and one at the Cape May County Campus) for students between the ages of 7 and 16. Some of the classes included Science Exploration, International Cooking, and Comic Book Development.

Community Engagement – Cape May County

Cape May County 4H Fair

- Atlantic Cape participated in the Cape May County 4H Fair. Tim Cwik, Aviation Operations Chair, provided drone demonstrations; the Academy of Culinary Arts Food Truck served food at the event; and our Admissions Department represented the college at a tent where they shared information about college programs and services.

Faculty and Staff Recognitions

- *Dr. Denise Coulter, Dean of Professional and Liberal Studies*, was appointed to the Board of the *New Jersey Council of the Humanities*. This appointment follows her excellent work coordinating with the Council on the Smithsonian “Voices and Votes” exhibit at the college.
- *Sherwood Taylor, Senior Director of Workforce Development*, attended and spoke about the community colleges’ role in workforce development for the wind industry at the public hearings for the Ocean Wind 1 Offshore Wind Farm’s Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) federal permitting process.

Student Accomplishments

- Atlantic Cape students *Katherine Jaques* and *Chloe Cramutola* have been selected as “*2022 Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholar*” and will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship for their outstanding academic achievement and demonstrated leadership potential. The “*Leaders of Promise Scholarship*”, sponsored by the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, recognizes 200 Phi Theta Kappa members. This year’s recipients were selected by a panel of independent judges from more than 1,300 applicants.