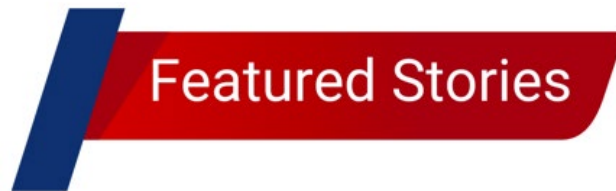


President's Report

TO: Atlantic Cape Community College Board of Trustees
FROM: Dr. Barbara Gaba
DATE: February 25, 2025
(Mays Landing Campus)



Meeting with Our Local Legislators

- **Dr. Gaba** met with **Senator Michael Testa, Assemblyman Antwan McClellan and Assemblyman Erik Simonsen** at the Greater Atlantic City Chamber of Commerce Legislative meeting on February 5 to discuss issues affecting the business community in Cape May, Cumberland, and Atlantic Counties.

Middle States Self-Study

- Atlantic Cape kicked off the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) reaccreditation process on January 31 with a large gathering of College leadership, staff, and faculty who volunteered to be a part of the College's self-reflection. **Dr. Gaba** spoke at the event about the importance of the work that lies ahead in the Self-Study reaccreditation process.

Alumni Success Story

- **Kyle Timpson, an alumnus of the Academy of Culinary Arts**, won the grand prize of season 23's "Hell's Kitchen" with Gordon Ramsay. Chef Timpson won \$250,000 and gets to be the head chef at one of Gordon Ramsay's prestigious restaurants.

Student Athletes

- **Christopher Parker** of the Men's Basketball Team reached the incredible milestone of 1,000 career points on Sophomore Night against Harrisburg Community College on February 15. This remarkable accomplishment is made even more special by the fact that Christopher is set to graduate this spring.

Black History Month

- Throughout February, Atlantic Cape honored *Black History Month* through a month-long celebration with a series of engaging events across all three campuses, including a Pan African Flag-Raising ceremony, interactive professional panel discussions, exhibits by the African Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey, and essay contests. These events provided valuable opportunities for students and the community to come together and honor the African American community's rich cultural history and contributions.
- The Cape May County Campus is hosting *Erasing Bias from the Classroom* with author Janis Washington White, from 6 PM to 8 PM on February 27. This important event, sponsored by the *Coalition for a Safe Community*, will foster meaningful discussions on fostering self-awareness, open dialogue, and advocacy.

Student Government Association Meeting

- **Dr. Gaba** met with the Student Government Association (SGA) executive leadership members and student club leaders on February 13. The meeting provided the students to share their needs and experiences at the College.



Inlet Community Development Corporation (CDC)

- The Inlet Community Development Corporation (CDC) has been awarded \$950,000 for the Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit (NRTC) grant for FY25 by Ocean Casino Resorts.

- The Inlet Community Development Corporation (CDC), in collaboration with the 1st Ward Civic Association, hosted a public meeting to update the community on recent developments on February 4. The meeting covered completed projects from the FY 2023/2024 period and provided insight into upcoming projects for FY 2024/2025. Additionally, the expansion into Bungalow Park was discussed, highlighting the efforts to enhance and improve the area for residents. The event fostered a productive dialogue about the future of the community and the ongoing initiatives aimed at growth and improvement.

Community Outreach – Cape May

- Atlantic Cape’s Cape May County Campus hosted the *Cape May County Non-Profit Summit* in collaboration with Cooper University Hospital Cape Regional, Ascenda Health, the Cape May County Chamber of Commerce, and the Cape May County Women’s Commission on February 4. The event brought together 74 organizations and nearly 100 professionals to the College, providing an opportunity to network, exchange ideas, and forge meaningful partnerships amongst each other.
- **Krista McConnell, the Director of the Cape May County Campus and Community Outreach, and Chris Stenger, the Director of the Cape May County bizHub**, spoke at the Greater Wildwood Chamber of Commerce luncheon meeting on February 19. Krista shared the programs and services offered at the Cape May County Campus, while Chris discussed the unique services provided by the Cape May County bizHub for business owners and entrepreneurs also housed at our Cape May County Campus.

Cape May County bizHub

- The Cape May bizHub hosted a *Sales & Marketing for Small Business* seminar on February 7. Small Business owners and entrepreneurs learned about the latest sales and marketing trends to utilize for their businesses to increase their brand awareness in their community.

Student Engagement

- Ten Atlantic Cape student leaders attended Achieving the Dream's (ATD) annual conference, "Amplifying Student Voices Day," in Philadelphia on February 21. By participating in this dynamic, student-centered event, they engaged in inspiring workshops, collaborative discussions, and creative activities that expanded their leadership skills and fueled their passion for change. Throughout the event, students connected with fellow peers and administrators, sharing innovative ideas and powerful perspectives that will impact their campuses and their broader communities.

Distinguished Alumni Story

- **Chef Michael D'Angelo and his wife, Kimberly Richardson, both Distinguished Alumni of Atlantic Cape**, continually give back to the community and participated in the Boys & Girls Club's *Let's Get Cooking* event on February 4, and they hosted a table for Classic Cakes, the bakery where Chef D'Angelo is the Executive Pastry Chef.

Athletics

- The bleachers at Pitney Hall Gymnasium were replaced and is part of the Improvement Plan of Atlantic Cape Facilities. The renovation marks an important milestone in the continued improvement of Atlantic Cape's athletic facilities, providing a modern and improved space that reflects the institution's commitment to supporting both student-athletes and the university community.
- Atlantic Cape's Men's and Women's basketball teams hosted Rowan College of South Jersey (RCGC) for the First Annual *Coaches vs. Cancer Game* at Stockton University. This event was dedicated to honoring and supporting those affected by cancer, bringing together the community to raise awareness for this important cause. All attendees were encouraged to make donations to a cancer foundation of their choice, contributing to the collective effort to fight cancer and support those in need.

- Atlantic Cape Men's and Women's Basketball teams have successfully qualified for Region 19 playoffs after a strong season of determination and teamwork. Both team's hard work and dedication have led them to this exciting milestone, and we look forward to the road ahead as they advance to the playoffs.

Recruitment

- Atlantic Cape welcomed English as a Second Language (ESL) students from Absegami, Cedar Creek, and Oakcrest High Schools for *Shadowing Day* at the Atlantic City Campus on February 19. High school students shadowed a current ESL credit student during their day at Atlantic Cape. About 30 ESL students participated in this event; the students also received informative presentations from Financial Aid and Admissions, offering valuable insights into college life and resources at the College.