

 **President's Report**

TO: Atlantic Cape Community College Board of Trustees
FROM: Dr. Barbara Gaba
DATE: October 22, 2019
(Worthington Atlantic City Campus)

Awards

- Jean McAlister was named the recipient of the "2019 Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Northeast Regional Professional Board Staff Member Award".
- Dr. Gaba was the Cape May County honoree at the Garden State Council Boy Scouts of America "Women of Achievement" awards on October 3rd. Trustee Maria Ivette Torres, Foundation Board member Nancy Cleaver, and Cape May County Freeholder E. Marie Hayes attended. Our partners from Crest Savings Bank also came out to support Dr. Gaba.
- Dr. Gaba is receiving the Education Award at the Mainland Pleasantville NAACP Freedom Fund Awards Banquet on November 2nd.

Public Appearances

- Dr. Gaba and Trustee Byrne delivered a presentation at the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Leadership Congress on October 17 titled "Accessibility Compliance: From Consent Decree to Culture of Opportunity."
- Dr. Gaba was an invited speaker on the ACCT panel "Conducting an Effective CEO Search in a Competitive Market."
- Dean Maria Kellett was the guest speaker at the October meeting of the Cape Island Masonic Lodge. She gave an overview of the college, its programs with a special focus on the Cape May County Campus. Jeffrey Schwartz, teacher of Culinary Arts at Lower Cape May Regional High School, made complimentary remarks about the high school's work with Atlantic Cape's Academy of Culinary Arts.

Faculty / Staff Recognition

- Dr. Bobbie Heard attended Rochester Institute of Technology's DeafTEC conference, *Opening the Pathway to Technician Careers: A Conference for Biology Teachers of Deaf Students*, in Rochester, NY from October 12-15.

Grants

- The Office of the Secretary of Higher Education (OSHE) has awarded Atlantic Cape a Capacity-Building Grant of \$265,000 for the Community College Opportunity Grant (CCOG). The funds will be used to support promotion of the tuition-free community college opportunity as well as student support.

Technology Upgrades

- Instructional Technology is in the process of migrating our Blackboard Learn server from Managed Hosting to the SaaS (software as a service) deployment. This will move Blackboard to the "cloud." The official migration will take place between the Fall 2019 and Winter 2020 semesters.
- Atlantic Cape has adopted a new conferencing software called "Blackboard Collaborate." This will give faculty synchronous web conferencing with students in their class, similar to Skype, Zoom, or Go to Meeting. The Fall 2019 semester is being used for training and testing and we will be going live with Collaborate in Spring 2020.

Partnerships - High Schools

- Greater Egg Harbor Regional High Schools and Atlantic Cape have enjoyed a growing partnership. The Academy of Culinary Arts and Greater Egg Harbor Regional Schools have an existing 2+2 articulation agreement, and we are currently in discussions that will allow students in their fourth year of program to attend the Academy of Culinary Arts full time, earning additional college credit during their Senior year. In the fourth year, students will participate in a cooperative education course, allowing them to earn 100 hours of industry experience. This apprenticeship model will allow students to apply through industry what they have learned in the labs of the Academy.

Community Engagement

- At our Worthington Atlantic City Campus, we were grateful to have local artist Kelley Prevard paint a beautiful mural on the Baltic Avenue side of the campus as one of the featured projects of Atlantic City's- 48 Blocks.
- Atlantic Cape participated in Aviation Influence's "Girls in Aviation" event at Atlantic City International Airport on October 5th, which showcased the myriad possibilities for careers in aviation, engaging young women through hands-on learning and connecting them with mentors already in the industry.
- Jean McAlister and Dean Natalie Devonish were invited by Kaleem Shabazz, Atlantic City Councilman, to speak with the Dr. Martin Luther King Westside Protective Association on October 7th. Nearly 60 community leaders and families attended their presentation about Atlantic Cape, community partnerships, and the CCOG grant.

Student Activities

- In keeping with the mission of the Student Government Association (SGA) to represent the interests of the students and encourage student involvement, SGA sponsored a "Political Forum." The event provided students an opportunity to hear first-hand how our local politicians got involved in politics, the impact they have on our community, how students can become involved locally by volunteering in a political campaign or event and why voting is so important and relevant, especially on the local level. Each candidate also shared stories about their political experiences and the challenges of balancing family, work and the requirements of their respective offices. Participating in the Forum were: Freeholder Ashley Bennett, Freeholder Amy Gatto, Assemblyman Vince Mazzeo, Councilman Frank Soto, and Councilman James Toto.
- Brian Ross, President of SGA, facilitated the event providing insightful questions for the panel and an opportunity for the audience to ask questions. Based on the success of this event, SGA anticipates additional events that incorporate the student body, faculty, staff and our local community. Also in attendance was the Executive Board of SGA.

Student Support

- Food Pantries at all three campuses are up and running. There is a tremendous effort at all campuses to keep the pantries stocked. Work Study students and student volunteers are working with students in need at the pantries. We also received 50 boxes of food from the Food Pantry of South Jersey at no cost this month as we did the last two years at Worthington Atlantic City Campus and the Mays Landing Campus. Faculty and staff assisted with this distribution. Next month there will be an additional drop off at the Cape May County Campus.
- Students, faculty and staff can now borrow a laptop at any of the campus libraries. We recently added two laptops for lending at the Cape May and Worthington libraries. This allows students to study anywhere in the library-- a study room with a group of students, in a comfortable chair, by a window, in a quiet place and at a study table.

Cape May County Campus

- On September 26, the Cape May County Campus offered its first monthly Environmental Lecture and Discussion Series. The guest speaker was Dr. Ryan Rebozo from the Pinelands Preservation Alliance. Dr. Rebozo gave a presentation to approximately 20 people about natural ways to prevent beach erosion, improve wildlife habitat and protect the dunes along the New Jersey coastline. This is a vital issue for Cape May County beach communities. His lecture was informative and he was an engaging presenter. Adjunct Professor David Jungblut is the inspiration behind this lecture series. The presentations are open to all and will take place at the Cape May County Campus throughout the academic year. Work-study students are assisting Mr. Jungblut with the planning and logistics of the programs.
- Additional plans for the month of October include:
 - October 23 – Cape May County Prosecutor’s Office will hold a College Sexual Assault Seminar. Everyone is welcome to attend.
 - October 24 – Cape May County Recovery Court will hold its meeting at Cape May County Campus

- October 28 – American Red Cross will run a Blood Drive
- Dr. Tammy DeFranco and Dean Maria Kellett attended the “Knock Out Opioids” town hall meeting on October 2nd. Sponsored by the Horizon Foundation of New Jersey, a panel of five stakeholders shared information about what the Cape May County community is doing to end the local opioid crisis.

Alumni Association

- On October 30th, the Atlantic Cape Alumni Association, Rutgers University and AtlantiCare will host a 50th Anniversary celebration of the college’s nursing program at the Atlantic City Campus of AtlantiCare. Since 1969, the program has graduated 2,824 nurses. Many of Atlantic Cape’s nursing program graduates work for AtlantiCare.

Academic Affairs

- The Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) has granted continuing accreditation to Atlantic Cape’s Nursing Program. The next accreditation visit is scheduled for Spring 2027.
- Professors Effie Russell and Rich Russell along with Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) hosted a Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship Information Session and Workshop on October 8th for students interested in applying for this scholarship opportunity.
- Community College Complete Challenge (C4) Week is October 21-25. Professor Effie Russell, Professor Rich Russell, and PTK have been encouraging the college community to wear college gear all week, but especially on October 22, when essay contest winners will be announced and awarded bookstore gift certificates.
- The Academy of Culinary Arts held a fundraiser for the Dr. Lynn Hoffman Scholarship Fund on October 16th at Bar Hygge in Philadelphia.
- The English faculty hosted a meeting with Peter Adams, founder of the original Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) at Community College of Baltimore County, on October 2nd.

- Professor Bo Zilovic organized Media Day 2019 "Exploring Digital Horizons" conference for high school students at Atlantic Cape in collaboration with Professor Richard Russell, regional High School Media Teachers, Atlantic Cape staff and local media industry professionals. The event will take place Thursday October 24th and will feature hands on workshops on: Augmented Reality, Drone Technology, Public Relations, Social Media, Digital Video Production, Digital Audio Production, and Journalism.
- The Education Program Site Visit will be conducted on October 28th, with reviewer Norma Boakes from Stockton University. She will attend a class, interview students and faculty, tour the campus, and have lunch with department members and the Dean of Liberal Studies.
- Academic Affairs has implemented a new faculty orientation program, which is being coordinated through the Center of Teaching and Learning Excellence. Additional workshops are being arranged for full and part-time faculty.

Foundation

- The Scramble 'Fore' Scholarships Golf Tournament was held on October 4th with great success. The Mullock Family continues to support this event with the use of the Cape May National Golf Club as well as generously supporting our students with scholarships. Trustee Clemans has also provided unwavering support of our students and contributed a generous sponsorship to the Golf Tournament.
- The Donor Appreciation Holiday Reception will be held on December 4th at the Mays Landing Campus. The event will be catered by the Academy of Culinary Arts.