



**Suffolk**  
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

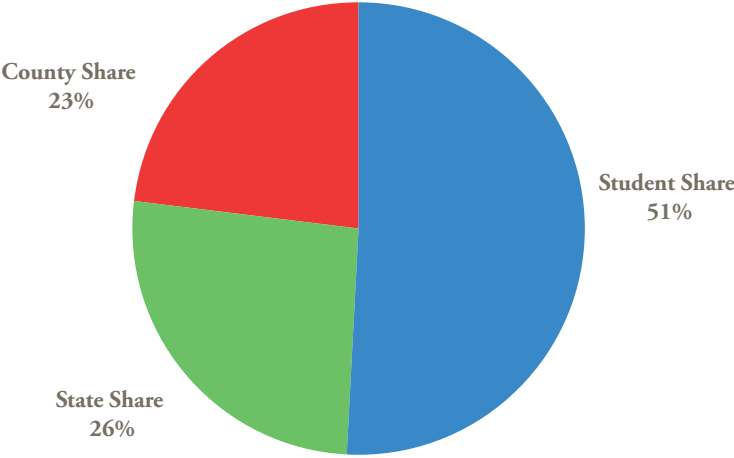


2015-2016  
REVIEW OF *Accomplishments*

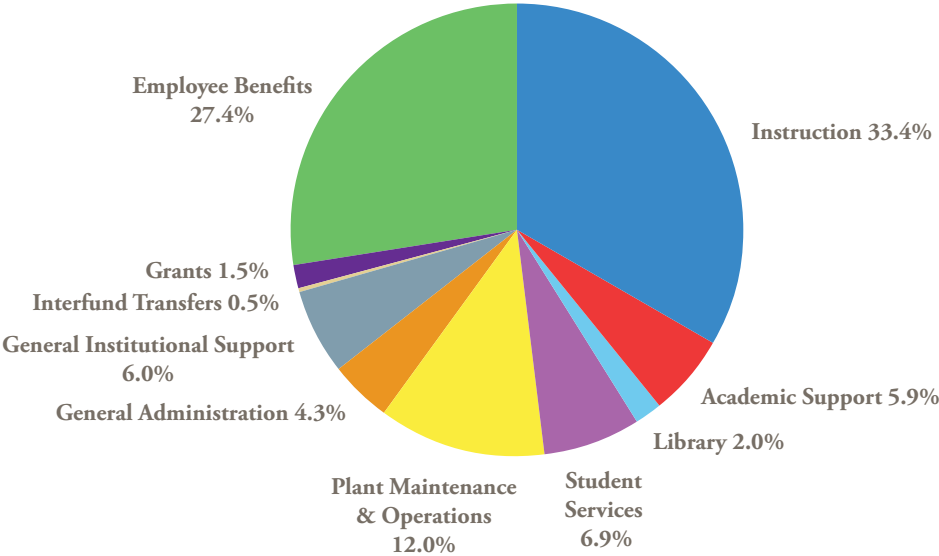


# Suffolk at a Glance

Revenue Support 2015-2016



Expenditure Support 2015-2016



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# *Message from the President*

Since I became the President of Suffolk County Community College, I have consistently shared my belief that education transforms lives by empowering individuals. Now, as I conclude my sixth year of leadership, it is clear to me that this latest report of annual accomplishments reflects our College's success in building upon the work of prior years. Specifically, it underscores the institutional strength that has emerged from multiple years of prudent management decisions—both fiscal and operational—as well as our attention to foundational elements, such as being able to demonstrate organizational success in planning and assessment, and in proving continued progress toward our mission with the passage of each year.



Such efforts have already led to noteworthy results in our accreditation activities and the implementation of numerous improvements throughout our institution and across our campuses. By accepting change, our College has become more dynamic than at any other time in its history. We continue to keep our academic programs and student services fresh, we continue to attract donors to our Foundation, we continue to improve and build necessary facilities—all of which leads to lives being transformed by our College. Now, as we conclude our 56<sup>th</sup> academic year, it is clear that we have, and will continue to, set the standard for defining an exceptional community college. Today, we stand as a shining example of how an engaged community can demonstrate a clear connection between the things valued most in its work, and the effort being put forth by each individual every day.

During the forthcoming year, our institutional journey will continue through various discussions that will be held as part of our Middle States Self-Study, Achieving the Dream, and SUNY Excels. Through these different, yet linked, conversations, we anticipate bringing added clarity to the ideal for all of our students—to see them reach their educational goals of transfer, career training, or graduation, having learned and gained knowledge. As President, I must push all of us, constantly, closer to this ideal. This is some of the most important work we can do, as these conversations go to the core of our mission and the center of our strategic intentions.

Without the incredible work and dedication of our faculty, staff and administrators, as well as support from County and State legislators and our Board of Trustees, none of this success would be possible. I extend my deepest appreciation to each individual for contributing to our work in a manner that has brought our institution to such a noteworthy level. This has been another fantastic year of accomplishments and the progress we have made has further enhanced our institution's reputation. I will continue to work with all of our partners, providing the presidential leadership required to ensure that the transformational power of education can continue to enrich the lives of all Suffolk County Community College students well into the future.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Shaun L. McKay  
President

# *Message from the Chair*

I am delighted to join with Dr. Shaun L. McKay in presenting this latest annual summary of accomplishments for Suffolk County Community College to our partners in the community, local and regional employers, elected officials, and colleagues in education. The amount of work that stands behind each of the achievements documented in these pages is incredible and really speaks to the special community that has been assembled here at Suffolk.

Our faculty, staff and administrators are clearly dedicated to both the success of each student and to the ongoing success of this outstanding institution. Similar dedication is also evident among the College's Board of Trustees, whose members are committed to maintaining the best interests of our students at the core of all we do. I am honored to share this responsibility with my fellow Board members, each of whom is motivated by the desire to see the College remain at the forefront of community colleges, both in New York State and nationally.

Our College has been further strengthened by the leadership of Dr. McKay as President. He is a passionate and tireless advocate for our College, who is driven toward excellence through his vision of transforming lives within a proactive teaching and learning environment. Accordingly, he takes responsibility for ensuring that such an environment exists for everyone and this has served to enhance the educational experience enjoyed by all of our students.

Our institution remains vibrant within Suffolk County and we are grateful for the ongoing support received from our sponsors. Our elected officials know the importance of their investment in higher education and we know how important it is to continue demonstrating the value gained through that investment. By remaining at the forefront of academic programming, workforce training and continuing education options, our students, our neighborhoods, our businesses and the Long Island community all benefit from the ongoing growth of Suffolk County Community College.

With everyone's continued support, we look forward to attaining noteworthy growth and achieving many more significant accomplishments in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Theresa Sanders

Chair-Board of Trustees



# About SCCC

Suffolk County Community College (SCCC) is an exceptional community college. It is considered a gem in the County and has earned its reputation for high-quality instruction, outstanding faculty and affordable programs and services. The College operates as a unit of the State University of New York (SUNY), is governed by a 10-member Board of Trustees, and is sponsored by Suffolk County.

Founded in 1959, Suffolk is the largest community college in the SUNY system, with an enrollment of approximately 26,500 credit students and 10,000 continuing education and workforce training students. With the Ammerman Campus in Selden, the Eastern Campus in Riverhead and the Michael J. Grant Campus in Brentwood, as well as downtown centers in Sayville and Riverhead, the College is accessible to residents across the County. There are over 480 full-time faculty and 1,700 adjunct faculty teaching 100 degree and certificate programs in business, computer science/information technology, communications, the arts, health, community and human services, liberal arts, and technical, scientific and engineering studies.

The College maintains accreditation from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education and several discipline-specific accrediting bodies, and its curricula are registered by the New York State Department of Education. The College's operating budget is supported by student tuition, the County, and the State. Annual tuition at the College for full-time students enrolled for the 2016-2017 academic year will be \$4,770.



# Mission and Vision

Suffolk County Community College promotes intellectual discovery, physical development, social and ethical awareness, and economic opportunities for all through an education that transforms lives, builds communities, and improves society.

Suffolk County Community College commits to maintaining high educational standards, fostering and inspiring student success, and creating diverse opportunities for lifelong learning. By attracting strong leadership and distinguished faculty to a college of excellence, we create an enriched learning environment that empowers students to transform their lives.



# Financial Aid and Transfer

The Office of Financial Aid is committed to assisting our students with exploring all of the funding options available. The College awards more than \$63 million in federal and state financial aid to almost 20,000 students annually. In 2015-2016, more than 67% of Suffolk's student population received financial aid.

We share information regarding these resources on our website; via our experienced, professional staff; during site visits at high schools; and through several publications distributed throughout each campus Financial Aid Office. The College website provides prospective students and their families with the SUNY Net Price Calculator, which estimates the cost of a student's education. By inputting family income information, students can determine the federal, state, and college financial aid programs for which they may be eligible to apply. Furthermore, the College provides students with transfer opportunities through articulation agreements with some 35 baccalaureate-granting institutions, many of them conveniently located on Long Island.

# Economic Impact

The operation of Suffolk County Community College influences both the lives of its students and the regional economy. A March 2015 economic impact report prepared by Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI) shows the College spent \$105.1 million to cover its expenses for facilities, professional services, and supplies. The institution's biggest impact results from the education and training it provides to local residents. Since the College was established, over 120,000 alumni can say they began their post-secondary academic careers at Suffolk, with the vast majority remaining in Suffolk County to establish their careers and families. Over the course of a working lifetime, these graduates will earn approximately \$440,000 more than someone with a high school diploma alone.



# 2015-2016 Year in Review

## Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) Accreditation

Last year, we followed our timeline and successfully met the September 1, 2015, deadline for submission of the College's follow-up MSCHE monitoring report, which we developed to document and verify our assessment and evaluation efforts. That report was followed by a Middle States small team visit to the College in October. I am proud to share with you that our College successfully progressed from warning status to a highly positive Middle States visit, where we received seven commendations related to planning, assessment and resource allocation. In addition, our comprehensive approach to the accreditation process was ultimately recognized by SUNY as a best practice and is now being shared with other institutions in the system. Our faculty, staff, administrators, students, and Board of Trustees were all instrumental in enabling us to reach this successful conclusion.



I believe our institutional experiences over the past three years were a legacy moment in our history. It is clear, as I reflect upon the effort put forth by everyone during this process, that the decisions made and the actions taken to address MSCHE expectations enabled Suffolk County Community College to emerge on the other side of an extensive volume of meaningful work and collegial discourse as a stronger institution. We did not conduct a cursory review, but probed deeply in an effort to fully examine our practices and make the hard decisions we knew would withstand the test of even the most critical external review – and we succeeded in a monumental way.

Moving forward, Middle States has adopted revised standards for all institutions that will affect our next accreditation event. In line with our institutional reputation, we will work to exceed those expectations as we move on to our MSCHE Decennial Self-Study.

To organize the College's Self-Study review, I named Dr. Lauren Tacke-Cushing, our Accreditation Liaison Officer, and Professor Dan Linker, nominated by Faculty Governance, to serve as co-chairs of the Self-Study Steering Committee. In addition,





I appointed faculty and staff co-chairs and a Cabinet representative to each of the seven Self-Study subcommittees and over 100 individuals from across the College accepted my invitation to serve as a member on one of these committees. I anticipate that members of our Board of Trustees will, for the first time, also play an active role on these committees.

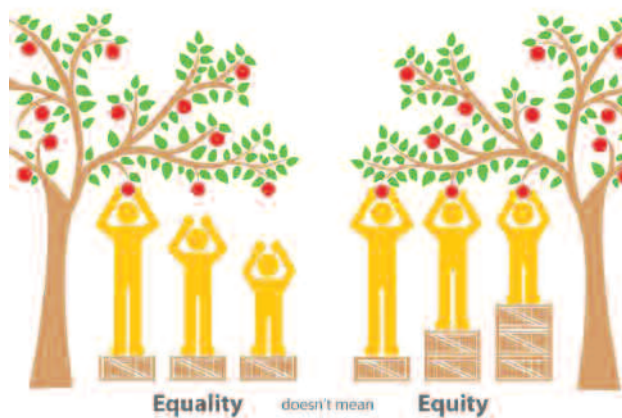
We are currently engaged in the two-year Self-Study process, which began with a preparation visit by Middle States Vice President Dr. Ellie Fogarty in April. At the conclusion of her visit, Dr. Fogarty commended the College's Steering Committee for the quality and comprehensiveness of its Self-Study Design document. She went on to compliment the College for the plan's inclusive approach, the early launch of a reaccreditation website, and the fact that we already have student representation on our committees. Dr. Fogarty also praised the intended outcomes developed by the seven working groups as being sufficiently descriptive and analytical enough to guide each committee's work. In July, we were advised that MSCHE had approved our Self-Study Design Plan, entitled "Through Education Comes Transformation and Economic Empowerment." The College is now progressing along the timeline toward its Self-Study evaluation team visit, scheduled for the spring of 2018. It is also notable to mention that we have already initiated use of a new tracking software that will serve to keep this project organized and running smoothly. The Self-Study website (available at <http://www.sunysuffolk.edu/About/MiddleStateReaccred.asp>) will be frequently updated as the Self-Study progresses over the next two years. This work is continuous and, as President, I will ensure that we vigorously maintain the integrity of the College and the education we provide.

### Achieving the Dream

This past spring, Suffolk County Community College was chosen to participate as a member of Achieving the Dream's 2016 cohort. Using a process of reflection and discussion similar to that which is required of institutions undergoing Middle States reaccreditation review, Achieving the Dream (AtD) partners with select community colleges across the country to successfully affect institutional changes that serve to enhance student success and completion.

AtD's focus on using evidence-based, student-centered approaches as a method for infusing values of equity and excellence throughout an institution is not a new initiative, but is an additional layer to the work already underway by various committees across the College and through our MSCHE Decennial Self-Study. To align and monitor progress on these related work efforts, I have asked Dr. Jeffrey Pedersen, Vice President for Planning and Institutional Effectiveness, and Professor Paul Basileo from the Ammerman Campus Education Technology Unit to lead the College's AtD core team as we move forward through this three-year partnership. The teaching and learning environment leaves the greatest single impression on our students' experiences with, and opinions about, this College. It is my goal to see the AtD effort further refine that student experience.

When the college community returns in the fall, we will begin the Suffolk AtD conversation by examining data and engaging in deep conversations that address challenging questions related to our institutional mission and the concept of student success and equity for all members of our diverse student body, and how best to ensure that all students finish what they start here at Suffolk. The AtD coaches that have been assigned to facilitate our participation will visit the College in October 2016 to discuss the initial planning stages. Our collective effort will be critical to smoothing the pathway our students must travel as part of their academic journey.

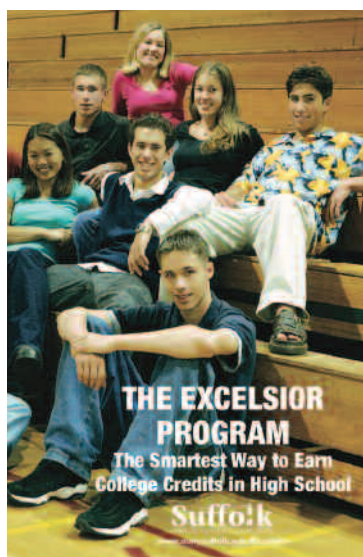




*Peter Herron, Professor Emeritus-Mathematics, led the procession during Convocation.*



*The response to the unveiling of Suffolk's first-ever mascot was overwhelming.*



## Academic Highlights Advance our Educational Mission

### Convocation 2015

In line with our institutional tradition, Convocation took place in the late afternoon on the first day of fall semester classes. A true sense of excitement was generated during this year's event. Every seat was filled and there was standing room only by the time the program began. Leading the procession as we entered the gymnasium was Peter Herron, Professor Emeritus-Mathematics, who carried the College's ceremonial mace. We were proud to be joined by our Board of Trustees Chair Theresa Sanders, and our Student Trustee Maria Gomez. The day's speeches were brief, powerful and moving, with Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Suzanne Johnson delivering the event keynote. During her remarks, Dr. Johnson addressed the significant role of faculty in student success and the importance of leading by example as lifelong learners.

SUNY Chancellor Awards for Excellence were bestowed and the College honored six new professors emeritus: John Bockino (Economics), Marilyn McCall (Graphic Design), Charles McCarthy (Science), Dr. Lois Mignone (Foreign Languages), Mary Ann Miller (Library Services), and Ellen Schuler Mauk (English) in recognition of distinguished career achievement. The awards culminated in the presentation of a Presidential Medallion to Ellen Schuler Mauk, whose contributions during her 43-year career with Suffolk County Community College distinguished her service to a level worthy of institutional appreciation.

The awards were followed by a well-choreographed and very memorable introduction of the College's new shark mascot to the college community. By the time the mascot burst through the shark banner and into the spotlight, everyone was cheering and proud to be a shark. Congratulations to Drew Fawcett, Associate Dean for Institutional Advancement, and Gina Caputo, Head Cheer and Dance Coach, as well as the members of the Mascot Committee for the time they invested in creating this enduring symbol for everyone to embrace as part of the Suffolk family.

### Educational Partnerships

Through the Office of Academic Affairs, the College has been expanding the number of partnerships that are in place with area high schools and institutions of higher education. By implementing an assertive schedule of meetings and presentations, we have seen aggressive growth in the establishment of new Early College and Excelsior program agreements, as well as new articulation agreements that have been formalized with local colleges and universities.

The Excelsior Program has credentialed credit-bearing college courses being offered to talented and motivated high school juniors and seniors at their high school, taught by their faculty. We now have 35 high schools involved in the Excelsior Program; just three years ago we had 27. Included in this number are two Nassau County high schools that will be part of the Excelsior Program starting in September. We are happy to provide this service to our neighbors in Nassau County, as Nassau Community College does not run a similar concurrent enrollment program. Our Early College Program has high school students enrolled in courses on our campuses that are being taught by Suffolk faculty. Most students in this program take two courses (six credits) per semester, affording them the opportunity to earn up to 24 college credits while still enrolled in high school. Three years ago, we had four high schools involved with this program; this fall we will have eight. During the past academic year, Early College and Excelsior together generated 16,000 Suffolk County Community College credits, generating a positive impact on our enrollment. We are very impressed with the amazing work of our staff and the high school principals and guidance counselors who support these programs.

We have initiated a comprehensive review of our existing four-year college and university partnerships. All articulation agreements between Suffolk and its partners that are more than five years old are being considered. New articulations include agreements with Stony Brook University (Nursing, Social Work); St. Joseph's College (Nursing, Education, Criminal Justice, Human Services); SUNY Old Westbury (Education); Molloy (Social Work); Hofstra (Engineering); Vaughn College (Engineering, Business); and more than 25 programs at LIU.

We are part of an educational ecosystem and the strength of our partnerships at P-12 and four-year institutions is a measure of our success in keeping students in the educational pipeline.

#### Developmental Education

In past annual reports, I have shared our success with the Hampton Bays initiative, a high school early intervention pilot program that yielded a marked reduction in the number of remedial students entering the College from Hampton Bays High School. Four years ago, Hampton Bays was our first early intervention partner and, I'm proud to say that next year we will be taking the information that was learned through the pilot program and applying it to a new effort. In collaboration with one of our educational partners, McGraw-Hill, we will work with approximately 15 Suffolk County high schools to conduct a mathematics early intervention study. This study will involve nearly 1,000 Long Island high school seniors and will examine the impact of Assessment and Learning in Knowledge Spaces (ALEKS), a Web-based, artificially intelligent assessment and learning system. In exchange for their participation, McGraw-Hill has agreed to offer the high schools free site licenses to access ALEKS. This effort will help the high schools identify students who might be at risk for developmental placement, providing the high school with sufficient time to remediate the student before they reach college. Over the past year, the Hampton Bays initiative has garnered media coverage and been featured at the Long Island Regional Advisory Council on Higher Education (LIRACHE). We continue to follow-up with representatives from school districts interested in learning more about implementing the program at their location.

A number of initiatives have been implemented in an effort to reduce the total number of students who require developmental education when they arrive at Suffolk County Community College. Quantway Mathematics is an accelerated program designed to move students through developmental mathematics sequences. Developed in part by the Carnegie Foundation, it is an initiative of our faculty and of SUNY. Twelve community colleges throughout New York State are part of the Quantway Math Group. This fall, Suffolk County Community College will have the largest number of students and greatest number of sections of Quantway Mathematics of any SUNY institution, when we will offer 19 sections. We have been given a \$20,000 grant from SUNY to help launch the program. The primary goal is to make this course available to more students and to develop quality faculty and tutor training. Grant funds were allocated to develop a video explaining the impact of this particular math course on a student's mathematical understanding. The video has been posted to YouTube and the Carnegie Foundation has posted it on their website. In addition, SUNY has asked to use it as other community colleges around the state begin their own Quantway programs. Our Board was very encouraged by the program's results and has suggested that we develop a national presentation to highlight our work so others can benefit from the innovations taking place here.





This year, the Ammerman Campus piloted an Accelerated Learning Program (ALP), where students could complete two foundational writing courses at the same time, in order to advance their writing skills. Initial data from the pilot suggests improved retention among students who participated in the program.

During this academic year, we began an evaluation of the effectiveness of the College's developmental education placement policies. Beginning with a developmental summit between the offices of Academic and Student Affairs, we shared best practices for reducing unnecessary placement into developmental courses. This included recommending earlier testing to high school counselors, the use of holistic scoring of student writing samples, and retesting. A comprehensive set of recommendations has been provided to me for my consideration.

### Academic Programs

The College has several externally accredited programs. This year, program site visits were hosted as follows: the School of Nursing completed a combined site visit for continuing accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) and the New York State Education Department (NYSED) Office of Professions, the Emergency Medical Technician Paramedic A.A.S. program received initial accreditation with the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP), the Veterinary Technician Program was reaccredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), and the Paralegal program completed its accreditation visit by the American Bar Association (ABA) and received continuing accreditation endorsement for a seven-year period.

Based on findings from the site visit report for the School of Nursing's associate degree and the Practical Nursing certificate programs, the NYSED team's report indicated that the College's nursing programs will be recommended for re-registration with the Office of Professions in New York State. ACEN recommended continuing accreditation for eight years, but indicated the need for improvement in the areas of curriculum and outcomes. ACEN has indicated that follow-up reports will be due for the practical nurse program in April 2017 and for the associate degree program in October 2017, with a final accreditation decision being made during the ACEN Board of Commissioners meeting in early March 2018.

As we strive to provide the most effective programs of study, we determined that the College would modify its nursing degree from an AAS to an AS degree consisting of 65 credits. Starting in the fall, we will announce this new degree. Students can begin this program of study starting in January 2017. A crosswalk was developed for students who are currently enrolled in the AAS degree option who wish to transition into the AS degree.

The College now owns one of the most technologically advanced anatomy visualization systems currently available. The Anatomage virtual dissection table is being adopted at leading medical schools and institutions to allow life-like and previously unavailable interaction and visualization of the human body and its systems. The table has a touchscreen surface and uses three-dimensional imagery from life-sized digitally scanned specimens in flawless detail. Students can zoom in on, rotate, and virtually remove individual organs. The table illustrates what teaching anatomy in the 21<sup>st</sup> century is all about. Its programming also includes the possibility of virtual dissection of cats and dogs. The table helps to reduce the use of preserved specimens and provides a more humane and sustainable approach to the study of vertebrate anatomy.



*The College will modify its nursing degree from an AAS to an AS starting in the fall.*



*Suffolk is one of the few colleges in the country to have an Anatomage virtual dissection table.*

While advanced, the table is also a natural extension of what students are familiar with because it functions much like a tablet computer. Suffolk is one of only 21 colleges nationally, the only college in New York State, and one of only three in the northeastern United States utilizing the virtual dissection table.

The College's Engineering Science & Electrical Technology Department, as part of a recently awarded National Science Foundation grant, facilitated a meeting of cybersecurity industry experts earlier this year. These discussions helped to ensure that an industry perspective was incorporated in the development of our new cybersecurity curriculum. Led by an external consultant funded by the grant, participants helped to draft a functional job analysis for a two-year graduate, identify the duties and tasks required of a cybersecurity technician, and determine the worker competencies required to be successful in the occupation. The College's cybersecurity curriculum was developed to ensure that courses, laboratories, activities and instructional materials are tailored to regional workforce needs and transfer requirements.

The College's Automotive Technology Program continues to attract interest from manufacturers who would like to see us expand the program to include certification to service their products. This year, the College met with representatives from Ford and Audi, Fiat/Chrysler and Subaru. Toyota continues to show an interest in helping fund an expansion of the building itself. The Automotive Advisory Council will meet in the fall to further discuss these opportunities.

The College is finalizing preparations for a new Study Abroad program that will begin in 2017. Working within the framework of the Sibiu International Theatre Festival, a SUNY Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) course outline has been developed so Suffolk students enrolled in a stage combat class will work with students from Lucian Blaga University in Romania who are enrolled in a choreography class. Together, students will develop a performance by working on Skype, Facebook and instant messaging. Students from Lucian Blaga University will visit Suffolk in September 2016 while touring in their performance of *Antisocial*, which addresses issues of digital bullying and includes stops at Brown, Pace and Yale universities. Also visiting will be the President of the Sibiu International Theatre Festival and the Rector of Lucian Blaga University.

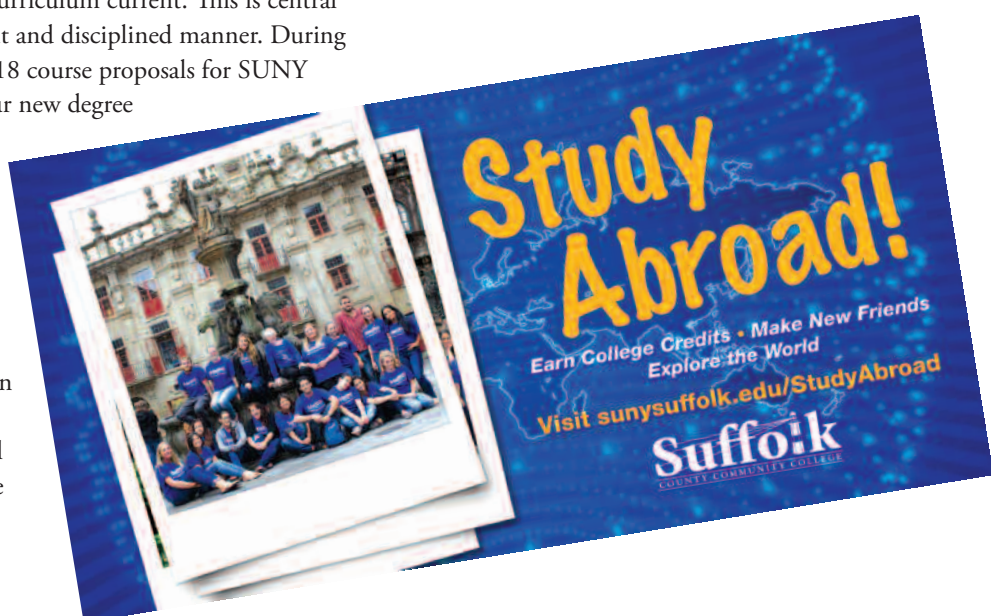
Part of our obligation to the residents of Suffolk County is to ensure that the College's programs of study remain viable and our curriculum current. This is central to our mission and must be completed in an efficient and disciplined manner. During the past academic year, we prepared and submitted 18 course proposals for SUNY and State Education Department (SED) review. Four new degree programs are currently under review at SUNY and we expect to make them available soon: Cybersecurity (AAS), Liberal Arts-Humanities (AA), Liberal Arts-Social Science (AA), and Physical Education (AS). In addition to these new programs, substantive program revisions were made to over 30 of our curricula and 26 programs were submitted for discontinuation. We also conducted an extensive review of the College's course inventory and submitted 95 courses for official SUNY General Education course approval. The College now has the most accurate and complete list of SUNY-approved General Education courses in many years.



*Grant funding is supporting the development of our new cybersecurity curriculum.*



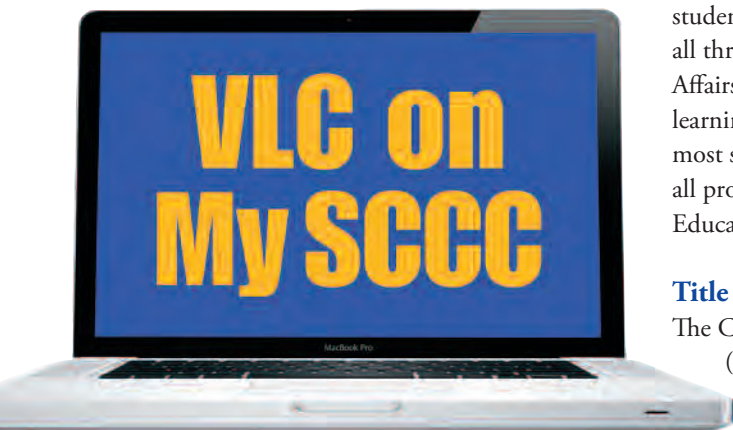
*The Automotive Technology Program continues to expand its partnerships with Toyota, Ford, and major automotive companies.*





### Additional Accomplishments

In December, the College's Board of Trustees approved a new position within Academic Affairs: Senior Associate Vice President of Workforce Development, Community Partnerships, and STEM CTE. This is a transformative community college position that will enable us to connect academics with career and technical education (CTE). Almost 20% of all jobs in this country require some STEM skill competency, but nearly 50% of those jobs do not require a bachelor's degree. Many of them don't require the completion of an associate degree either. I envision our College will take the lead in offering the correct credentials or certificates for these individuals, so they can go out and fill industry workforce needs. This position marks our institutional recognition that CTE is the primary strategy for incorporating STEM into a diverse, skilled workforce. Through this linkage, we will eventually be able to market credentials and stackable certificates that can provide timely entry and exit for students that come here to gain skills that match a job or particular employment setting. This is a huge opportunity that opens a new definition for student success and assists us in meeting the evolving expectation of our own mission.



Our Title III grant reached a successful conclusion this year.

The process of shared governance and the central role of faculty in establishing institutional learning outcomes (ILOs) are essential. To this end, in spring 2016, Institutional Education Goals were adopted as the institution's learning goals for all students. The goals, based on the Middle States Educational Goals, were approved by all three campus governance bodies, supported by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, and accepted and approved by me. Developing, maintaining, and assessing learning outcomes for students at the program and institutional level are some of the most significant activities for which faculty are responsible. Beginning in fall 2016, all programs will implement planning and documentation for assessing Institutional Educational Goals as part of their annual assessment reporting.

### Title III Grant Conclusion

The College's Title III project, *Student Engagement through Informed Support* (SEIS), which was implemented in phases during the course of the past five years (2010-2015), reached its conclusion during the fall 2015 semester.

Through various initiatives supported by our faculty, staff and administrators, the SEIS project engaged and supported students by:

- Electronically enabling enrollment and admissions,
- Reorganizing and improving faculty academic advising,
- Instituting an academic early warning and intervention system,
- Developing repositories of online learning objects for 20 high-enrollment gateway courses, and
- Unifying on-line and in-person student support resources through a Virtual Learning Commons (VLC).

Overall, SEIS has helped the College to transform the way students enroll, are counseled and advised, and receive support. It has impacted students, faculty members, and support services providers on all three campuses. As a result of this grant, staff across our campuses are becoming adept at examining and refining common processes to better serve our students.



### Enhanced Student Life Experiences Lead to Achievement

We have made great strides during the course of the past two years in ensuring that our students are able to enjoy a full college experience. This has required many shifts and changes, both to our structure and the types of initiatives we have developed and implemented.

Following the unveiling of the College's first mascot at the conclusion of last year's

Convocation, we used college-wide emails, social media channels, and student portal communications to drive awareness of our mascot across the college community. A special microsite provided background information about the new mascot, as well as information on how to “Name the Shark” and “Be the Shark.” Everyone was invited to submit suggestions for its name. As a result, hundreds of suggestions were received. A committee, inclusive of student representation from each campus, reviewed the names and narrowed the list. Through online voting, the name Finneas (Finn or Finz for short) was selected in October. Mascot tryouts were then conducted and we were on our way to introducing everyone to Finn.

In the spring, we developed a survey to assess how the presence of Finn may be changing the culture at Suffolk. The survey concluded that:

- Upwards of 93% of students either “strongly agree” or “agree” that Finn has improved school spirit, and
- Upwards of 90% of students “strongly agree” or “agree” that the mascot helped foster a full-college experience

After one short academic year, Finn has become part of the college community and can be seen quite often, just about everywhere!

In October, we again hosted Spirit Week on all three of the College’s campuses. Students took the themed element for each day and got creative. Blue and White Day had everyone wearing our school colors and posting photos on our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram channels to spread the spirit around; College History Day provided an opportunity to learn about the College’s history through interactive activities; Completion/Opportunity Day encouraged students to commit to their degree completion, interact with alumni, and learn about scholarship opportunities and Study Abroad; Open Sports Night featured the Men’s Basketball team in a Blue and White scrimmage, along with tri-campus sporting events. The week concluded with Suffolk Gives Back, where students were encouraged to get involved in a community service activity. Tying into this concept, we were asked to collaborate with LiveOnNY to host an organ donor enrollment day. This was clearly an opportunity to help our communities, as New York State ranks last in the country in the percentage of residents who have registered as organ donors. This event presented our college community with the opportunity to rally together and save lives. I am so pleased with the way Spirit Week continues to evolve and with the high degree of enthusiasm I saw on display across the College.

Effective almost a year ago, our campuses became tobacco-free, providing a clean and healthy campus environment for everyone. A press conference to promote awareness regarding this change took place inside the William J. Lindsay Life Sciences Building. At that event, we were joined by student representatives, members of the Suffolk County Legislature, and partners from our Tobacco-Free Committee. Student Elisandra Fini, a Get There From Here scholar, spoke as part of the program and shared her thoughts on the benefits of attending a tobacco-free campus. Finn and our cheerleaders also attended the press event, adding some Suffolk spirit to the proceedings. News 12 was on hand and aired a segment featuring several interviews. Public Safety Officers now actively alert students and employees about this policy and help by distributing information on cessation program options.

Last year, we also introduced a new dining services vendor at the College. As part of the transition to Aramark, the College implemented a \$100 meal plan charge per semester for students taking nine credits or more on the Ammerman and Michael J. Grant campuses. Accessible by using their College ID card, these funds are used



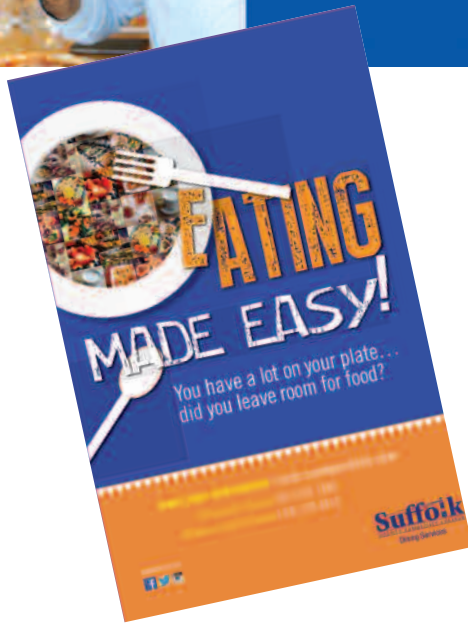
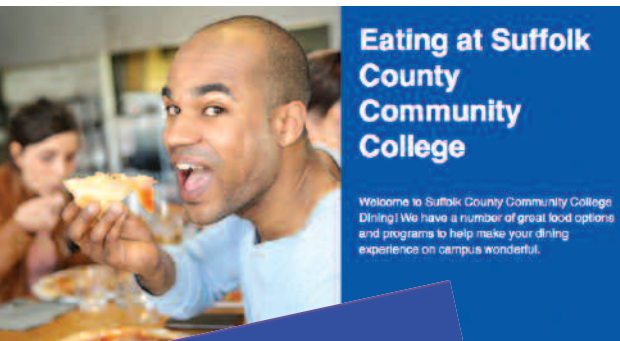
*The introduction of Finn, the College’s new mascot, came just in time for Spirit Week this year.*



*A comprehensive college-wide effort was launched to announce that Suffolk’s campuses are tobacco-free.*



to purchase food or drinks in our campus cafeteria locations and vending machines. During the course of this first year, we have implemented several initiatives to promote dining services and educate our students regarding the meal plan. Student outreach, posters, banners, an online microsite, email blasts, and cafeteria displays have been developed featuring special tastings and monthly menu theme days.



Concerns regarding the meal plan charge were brought to the attention of our Board of Trustees and the Suffolk County Legislature by a small number of students. In response, we modified our waiver policy to provide additional flexibility, especially in the case of demonstrated financial hardship. We are now reviewing our first year of Aramark usage. A survey was developed to provide students with an opportunity to state their opinions regarding the meal plan and to assess use and satisfaction with the dining program. Results from the survey were highly positive. We will continue to work closely with Aramark to ensure that our students benefit from the food options available on campus and will address any lingering concerns in a manner that will enable this new dining relationship to be a successful venture for everyone.

In the spirit of promoting a safe and secure learning environment for the entire college community, I endorsed a new student mental health support services program that has now been in place since the fall 2015 semester. This program provides appropriate assessment, treatment and referral for students experiencing emotional or mental distress. By providing these services to our students, the College will be working to decrease the risk of student self-harm and suicide, and the possibility of harm to others.

One significant component of the new program is the College Students of Concern Committee. This committee, which consists of faculty, administrators and staff, addresses student behaviors that generate concern for the ongoing safety and welfare of our students and the members of the college community. The committee recommends college-wide policies and procedures to monitor and track students in distress, inclusive of a new portal file-sharing system that enables a small group of administrators to remain updated regarding students and incidents of concern. Through this initiative, there are now Faculty Coordinators of Mental Health Services on all three campuses. As an example of some of their activities, the Coordinators have presented to faculty on “Caring for Our Students: Promoting Success Through Mental Health Awareness” and provided a “Relaxation Room” with information, techniques, and resources for lowering student stress levels. They also developed Suffolk Cares (Creating Awareness and Readiness to End Stigma). This initiative focuses on wellness and prevention programs and activities for students on our campuses, such as a CARES student club on the Michael J. Grant Campus and “Wind Down Wednesdays,” a stress-reduction program, on the Ammerman Campus. Mental Health Awareness Day in October gave our students an opportunity to gather information from mental health services agencies and attend workshops on mental health topics including suicide prevention, the LI heroin epidemic, and dealing with anxiety.

This year, I designated April 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> as Finish Strong Week as a way of celebrating students and providing resources that will help them successfully complete their educational goals. Through this retention initiative, faculty, staff, and administrators demonstrated their appreciation for our students in numerous ways, including urging them to take advantage of available resources, meeting with professors, speaking with counselors, seeking tutoring assistance, securing a summer job/internship, applying for financial aid, participating in Priority Registration for summer and fall semesters, and applying for graduation. Events were held on each campus and College employees



*The Finish Strong initiative was developed to help students complete the semester by creating greater awareness about the many resources available to help them be successful.*



wore Finish Strong buttons as a sign of support.

We continue to coordinate college visits for our transferring students through an initiative we call “Position Your Transition.” Working in conjunction with the admissions offices at participating four-year institutions, we arrange for groups of 20 to 50+ of our students to visit Long Island-based four-year institutions they are interested in applying to for transfer admission. Those institutions agree to provide roundtrip bus transportation, transfer admission information, speakers, a campus tour and lunch with some of their currently enrolled students. In addition, Suffolk students are eligible for instant transfer credit evaluations and an application fee waiver if they enroll. The visits are a great opportunity for our students to experience another campus culture, discuss their transfer options, and engage directly with current students who attend the college or university under consideration. This year’s transfer trips included visits to St. John’s University; Stony Brook University; SUNY Old Westbury; Five Towns College; New York Institute of Technology; Vaughn College; Molloy College; LIU locations in Brookville, Riverhead and Brentwood; and SUNY Farmingdale.

The College is very close to completing an online Virtual Student Orientation. Filming took place college-wide during the spring and featured student leaders and I sharing information and suggestions that will help new students acclimate themselves to the College and each of our campuses. Working closely with the Office of Student Affairs and a committee of campus student activities directors under the leadership of Dr. Meryl Rogers, Associate Dean, our Institutional Advancement staff coordinated the filming and all production aspects of the project. Once launched, the orientation will enable us to provide an online option for new student orientation.

We have completed development of the College’s first mobile app, which is now ready for general use by all audiences. Our app runs on both Apple and Android mobile devices and can be downloaded for free from the iTunes App Store or Google Play. The app provides easy access to helpful information such as campus maps, calendars and events. In addition, the app allows Suffolk students and employees to use their username and password to directly access grades, class schedules and holds, as well as other MySCCC and Self-Service Banner functions.

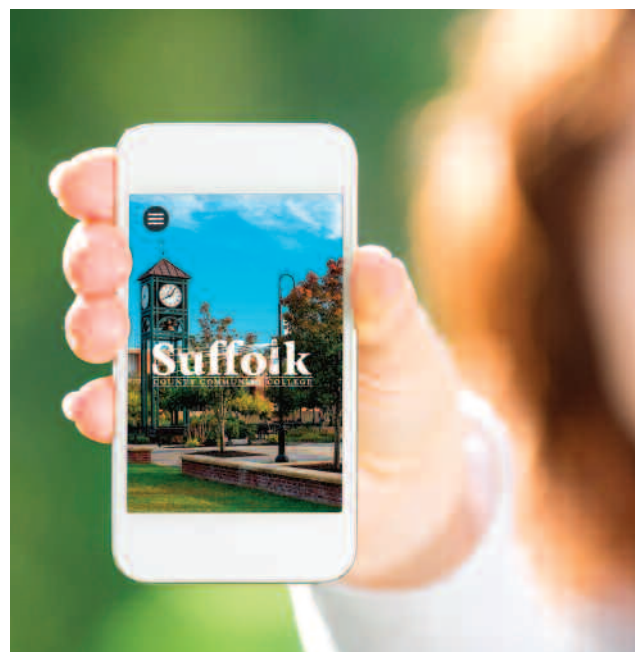
One of the College’s strategic institutional goals is communication. Earlier this year, we partnered with SchoolMessenger to complete an effort to provide text messaging functionality with our students outside of the existing parameters offered through New York Alert, which is limited to emergency communications. I am pleased to report that the new text messaging function is now live. We are encouraging all students to opt into SchoolMessenger to receive up-to-the-minute important College information about activities related to the following three areas:

- Enrollment Notices: Registration – Grades – Scholarships – Tuition Payment
- Special Events: Lecture Series – Student Life Events – Athletic Competitions
- Information Notices: Building or Road Closures – Power Outages

In March, to help develop a culture of inclusiveness, we established an LGBTQ taskforce co-chaired by Professors Dante Morelli and Deborah Provenzano. During the spring semester, the group met several times, formed goals, organized into subcommittees and hosted a college-wide webinar entitled *Beyond LGBTQ: Supporting the Spectrum of Sexual & Gender Identities of Your Students*. The primary objective of the webinar was to help implement practices that will serve to educate, protect and retain students. Preferred names, definitions and language were discussed, providing



*The newly developed Virtual Student Orientation will allow students to become familiar with the College through an online experience.*



*Suffolk’s first-ever mobile app provides access to useful information, including campus maps, calendars and more.*



*The past year included the creation of an LGBTQ taskforce to reinforce a welcoming and safe learning environment for all.*



the viewer with tools to assist in creating a welcoming and safe learning environment for all. The taskforce will continue to meet during the forthcoming academic year.

Historically, the College has been involved in a number of initiatives that reach out to students who have left the College only a few credits short of completing the requirements to earn an associate degree. One project was the multiyear, nationally sponsored Win-Win initiative, and the other is our internal effort conducted annually to reach students in this category. Student records are reviewed to determine degree eligibility and students are advised regarding curriculum requirements and necessary steps to transfer credits from other institutions back to Suffolk, if applicable. These types of reverse-transfer programs are designed to ensure that students receive the degrees and credentials that appropriately reflect their credits and performance. In many cases, these degrees may increase the employability of students. Similarly, SUNY has initiated a reverse-transfer project whereby four-year institutions are sharing transcripts of designated students with the community college the student previously attended.



Students who need accommodations are encouraged to visit the Office of Disability Services.

The College held successful Open House events for both the fall and spring at its three campuses. This year's overall attendance was record setting, with over 2,300 prospective and recently accepted students and their families joining us for the spring event alone. To attract this audience, a postcard mailing was sent to Suffolk and Nassau County high school juniors and seniors inviting them to attend, and was also sent to various cohorts of student populations not currently enrolled at the College. The event was also widely advertised using the *Newsday* Note, press releases, social media, the College's homepage, online advertisements, along with posters and flyers sent to local high schools and libraries. During the event, the College presented an array of information, including academic programs, support services, the Honors Program, scholarships, study abroad, financial aid, disability services and athletics. Campus tours were conducted by student ambassadors. The College issued a thank you email under the signature of the respective Campus Directors of Admissions to all of the individuals who registered to attend Open House.

The Office of Disability Services performed the vital function of reviewing documentation for students enrolled at the College. Counselors met with new students to review classes and approve reasonable accommodations. We also completed the RFP process for American Sign Language interpreter services and began the process of securing alternate-format textbooks (Braille and electronic books) for our students needing these specific accommodations.

A series of very successful job, internship, career and transfer fairs were held this year, enabling our students to meet with local employers in order to discuss job and career opportunities. Our campus Career Services offices sponsored professional clothing drives and provided support to students with resume writing, interviewing, and job/internship searches.

College-wide, Career Services currently has over 750 jobs/internship opportunities available for students and alumni – the largest number reported to date. Almost 6,500 employers are registered with our Job Connection system and since last July, the job search page has had almost 700,000 visits.

**Get to Know Suffolk's Job Connection!**

**A Free Online Job Listing for Students, Graduates and Alumni**

- Information on Student Portal (MySCCC)
- Easy to Use
- Search Jobs by Career Interest, Job Type and Geographical Preference
- Locate and Contact Employers Directly

Students Interested in the Co-op and Internship Programs Must Visit the Career Services Office

**Visit Suffolk's Job Connection Today!**

**Career Services**

<p>Amherst Campus Career Services and Cooperative Education 850 205 533 College Rd. Selden, NY 11784 831-451-4943 • 831-451-4742 fax</p>	<p>Michael J. Grant Campus The Career &amp; Transfer Center Nassau Hall 1 Garden Hill Rd. Brookwood, NY 11717 831-351-6076 • 831-951-6256 fax</p>	<p>Eastern Campus Career Services Pascucci Bldg. 212 121 Speonk, Riverhead Rd. Riverhead, NY 11901 831-545-2500 • 831-548-3613 fax</p>
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The College's Applied Learning Committee includes student and governance representatives that are involved in providing feedback on this SUNY initiative. The College committee has submitted four required reports, including a registry

of over 100 applied learning experiences (e.g., internships, co-ops, service learning) currently available to Suffolk students. The ultimate goal is to increase applied-learning opportunities for all students enrolled across the SUNY system.

## Enrollment

Our total Full Time Equivalent (FTE) enrollment saw healthy new student enrollment, but erosion in our continuing student numbers. In addition, we saw an uptick in part-time students and a decrease in full-timers. The model maintained by the College's Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness (OPIE) projects a modest leveling off in FTE's for 2016-2017, and this year's budget was prepared based upon enrollment trending 1% less as compared to 2015-2016 actual enrollment. Through our marketing and enrollment management efforts, we have successfully mitigated dramatic changes in our enrollment levels. This is a distinctly different outcome compared to other community colleges in the state that have experienced enrollment declines, some in the double digits. Other colleges also made decisions to close certain programs in response to financial challenges in the marketplace. This did not occur at Suffolk.

The initial draft of the 2016-2021 Strategic Enrollment plan is being prepared for internal review and further refinement. The plan has identified targeted cohorts that will advance our recruitment efforts through the development of action plans. Lead responsibility for the various targeted cohorts within the plan is being identified. We are maintaining our focus on enhanced retention and student persistence to completion, especially as we continue to see large graduating classes each spring. Extensive marketing activities have been implemented to support the College's enrollment management efforts.

This year, the College's Student Engagement Committee worked to develop the first draft of a comprehensive Student Engagement plan to support student persistence through meaningful faculty and administrative-driven initiatives that engage our at-risk populations in order to increase student success.

There is a high level of synergy between the College's offices of Institutional Advancement and Student Affairs. Since March, through a variety of platforms, staff from these areas have been developing creative ways of communicating with students from Suffolk County who are attending institutions other than our own. Media, direct mail, geo-fencing with mobile ads, e-blasts, and outreach to the guidance community are just a few of the approaches that have enabled the College to connect with prospects seeking to learn more about the College's programs and opportunities. As part of the Office of Institutional Advancement's outreach plans, we have been working with an integrated broadcasting, publishing and digital media company that partners with us in selected digital-marketing efforts. As an example, a recent e-blast was sent to nearly 90,000 email addresses. The e-blast had an open rate of 10.02% (the average is 5-7%) and the click-through rate was .99% (the average is .5-1.0%). As a result, the College now has contact information for this group of prospects that the Office of Enrollment Management can use to initiate follow-up communications.

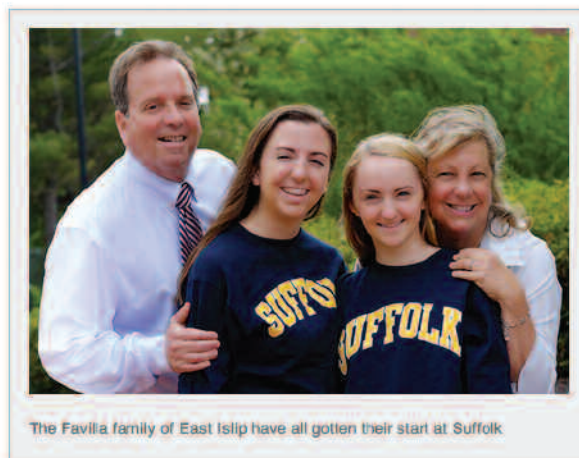
This year saw numerous changes to the landscape of higher education on Long Island. Briarcliffe College announced its plans to close two Long Island campuses in Patchogue and Bethpage by the end of 2018. As a result, the offices of Institutional Advancement and Enrollment Management worked together to launch an innovative "geo-precise" mobile-based campaign that sent advertising messages specifically to the cellphones of people within the physical limits of the two Briarcliffe campuses.



*The College continues to create and support initiatives that enhance retention and lead to student completion.*



## Here's Why More Long Islanders Choose Suffolk...



The Favilla family of East Islip have all gotten their start at Suffolk

### Suffolk County Community College is fully accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

The Middle States Commission on Higher Education is a voluntary, non-governmental, membership association that is dedicated to quality assurance and improvement through accreditation via peer evaluation. Middle States accreditation instills public confidence in institutional mission, goals, performance, and resources through its rigorous accreditation standards and their enforcement.

### Our faculty, our programs, and our students.

At Suffolk, classes average only 23 students and these smaller sizes ease your child into the college experience. At the same time, distinguished professors provide individualized attention to help your child achieve his or her goals.

[Learn More](#)

*Online communication efforts, like targeted e-blasts, have helped to identify potential students by reinforcing the College's key advantages.*

*As people spend more time online, the College continues to expand its presence within digital platforms, like Facebook.*



*For the first time, Suffolk won the annual National Alliance of Two-Year College Athletic Administrators (NATYCAA) Directors' Cup competition.*

The targeted audience of Briarcliffe students received messages that underscored the benefits of transferring to Suffolk, especially since most of Briarcliffe's academic programs can be found at Suffolk at a greatly reduced tuition.

In response to the announced closing of Dowling College, the College scheduled a Transfer Fair that took place on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Representatives from over 50 colleges and universities, primarily from across Long Island and the tristate area, were available to speak with students regarding transfer opportunities. The College also implemented a targeted communications campaign utilizing several messaging platforms from radio, to online and digital media, to let Dowling students and our many communities know that Suffolk stands ready to help them transition to an environment where they will feel inspired to achieve their educational goals. The College also activated a dedicated telephone line for Dowling College students seeking assistance with their educational plans, and the Board of Trustees' Executive Committee conditionally approved a waiver of the \$40.00 admissions application fee for these students. As part of a multifaceted strategic marketing plan, the Office of Institutional Advancement created ads and messaging using digital platforms. The results were impressive, with hundreds of people clicking through our online ad to our website.

We have also used Facebook as one of our digital platforms to highlight our Summer Session course offerings. The Facebook ads have driven almost 3,000 people to our specially designed Summer Session microsite.

Part of our strategic plans include building and maintaining a healthy pipeline of prospective students. This begins when tomorrow's future applicants are still in middle school. Through outreach to schools, churches and non-profits, we have initiated a calendar of coordinated visits by middle schoolers and high schoolers to our campuses. Among those to visit this year were students from Central Islip School District, the Urban League of Long Island Summer Youth Employment Program, Wyandanch School District, and Hampton Bays School District. As part of their visit, students tour the campus and hear age-appropriate presentations made by College representatives from admissions, financial aid, academic affairs, and student affairs.

### **Excellence in Athletics**

I am pleased to share with you that, for the first time in the College's history, we have won the annual National Alliance of Two-Year College Athletic Administrators (NATYCAA) Directors' Cup competition. This award is presented each year by the National Association of Collegiate Athletic Directors of America (NACDA) and NATYCAA to the top intercollegiate two-year athletic program in the country and honors institutions that excel at the highest level in both men's and women's athletics. Each participating institution is awarded points in a predetermined number of sports for men and women. The overall champion is the institution that records the highest number of points in their division's standings. For the 2015-2016 competition year, Suffolk was ranked first out of over 200 two-year colleges at the D-III non-scholarship level. We also received national recognition from NACDA for placing second in the country in the Learfield Sports Directors' Cup from among 538 Division I, II, and III two-year colleges – scholarship and non-scholarship. These are prestigious honors, and I extend sincere congratulations to our dedicated coaching staff, our exceptional student-athletes, and Director of Athletics Kevin Foley for these major accomplishments.

Suffolk County Community College Athletics garnered four national championships this year in Women's Cross Country, Women's Track and Field, Men's Track and Field,

and Men's Bowling. In addition to Region XV victories, our teams also placed in the top 10 in a number of national contests, including:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in the National Tournament – Women's Tennis
- 5<sup>th</sup> Place in the College World Series – Men's Baseball
- 5<sup>th</sup> Place in the National Tournament – Women's Bowling
- 5<sup>th</sup> Place in the National Tournament – Men's Cross Country
- 7<sup>th</sup> place in the National Tournament – Women's Soccer
- 8<sup>th</sup> Place in the National Tournament – Men's Tennis
- 8<sup>th</sup> place in the National Tournament – Women's Softball

The U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) named Women's Cross Country Coach Matt French the Women's Cross Country Coach of the Year. In only his second year leading Suffolk's program, French was able to take the Sharks to the national title. Ranked #1 for most of the season, the Sharks clinched the program's second national title and first since 2007. During the season, Suffolk student-athlete Ryleigh Donegan (Center Moriches) was twice named the Women's NJCAA Division III National Athlete of the Week by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA). Ultimately, the freshman was named USTFCCCA Northeast Region Women's Athlete of the Year. In addition, both the Men's and Women's Track & Field teams were top ranked in the nation during the season. Suffolk was also home to another National Athlete of the Week, Micah Assibey-Bonsu, who led the nation in the triple jump. In December, Brookhaven Town Councilman Kevin LaValle honored the team for its national championship.

Our Men's and Women's Bowling teams were both Region XV Champions, with the Men's team advancing to win its first national championship. The Sharks' victory was anchored by a winning performance in the doubles event from sophomore James Tagliaferro and freshman John Kavanaugh. Individually, sophomore Michael Kissel recorded a third-place finish with 2,369 pins. Kissel went on to win the USBC Intercollegiate Singles Championship in March, placing first out of 158 bowlers, and proceeded to the National Intercollegiate Singles Championship Tournament in April, which featured the top 24 men and top 16 women from across the country.

The College's Women's Softball team returned to prominence with a 25-game win streak and a first place finish in regional play. The road to the regional crown saw the Sharks amass some very impressive statistics, including the following national numbers: 1<sup>st</sup> in triples (34), 2<sup>nd</sup> in runs scored (442), 2<sup>nd</sup> in RBIs (389), 3<sup>rd</sup> in batting average (.449). Additional honors included: Courtney Lawrence being named Region XV Player of the Year and Region XV Tournament MVP; 1<sup>st</sup> team All Region members Valerie Scura, Jamie Parente, Jessica Parente, Paige Baker, and Courtney Lawrence; 2<sup>nd</sup> team All Region member Samantha Magerovich; and Joe Kosina being named Region XV Coach of the Year.

The College's Men's Soccer team was ranked the number one Division III team in the nation according to the 2015 National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) preseason rankings last August.

SUNY Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher announced 78 recipients of the 2015-2016 Scholar Athlete Award, which recognizes outstanding academic excellence and athletic achievement. Suffolk student Menely Genao (Port Jefferson Station) was among the recipients. Menely was a member of two NJCAA Division III National Championship teams – the 2015 Women's Cross Country and 2016 Women's Track and Field teams –

## *We Are Champions...*



*Men's track and field*



*Women's track and field*



*Women's cross country*



*Men's bowling*



*Women's softball*



*Suffolk Athletic Director Kevin Foley, at left standing, Head Coach Eric Brown, Assistant Coach Ray Bonet, and Newfield Coach Dan Walsh (Sean Boyle's high school JV Assistant Coach) joined Sean's parents as he signed a letter of intent to play for Dallas Baptist University.*

and she earned Dean's List recognition every semester for the past two years with a 4.0 GPA. In order to be considered for the award, student athletes are nominated by their campus athletic director. Nominees' academic credentials and athletic accomplishments are then reviewed by a panel of athletic directors from across the SUNY system and members of the SUNY Provost's Office.

Congratulations to both Region XV Baseball Coach of the Year, Eric Brown, who just completed his 29<sup>th</sup> year as Head Coach, and to the Suffolk Sharks Baseball Team on their Region XV Championship. First Team All-Region awards were bestowed on the following team members: Eloy Benson, Kristopher Killackey, Nicholas Von Ohlen, Joseph Deland, Angel Rodriguez, Sean Boyle, Robert Sciarotta, and Matthew Stepnoski. Both Kristopher Killackey and Nicholas Von Ohlen were named All-Americans.

Suffolk Sharks sophomore pitcher, Sean Boyle signed a letter of intent to join the Division I baseball program at Dallas Baptist University.

The College's Cheer Team placed third in the nation at the UCA & UDA College Cheerleading and Dance Team National Championships at the Walt Disney World Resort's ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex. This is the first time in the College's history that a team from Suffolk has competed at this level. The competition is considered to be the most prestigious college cheerleading championship in the country. Suffolk was one of only two community colleges competing among a total of 11 colleges and universities in the Open All-Girl Division. Congratulations to the team and to Head Cheer and Dance Coach Gina Caputo.

Men's Basketball player Cheick Sy-Savane was named NJCAA Division III Men's Basketball Player of the Week, as well as 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American and was invited to the prestigious NJCAA Men's Basketball All-Star Classic in Las Vegas at the end of April. The All-Star Classic tournament features the Top 14 DI, DII, and DIII all-stars from across the country. This is a great achievement for Cheick and for the College's Athletics Program.

Under the leadership of first-year coach Michelle MenDell, our Women's Lacrosse team won their first Region XV Championship, advancing to the District D Championships for the first time.

Also, for the first time, our Women's Soccer team won its Regional Championship and played in its first national tournament. Jasmine Seaton was named as a First Team All-American.

For the second year in a row, a member of the Suffolk Equestrian team has been awarded the USHJA/IHSA National Sportsmanship Award. Freshman Tiffany Baglio was awarded this honor for her dedication and enthusiasm to the sport, fellow riders, and most importantly, her teammates. The Intercollegiate Horse Shows Association named 32 riders across eight zones as 2016 Sportsmanship Award recipients. Award winners are selected based on their commitment to act selflessly towards horses, riders, coaches and others, and in a manner reflecting the highest levels of college sportsmanship.

The Annual Dig Pink Event was another huge success, raising over \$8,000 for breast cancer awareness. In conjunction with the Athletics Program's annual Dig Pink fundraiser, the College's Office of Student Affairs declared October 15<sup>th</sup> as the First



*As a member of two NJCAA Division III National Championship teams and a 4.0 GPA Suffolk student, Menely Genao (center) was a deserving recipient of the 2015-2016 SUNY Chancellor's Scholar Athlete Award.*



*Suffolk's Cheer Team placed third in the nation at the UCA & UDA College Cheerleading and Dance Team National Championships at the Walt Disney World Resort's ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex.*

Annual Pink Out and encouraged everyone to wear pink. Women's Volleyball, Women's Soccer and our Cheer and Dance teams did an outstanding job getting donations this year.

This year, seventeen of our student-athletes, who earned 45 or more credits, were named as NJCAA Academic All-Americans by attaining a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or better.

For those students interested in sports but unable to commit to one of our regional teams, we offered a calendar of intramural sports activities. This year, our spring semester intramurals included dodgeball, volleyball, and basketball.

The spring semester concluded with Suffolk's Cheer Team competing at UCA College Cheer Camp at Western Connecticut State University. The Lady Sharks went up against seven other colleges, all of which were four-year institutions. Our team returned with many awards, including: 1<sup>st</sup> place in Sideline, 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Game Day Presentation, and 4<sup>th</sup> place in Cheer.

The third annual Excellence in Athletics awards dinner enabled coaches and athletes from all 22 of the College's teams to showcase the amazing athletic talent, incredible sportsmanship and top academic skills found within the scholar-athletes enrolled at Suffolk.

Congratulations to our student athletes, Athletic Director Kevin Foley, our coaches and the entire athletics department for their continued commitment to excellence and an outstanding nationally recognized program. I am very proud of our student-athletes, who dedicate so much time and effort to excel in their respective sports.



*Suffolk's cheer team continued its winning ways after competing at UCA College Cheer Camp.*



*The College's Annual Dig Pink Event was another huge success, raising over \$8,000 for breast cancer awareness.*





## Operating Budget Submission

The primary budgeting objective of the College is to allocate resources in an efficient and effective manner consistent with its strategic priorities. Our operating budget continues to be under considerable pressure due to projected cost increases related to employee healthcare, contractual salary agreements and the operation of new buildings. As we began developing the 2016-2017 operating budget, I directed all College departments to submit “no growth” budgets for non-personnel expenditures, with an exception for costs associated with operating our new buildings.

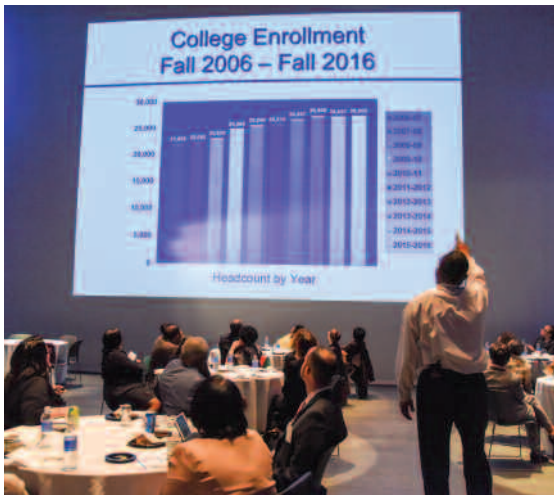
Departmental budget requests, when combined with anticipated expenses, resulted in an initial projected budget gap of \$13.9 million. Working closely with our Office of Business and Financial Affairs and with direction from the members of the Board’s Budget and Finance subcommittee, we were able to identify \$1.1 million in cuts that could be made without impacting upon our core operations. This brought the budget gap down to \$12.8 million. A major factor behind the budget gap is a revenue shortfall of \$8.3 million that is primarily due to a 3% decline in enrollment for 2015-2016 and our budget assumption for another 1% decrease in 2016-2017. In addition, for the fourth year in a row, the operating budget will only be balanced through the use of reserve funds.

The College’s 2016-2017 operating budget is \$216 million, an increase of \$4.4 million or a nominal 2.1% over the prior year’s budget. It is one of the smallest percentage increases to be requested over the last five years. To support this request, the adopted New York State 2016-2017 budget provides an increase in State Base Aid per Full Time Equivalent (FTE) student of \$100 per FTE, which translates to \$1.9 million in additional revenue for the College and changes the base aid rate from \$2,597 to \$2,697 per FTE. The College asked for and received a 2.5% increase in the County contribution, which provides the institution with \$1 million in additional revenue. For the fourth year in a row, the County has increased its funding of the College over the funding received in the previous fiscal year. We are grateful for the support from all of our elected officials that understand the importance of investing in education.

In order to address the remaining gap, the Board of Trustees engaged in considerable discussion and examination of several budget scenarios. The expectation for enhanced services through technology has placed increased demands on our budget for several years. Advancing a positive student learning environment includes management of a

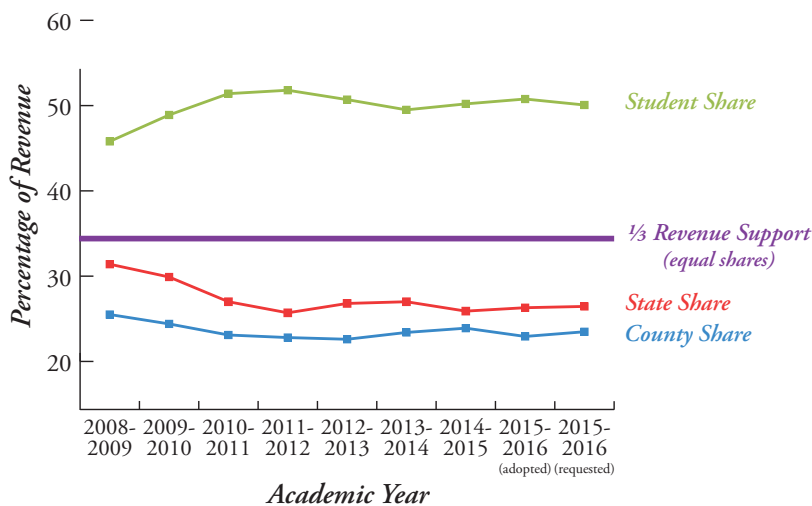
viable computer replacement program, access to smart classrooms and student computer labs, as well as a digital library, digital research, online learning and enhanced communication through mobile apps, text messaging and a robust website. In addition, concerns related to cyber-attacks are ever present. The demand for technology – including hardware, software, licensing and upgrades – has outpaced the ability of the current revenue stream to support our operational needs. As a result, the Trustees authorized an increase in the Technology Fee from \$80 a semester to \$125 per semester. This is the first increase to this fee in five years. A determination was also made to implement a \$4 increase to the student activity fee, bringing it from \$96 to \$100 per semester.

In addition, a recommendation was approved by the Board of Trustees to increase tuition by an annual amount of \$200.



Community leaders are updated about the College’s budget highlights.

## Net Operating Revenue





This translates to an annual increase of 4.4% and changes the annual full-time tuition from \$4,570 to \$4,770. Despite significant efforts to limit expenditures, the tuition increase is necessary in order to provide a structurally balanced budget where there is sufficient recurring revenue to meet recurring expenses. In order to minimize the impact of the tuition increase, the Board also authorized a transfer of \$3,979,816 million from the College Fund Balance Reserve for 2016-2017. With these actions, the student share of revenue support will stand at 50.1%, the State share will now be 26.4% and the County share will be 23.5%.

Working with the Board of Trustees and the leadership from our collective bargaining units, my administration continues to advocate for the implementation of a multiyear plan for sustainable sponsor contributions. Such a plan would meet the objective of keeping tuition affordable and enabling students and their parents the ability to plan ahead for the cost of tuition. In response to this mutual concern, which we share with our sponsor, Suffolk County Resolution No. 920-2015 established an advisory Community College Budget Committee to develop a sustainable plan. The resolution establishing this committee calls for the group to submit an advisory plan to the County Executive within 180 days by meeting at least once per month until the report is complete. This joint committee is comprised of members from our Board, administrators from the College, and representation from the County Legislature and the County Executive's Office. DuWayne Gregory, Presiding Officer of the Suffolk County Legislature, convened the original meeting. Terry Pearsall was then nominated to serve as Chair of the committee.

Since that time, the College has provided information to the committee on its student demographics, economic impact, efficiencies that have been implemented to its operation, details regarding its budget gap for the upcoming year and expenditure and revenue projections over the next five years. During the course of these meetings, we have shared a historical review of tuition, State aid support, our gap analysis, identification of our cost containment measures and quantification of our efficiency efforts. The Legislature's Director of Budget Review has developed a model to assist committee members in understanding how the different revenue and expenditure factors (enrollment, State aid, County support, tuition and the use of reserves) impact the College budget. The committee has met multiple times and will continue to meet.

### Capital Projects Update

I believe the quality and maintenance of our teaching and learning environment are important to student success. By investing in new buildings and renovating our existing infrastructure, we are able to maintain a setting where faculty can comfortably engage our students. With tens of thousands of students using our facilities every day, we must advocate for new spaces and be diligent in our maintenance and upkeep in order to provide a conducive environment where learning can occur.

Last September, we hosted groundbreaking ceremonies marking the next two new facilities that will be opening on our campuses: the Renewable Energy STEM Center on our Michael J. Grant Campus, and the Health and Wellness Center on the Eastern Campus. At both events, we were joined by many special guests, including representation from the construction trades and area community leaders. Board Chair Theresa Sanders and I delivered opening remarks for the Renewable Energy STEM Center, summarizing the eventual features and programs that will operate within the building upon its completion and thanking everyone who played a role in ensuring funding for this building was received. The audience warmly greeted our student speaker, who shared the importance of "starting at Suffolk" as part of her journey as



*The College faces increasing costs to address expectations for enhanced services through technology.*



*The College's Renewable Energy STEM Center will be located on the Michael J. Grant Campus.*



*The Eastern Campus will be home to the forthcoming Health and Wellness Center.*



*The new Learning Resource Center at the Michael J. Grant Campus should be nearing completion next summer.*



an NSF S-STEM scholar in geology. She was followed by our State and County elected officials, who all delivered congratulatory remarks. Legislator Tom Barraga also enthusiastically advocated for everyone to consider changing the College from a two-year institution to a four-year college. The crowd was delighted with his suggestion, which echoes a wish we hear frequently expressed by our students and alumni.

During the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Health and Wellness Center proposed for our Eastern Campus, greetings from the Board were delivered by Trustee Gordon Canary. The program portion of the event was held inside, with guests moving outdoors for photos that were taken afterwards. College Mascot Finn made one of his first official appearances at this event. Following the program, the audience joined us for refreshments that were prepared by our Culinary Arts students. Substantial local press coverage resulted from the groundbreaking, including articles in the area weeklies and online media.

Construction is well underway on our new Learning Resource Center at the Michael J. Grant Campus. This year, completion of the foundation was followed by the installation of structural steel. We anticipate that the new building will be completed by the summer of 2017.

As part of our partnership with Long Island University, I am pleased to share with you that we will be opening the new LIU modular building on the Michael J. Grant Campus in time for the fall 2016 semester. The College has received a Certificate of Occupancy for the LIU Building. This building will be scheduled to accommodate use by Suffolk students during the day and early afternoon and by LIU students during the late afternoon and the evening. This building was constructed via a creative public-private partnership between our two institutions and we are proud to share some of our campus space with LIU.

Similarly, the College has received a permanent Certificate of Occupancy for the William J. Lindsay Life Sciences Building.

Eight design proposals were received for the construction of a new Plant Operations building on the Michael J. Grant Campus. This facility will allow the College to consolidate and relocate plant operations for that campus to one central location. The current space for these offices was constructed in the 1930s and has not been upgraded since the campus was established in the early 1970s. We anticipate selecting the architect for this project sometime in the early fall.

Design funds were appropriated and a location was identified for construction of a new Warehouse Building for the Eastern Campus. Completion of this project is being undertaken to address the campus's need for receiving and warehouse space. We anticipate that a design contract will be awarded before the end of the 2016 calendar year.

The anti-bird strike film that was installed on a pilot basis on the windows at the Montaukett Learning Resource Center has been deemed effective and a full order of the film is currently being installed. The design of a quiet room HVAC system was also completed for the building and construction is underway.

The committee charged with leading the effort to renovate the Sagtikos Building on the Michael J. Grant Campus has been meeting to prepare the RFP. Conceptually, the new building will be reconfigured to create a top-level center for teaching arts courses.

In the future, all of the campus's arts programs – everything from photo imaging to visual arts, ceramics, and painting – will be centered in this space. The new building will also include one new chemistry lab, which will enable us to address continuing demand for lab space in the sciences.

In response to our RFP, 10 design proposals were received for our Renewable Energy STEM Center. The committee leading this effort anticipates having a hiring recommendation before the October meeting of the Board of Trustees.

The design process is also underway for the Kreiling Hall renovation, a new traffic circle, and a parking expansion project for the Ammerman Campus.

The main focus of our capital program advocacy is to keep existing projects from being eliminated or delayed. Projects currently scheduled for funding in 2017 and beyond total over \$10.85 million. We did not recommend any new projects in this year's capital budget submission.

In January, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo delivered his annual State of the State Address, which he combined with his Executive Budget Address. All of the capital projects we asked to see included in the budget were approved.

The Suffolk County Executive did not take any actions to change the College's proposed 2017-2019 Capital Program or the 2017 Capital Budget. Specifically, no projects were deleted or delayed from the College program. All projects were retained from last year's Adopted Capital Program, at their original funding amounts and in accordance with their original funding schedules:

- Sagtikos Building Renovation - \$4,800,000 – Construction 2017  
- \$900,000 – Equipment 2017
- Infrastructure (college-wide) - \$350,000 – Design 2018  
- \$4,800,000 – Construction 2018

At its meeting in June, the full Suffolk County Legislature upheld the County Executive's support for our capital program. It is the first time in many years that the College's requests were adopted without change by both the Executive and Legislative branches of the County.

This year, the County approved a local law allowing the College to issue its own building permits and Certificates of Occupancy. We can now administer our own work, thereby saving time and money by avoiding delays in moving projects forward.

In light of the outbreak of Legionnaire's disease in New York City, the Office of Central Facilities made arrangements for the inspection, testing and registering of cooling towers college-wide, as required by emergency Legionnaire's disease regulations adopted by New York State.

The following work associated with the college-wide Mechanical Equipment Replacement Project has been completed:

- Health, Sports, and Education Center swimming pool installation of a dehumidifier/air handler
- High-efficiency boilers for Caumsett Hall
- Nesconset Building air conditioning system
- Smithtown Science Building lecture hall air-distribution system improvements – work is completed, with the exception of the final balancing
- North Building basement air conditioning system



*Mechanical upgrades will enhance our teaching and learning environments.*



*Funding for the renovation of the Sagtikos Arts and Sciences Center has been approved.*



*Major roof repairs have been completed college-wide.*



As part of the College's New York State storm-water grant, underground water storage tanks have been installed at the Workforce Development Technology Center on the Michael J. Grant Campus. Rain gardens and porous pavers are being installed on the Ammerman Campus and will be completed by the start of the fall 2016 semester.

Major roof and soffit renovations were completed at our Eastern Campus. Roof work at the central energy plant and Shinnecock Building has finished, with anticipated completion of the work taking place on the Peconic and Orient buildings by the start of the fall semester. Other roofing work has been completed across our campuses: the Huntington Library, Babylon Student Center, and the Ammerman and NFL buildings were completed, and the Riverhead Building is scheduled to be done by the start of the fall semester. On the Michael J. Grant Campus, major roof repairs were completed at the Paumanok and Captree buildings.

Installation of irrigation systems were completed at the NFL, Southampton and Ammerman buildings. The sprinklers will have a significant impact on the appearance of the Ammerman Campus grounds. In addition, student parking lots 8-B, C, D, and E were all repaved and striped, enhancing the appearance of these heavily utilized sections of our largest campus.

Across the College, numerous other projects were completed by our in-house staff, resulting in significantly improved service areas for our students.

### Advocacy

Each year, with the announcement of the Governor's proposed budget, advocacy activities began in earnest. Legislative committees are active year-round in Hauppauge and in Albany. Along with members of my senior administration and the Board of Trustees, I am constantly in discussions with legislators, seeking to determine where they stand regarding budget support for community colleges in general and Suffolk County Community College specifically. Strengthened by support from our faculty, as well as passionate appeals from our students, we are consistently at the forefront of the coordinated efforts advocating for the community college agenda. Over the years, we have been successful in ensuring that Suffolk County Community College has access to the resources necessary to provide outstanding educational opportunities within a comfortable and safe teaching and learning environment. I thank the entire college community for its cooperation and assistance in this important work.



*Suffolk students advocated for community college issues while visiting State elected officials in Albany.*

I was proud to be one of the college presidents invited by the New York State United Teachers (NYSUT) to attend their annual community college working luncheon. Joining me that day was SUNY Chancellor Zimpher, SUNY Senior Vice Chancellor Johanna Duncan-Poitier, and other SUNY system administration officials. Among the important issues we discussed was the development of an advocacy strategy to secure additional State funding for SUNY community colleges and how NYSUT and SUNY can best work together to effectively advocate for community colleges.



*Assemblyman Fred Thiele, Jr. welcomed members of our delegation, including Board of Trustees Vice Chair Jim Morgo (l) and Student Trustee-elect Christopher North (4th from r).*

A busload of our students joined Board Chair Theresa Sanders and the Urban League of Long Island at the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Black and Puerto Rican Caucus on February 13<sup>th</sup>. Leaving at 6 a.m. from the Michael J. Grant Campus, 25 Suffolk students all advocated for community college support from members of the State Assembly and Senate. Our Student Trustee, Maria Gomez, attended and Board Chair Theresa Sanders and Suffolk's Faculty Association President Kevin Peterman participated in a panel discussion. Our students were able to tour the Assembly Chamber and had the opportunity to attend an open house sponsored by the Speaker of the New York State

Assembly Carl Heastie, as well as a reception sponsored by the Urban League. Chair Sanders, Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Christopher Adams and FA President Kevin Peterman did an exceptional job of coordinating this visit and preparing our students to advocate for increased State support.

In February, the College and its students returned to Albany to participate in Higher Education Advocacy Day. Our students spent the day speaking on behalf of community college support with members of the State Assembly and Senate. Our messaging was centered on encouraging the Legislature to back an increase to base State aid and to restore aid to college-based child care centers. In addition to our students' efforts, BOT Vice Chair Jim Morgo and I met personally with State Senator Ken LaValle, Chairman of the Senate's Higher Education Committee, to discuss support for these important initiatives.

The New York State United Teachers (NYSUT) 2016 Higher Education Lobby Day also took place in February. This NYSUT event includes SUNY and CUNY students as part of its lobbying activities. This year, a student/faculty press conference was also held, and NYSUT members took advantage of the opportunity to attend legislative appointments with students.

In addition to speaking in support of the statewide strategy developed for community colleges, and the specific attention we dedicated toward advocating in support of the College's operating and capital budget efforts, we also completed the following activities this year:

I took time to schedule my annual visit with the *Newsday* editorial board. This year's conversation lasted approximately two hours and covered numerous topics, including: the College's Operating and Capital budgets and the level of support being provided by our local and state sponsors, our Middle States accreditation status, our new dining service and the implementation of the food service meal plan, enrollment, college affordability, partnerships, academics, the Hampton Bays initiative and advocacy. The session was lively and favorable. It resulted in a positive opinion piece and was followed by an interview with Trustee Denise Sullivan and members of the College's administration regarding the progress made to date on the Hampton Bays Initiative, an early intervention program meant to help address the issues of remedial education and college readiness.

An opinion piece was developed to address the use of a different set of performance measures to determine success by community colleges, as opposed to those used to determine success at four-year institutions. Submitted by Board Chair Theresa Sanders and Vice Chair Jim Morgo, the piece was published in *Newsday*.

My letter to the editor was published in the *Islip Bulletin* in response to an article they printed promoting trade schools, neglecting to mention the less expensive alternative of enrolling in a program of study at Suffolk County Community College. Please encourage those you know to look into our programs and visit our campuses. We are the best, most affordable option for those seeking an education that leads to lives transformed and individuals empowered.

I schedule my calendar so that I am able to visit the district offices of our elected officials during the course of the year. While it is necessary to have a presence in Albany each year, it is also important to meet the staff and legislators in their local office in order to discuss the College's major advocacy concerns.



*Suffolk Faculty Association President Kevin Peterman met with State Senator John Flanagan and advocated for enhanced support.*



*Increasingly, the College is partnering with area school districts to address remedial education and to enhance college readiness.*



*Opinion pieces were written this past year to provide a deeper understanding of College operations and the value that Suffolk brings to our communities.*



*Trustee Gordon Canary (4<sup>th</sup> from r) led a group of Suffolk students and administrators in a beach cleanup effort at Robert Moses State Park.*

Suffolk County Legislator Monica Martinez has taken the Chair position for the Legislature’s Education and Human Services Committee. I plan to meet with her frequently so that we can keep each other informed of activities and priorities related to higher education that are taking place at the College and across the County.

### Community Service

It is common for our students, faculty and staff to remain engaged in community service activities taking place both on and off campus.

Last September, I was invited by Arne Duncan, then Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, to join education leaders and students from around the world at the Fifth Annual President’s Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge Gathering and White House Convening in Washington, D.C. The topic of conversation centered upon how to work together in an international effort to make interfaith and community service a vehicle for global peace and understanding. As part of the itinerary, I was also invited to attend a special luncheon for 50 presidents representing major colleges from across the country, which was hosted by the President of Howard University.

Last September, New York State Senator Philip Boyle sponsored the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Beach Cleanup at Robert Moses State Park as part of an international effort focusing attention on clean beaches. This event is held each year on the third Saturday in September. We formed a team of students and joined Trustee Gordon Canary to participate in the clean-up effort and represent the College. It was a successful event, and I am confident that our students came away with an enhanced appreciation for how important it is to keep Long Island’s beaches clean.



*Students from Suffolk’s Culinary Arts program prepared Thanksgiving dinners for residents affiliated with the Dominican Sisters of Hampton Bays.*

The College’s Culinary Arts program students prepared 120 dinners for long-term patients and home-bound seniors of the Dominican Sisters of Hampton Bays. This marks the seventh year our students have done the holiday cooking in what has become an annual tradition. About 40 students and faculty chefs prepared the meal with ingredients provided by the Dominican Sisters – a dozen 20-pound turkeys, 100 pounds of mashed potatoes, 50 pounds of sweet potatoes, 80 pounds of stuffing, 25 pounds of assorted vegetables, five gallons of gravy and everything needed to bake apple and pumpkin pies.

In April, the Men’s Soccer and Lacrosse teams and the Women’s Softball team, hosted events to mark Autism Awareness Day on the athletic fields at the Michael J. Grant Campus in Brentwood. In addition to team events, participants enjoyed a DJ, ice cream truck, and concession stand.

The Long Island Shakespeare Festival offered free public performances of Alexandre Dumas’ *The Three Musketeers*, during summer 2016. The festival’s 16<sup>th</sup> season was presented at the College’s Ammerman Campus in Selden, both under the stars and in the Shea Theatre.

The College conducted a Student Transportation Survey, which was developed to gauge student satisfaction with current public transit options and to work toward implementing improvements based on student feedback.

Our campuses hosted events to promote breast cancer awareness, conduct blood drives and offer free Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) Immunization Clinics in conjunction with the Suffolk County Department of Health and Campus Student Health Services.



*The Long Island Shakespeare Festival offered free public performances of Alexandre Dumas’ *The Three Musketeers*.*

## College Highlights

Suffolk County Community College was pleased to host a group of top SUNY administrators on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Led by SUNY Provost Dr. Alexander Cartwright, the contingent included Eileen McLoughlin, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Chief Financial Officer; Joseph Porter, General Counsel; and Johanna Duncan-Poitier, Senior Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges and Education Pipeline. The visit included campus highlight presentations delivered by our Campus Executive Deans, a number of private meeting sessions, and lunch at the College's Culinary Arts and Hospitality Center, which was prepared and served by students enrolled in the program. During lunch, student Elisandra Fini presented a moving summary of her journey to Suffolk County Community College and how our institution changed her life. Later that afternoon, the SUNY visit concluded with a student panel featuring current and alumni scholarship recipients. In commenting on the visit, Provost Cartwright gave the College high praise and shared that every other College could learn a lot from our level of hospitality. He shared that Suffolk is often cited as an outstanding institution in Albany and that we clearly have all the components in place and the right leadership in order to address and attain SUNY goals related to graduation rate, time to degree completion, and academic quality.

The College was asked by Assemblyman Philip Ramos to host Speaker of the New York State Assembly Carl E. Heastie as part of the Speaker's visit to the 14<sup>th</sup> State Assembly District. During his visit, we discussed the College's plans for its Renewable Energy STEM Center, which is 50% funded by the State, as well as our new cybersecurity degree program, and a request for State support for a fourth year of funding for deferred maintenance and infrastructure projects totaling \$10.3 million.

In October, we were proud to host the Workforce Development Institute (WDI) at our Workforce Development Technology Center on the Michael J. Grant Campus. During this event, WDI and its partners unveiled "Millennials in Manufacturing," a video highlighting several Long Island Maker companies, their CEOs and millennial professionals. The event also featured a panel discussion exploring the rewards and challenges of operating a manufacturing business on Long Island, the new trend of millennials looking to work locally, and the career paths that are enabling them to innovate, contribute to business growth, and advance professionally. I was pleased to provide welcoming remarks to the standing-room-only crowd of over 100 and invited Marvin, one of our students who had benefitted from Suffolk's training programs, to join me at the podium and share his story. He did a wonderful job and received a standing ovation from the audience. The Workforce, Education and Veterans Work Group of the Long Island Regional Economic Development Council, of which I am co-chair, recently conducted a study that indicated a lack of awareness regarding what is being made on Long Island and by whom. It was determined that one step to address this issue was to implement a marketing and branding initiative. This event was the first step in that effort.

The College hosted a delegation from Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education, located in Monterrey, Mexico, through the Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education's International Exchange Program. The program was designed to expose administrators to global practices of student affairs and services. The delegation's visit included several institutions on Long Island; however, Suffolk County Community College was the only two-year institution. The other institutions being visited were Stony Brook University, Hofstra University and Molloy College. Suffolk was able to convey the differentiating qualities of a community college and the importance of transferring to a four-year institution. Our itinerary showcased the College's numerous



*Last fall, the College hosted a group of top SUNY officials, who attended a student panel featuring scholarship recipients.*



*Board Chair Theresa Sanders and I welcomed over 100 visitors to the Long Island Makers conference.*



*This year, we hosted a delegation from Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education in Mexico.*



*County Executive Steve Bellone held his inauguration ceremony following his re-election at the College's Michael J. Grant Campus.*

academic programs and opportunities available to students, as well as the College's outstanding facilities.

The College worked with staff from the Office of Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone to plan his inauguration ceremony following his re-election. The event took place on December 30<sup>th</sup> in the Van Nostrand Theatre on the Michael J. Grant Campus in Brentwood. Several of our student scholars were invited to support various aspects of the day's program, and I was honored to deliver the opening welcome address during the event.

On February 10<sup>th</sup> on the Ammerman Campus, Nobel Prize-winning economist, author, and *The New York Times* columnist Paul Krugman, delivered a speech on income inequality. The Shea Theatre was filled to its capacity of nearly 500 and the audience was fully engaged in his talk. Following his presentation, Mr. Krugman addressed questions from the audience, which included faculty, students, retirees and members of the general public. We hosted a special luncheon for Mr. Krugman following his speech. I was able to sit and speak with him about the role of community colleges nationwide, statewide, and especially here in Suffolk County. Previously, he had been asked for his thoughts regarding community colleges and had responded that he had spent his academic time in Ivy League institutions and could not speak to community colleges. I was able to share with him our efforts in workforce and economic development, as well as academic preparation for students who enter Suffolk through the open enrollment process, including how we assist them in completion. We spoke about what was on the horizon as the "next big thing." He commended us on the plans for our Renewable Energy/STEM Center and our proposal for cybersecurity and energy management, and indicated that he believed those paths were the way to go for the future.



*The New York Times columnist Paul Krugman was invited to visit the College by the Honors Program.*

In March, the college-wide committee on Diversity and Multicultural Affairs hosted noted educator and nationally known speaker on student success Dr. Steven Perry for two speeches on the topic of personal and civic responsibility in all aspects of life that were simulcast college-wide. His dynamic style placed emphasis on building up individuals and communities in order to make meaningful contributions to society. In addition to our own students and senior administrators, the audience included a group of students from Wyandanch High School.



*Noted educator Dr. Steven Perry joined us for two sessions that were simulcast college-wide.*

On April 4<sup>th</sup>, I was pleased to attend the launch of the College's Presidential Lecture Series. This annual forum will serve to engage our communities in meaningful conversations that can inspire positive change. It also provides the College with an opportunity to meet its mission-related strategic goal of enhancing community enrichment through increased participation in social and cultural events and activities conducted by the College or in partnership with external stakeholders. The inaugural presentation was entitled "Find me unafraid: Love, Loss and Hope," which detailed the story of Kennedy Odede and Jessica Posner, who came from very different worlds and eventually founded a school for girls in Kenya. The event was well attended and I was impressed by the depth of the discussions following the presentation.



On April 21<sup>st</sup>, the College hosted the Citizens Campaign for the Environment's 2016 Earth Day Summit. The keynote address that day was delivered by Judith Enck, the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Regional Director. The theme for the Summit was "Water & Energy: Shaping Long Island's Future." Participants explored climate change as well as water and energy issues facing Long Island. Scott Mandia, Professor of Physical Sciences and Assistant Chair, participated on the summit panel as a climate change expert.



The Ammerman Campus Theater Department hosted Brant Pope from the University of Texas-Austin, one of the premier university theatre programs in the nation. Dr. Pope selected two community colleges that he has recognized as exemplary to visit, and Suffolk County Community College was one of them.

The College hosted its annual commencement ceremony on Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. This year, we incorporated numerous logistical changes that helped to streamline and shorten the program. Following a year of planning, we were able to construct a stage that had sufficient seating for our faculty to sit facing the students for the first time since we began hosting commencement inside the Field House. With 4,398 students meeting the eligibility requirements for graduation, the Class of 2016 stands as the largest in the College's history and brings the total number of alumni that have graduated from Suffolk County Community College to over 120,000. Kevin O'Connor, alumnus from the Class of 1982 and President/CEO of Bridgehampton National Bank, served as Grand Marshal. SUNY Board Chairman H. Carl McCall delivered the ceremony's keynote address. The Foundation's Office of Alumni Relations welcomed the Class of 2016 by presenting each graduate with an alumni welcome package and encouraging them to stay connected with their alma mater so the next generation of Suffolk students will also succeed. As part of the day's ceremony, we also performed the College's alma mater song, which was written during the College's early years by faculty member (ret.) Anthony R. Martone. Unfortunately, over time, the original music was lost and the alma mater laid dormant. Recently, when the words were rediscovered, Dr. Richard Wright, Academic Chair and Associate Professor of Music on our Ammerman Campus, volunteered to compose new music. This year, the College Choir, under the direction of Dr. Alice Cavanaugh, performed "Suffolk College, We Salute You" for the first time featuring the new composition.

The College's Annual Professional Development Day took place on October 13<sup>th</sup>. I was honored to commence the program by offering opening remarks that outlined how my presidential goals link to our Strategic Plan. I also made the point that these goals align not only to meet the expectations of our external accreditors, but serve to enhance student learning at our exceptional College. Members of our faculty and staff were able to present over 15 breakout sessions during the day. Topics ranged from veterans services and financial aid to disability services and the Virtual Learning Commons to academic integrity and Title IX. In addition, tri-campus department meetings were held to discuss curricula across the campuses and best practices within the disciplines. The day's keynote was presented by Dr. Todd Zakrajsek, Associate Professor from UNC-Chapel Hill and co-author of *The New Science of Learning: How to Learn in Harmony with Your Brain*, who presented an insightful and humorous presentation on the topic of student learning. Over 400 faculty, administrators and staff attended the event. The day's program was rated as being good to excellent through a survey conducted afterwards.

In July, select members of the college community participated in the College's Advanced Academy for Leadership Development. Sessions were conducted by facilitators from the Chair Academy – a nationally acclaimed postsecondary leadership training provider.

The first-ever eLearning Academy was offered this year, and a review of the assessment documents enabled us to implement revisions that strengthened the program.

The Michael J. Grant Campus initiated a Faculty Learning Community Program (FLC) that hosted 10 sessions related to the theme of *Creative Classroom: Developing*



*Commencement 2016 included many VIP guests. Standing (l to r): Assemblyman Al Graf; U.S. Congressman Lee Zeldin, myself, and SUNY BOT Chairman and keynote speaker H. Carl McCall. Seated (l to r): Legislator Tom Cilmi; Salvatore La Lima, College President from 1997 to 2003; Grand Marshal and '82 alumnus Kevin O'Connor.*

### *Suffolk County Community College's Alma Mater*

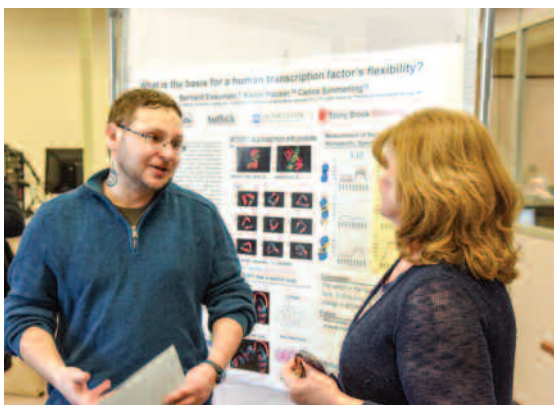
*Ever trusting in our vision,  
Always urging us on to strive,  
Suffolk College, we salute you,  
And the dreams you've kept alive.*

*Darkened days when troubled voices neared,  
Lonely hours when grim doubts appeared,  
By our side to reaffirm our goals,  
You held high the learning lantern,  
Beamed to guide our souls.*

*Ever trusting in our vision,  
Always urging us on to strive,  
Suffolk College, we salute you,  
And the dreams you've kept alive.*

*And the dreams you keep alive.*

*-Anthony R. Martone*



The College's libraries designated March as STEM month.

*Your Response to Student Engagement.* In addition, the campus also provided staff development opportunities for academic chairs and assistant chairs, as well as an AME program that focused on student retention.

My series of Campus Town Hall Meetings was held in both the fall and spring semesters. This year, I joined the members of my Cabinet at each campus location, utilizing the opportunity to bring the college community up to date with the latest activities and accomplishments taking place across the campuses, in addition to answering questions brought forth through the proceedings. Each Town Hall allowed for one session directed to faculty and staff, with a second session held exclusively for campus student leaders.

### Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)

This summer, the College received notification that it will be awarded a five-year grant of \$997,656 from the National Science Foundation (NSF) entitled *Support for Undergraduates at the Community College Engaged in STEM Studies (SUCCESS)*. The centerpiece of the program is an active learning methodology that includes authentic research internship experiences at national laboratories including Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL). SUCCESS will increase the number of academically talented STEM students who graduate, transfer or enter the STEM workforce by increasing the number of participants recruited, scholarships awarded, and students engaged in authentic research experiences. Students in all STEM disciplines at the College are eligible and we anticipate that over 200 scholarships will be awarded. In addition to scholarships, awardees will benefit from: 1) Authentic research, presentation, and publication opportunities; 2) Professional advising, mentoring, tutoring and community building through technology; 3) An online research methods course and 4) Improved retention through community building among S-STEM scholars.

This is our third consecutive National Science Foundation grant for scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (NSF S-STEM) and I am pleased to share with you that the College's proposal received unanimous "Excellent" scores from the NSF reviewers. With receipt of this most recent funding, Suffolk County Community College becomes the recipient of more than \$2.16 million dollars of funding over a period of 15 years in this S-STEM scholarship track alone. We are one of only a handful of community colleges nationally that can make this claim. When added to our National Institutes of Health, Long Island Community Foundation, and Helmsley Foundation Charitable Trust awards for academic initiatives that support our STEM program, Suffolk is in receipt of over \$2.6 million dollars – an historic achievement! I would like to congratulate Dr. Candice Foley, Professor of Chemistry and the College's NSF S-STEM Project Director/Principal Investigator, as well as the staff in our Office of Grants Development for their exceptional work. Over the course of the past nine years, over 100 Suffolk NSF S-STEM scholars have been able to benefit from paid research internships at national labs and research universities, including Brookhaven National Laboratory, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California, Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Washington, Idaho National Laboratory in Idaho, and Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico, and almost 100% have transferred to complete bachelor's degrees (and beyond) in a STEM discipline. The new grant award will begin in September 2016 under the continued direction of Dr. Foley. This year, 12 students from Suffolk served as STEM student researchers. Since research opportunities are a primary factor in persistence in STEM, our students are well positioned to continue along the pathway to a STEM degree. Suffolk's student researchers are participating in the following programs:

**STEM Success Starts Here.**

Improving America's STEM education has become a top priority across the nation. At Suffolk, approximately 1,500 students are currently enrolled in STEM majors and the College's STEM program has been producing award-winning students while providing summer research internships at internationally-renowned facilities, including Brookhaven National Laboratory, NASA, and Oak Ridge National Laboratory, to name just a few.

Contact us at 631-451-4111 to find out why making Suffolk your first choice is a decision that's second to none.

**Suffolk**  
SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
sunysuffolk.edu/Enroll

We have received our third consecutive NSF S-STEM grant, for scholarship support.



### Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) at Stony Brook University (SBU)

One student is part of the REU experience; another is conducting research in Nanotechnology for health, energy and the environment; five are working under the auspices of the Biology department's Howard Hughes Medical Institute-sponsored program, and two students are studying geology at the Mineral Physics Institute at SBU.

### Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) summer research programs

One student is conducting a project with BNL's Nonproliferation and Homeland Security Field Support Group (HSFS).

### Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (Richland, WA)

One student is studying geology relevant to nuclear waste disposal.

### Idaho National Laboratory (Arco Desert, ID)

One student is studying desert geology.

Among Suffolk students currently engaged in research internships, three have been asked to continue their paid research during the upcoming fall semester, fully supported by their scientist mentors.

At this spring's closing ceremony for NSF S-STEM, it was encouraging to see our existing community college research scholars interacting with our alumni researchers at four-year universities as well as those alumni who have finished graduate school and are now employed in research positions at BNL, where they mentor their "pipeline peers" during the summer. Our current and former NSF S-STEM scholars are leveraging their Suffolk experiences at some of the nation's best educational institutions, including Cornell, the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Columbia University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and within SUNY. A former NSF S-STEM research scholar, Jose Gomera ('10), is currently featured in an alumni spotlight video for attaining his career goal of becoming a nuclear engineer at BNL. Jose had his "STEM Start" at Suffolk. I continue to be inspired by the promise and achievements of the Suffolk students funded through NSF S-STEM grants.

Dr. Candice Foley addressed the benefits of undergraduate research experiences, the strength and success of Suffolk's students and the vital role of community colleges, particularly Suffolk, as crucial entry points and valued partners within STEM education during a presentation at the national American Chemical Society meeting in San Diego, CA. Dr. Foley was both a symposium organizer and presented our NSF S-STEM program statistics and data to highlight the intellectual merit and broad impact of our program. She also presented to the SUNY Research Foundation Board of Trustees at the SUNY Global Center to articulate the benefits that early research experiences provide for our students, enabling them to transition from the community college to the baccalaureate level, on to graduate school and into the STEM workforce.

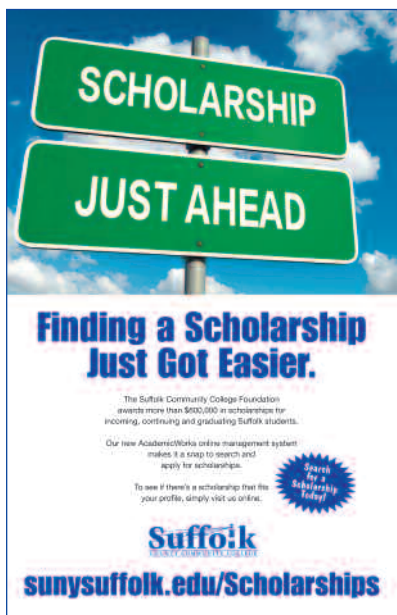
Suffolk's strength in connecting students to real-world experiential research opportunities was a strong message delivered by our student scholars who were selected to present their research results in a wide array of local, regional and national conferences including:

- 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Pine Barrens Research Forum – Brookhaven National Laboratory
- SUNY Faculty Senate Exploration, and Observation: Undergraduate Student Research and Creative Activities Forum – Albany, NY
- NIH Institutional Research and Career Development Symposium
- Ammerman Library – STEM Month Highlight and Showcase 2016
- LI Natural History Conference – Brookhaven National Laboratory





*STEM research starts on campus and can lead to summer internships at internationally renowned laboratory facilities.*



*Making scholarship funds available to our students is a top priority at the Foundation.*

- LI STEM Diversity Summit – Farmingdale State College
- Long Island STEM Hub Annual Celebration – Brookhaven National Laboratory
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference – SUNY Cobleskill
- Columbia University Undergraduate Research Symposia

Our leadership in providing student research opportunities has been broadly recognized. This year, Oregon State University, a national leader in online education, featured us in their weekly podcast series “Research in Action.” In addition, Brookhaven National Laboratory sent a message officially commending Suffolk for supplying the second largest group of student interns to the lab during the last 10 years and noting that Suffolk student interns successfully compete with those from MIT, Yale, Columbia, and other top colleges and universities.

STEM scholar research was also a featured highlight at two College events this past year. First, as part of the delegation visit by the Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education in October, two NSF S-STEM scholars were invited to share details about their STEM education and how their research experiences are impacting their career aspirations. In addition, the Ammerman Campus library dedicated March 2016 as STEM Month. Through this event, students presented scholar displays, exhibits, and student research posters to their peers and other members of the college community.

### **Millions of Reasons to Celebrate at the College’s Foundation**

Donor investment in the College’s Foundation has enabled the growth of new and existing scholarships, providing opportunities to expand educational experiences that benefit students attending Suffolk County Community College. Generous donations received from individuals, corporate partners, and foundations, along with robust faculty and staff support and gifts from alumni and friends, enabled the Foundation to award more than \$650,000 in scholarships to deserving students college-wide. New scholarships established this year include:

- Cornell Cooperative Extension Scholarship
- Mattace Family Scholarship – established by alumnus Ernesto Mattace, who went on to serve as a Trustee and Chairman of Suffolk County Community College’s Board of Trustees and Director and Chair of the Suffolk Community College Foundation Board
- New York State Trooper Jose Rosado Memorial Scholarship – honors an alumnus who was killed in the line of duty responding to a call for assistance
- Sabina Steiner Memorial Nursing Scholarship – created for a student in the nursing program who has an interest in working in the public health sector
- Staff Sergeant Louis Bonacasa Memorial Scholarship – honors the Eastern Campus student who lost his life serving in Afghanistan late last year
- William Baffa Memorial Scholarship – awarded to Ammerman students who display a dedication to business education while recognizing the importance of networking

Additionally, the Foundation is delighted to report that two new financial-hardship funds were established in 2016. These funds are dedicated to assisting students who experience an unforeseen financial need:

- Bobby Hommel Memorial Student Hardship Fund – to provide critical funding to student veterans facing economic hardship
- Grant Campus Student Hardship Fund – Marc Fellenz, Professor of Philosophy on the Michael J. Grant Campus, established an endowed fund in memory of his parents, Alfreda and Richard Fellenz, to provide assistance to students attending

the campus who have come upon unforeseen financial difficulties that would jeopardize their ability to remain in College

The following existing scholarships and funds received additional donations during the course of the year, enabling each award to continue supporting the purpose for which it was initially created:

- Jay Schwartz Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Giuseppe A. Nigro Lodge #2234 – has been a consistent supporter of the Foundation and student scholarships for over two decades
- John Burgess Scholarship – presented to one female and one male student enrolled on the Michael J. Grant Campus
- Richard and Mary Morrison Foundation Student Hardship Fund – to date, 41 students have been retained and supported with the continuation of their studies with help from this fund
- Rotary of the Ronkonkoma's Scholarship
- Board of Directors of the Peconic Landing Lifetime Learning Council – to support a scholarship for a non-traditional matriculated student attending the Eastern Campus
- Island Outreach Foundation – supported renewal of its funding to cover costs associated with operating the College's Veterans Resource Centers on our campuses
- Frey Family Foundation – continued benevolence from the Frey Family Foundation endowment supports excellence in math education at Suffolk. Since 2004, the scholarship has provided funding for students studying mathematics at Suffolk and beyond
- Clifford H. "Ted" Rees, Jr. Scholarship Foundation – funding to assist with the recruitment and competency of future heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration (HVAC/R) technicians
- Michael Stryka Memorial Scholarship for Culinary Students – to help culinary students achieve their career goals

Dr. Robert Frey, Secretary of the Suffolk Community College Foundation Board of Directors, together with his wife, Kathryn, graciously hosted a reception at their personal residence several weeks prior to the 2016 Salute to Excellence Gala, where the Frey family were our distinguished honorees. Community and business leaders gathered at the Frey's home to learn more about Suffolk's outstanding student opportunities and the value of the community college as a resource for Long Island's economy. Board of Trustee Chair Theresa Sanders delivered greetings during the brief evening program. Guests were also introduced to Quinn Favilla, a recent recipient of a Frey Family Foundation scholarship that enabled her to continue her studies at Stony Brook University. Today, Quinn is a senior finishing her degree in Applied Mathematics and Statistics. She was overjoyed to meet her scholarship benefactor.

Then, on May 5th, guests attending the Foundation's Salute to Excellence Gala, themed The Bridge to Opportunity, witnessed the receipt of the largest alumni-directed gift in the history of the institution when Dr. Robert Frey ('78), through his family Foundation, generously donated an unprecedented gift of \$1,000,000. Dr. Frey, his wife Kathryn ('73), daughter Megan ('16) and son Michael were all recognized at the gala. A great success, this event will be forever viewed as a transformational evening in the history of the Foundation. The Frey family's gift is a major accomplishment for this year, raising critical dollars to fund student scholarships and enhance quality academic programs. I thank them for their generous gift and Robert for his dedication and commitment to academic excellence.



*Student Quinn Favilla spoke about her Suffolk experience during a donor reception last spring.*





The Foundation gala honored Dr. Robert Frey (78), his wife Kathryn (73), their daughter Megan (16), and their son Michael.

The Board of Directors of the Suffolk Community College Foundation recently amended its Mission Statement:

*The Suffolk Community College Foundation's mission is to support student access to quality education and vocational skill training by providing scholarships, emergency loans and funding for program development. Additionally, the Foundation seeks to engage alumni to maintain their connection to the College, to support Foundation events, philanthropy, student mentorship and internship opportunities.*

Earlier this year, the Foundation Board acknowledged the years of service contributed by its resigning member Kevin Rooney. To fill the ensuing vacancy in the position of Second Vice Chair, the Board's Executive Committee welcomed Ms. Leslie Anderson. The following Board members represent the Suffolk Community College Foundation's Executive Committee for the forthcoming year:

- Belinda Alvarez Groneman, Chairperson
- Michael J. Grant, Jr., First Vice Chairperson
- Leslie B. Anderson, Esq., Second Vice Chairperson
- Brian Peterson, Treasurer
- Robert Frey, Ph.D., Secretary

In addition, the Foundation nominated and approved four new members to its Board of Directors, each dedicated to advancing the College and supporting student success: Mary Reid, a well respected, vibrant and effective leader for Long Island's organized labor community; Angel Rivera, Vice Chair of the Board of Directors for Youth Enrichment Services and the Outreach Director for New York State Senator Phil Boyle; Lisa Calla, a highly regarded member of Suffolk's legal community; and Dr. Steven A. Milner, Founder and CEO of US Mortgage Corporation and an active Long Island philanthropist.

Internal leadership giving is critical as we work to engage outside stakeholders to make a gift in support of student success here at Suffolk. It is the pledge and gift that makes a powerful statement about our commitment to this institution. I am happy to report that a pre-fall campaign to engage Cabinet members in leadership giving was extremely successful and we are at 100% participation. This is an unprecedented level of engagement in the history of this institution. As a result, we will go into the upcoming fall well positioned because of this leadership.

At this point in time, gifts and pledges to our \$7 million major gifts campaign, Vision 2020, now total close to \$5.6 million, primarily dedicated toward support for College programs and student scholarships. I extend appreciation to the faculty, staff and administrators who, working closely with our Foundation staff, have enabled us to attain this level of support. I am also grateful for the Frey family's gift, which brought us very close to meeting our goal for this campaign.

In October, the College received a state-of-the-art high definition mobile production vehicle outfitted by an alumnus of our Radio and Television Production program, Dave Haralambou – owner of By Request Communications in Marlborough, Massachusetts. The College has been producing live-to-web productions for almost 10 years, but this van represents a major upgrade. The new vehicle can handle more equipment and is spacious enough for several students and an instructor. It's a unique piece of teaching equipment unlike anything on any SUNY campus. Professor Alan Bernstein and his students are now working in an environment identical to what would be encountered in a real-world live television production. Students enrolled in this program currently produce up to four live web broadcasts each semester, including concerts, athletic sporting events and commencement, with each broadcast requiring



Alumnus David Haralambou (l) presented a state-of-the-art mobile production van to the College's Radio and Television Production program.



up to one month of pre-production preparation.

Following last year's successful School of Nursing 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pinning Ceremony and alumni procession, Janet North Hovnanian ('65), graciously donated a computer cart to train current School of Nursing students.

The 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Foundation Golf Classic was a huge success, providing an opportunity to honor John Gallagher, Suffolk County Police Commissioner (Retired) and former Executive Dean at the College. Drawing close to 100 golfers and 175 guests to the awards dinner, the Foundation raised over \$91,000. The honoree for our 2016 Golf Classic will be distinguished Suffolk County Community College alumnus and Bridgehampton National Bank President and CEO Kevin O'Connor ('82).

In collaboration with Shannon O'Neill, College Director of Veterans Services, the Foundation received a grant of \$80,000 from the Kisco Foundation in support of Suffolk's student veterans. Our efforts will serve to develop best practices that can be replicated nationwide to advance community colleges as the optimal learning venues for our veterans and their families.

I thank the Foundation for sponsoring the implementation of the College's new scholarship management software program – AcademicWorks. The system allows students to view the numerous scholarships available at the College. Accepted, prospective, and continuing students will be able to view and apply for scholarships in a paperless environment – from the submission of the scholarship application to supporting documents and letters of recommendation. Other noteworthy features of the software include: students being automatically matched to scholarships based on their Banner profile and receiving an email reminder if their application is incomplete prior to the scholarship's deadline date. Scholarship committee members will also be able to complete their review and selection activities completely online. I was pleased that we were able to benefit from input received from a number of our Get There From Here scholars, who experimented with the program and gave feedback while it was still under development.

The Foundation, in collaboration with the Ammerman Campus Faculty Senate, recognized exceptional graduates at the Distinguished Student Achievement Awards held in April, where students gathered with their families, friends, administrators, and faculty to celebrate student achievements.

In May, Foundation staff attended the Radio and Television Production Alumni Awards Dinner at the UpSky Hotel. This year's honorees were Greg Bracco ('81), who has worked at CBS News in the graphics department for over 30 years, and SNY Producer Chris Farina ('98).

The Suffolk Community College Foundation is proud to announce the establishment of The 1959 Society – providing opportunities for faculty, staff, friends and supporters of the College to make meaningful gifts through estate planning. Members of the Society pledge their support to the College by designating Suffolk in their will, life insurance or other estate plans. Additionally, The 1959 Society recognizes members who make planned gifts during their lifetime that benefit both the College and the donor through trusts, real property gifts and other planned gifts. The 1959 Society held its first informational seminar, providing members with insight into taxation and legal aspects of estate planning. The 1959 Society will present annual seminars on estate planning and will continue to recognize those members who include the



*We were honored to recognize John Gallagher, Retired Commissioner of the Suffolk County Police Department, at last year's golf outing.*



*Kevin O'Connor ('82), President and CEO of Bridgehampton National Bank, the honoree for the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Golf Classic.*





*Our Alumni Association hosted a Greater Smithtown Chamber of Commerce meeting.*



*Alumni receptions were held before some performances at the Van Nostrand Theatre.*



*Our Automotive Technology program continues to generate partnership interest among industry leaders.*

College in their long-term philanthropic plans.

The Foundation's Alumni Relations office coordinates programs and fundraising initiatives for over 120,000 Alumni Association members. During the academic year, the office also organized two used computer sales, with proceeds directed toward support for student scholarships.

The Alumni Association hosted many programs to reconnect friends and create new ties among Suffolk graduates. The "Trailblazers Reunion – Classes 1962-1975" welcomed over 60 of the College's earliest students back to the Babylon Student Center for an enchanting weekend: alumni attended the Long Island Shakespeare Festival performance, enjoyed a lovely dinner, and held an informal brunch.

Two alumni receptions were held for performances at the Van Nostrand Theater to support alumni in the arts. Alumni and friends had light refreshments and then marveled at *Musique* with Mary Seymour ('15), original cast member in *Hair* on Broadway; and "Broadway Comes to Brentwood" with Marie Danvers ('83), star of Broadway's *Phantom of the Opera*.

Careers and business development were key topics for alumni providing mentorship and guidance to new students following in alumni footsteps. "Life After Suffolk" was a Phi Theta Kappa/Alpha Eta Gamma alumni panel discussion presented to current students preparing to transfer.

Connecting with local businesses, the Alumni Association co-hosted a Greater Smithtown Chamber of Commerce Meeting at Whisper Vineyards, inviting entrepreneurs to hire current Suffolk students and alumni. Networking receptions allow for alumni seeking transitions to meet new business contacts and for students to practice skills that lead toward jobs and new business opportunities. Serving as a hub of activity, the Alumni Association has increased communication to reach tens of thousands of individuals and launched a new website to share upcoming programs: <https://sunysuffolk.thankyou4caring.org/alumni>.

### Partnership Development

Automotive Technology faculty met with the Corporate Training Manager from General Motors Corporation to discuss future expansion of the program. AC Delco representatives were also present and expressed a strong interest in building their partnership with the College as well.

The Office of Instructional Technology has been charged with assisting SUNY in developing a comprehensive IT strategy for the climate action group known as the New York Presidents for Resilience (NYPR). The strategy will include establishing technology standards, procedures and research; setting up a collaborative online working space; developing a website to reflect the Commission's role within SUNY; and investigating the use of a video conferencing tool to facilitate meetings.

We partnered to design and implement a program through which Hampton Bays High School students may earn a nationally recognized Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, which qualifies those completing it to work in a preschool as assistants.

LIU President Kim Cline and I met to discuss the ongoing partnerships between our two institutions as well as ideas for upcoming opportunities. We have approximately 30 students who have enrolled in our ExpressSuccess program, and both of us would



like to ensure that these students have an exceptional experience in this dual program.

The Office for Continuing Education established a priority goal of building new partnerships to expand access to STEM programs for residents of Suffolk County. This year's milestones include:

- A partnership with Columbia University that led to a grant from the US Health and Human Services/Office of the National Coordinator to deliver updated Health IT training to 500 healthcare workers. Training has begun through employer-based recruitment at LIJ and Catholic Health Services, in addition to many small practices. This training is being delivered online, which reduces employee time out of the office.
- The development of a partnership with Cold Spring Harbor Fish Hatchery has led to learning experiences for Science and Technology Entry Program (STEP) students.
- Liberty Partnerships Program students from Longwood School District participated in the "Day in the Life of the Carmans River," an environmental science project sponsored by Brookhaven National Laboratory's Open Space Program and the Education and Outreach Office of the Central Pine Barrens Joint Planning and Policy Commission.
- Patchogue-Medford School District students are now served by STEP.
- Summer computer courses in 3-D animation, app development, scripting and Minecraft® Modders were offered to students in grades 7-12.

### Diversity

The College has been at the forefront of developing a well-coordinated approach that supports diversity and inclusion across our institution. From the Board decision to add Institutional Goal #6 – Diversity to the College's Strategic Plan to ensuring staff exists to address issues related to hiring and training, harassment and discrimination prevention, our College is meeting the expectations for this important area.

Now, SUNY is embarking on a similar strategy at the system level. SUNY's plan requires strategies be in place for student recruitment, retention and completion; administrative, faculty and staff recruitment and retention; and training in cultural competence. All of these requirements are already established activities here at Suffolk. As requested by SUNY, a copy of our Diversity Strategic Plan will be submitted to the Chancellor by the deadline of November 1, 2016. In addition, the College's Board of Trustees already approved the newly created position of Chief Diversity Officer and I have appointed Christina Vargas to this new role, where she will help coordinate our expanding diversity agenda.

We have made great strides in advancing a hiring process that includes attention to diversity. By linking efforts between the College Affirmative Action Officer with our Human Resources Office, every search committee at the College is instructed regarding appropriate protocols to be followed before commencing with search activities. Over 25 search committees received training this year.

In light of the devastating and brutal event at the nightclub in Orlando that targeted the LGBTQ community, members of the College's LGBTQ taskforce invited the college community to come together in a show of support for the people of Orlando. Each campus hosted its own event as a way to provide a peaceful space for people to gather and be with one another. Nearly 150 participants took this opportunity to join with their colleagues.

The Center for the Holocaust, Diversity and Human Understanding (CHDHU) plays a

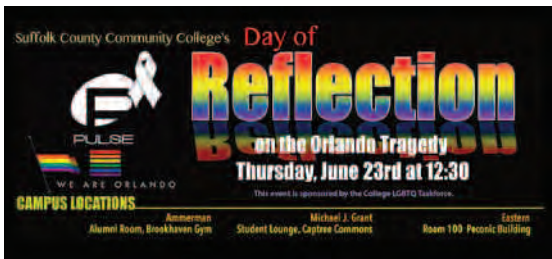


SCCC • LIU JOINT ADMISSIONS  
ExpressSuccess Program



*The College has been successful in forming grant partnerships and public-private partnerships to expand training and program opportunities.*





*The College is a leader in the education of our communities about diversity, equity and inclusion.*



significant role in helping to educate our students and our communities about diversity, equity, and inclusion. Among its many activities over the past year:

- The Center held its annual Unity Day in January. There were over 475 students from various Suffolk County school districts in attendance. As part of this effort, a film entitled “Fear, Hate, Hope and the Power of Symbols” was produced for use with future internal and external audiences.
- I was honored to join College Trustee Paul Pontieri, Jr. and Suffolk County Legislator Robert Calarco as I presented remarks during the reception marking the 2015 Embracing our Differences outdoor display.
- We hosted “A Conversation Among Survivors.” This program featured four Holocaust survivors – Ruth Minsky Sender, Hannah Robinson, Mordechai Miller, and Annie Blieberg – who shared their insights and observations on human rights and respect for one another. Their lives, forever changed by their experiences as teenagers, gave them a perspective that remains relevant to today’s society.

The Ammerman Campus African American Student Union hosted a Student Diversity Leadership Conference that addressed the conversations around diversity that are relevant to today’s students.

The Michael J. Grant Campus Office of Media Services partnered with NOMORE.org, the Suffolk County Sheriff’s Office, and the Suffolk County Executive’s Taskforce Against Family Violence, among others, to address domestic violence. I joined more than 50 of our students who were photographed as part of the *No More – Together We Can End Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault* campaign. Student photographs were displayed throughout Suffolk’s three campuses and on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram channels. We also produced a series of videos and public service announcements that will be used in ongoing training programs.

In conjunction with the College’s offices of Legal Affairs and Employee Resources, we successfully implemented the continuation of online training through Workplace Answers, LLC. Two additional training modules were completed by the end of 2015, with over 2,600 employees completing their assigned courses. These courses covered topics such as dimensions of diversity, identity, protected classes, stereotypes, privilege, bias, respect and inclusion.

Training sessions were also provided to employees including the Cabinet, new employees and adjuncts, chairs, student affairs staff and counselors, during Professional Development Day. Comprehensive Title IX training was also conducted throughout the year for student leaders, clubs and organizations, peer mentors, orientation leaders, student athletes, student code of conduct board members, and for new students during orientation. The College hosted a SUNY-wide bystander intervention facilitators program entitled “Bringing in the Bystander.” Four college members were trained in facilitating this program and have initiated bystander intervention training programs on each campus.

The College worked this year to build and enhance its network of referral services for sexual violence, including meetings with the Campus Sexual Assault Victims Unit of the NY State Police and the Victims Information Bureau of Suffolk (VIBS) where we discussed training collaborations, referrals and protocols. VIBS has done outreach, participated in the annual College health fair and visited each campus to promote and explain services.

The Michael J. Grant Campus presented a special event series to commemorate its



*The No More campaign helped raise awareness regarding domestic violence.*

receipt of a competitive national grant from the American Library Association and the National Endowment for the Humanities. The series featured eight free public events including lectures and scholar-led roundtables, as well as professional and student performances. As part of the grant award, the College received the six-part, NEH-supported documentary *Latino Americans: 500 Years of History*, created for PBS in 2013. The award-winning series chronicles the history of Latinos in North America from the 16<sup>th</sup> century to present day. The College was able to conduct public screenings of three episodes of the documentary series, moderated by Dr. Justin Turner, Professor of History at Suffolk's Eastern Campus, along with the following prominent Latin American scholars: Dr. Kimberly Ramírez, Professor of English at the City University of New York and Distinguished Professor of Latin American Studies, and Dr. Aviva Chomsky of Salem State University. Other events included a panel discussion focusing on Latina/o Empowerment and Community Outreach through Higher Education, a discussion with Marta del Busto of Operation Pedro Pan, a roundtable featuring prominent Latina/o theatre practitioners and artists, a staged student and faculty reading of *Hold: Requiem for a Bride* with award-winning playwright Carlos Serrano, and a performance and discussion with popular Latina performer Janis Astor del Valle.



*Through grant funding, the College was able to celebrate Latino history with a series of free public events.*

On October 27<sup>th</sup>, the Long Island Immigrant Student Advocates (LIISA) held the first Long Island Dreamers Conference. Over 500 students, educators and advocates attended the conference, where panel discussions and networking took place regarding ways to increase resources and access to higher education for students who do not meet federal/state residency requirements. These efforts will complement the DREAMers initiative currently underway at the Foundation, where we have secured our first scholarship for undocumented students, The David M. Sperling “DREAM” Scholarship.



For our students, the Office of Multicultural Affairs continued to schedule diversity workshops, held a Diwali Hindu Festival, hosted its annual Multicultural Thanksgiving Celebration, escorted students to Southampton for the African American Film Festival, and facilitated events to mark Latin Hispanic Heritage month – complete with cultural foods, flags, displays and dancing.

As part of Black History Month, the Office of Multicultural Affairs mounted a display on each of our campuses highlighting numerous inventions created by African Americans. In addition to the display, a variety of films and lectures, a special author's presentation, as well as a history presentation using song, dance and spoken word, were presented.

### Veterans Services

The College was once again cited as a “Military Friendly” institution, reflecting our commitment to providing the best possible services to student veterans. Each of our campuses have active student veterans clubs and I support efforts to provide those individuals who have served our country with the assistance necessary to ensure they succeed as students here at Suffolk County Community College.

This year, we were very successful in securing funding for numerous initiatives related to providing support to our student veterans. We received private grants that enabled us to establish and staff a Veterans Resource Center on each campus. I was proud to welcome U.S. Congressman Lee Zeldin as he joined us to mark the official opening of the first of these Veterans Resource Centers on our Eastern Campus. A representative from the College now serves on Congressman Zeldin's Veterans Committee.



*The College is a recognized Military Friendly institution.*



*During the week surrounding Veterans Day, many ceremonies and events took place.*

I was also honored to host the Student Veteran Association's (SVA) program for Veterans Day on the Ammerman Campus. The ceremony drew veteran representatives from across Suffolk County and included a color guard and honor guard provided by the 106<sup>th</sup> Air Rescue Wing from Westhampton Beach. The event included reflections on his Coast Guard Service by Ammerman Campus Executive Dean, Wes Lundburg, and remarks by Vietnam veteran Brian Rockwood. The ceremony concluded with an Honor Guard flag-folding ceremony and "Taps" performed on trumpet by Suffolk music major Colin Holsinger. Veterans and guests then remained for a well-attended luncheon in the Student Center.

In honor of Veterans Day, the following activities also occurred across our campuses: Student Veteran Association (SVA) panel discussions; "Witness to Liberation," the conversation between a Holocaust survivor and a concentration camp liberator; a flag-raising ceremony; Women Veterans Writing Workshop; and the Telling Project, where seven local veterans and military family members shared stories of service and sacrifice.

During the course of the year, numerous events were sponsored in collaboration with the campus SVAs, including a Northport VA garden cleanup, a comedy show and a 5K race. The Eastern Campus Student Veterans Association hosted a fundraising screening of the film "Welcome to Soldier Ride" at the Suffolk Theater in Riverhead. Following the screening, there was an open discussion with the film's Director/Writer Nick Krauss. An special bike was presented to a wounded veteran at the conclusion of the screening event. All proceeds from the screening were dedicated toward support for the Sgt. Louis Bonacasa Scholarship and the Bobby Hommel Memorial Scholarship.

The College received a gift to facilitate student and staff attendance at a national Student Veteran conference. As a result, a group of nine student veterans and accompanying staff members attended the 2016 Student Veterans of America National Conference held in Orlando.

This past spring, student veterans and college administrators from across the country gathered in Washington, D.C to discuss veteran's issues. A group from Suffolk participated and Shannon O'Neill, College Director of Veterans Affairs, made a presentation at the White House before top leaders from the Department of Veterans Affairs, representatives from national organizations serving veterans, and staff members from the administration. Student veterans Jason Chervin and Peter Olivia also met with House and Senate members to share their student experiences as advocates for why community colleges are the best option for veterans in transition.

The AABLE Club and the Student Veteran's Association hosted an event on the Do's and Don'ts of Service Animals on campus. The event was very well attended and provided important information to the student body.

Along with John Durso, it is my honor to co-chair the REDC's Workforce, Education and Veterans work group. I have encouraged the effort to submit a "Priority Project Request" to the Long Island Regional Economic Development Council, and we are anticipating its response. We are also awaiting news on our implementation proposal to the Kisco Foundation for a second K-Prize grant – this time for \$100,000. If selected for funding, these grants will provide increased support for services to student veterans across the College and will further consolidate the development of the Veterans Resource Centers on our campuses.

I am pleased to share with you that the College started a chapter of SALUTE, a



*U.S. Congressman Lee Zeldin joined me as we cut the ribbon for one of our campus Veterans Resource Centers.*



*Our campus Student Veteran Associations sponsored a number of fundraising events.*

national veterans honor society and inducted 11 new students in spring 2016.

College staff have established an outreach program to incarcerated veterans from the Yaphank Correctional Facility. We will continue to meet regularly with these veterans and will be providing information on educational and support services that can help them move forward with their lives.

The College's degree programs were posted on the GoArmyEd website. This provided increased awareness and access for active Army military members who might consider furthering their education at the College.

The College Director of Veterans Affairs has initiated a recruitment initiative with the 106<sup>th</sup> Air Guard Base in Westhampton.

Representatives from the College attended the renaming ceremony for VFW Post 400. It is now named for Farmingville resident Sgt. Jason Santora (US Army) and Coram resident S/Sgt. Louis Bonacasa (US Air Force), a former Suffolk student, both of whom paid the ultimate price in service to our country.

### Enhanced Institutional Image

The 2015-2016 year was very busy and productive for the Office of Institutional Advancement; it continued to promote the value that the College brings to its many communities, while expanding the institution's visibility through external and internal messaging across multiple messaging platforms. Many of these marketing initiatives and publications have received national and regional acclaim. In fact, this past year, the marketing and communications team has been recognized with 14 national and state awards from the following organizations:

- Two Communicator Awards of Distinction, presented by the Academy of Interactive and Visual Arts for the following:
  - Public Relations/Communications: Launch of the College Mascot
  - Annual Report: Writing and Design
- Eight Educational Advertising Awards, presented by the Higher Education Marketing Report in the following categories:
  - Gold Award: TV Commercial
  - Gold Award: Print Advertising
  - Silver Award: 2014-15 Annual Report
  - Silver Award: Nursing Poster
  - Merit Award: *Career Focus* magazine
  - Merit Award: Parents brochure – Merit Award: External Course Schedule
  - Merit Award: Mall Kiosks
- Two Silver Paragon Awards, presented by the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) for the following:
  - Feature Writing – Welding Careers
  - Special Event Marketing: Launch of College Mascot
- Two Awards of Excellence/Judge's Citation, presented by the State University of New York Council for University Development (SUNYCUAD) for the following:
  - Judge's Citation: Feature Writing – Welding Careers
  - Judge's Citation: Nursing Poster

In all, work produced by our internal marketing and communications team has garnered 44 national, regional and state awards during the past seven years.

As the consumption of digital content continues to grow, we have expanded our presence and messaging across digital platforms, including online display ads,



*Drew Fawcett, Associate Dean for Institutional Advancement, accepts two of the 14 awards presented in recognition of the College's branding and marketing efforts.*



Over 100 publications are produced by the College each year.

Facebook marketing and targeted geo-fencing opportunities. This past spring, the Office of Institutional Advancement collaborated with the Office of Computer Information Systems to develop an interactive e-blast that went out to parents of 16- to 17-year-olds in Suffolk and parts of Nassau County. The effort led to almost 9,000 of these parents opening the email.

The offices of Institutional Advancement and Student Affairs developed and implemented an institutional plan of action to broaden our presence in Nassau County. Components of the plan included the following initiatives: 1) expanding the distribution of our planned e-blast to parents of 16-17 year olds, 2) enhancing our online ads in Nassau County, 3) launching a geo-fencing promotion that delivered targeted mobile ads, and 4) direct mail. Our mobile messaging effort generated 2,287 clicks and a .91% click-through rate – almost double the typical industry average of .50%.

Our Publications Department continued to collaborate with the Office of Enrollment Management and other college-wide departments on the production of a wide range of publications and communications materials to support Veterans Services, the Early College Program, English as a Second Language, the College's Student Handbook, and Transfer Counseling, among others. In all, the Institutional Advancement team has developed, edited and/or reviewed more than 100 projects for internal and external audiences this past year.

The Office of Institutional Advancement continued to collaborate with the Media Services department on a range of Student and Alumni Spotlight videos. These videos are displayed on the College's website as part of an overall strategy that helps engage and inform potential students about the ways in which Suffolk is continually transforming lives. The videos are available online 24/7 at [sunysuffolk.edu/Videos](http://sunysuffolk.edu/Videos).

This past March, we produced the eighth annual issue of *Career Focus* magazine. This latest publication shared many stories about the College's programs and services, including the cover story highlighting study abroad. *Career Focus* was distributed to more than 445,000 households in Suffolk and Nassau counties, as well as to all regional high schools, libraries and BOCES facilities in both Suffolk and Nassau counties. It is also available on our website as an online magazine.

The Office produced a 2016 issue of *The Pipeline* – Suffolk's workforce and economic development magazine. Content included updates on manufacturing and a cover story on the success of the College's welding program, which saw its first female graduate this year. Copies are available electronically and in hard copy and were distributed to our elected officials and workforce and economic development partners.

As a result of a marketing concept developed by the Office of Institutional Advancement, Suffolk participated in WBLI's Summer Jam concert event at Jones Beach Theatre on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. The event featured many of today's most popular Top 40 artists, attracting teenagers and their parents from across Long Island. The concert sold out with approximately 15,000 attendees. Working with Cox Media, the College developed the "Graduate to Great Seats" promotion. Concertgoers who stopped by Suffolk's information table and provided College representatives with information were then eligible to be entered into a drawing to have their seats upgraded to better locations for the concert. The information table was staffed by Dr. Christopher Adams, Vice President for Student Affairs, and Chuck Connolly, Director of Enrollment Services for the Eastern Campus, along with several students. The College collected hundreds



The College was prominently featured during WBLI's Summer Jam at Jones Beach.



Giveaway sunglasses were a big hit at Summer Jam.

of information cards and the Suffolk logo was prominently displayed both on giveaway sunglasses we provided, as well as the in-arena Jumbotrons. Pictures from the event were leveraged across our social media platforms. The Office of Enrollment Management will be following up with communications to everyone who submitted information cards.

The Office of Institutional Advancement also completed the College's latest TV commercial. This ad features Rachel Flatley ('10). Rachel is the Executive Pastry Chef at Honest Man Restaurants, a group of five restaurants that includes Zagat-rated Nick & Toni's in East Hampton. The latest commercial is part of an effort to extend the "sweatshirt" campaign to portray alumni who are now successfully working in their respective fields. The commercial underscores Rachel's positive experiences at Suffolk and shows how her education enabled her to be where she is today.

The Office of Enrollment Management, working with the College Associate Dean of Nursing and the Office of Institutional Advancement, developed a communication plan to inform and promote enrollment in our Nursing program to qualified high school students. Posters were distributed in all Suffolk County high schools.

### Office of Grants Development

Over the most recently completed year (2014-2015), Suffolk County Community College and its associated non-profits were awarded \$3.88 million in grants and subawards. This figure represents a 9.8% increase over the previous year's \$3.53 million. The College's largest awards were (1) the Perkins IV/CTEA-Career & Technical Education Act grant (\$513,390); (2) SEIS Student Engagement through Informed Support Title III-A Strengthening Institutions Program grant from the U.S. Department of Education (\$399,670); (3) Liberty Partnerships Program grant from the NYS Education Department (\$350,000); (4) Chemical Dependency Counseling Workforce Enhancement grant from the Health Resources Services Agency (282,353); (5) U.S. Department of Education TRIO Student Support Services grant (\$281,510); (6) LIGHTES<sup>2</sup> Advanced Technology Education grant from the National Science Foundation (\$242,927); (7) Science and Technology Entry Program (STEP) from the New York State Education Department (\$217,212); (8) Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) from the State University of New York (\$176,210); (9) Childcare Operating Grant from SUNY (\$169,900); and (10) Scholarships for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (S-STEM) supported by the National Science Foundation (\$117,569). These 10 awards account for about 71% of grant funds received during the year. Suffolk County Community College received 29 other awards that together totaled \$1.1 million and account for about 29% of grant funds received.

The College currently hosts three projects sponsored by the National Science Foundation: the *Leading Innovation through Green High Tech Engineering, Sustainability, & Security* (LIGHTES<sup>2</sup>) program, the *Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math* (S-STEM) program, and the *Science Education for New Civic Engagements and Responsibilities* (SENCER) program. The S-STEM project was completed this year and a new proposal to continue the successful program for another five years at an increased level of funding was recently awarded. A new proposal was also submitted to the NSF IUSE program last fall to create a new experience-based educational initiative in geosciences entitled GEO-CORE. NSF notified the Project Director that the new GEO-CORE program will be funded to begin summer 2016. These NSF-sponsored projects have established the College as a regional leader in alternate and sustainable energy technology, cybersecurity, and STEM education, all of which builds toward the goal of hosting an ATE Regional Center at the College. Such centers





are endowed with significant resources by the NSF to concentrate on particular areas of technical workforce development and serve as flagship programs that address key regional and national needs in strategic STEM workforce fields. Planning for the development of an ATE Regional Center proposal to the NSF was initiated this year.

The National Institutes of Health is continuing to sponsor two long-term projects at the College: BioPREP and IRACDA. These two programs work in concert with the College's NSF-sponsored S-STEM program to provide authentic research experiences and significant support to the College's community of STEM students and faculty. Each year through these programs, Suffolk students travel to research universities and national laboratories across the country to participate in research. The IRACDA program, entitled Consortia for the Advancement of Postdoctoral Scholars (CAPS), will provide the College with approximately \$140,000 over the life of the project to mentor postdoctoral students in undergraduate classroom teaching.

The College received support from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to develop and present an innovative program on the Michael J. Grant Campus entitled *Latino Americans: 500 Years of History*. This program supported a series of public film documentary screenings and panel discussions about Latino history.

A federal Health Services Resources Agency (HRSA) multiyear award continues to support the Chemical Dependency Counseling (CDC) program on the Michael J. Grant Campus. The grant provides several hundred thousand dollars in direct financial support to students in the program each year and has already resulted in enrollment growth from 70 to more than 120 students. The purpose of the funding is to increase the number of licensed chemical dependency counselors at work in the community in order to address the growing drug abuse epidemic among young people on Long Island.

The College's federally funded, New York State Education Department (NYSED) administered Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (CTEA) program continued this year with five Major Efforts. These efforts are required to target career and technical majors with resources to improve specific outcome measures, including technical skills attainment, retention rates, completion rates, and non-traditional (for gender) student participation and completion rates. Major efforts completed during the reporting year supplied: 1) equipment and supplies to digital-animation courses on the Eastern Campus, 2) materials and support for the instructional cost of non-credit advanced manufacturing and non-credit ophthalmic assistant/technician training through the Corporate Training Center and the Office of Continuing Education, and 3) equipment and supplies for the Architectural Technology and Construction Technology programs on the Ammerman Campus. The program supported targeted efforts by faculty to attract underrepresented non-traditional genders to career and technical majors, including outreach to high school and undergraduate women by Architectural Technology and Construction Technology women faculty, as well as outreach by the Career Services Offices on all three campuses through the Job Search Success program.

Other programs around the College benefitted from sponsorships, including:

- The LI Outreach Foundation provided \$50,000 in funds to support student veterans.
- The Entrepreneurial Assistance Center on the Michael J. Grant campus received a small (\$3,000) award from the New York Department of State to present workshops to assist immigrants in starting small businesses and a larger (\$42,000)



*Grant funding will enable the College to increase the number of licensed chemical dependency counselors at work in the community.*







# TechHire



grant from the Empire State Development Corp. to host a Veteran's Business Assistance Center.

- A SUNY Innovative Instruction Technology Grant (IITG) for \$9,800 completed a mobile maker space at the Eastern Campus library and another IITG grant was written for \$20,000 to expand the work to libraries on the other two campuses. These maker spaces give students hands-on access to 3-D printing and one-button digital video production technology and have proven to be enormously popular with students and faculty alike.
- The College completed work on a cybersecurity laboratory on the Ammerman Campus sponsored by grants from the SUNY High Needs program (\$72,083 and \$50,000) in preparation for the launch of a new two-year A.A.S. degree in cybersecurity.
- The NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation awarded \$393,043 to benefit sustainable stormwater management last year, and work was completed on the Michael J. Grant and Ammerman campuses this year, installing permeable pavers, rain gardens, and rainwater cisterns.
- A project supported by \$125,000 in funding from the US Department of Agriculture, in partnership with Auburn University, continued to develop an educational "virtual chicken" with input from graphic design and computer game design students on the Eastern Campus.
- Verizon sponsored (\$36,000) the 24<sup>th</sup> year of its longstanding Next Step workforce training program, hosted by the Ammerman Campus Electrical Technology and Engineering Sciences programs.
- Continuing education staff are providing TASC instruction, assessment and TASC testing to United Way-Long Island students participating in the YouthBuild program, with tuition costs being paid for through a grant. Students may select a career pathway in energy, energy efficiency, health IT, ophthalmic tech or pharmacy tech to pursue concurrently as they work toward their high school equivalency.

As we are finalizing this publication for production, I am pleased to share with you that the College has received the largest grant award in its history – a \$2.9 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor's TechHire initiative for workforce training in the areas of advanced manufacturing, cybersecurity and health information technology. The grant was highly competitive; 39 partnerships were selected from over 200 applications. I look forward to sharing details about the work being done through this grant in my report to you next year. For now, I extend congratulations to the Office of Institutional Advancement and the staff in the Office of Grants Development for this additional noteworthy accomplishment.

### Sustainability

The College recently became a member of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) as part of its activities to further campus efforts toward building a healthy and sustainable world. AASHE enables higher education institutions to meet their sustainability goals by providing specialized resources, professional development, and a network of peer support. Discussions continue regarding ways to implement sustainability projects throughout our campuses. The Campus Executive Deans are providing valuable guidance on these efforts and many of our faculty members within the sciences have expressed interest in launching "green" projects that would benefit the campuses while engaging students in planning and implementation. Meetings are taking place with Campus Activities Directors to discuss sustainability events and student engagement.



*Through an energy performance contract, we are optimizing our energy use and maximizing our energy savings.*

I would like to update you regarding our energy performance contract with our partner Cenergistic. The team from Cenergistic recently updated us on progress to date associated with our behavior-based energy management plan. Although much work remains to be done, the College's two energy specialists, Carol Malley and Ryan McEnany, have been implementing our efforts, working collaboratively with staff in our Central Facilities and Plant Operations departments to optimize systems and maximize savings. Since August 2014, we have realized the following savings:

- 2,269,345 kWh of electricity
- 187,624 therms of natural gas
- 15,672 kgals of water
- 18,150 gallons of #2 heating oil
- These savings equate to:
- Preventing 1,729 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>
- Removing 360 automobiles for an entire year
- Planting 44,371 tree seedlings for 10 years

We have also successfully installed 21 water bottle refilling stations across the three campuses; this effort has helped eliminate over 160,000 plastic bottles from entering local landfills. Within the parameters of the contract, College staff will work closely with Cenergistic's engineers and consultants to analyze and monitor energy use in classrooms, offices, athletic facilities, and other areas of the College to ensure energy is being used efficiently.



*I was honored to be recognized for my work in promoting a culture of sustainability at the College.*

A task group has been convened to solicit input on sustainability workforce educational needs and industry trends. Several program outlines and curriculum models have been obtained from similar institutions currently offering academic programs in disciplines such as Energy Management, and Renewable Energy Technology. Subcommittees have been established, and a white paper has been drafted outlining potential curriculum models for implementation with our planned Renewable Energy STEM Center.

Under my direction, several grant applications (Green Roofs, Energy to Lead Competition, Aquatic Pollution Prevention) were developed with an eye toward seeing grant activities evolve into more enduring coursework models. As an example, the College had previously been awarded two small implementation grants to modify activities taking place in selected science courses. Science Education for New Civic Engagements and Responsibilities (SENCER) courses and programs strengthen student learning and interest in the sciences, technology, engineering, and mathematics by connecting course topics to issues of critical local, national, and global importance. Dr. Monica Devanas, Director of Faculty Development & Assessment Programs at Rutgers University presented a session illustrating how to align our curriculum with ideas, exploring the positive effects of these "connections" on student learning. This activity highlighted the promising overlap of operational sustainability initiatives and classroom instruction, and we saw strong faculty attendance and interest.

When New York Governor Andrew Cuomo announced the 2015 Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) awards in December, the College received \$203,708 from the Environmental Facilities Corporation for a Green Innovation Grant Program (GIGP) proposal to convert three traditional roofs (one on each campus) into green and sustainable roofs. The three buildings receiving the green roofs are: William J. Lindsay Life Sciences Building (Ammerman), the Peconic Building (Eastern), and the new Learning Resource Center currently under construction on the Michael J. Grant Campus.



The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) recognized the College for supporting the development of the national PEV charging infrastructure and fulfilling the voluntary requirements of the Workplace Charging Challenge in 2015. Suffolk is one of fewer than 30% of all Challenge partners to receive this recognition over the program's lifetime. Our accomplishment was featured on DOE social media, in the U.S. DOE Workplace Charging Challenge Mid-Program review, and as part of a post on the DOE website. To date, the electric vehicle charging stations have completed 1,078 total charge-ups, resulting in 3,122 (kg) of greenhouse gases saved, 7.43 (MWh) of energy saved and 933.047 gallons of gasoline saved.

Executive Director Nick Palumbo was a presenter as part of a DOE webinar on the Workplace Charging Challenge. He used this opportunity to speak about Suffolk's sustainability mission and how our campus charging programs enable us to reduce commuter emissions, find new research opportunities, provide employee and student benefits, and signal environmental leadership.

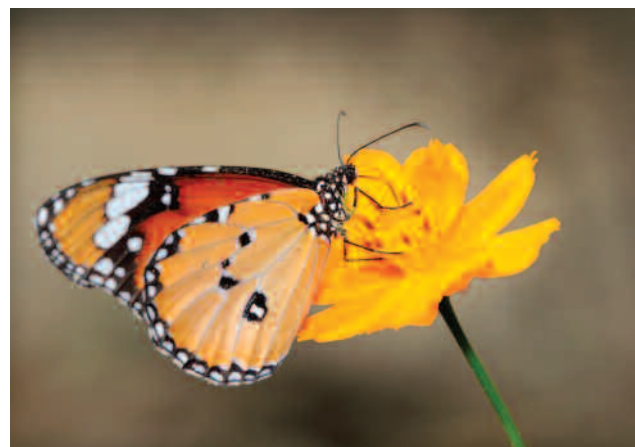
I was honored to learn that the League for Innovation in the Community College, an international non-profit organization that cultivates innovation at community colleges, recognized me with an award for my work in "promoting a culture of sustainability" at the College. Our recognition by the League was featured on the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) website.

Additionally, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) recognized the College as a "First Mover" – one of only 46 colleges and universities across New York State recognized by the Reforming Energy Vision (REV) Campus Challenge Program. The College is an official participant in the REV program, which is run by NYSERDA and provides recognition and support to institutions of higher education in New York State to encourage the transition to cleaner, renewable energy sources on college campuses and in their communities. The REV Challenge is part of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's strategy to build a clean, resilient, and affordable energy system for all New Yorkers.

As part of a scheduled plan of outreach to members of the college community, a number of presentations and promotions on various initiatives related to sustainable campus options took place during the year:

- To provide information and resources on rideshare programs and alternative transportation options, we are a partner with 511NY Rideshare. To date, 593 students are registered for rideshare, placing Suffolk in the top five overall users out of the 53 companies that partnered with 511 NY Rideshare.
- In support of ongoing transportation initiatives, advocated for the appointment of a student Transportation Coordinator at the Eastern Campus.
- Car-Free Day Long Island – Last September, 136 students pledged to be car free, ranking Suffolk fifth out of 13 colleges on Long Island in the number of pledged participants.
- Presented a TLC workshop to College faculty and staff, examining the benefits of electric and hybrid vehicles.

Working with the Office of Institutional Advancement, we developed a Reusable Beverage Container campaign in partnership with Follett Bookstores, Aramark Dining Services and the Peconic Café. Our goal was to reduce the use of disposable beverage containers typically purchased and consumed on our campuses. As part of the campaign, Follett agreed to sell appropriate College-branded containers at a reduced promotional rate at key times of year (e.g., start of the semester, Earth Day Week,



*Earth Day was celebrated across our campuses.*



*A reusable beverage container campaign targeted a reduction in the use of disposable beverage containers.*



etc.), and Aramark and the Peconic Café agreed to charge a discounted small drink price (year-round) in order to refill their container – no matter what size.

The following Earth Day events took place at the College:

- Sustainability information tables were staffed at the Ammerman and Michael J. Grant campuses, which also hosted campus cleanup activities
- The Ammerman Campus held an ink jet cartridge recycling drive
- The Michael J. Grant Campus hosted guided tours of its Nature Preserve, including a discussion of the monarch butterfly habitat and the role of butterflies in the sustainability of our Eastern Campus
- Also on the Grant Campus, the Kid’s Cottage arranged a flower-planting activity
- The Eastern Campus hosted an Arbor Day celebration and a Commuter Appreciation Day
- Students from all of our campuses volunteered to join Trustee Gordon Canary to plant beach grass at Robert Moses Park
- The College hosted the Citizens Campaign for the Environment’s Earth Day Summit

In June, the College participated in the Daylight Hour campaign. This is an annual social media event that promotes the use of daylight in lieu of electric lighting in office spaces. On that day, offices all over the world turn off their lights in day-lit spaces for one hour and post to social media about their involvement. Last year, hundreds of offices in more than a dozen countries participated, demonstrating that daylight can light our workspaces, save money, and reduce our environmental impact. The Daylight Hour was a great way to engage our community and demonstrate Suffolk’s environmental commitment.

### Scholarship News

Since its inception in 2011, the Stay on Long Island Initiative (SOLII) has provided full- and partial-tuition scholarships to high-achieving Suffolk graduates who transfer to one of our partnering institutions. Inclusive of this year’s class, SOLII partners have welcomed 163 of our scholars, providing over \$4.3 million in scholarship funds enabling our graduates to pursue their educational goals locally.

This past year, I decided to seek out and connect with like-minded presidents in New York State who would be willing to create similar transfer scholarship opportunities for Suffolk graduates at their outstanding four-year institutions. Many presidents responded favorably to my outreach and we were able to complete two agreements in time to make presentations to graduates from Suffolk’s Class of 2016. New York State Presidential Transfer Scholarship (NYSPTS) awards – totaling just under \$60,000 – were presented to Amanda Gherardi, who received a full scholarship to Iona College and AnnMarie Bocca, who received a full scholarship to LIM College.

The orientation session for the College’s Get There From Here (GTFH) scholars always takes place in August. During 2015’s orientation, 29 new scholarship recipients attended the one-day session, where they discussed their responsibilities as a Get There From Here Scholar and took part in a focus group that provided feedback to the College regarding its new mobile app for iPhone and Android devices. The group grew to more than 75 people when we added current and former scholars, who were invited to attend a special lunch program. The highlight of that session was an inspirational panel presentation that included former scholars all the way back to the original cohort from 2008. The former scholarship recipients provided valuable insight regarding their personal experiences and accomplishments, along with the

# SOLII

Stay on Long Island Initiative



benefits to be derived through the scholarship. During the panel session, the most frequently cited opportunities were the ability to complete two years of quality education at Suffolk, tuition-free, with the potential for an additional two years of paid tuition via consideration as a Stay on Long Island scholar, as well as the high degree of support readily available to pursue various statewide and national award recognition opportunities. Every person in the room raised their hands when I asked them to indicate if they wished Suffolk could be a four-year college.

This year, GTFH Scholars were invited to consider serving on important College committees, where student input is critical: 1) The Assessment Advisory Council (AAC), 2) the Career and Technical Education Act (CTEA) Local Advisory Committee, and 3) the Applied Learning Committee. In addition, scholars from the program participated in advocacy activities across the state; production of the College's new virtual orientation project; focus groups for our new mobile app; text messaging and AcademicWorks scholarship database; and in an Innovative Instructional Technology Grant (IITG) project called Everywhere You Want To Be: Mobile Makerspace Expansion. As part of the grant activity, they provided 3-D printing demonstrations and peer mentoring to their fellow students on campus in support of the makerspace initiative.

### Board of Trustees

At its June 2016 meeting, the College's Board of Trustees voted unanimously to approve the following slate of officers for the 2016-2017 year: Theresa Sanders, Chair; Jim Morgo, Vice Chair; and Bryan Lilly, Secretary.

During the course of the meeting, it was also announced that Trustee Anne Shybunko-Moore, who was appointed by the Suffolk County Legislature in 2012 to serve on the Board through 2019, had submitted a formal letter of resignation from her position. We thank Trustee Shybunko-Moore for her service and wish her continued success as she pursues new professional endeavors.

At the end of the spring semester, Eastern Campus student Christopher North was elected by the College's student body to serve as the next Student Trustee on the College's Board of Trustees. His term of office will be July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017.

Our current Student Trustee, Maria Gomez, was elected President of the Eastern Campus Student Government Association (SGA). We wish her well as she continues to grow as a student leader.

My Cabinet and I are looking forward to working with our volunteer leadership in continuing to develop policies and reach decisions that benefit our students and enhance the institution.

### Workforce and Economic Development

Companies continue to express interest in partnering with us to train their employees, hire our students, make presentations, provide training center tours, take part in job fairs and expos, and help the College keep its programs relevant.

In 2015-2016 the Corporate Training Center received \$137,000 of Career and Technical Education Act (CTEA) training funds and \$67,000 of SUNY NY Workforce training dollars. These funds supported regional workforce programs in manufacturing, aerospace/defense and pharmaceuticals. Through CTEA and an ongoing collaboration with the Suffolk County Department of Labor, we trained



*The Get There From Here Scholarship is one of the College's most prestigious awards.*



*College Student Trustee-elect, Christopher North.*



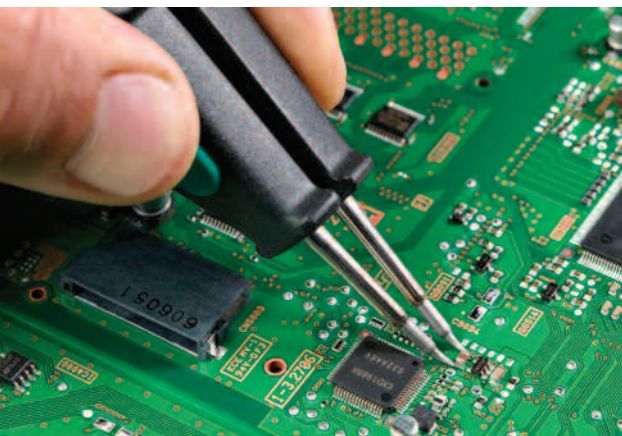


entry-level manufacturing workers through an 84 hour custom-designed manufacturing readiness program.

Since sustaining the Advanced Manufacturing Training Center as fee-based programs, each year the revenue from our training programs increases. 2015-2016 saw over 100 students trained through these workforce programs.

The Corporate Training Center staff working in conjunction with the Advanced Manufacturing Training Academy continued to support industry needs for ESL, workplace English, computer training, customer service and leadership training.

The College is pleased to be a training partner under a Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) grant awarded to St Joseph's College. Through this grant, we are delivering certified soldering training to unemployed workers in the South Huntington area.



Workforce and Economic Development staff joined staff from the offices of Enrollment Management, Continuing Education and Career Services at a two-day learning event hosted by MSC Industrial in Melville. MSC has over 350 employees who are offered educational reimbursement for attending college classes within a variety of disciplines. Over 280 employees registered to participate in the two-day session, where we described the wide variety of educational opportunities available on all three campuses.

The Corporate Training Center and the Advanced Manufacturing Training Academy participated in the first Launchpad event in Huntington Village. The event, sponsored by the Workforce Development Institute, introduced local businesses, entrepreneurs, and STEM students to the training opportunities available at Suffolk County Community College. A demonstration of the College's virtual reality welding simulator was well received by the 150 attendees. STEM students, in particular, gained an understanding of the design and production processes involved in manufacturing.

The Corporate Training Center's (CTC) Advanced Manufacturing Program has offered several of its training sessions with maximum enrollment, including Welding, CNC Machining, IPC Soldering, and Introduction to Manufacturing. With support from CTEA, we are also delivering AutoCAD and Mastercam for industry.

### **Building Relationships Through Community Leadership and Outreach**

It is important for the College to have a presence at various community events, as they assist us in meeting our Strategic Plan's Institutional Goal #2 related to expanding our outreach to external audiences.

Over 40 community leaders accepted my invitation to join us as we hosted our second Community Leaders Meeting. Following a welcome from our Chief Diversity Officer, Christina Vargas, and remarks from community organizer Mary Reid, I was pleased to update community leaders regarding new and ongoing initiatives at the College and to share my vision for the institution. I was then able to engage audience members by responding to questions and providing details on the College's programs. This kind of dialogue is one way we can ensure that the community engagement objectives within our Strategic Plan are addressed.



*Suffolk County Legislator Robert Calarco and Foundation Board of Director Mary Reid attended this year's Community Leaders Meeting.*

The Corporate Training Center held a Manufacturing Roundtable to provide senior manufacturing managers with information related to the College's latest Career Pathways initiative. Thirty-two of the region's most active companies discussed current

and future personnel needs and the changing skill sets that are transforming the industry's job search process.

As part of our community outreach activities, we work with many area leaders who host events at the College. This year, some examples of events that took place at our Culinary Arts & Hospitality Center include: New York State Senator Ken LaValle hosted an Environmental Roundtable, the Riverhead Chamber of Commerce held its monthly meeting, Long Island farmers held their 2016 Agricultural Forum, and the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources held a hearing entitled "Restoring Atlantic Fisheries and Protecting the Regional Seafood Economy" to gain local feedback on fishery issues. New York Congressman Lee Zeldin is a member of this committee.

The Long Island Native Plant Initiative (LINPI) hosted its annual horticultural event on our Eastern Campus. This very popular event gave local and regional visitors an opportunity to learn about native annual and perennial plants, speak with experts, compare notes with other native plant enthusiasts, and obtain related educational materials.

Board Chair Theresa Sanders, along with students and staff from the College, attended the First Baptist Church of Riverhead's 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Breakfast celebration held at the Hyatt Regency Wind Watch Hotel on January 18<sup>th</sup>.

I am often invited to bring greetings from the College when I attend local events. Among such visits this year, I attended both the Central Islip Community Youth Expo and the Under the Big Tent event in Bay Shore.

I joined Board Chair Theresa Sanders as the NAACP's National President, Cornell William Brook, addressed the Nassau and Suffolk chapters before a crowd of over 800 at the Crest Hollow Country Club.

PRONTO's Fall Reception was another of the many events I attended this year that helped meet our strategic priority to have a visible presence in our local communities.

All of these activities align with the College's priority of outreach to local communities as directed through our Strategic Plan.

### **New Leadership Roles and Human Resources**

Throughout the past academic year, we were able to consistently attract strong pools of exceptionally talented candidates that were interested in furthering their careers by joining Suffolk County Community College. As a result, our institution will be strengthened by the following appointments:

In response to a SUNY mandate that all institutions designate a Chief Diversity Officer, I am pleased to announce the promotion of Christina Vargas to this position. The College also welcomed Dr. Dionne Walker-Belgrave as its new Affirmative Action Officer.

David Johnson has been hired as the new Director of our Educational Opportunity Program (EOP). Mr. Johnson previously served as Director of Early College and the Black Male Initiative at Hostos Community College-CUNY, where he worked on increasing retention success of male students of color by designing engagement and student support programming.



*The Q & A session at our Community Leaders meeting generated great dialogue.*





There are now Faculty Coordinators of Mental Health Services on all three campuses: Nicole Borzelleca, a licensed mental health counselor, is at the Michael J. Grant Campus; Sarah Boles, a licensed clinical social worker, is at the Ammerman Campus; and Maggie Marcincuk, a licensed clinical social worker, is at the Eastern Campus.

This year, we also welcomed new staff members within the Procurement Office: Seema Menon joined us as the Associate Administrative Director of Business Operations and Laura Austin as Purchasing Agent.

To manage the behavior-based energy performance contract with Cenergisitc, we successfully hired two Energy Specialists, Ryan McEnany and Carol Malley.

I want to express my appreciation to the Search Committee members for their efforts, which resulted in the successful selection of these exceptional candidates. I have been delighted to welcome our new colleagues to these important roles at the College.

In reviewing this year's longevity awards list, I am pleased to share with you that we have 27 members of the college community who have qualified for years of service recognition as follows: seven with 20 years; ten with 25 years; six with 30 years; two with 40 years and one each with 45 and 50 years. This is the first time in the history of the College that we have had an employee who has given 50 years of service to the institution. I am honored to recognize Edward E. Eriksson, Professor of English on our Ammerman Campus, for his numerous noteworthy contributions in the classroom and for his many years of dedication to our students. Congratulations to everyone who has given so many years of their professional career in order to advance the educational mission of Suffolk County Community College.

### **Building College Visibility Through the Health, Sports and Education Center**

Through the Office of Special Events, we are able to attract thousands of people to our Michael J. Grant Campus every year through a full calendar of events. Ensuring that our Field House is consistently filled with activity is the responsibility of the staff in this department. They represent the College very well and are often cited for their professionalism and creativity, even under pressure. As a result, many of the hosting entities return year after year because they know the venue and the staff's attention to detail will be unsurpassed. This year, our team hosted the following events in our exhibition space:

- In September, the College hosted the SUNY College Fair. SUNY personnel from the enrollment management division informed the College that registration for the event totaled 955 student registrants, which did not include the family members/guests accompanying the high school seniors to the event. Hosting the SUNY College Fair affords us an opportunity to showcase the College to individuals who may not be familiar with the institution.
- In October, we welcomed the Long Island National College Fair. The National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC), which hosted the event, attracted over 350 schools from across the country.
- The Suffolk County Department of Social Services hosted its annual Stand Up for the Homeless event, which is specifically designed to assist homeless individuals across the County, enabling them to come to one location and receive services such as health and dental screenings and a haircut, as well as accessing clothing, toiletries, food, employment information, and veterans' services. This is an example of an event that also helps fulfill our institutional goals related to community involvement.



*The Field House on our Michael J. Grant Campus helps to showcase the College's facilities to individuals who may not be familiar with our institution.*





- In 2015-2016, we were also the preferred location for the Long Island Pet Expo, the New York Bridal & Wedding Expo, and the ever-popular Long Island Home Show. For the first time, we also hosted the Long Island Fire, Rescue and EMS Mega Show.
- The College secured the 2016 Long Island Counselors' Association Conference (LICAC) sponsored by Western Suffolk Counselors Association. The annual LICAC conference attracts hundreds of counselors from middle schools, high schools, colleges and graduate schools, as well as educational agencies. The conference enables us to showcase the College to education professionals who are directly involved in the college-selection process.
- The Office of Special Events has a multiyear contract in place through 2018 to host the New York State Girls and Boys High School Volleyball Championships. This is a huge accomplishment, as hosting these types of events allows us to generate revenue and showcase our facilities to prospective high school students and their families.
- Similarly, we continue to host Section XI high school track and field each spring. We normally average around 1,000-1,500 athletes and parents per event through mid-February. This year, we also hosted the Section XI high school championships for Girls and Boys Basketball and Boy's Wrestling.



### Advanced Institutional Reputation

I continue my service on the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) Commission on Diversity, Inclusion and Equity. It is a distinct honor to serve on this Commission and to be a strong and vocal advocate on behalf of the more than 13 million students who attend community colleges across the country.

I joined other select community college presidents who were invited by the White House to participate on a conference call with John King, Department of Education Secretary, and other senior advisors to discuss college affordability and opportunity. Discussion included resources, such as the \$100 million America's Promise Grants and a new College Promise Playbook to support communities' efforts in making two years of community college free for students.

Representatives from the College were in attendance for the Long Island Association's Annual State of the Counties report in January. Both Nassau County Executive Edward Managano and Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone presented an overview of their county's economic status, prospects for job creation and economic development on Long Island. New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo was a special guest, sharing information on a number of his ideas for regional economic stimulus.

I was honored to attend Governor Andrew Cuomo's press conference announcing several new clean water initiatives this past February. I was acknowledged during remarks made by Senator John Flanagan and County Executive Steve Bellone, and following the formal program, I was able to speak about College matters with New York State Senator Kenneth LaValle and Assemblymen Steve Englebright and Andrew Raia.

The annual Top 100 report from *Community College Week* was recently published for 2015, and Suffolk County Community College is prominently listed in many of the categories. The Top 100 report provides statistics on our nation's community colleges, data on the academic disciplines that are the most popular, and whether colleges are contributing to the national goal of producing more graduates. The report is gathered from information provided by the U.S. Department of Education.





*I was honored to be recognized with the 2016 Leadership Award from the Long Island Federation of Labor.*

Sean Tvelia, Associate Professor of Physical Science, was chosen to participate in the NSF-funded “Faculty as Change Agents: Transforming Geoscience Education in Two-year Colleges” project. The four-year project, part of NSF’s Improving Undergraduate STEM Education portfolio, provides a series of professional development activities designed to help community college geoscience faculty improve the success of their students. The project is a partnership with Highline Community College (Washington), the College of William & Mary (Virginia), the University of Oregon, the University of Wisconsin-Richland, and the Science Education Resource Center at Carleton College (Minnesota) and involves Suffolk County Community College and 16 other two-year colleges across the United States. Nationwide, the project will impact more than 250,000 students, helping to meet the nation’s demands for a well-trained geoscience and STEM workforce as well as supporting the scientific literacy needs of our country.

This past spring, the College hosted a contingent from Essex County College (NJ), including its President Dr. Gale Gibson and members of her senior administration. The meeting was organized following a suggestion by our MSCHE liaison, Dr. Debra Klinman, who recommended to Essex that they should visit us to learn about our accreditation experiences and the institutional progress we realized, especially over the past year.



*The College has worked closely with Long Island’s labor and trades leaders.*

Earlier this year, I was honored by the Long Island Federation of Labor during its annual awards reception. I was truly touched by my warm introduction by LI Federation President, John Durso. In front of a capacity crowd that included State and County elected officials, representatives from Long Island labor, as well as union and trades leaders, I was cited for my successful efforts in bringing the College to the forefront of economic and workforce development, both through the growth of training programs and through job creation that is linked to the construction of major capital projects on our campuses.

I was honored to present welcoming remarks during the “Charting the Course – Suffolk County Means Business,” event sponsored by the Suffolk County Alliance of Chambers on our Ammerman Campus. Discussions began with a plenary panel led by Dr. Martin Cantor on how small businesses can benefit from key regional economic drivers. Participants then moved to breakout sessions led by other business sector leaders. Presiding Officer of the Suffolk County Legislature DuWayne Gregory and members of the Legislature, along with guest panelists, provided an exceptional overview of the many ways businesses benefit by being located in our County. We were also joined by County Executive Steve Bellone, who was the day’s guest of honor.

Jennifer Forni, College Assistant Director of Disability Services and Nicole Borzelleca, Mental Health Faculty Coordinator, were invited to speak at the Annual Mental Health training conference in Albany for ACCES-VR (Adult Career and Continuing Education Services-Vocational Rehabilitation), the state agency that assists people with disabilities to find training and employment.



I delivered the keynote address to the Western Region Council on Black American Affairs (WRCBAA) during their Community College Career Institute. The theme of my remarks centered upon what it takes to be successful as individuals seek to advance in positions of leadership within community colleges. Upon conclusion of my presentation, I had the opportunity to speak with numerous members of the audience interested in developing strategies for advancing their own job search.

I was invited to present the keynote address during the Suffolk County Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission's annual awards luncheon in January. I am also pleased to share with you that the Academic Chair for Mathematics on our Michael J. Grant Campus, Dr. John Jerome was recognized during the same event as one of the honoree award recipients. Representatives from the College, as well as Board of Trustees Chair Theresa Sanders and Foundation Board Chair Belinda Alvarez-Groneman, were in the audience.

My schedule allowed me to travel to Chicago for both the 2016 Spring Conference hosted by the Higher Education Research and Development Institute (HERDI) as well as the American Association of Community Colleges' 96<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention. As part of its Annual Convention, AACC schedules its various commission meetings, so I was able to fulfill my meeting responsibilities as an AACC Commissioner for both the Diversity, Inclusion and Equity Commission and the Presidents Academy Executive Committee (PAEC).

### Office of Public and Fire Safety

While this year's winter weather was not as severe as last year's, we still experienced both rain from Hurricane Joaquin and snow, causing numerous class cancellations. I communicated directly with the college community and our faculty throughout each weather episode. In all cases, our practice is to assess the storm forecast, the state of major roadways and the condition of our campuses. Upon completion of our standard review process, the determination regarding whether to close is made. Public Safety staff actively assists this effort by consulting with Plant Operations and Facilities staff and by maintaining contact with the County Emergency Operations Center. The decision to cancel takes into consideration the academic integrity of our programs along with the federal and State requirements for class hours, and is balanced with input from those charged with safety and security at our campuses. Our goal is to make the appropriate decision to protect everyone from weather-related injury.

Last September, the College hosted an Infragard meeting on the Michael J. Grant Campus. Infragard is an organization created by the FBI to bring local law enforcement and security groups together. Participants included the Suffolk County Police Department (SCPD), New York State Troopers, FBI, DEA, Higher Ed Police/Security, including our campus safety and security teams.

As a result of consistent training, education, and communication, there is a growing understanding across our campuses regarding the responsiveness individuals can expect to receive from our College's Fire and Public Safety staff should an incident occur. Last August, over 50 College staff and administrators attended a training session conducted by the Suffolk County Office of Emergency Management on the National Incident Management System (NIMS). This training provided an opportunity for employees to learn about the nationally mandated system that governs how major emergencies (hurricanes, blizzards, fires, etc.) are handled, covering everything from preparation and training to response and recovery throughout all levels and layers of an organization. Completion of NIMS training is a requirement for receiving any type of preparedness or mitigation grant from the federal government. This past summer, we had an opportunity to test elements of our Emergency Response Plan when the Office of Public Safety conducted a tabletop drill with representatives from SCPD, College Public Safety supervisors, and the College Emergency Response Team. The drill began with a brief FBI video of a campus shooting. The tabletop exercise focused on a domestic violence shooting occurring on campus. The incident timeline was studied to educate everyone regarding how quickly these events unfold,



*I presented the keynote address during the Suffolk County Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission's annual awards luncheon.*



*We are grateful for the efforts made by all of our staff to keep our campuses and students safe.*





the timing for law enforcement's response, and how fast social media outreach spreads. The exercise concluded with an agreement that more testing and planning would take place. This exercise is a further example of my commitment to making our staff and administrators as prepared as possible to handle emergencies on our campuses.

### **Strategic Planning and Assessment**

SUNY Excels. In the late spring of 2015, the State University of New York mandated that all institutions within the system develop a performance improvement plan. This SUNY initiative was entitled, "SUNY Excels." The performance improvement plan seeks data on five different areas: access, completion, success, inquiry, and engagement. The College was required to submit data concerning these areas of performance, to supply predictive analytics suggesting where the College saw itself in 2018 and 2020 and to provide plans for how we would reach those benchmarks. The Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness (OPIE) was charged with developing this plan, which needed to be approved by SUNY before the College's budget could be approved. OPIE submitted the plan by the October 21, 2015 due date and the College's plan was approved by SUNY on December 22, 2015.



Integrated Planning. Increasingly, the Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness is asked to provide data and planning information to satisfy requests from many sources interested in the progress the College is making in reaching its goals. To provide this information efficiently, OPIE developed the use of integrated planning to tie all elements described in the Comprehensive Assessment Plan for Institutional Effectiveness (CAPIE). This will include linking strategic and operational planning, budget and resource allocation, and all associated assessments and evaluation to the College's Strategic Plan and the six Institutional Goals, as well as presidential goals, SUNY Excels metrics, and Middle States standards. This integrated planning model promotes a consistent approach to planning, ensuring that the College meets its accreditation responsibilities. This approach has led the College to publish its second Annual Report of Institutional Effectiveness, detailing the College's progress in achieving its goals in fulfilling our mission.

Success Metrics. Responding to a growing national concern about the use of certain metrics to gauge the effectiveness of community colleges, the College joined the Voluntary Framework of Accountability (VFA), a program sponsored by the American Association of Community Colleges. All institutions of higher education must report statistics each year to the Integrated Post-secondary Education Database System (IPEDS), the federal vehicle used to track higher education data. Community colleges have long been held to reporting the same data as those reported by four-year institutions, which serve significantly different populations and have different missions than two-year schools. Community colleges often serve large cohorts of students in need of remediation and part-time students, and yet have been held to the same standards of those schools that do not serve these populations. The VFA looks at a community college's success by using longitudinal statistics, realizing that part-time students and students in need of remediation will take longer to reach their educational goals. The College, through the Strategic Planning Council, is reviewing its Key Performance Indicators – part of its Strategic Plan – to utilize metrics that better reflect our mission and service to the specific needs of our student body.

The Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness has received a significant increase in requests for assistance in assessment and evaluation, survey data collection, data analysis, and all planning activities, primarily due to an enhanced focus on assessment and evaluation on all levels of the institution and greater demands for



information from various accreditation agents and the SUNY system, among others. In response to these requests for data, the Office of Planning and Institutional Effectiveness has accelerated efforts to make accessible needed information by posting many reports on the Office's webpages, including the second year of the College's Factbook, the Second Annual Report of Institutional Effectiveness, the SUNY Excels Report, the Community College Survey of Student Engagement Report, and many periodic statistical reports. In an effort to promote transparency in the College's planning processes, all Strategic and Operational Planning documents, as well as minutes of the Strategic Planning and Assessment Advisory Council, are also published on OPIE webpages. Program Vitality Dashboards and Administrative and Educational Support Unit assessments and evaluation documents are available to internal stakeholders, and the College has installed planning and assessment software that promises to provide even more robust development of our planning, accreditation, and assessment and evaluation practices.



### Scholarly Awards and Recognition

The following individuals from Suffolk County Community College were selected as recipients of the 2015-2016 SUNY Chancellor's Awards for Excellence:

- Assistant Professor Joseph Napolitano – Excellence in Teaching-Eastern Campus
- Dr. Vladimir Jurukovski – Excellence in Faculty Service-Ammerman Campus
- Dr. Rosa M. Gambier – Excellence in Faculty Service-Ammerman Campus

SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher also announced the 46 system-wide recipients of the 2015-2016 Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Adjunct Teaching. Adjunct faculty members provide consistently excellent instruction and are a key component of our staff as we seek to increase access, completion, and success among students. The following members of our adjunct faculty were recognized as having demonstrated extraordinary dedication to their students and an exceptional commitment to quality teaching:

- Steven J. Kuehhas, Adjunct Instructor of Criminal Justice on the Michael J. Grant Campus
- J. Andrew Monahan, Adjunct Instructor of Business on the Ammerman Campus



The Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Classified Service was presented to Genevieve Rippe, Senior Clerk Typist at our Culinary Arts & Hospitality Center in Riverhead. The Chancellor's Awards for Excellence are system-level honors conferred to acknowledge and provide system-wide recognition for consistently superior professional achievement and to encourage the ongoing pursuit of excellence. Through these awards, SUNY publicly proclaims its pride in the accomplishment and personal dedication of its instructional faculty, librarians and professional staff across its campuses. Congratulations to each of these individuals for their many contributions to our work in support of our mission.

The Campus Governance leadership, the Retirees Association of Suffolk Community College (RASCC) and the Suffolk Community College Foundation presented the 2015 Governance Awards for Academic Excellence in October at Lombardi's on the Bay in Patchogue. The Governance Award recipients were: Scott A. Mandia, Assistant Academic Chair and Professor of Earth and Space Science; Matthew Okerblom, College Assistant Dean for Curriculum Development; and Dr. Kathleen G. Burger, Professor and Academic Chair of Nursing. Over 100 faculty members, administrators, and Board members attended the annual luncheon. In remarks delivered while introducing the honorees or in accepting the awards, everyone was inspired by the recipients' stories about their love of teaching and their career-long dedication and service to the College.



*Dr. Rosa M. Gambier is one of our distinguished SUNY Chancellor's Award recipients.*



Stephen J. Kuehbas has been recognized with a SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Adjunct Teaching.



Also honored with a SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Adjunct Teaching was J. Andrew Monahan.



Over 100 guests attended the 2016 Governance Awards for Academic Excellence.

## College News – Faculty, Staff and Administrator Recognition, Presentations and Awards

Representatives from the College are expected to share their knowledge and experience locally, regionally and nationally. While the following is by no means a complete list of these activities, it is reflective of the kinds of invitations our faculty, staff and administrators qualify for and receive as a result of their career experiences and work here at the College.

### Faculty:

- Three mathematics professors from the College presented at the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual New York State Mathematics Association of Two-Year Colleges (NYSMATYC) Conference. Maria Alzugary, Alex Atwood, and Leslie Buck joined a panel of faculty who discussed their experiences teaching the Quantway I course.
- Faculty members from our School of Nursing presented their research at the annual conference of the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning (INACSL) in Texas. Their poster, entitled “Bridging the Gap between the Classroom and Simulation Lab Using Technology-Assisted Situated Coaching and Evolving Case Studies,” won second place (out of 86 posters) for Excellence in Education.
- Faculty members from the School of Nursing also had presentations accepted for the annual research conference sponsored by John T. Mather Memorial Hospital and Good Samaritan Hospital in November. Jennifer Ortiz submitted an abstract entitled “Professional Confidence: How Do New Graduate Nurses Get It?” and Janet Stevens and Doreen Biondolillo presented a poster session entitled, “Exploring Innovative Immersion Experiences for the LPN Nursing Student: The Future of Clinical Rotations in the Community.”
- Director of Athletics, Kevin Foley, was honored by the *Village Times Herald* newspapers at their 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Men and Women of the Year reception. Coach Foley was recognized for his distinguished career and for his leadership qualities, both on and off the court.
- Lisa Aymong, Professor of Nursing, was accepted into the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) Evaluator Training Program.
- Three School of Nursing faculty members have been accepted as poster presenters at the 2016 Organization for Associate Degree Nursing Conference taking place in Dallas, TX. Their poster is entitled “Strategies to Improve Retention: Reinstatement Action Plan.”
- School of Nursing faculty member Jennifer Ortiz’s manuscript, “New Graduate Nurses’ Experiences About Lack of Professional Confidence,” was accepted for publication in the journal *Nurse Education in Practice*.
- School of Nursing faculty member Connie Green spoke for two sessions at the National Teaching Institute sponsored by the American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACCN). Over 7,000 critical care nurses attended this event.
- Susan McCabe, Associate Professor of Nursing, had her abstract accepted for the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual National League for Nursing/Elsevier Technology Conference. Her poster, entitled Assessing Learning Outcomes of Technology-Assisted Situated Coaching with Adult Health Nursing Students, highlighted the research she conducted at the College.
- Suffolk County Community College was represented at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games. Dr. Maria Michta-Coffey, an adjunct professor of Biology on our Ammerman Campus, competed in the women’s 20km race walking event. Dr. Michta-Coffey was also a member of the 2012 London Olympic team, so

she was a returning athlete. Featured in *LI Pulse* magazine, Dr. Michta-Coffey is considered to be the “premier American female athlete in the sport.”

#### Administrators and Staff:

- College Board of Trustees Chair Theresa Sanders and I were honored to join with members representing the Suffolk County Office of Minority Affairs as they announced our selection among Suffolk County’s Most Prominent African American Leaders. As part of this year’s celebration of Black History Month, a photo exhibit featuring each honoree was unveiled and presented for public display at the County’s H. Lee Dennison Building in Hauppauge.
- Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Vice President for Academic Affairs, was selected as one of 40 exceptional leaders from across the nation to join the inaugural class of the prestigious Aspen Presidential Fellowship for Community College Excellence. The Aspen Presidential Fellowship for Community College Excellence is a highly selective program designed to support the next generation of presidents. The 2016-2017 Aspen Presidential Fellows hail from 17 states and 30 community colleges.
- Dean of Instruction Dr. Paul Beaudin was the keynote speaker at a professional development event for 150 New York City Title I reading specialists. The title of his presentation was “Teaching Literacy for Understanding.”
- Dr. James Keane, Executive Dean of the Michael J. Grant Campus; Christopher Gherardi, Associate Dean of Faculty Advancement; and Dr. Marlene DuBois, Professor of English, each received the Chair Academy’s 2016 Idahlynn Karre Exemplary Leadership Award. This award recognizes their ability to advance academic and administrative leadership across our campuses. They were honored at the Chair Academy’s 25<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference, Leading by Design, which was held in San Antonio in March.
- Nina Leonhardt, Associate Dean for Continuing Education, participated in a panel presentation at the Long Island Latino Teachers Association Conference.
- Carol Wickliffe-Campbell, Chief of Staff to the President, was named by the Urban League of Long Island as one of its 2016 recipients of the Women of Influence Award.
- Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Vice President for Academic Affairs, attended the American Association of Community College’s (AACC) 96<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention as a co-presenter for a session entitled “Her Brave New World: Gender and Transformational Leadership in Community Colleges of the Future.”
- AVP for Academic Affairs, Dr. Maria DeLongoria, delivered the keynote address during the Long Island Black Educators Association Symposium.
- Dr. Iaroslava Babenchuk, Associate Dean for Special Programs and External Partnerships, was invited to serve as a selection panelist for the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs’ Gilman International Scholarship Program.
- Vickie Calderon, Director of the Kids’ Cottage on the Michael J. Grant Campus, was named as one of 49 Exceptional Master Leaders in the field of Early Care and Education by *Exchange Magazine*.
- This year, we saw two emergency situations in which crisis was averted thanks to the quick action of several members of our staff. James Dello-Iacono, HSEC Director of Aquatics and Joseph D’Alessandro, a Dix Hills volunteer firefighter, stopped an electric pump fire in the HSEC before sprinklers were even activated. In another incident, Custodian Francisco Ruiz followed a burning smell in time to use an extinguisher on a burning bathroom fan in the Ammerman Campus Child Care Center. I applaud these individuals for their quick response, which enabled the College to return to normal operations without long-term damage to our facilities.



*Dr. Maria Michta-Coffey, adjunct professor of Biology, competed in the 2016 Rio Olympics.*



*Board of Trustees Chair Theresa Sanders and I were honored to be among Suffolk County’s Most Prominent African American Leaders.*



*Carol Wickliffe-Campbell was recognized by the Urban League of Long Island.*



*James Dello-Iacono, HSEC Director of Aquatics, was recognized for his quick response to a potential emergency.*

## College News – Institutional Recognition and Awards

- Daphne M. Gordon, Project Administrator of the College's Entrepreneurial Assistance Center, was asked by the Long Island Regional Office of Empire State Development Corporation to give a presentation to Governor Cuomo's Strategic Implementation Assessment Team on our Youth Entrepreneurial Boot Camp conducted for Wyandanch Union Free School District. Three students from the district participated in the presentation and shared their experience attending the boot camp.
- As contractors of the New York State Department of Health's Bureau of Tobacco Control, our partners from Northwell Health (former North Shore University Hospital Health System) have identified the College as a regional Tobacco Control champion in recognition of our efforts in developing Tobacco-free campuses earlier this year. We received a certificate of achievement and were featured in a Tobacco Control Champion story that was shared with legislators and the public in an effort to communicate the kind of work being done in the community to decrease tobacco use and its consequences.
- The College has received notification from Quality Matters (QM) – a non-profit that certifies quality and design of online and blended-distance education courses – that Suffolk's QM Implementation Plan has been approved by the Quality Matters Academic Advisory Council. This is significant as a means to demonstrate compliance with Middle States standards. QM has indicated that they will be sharing Suffolk's plan with other institutions.
- Lenore Paprocky, Director of Sales at the Holiday Inn Express in Stony Brook, received the 2015 Employer of the Year Award from the College. The award was presented at the New York State Cooperative and Experiential Education Association (NYSCEEA) awards luncheon in Troy, NY. Paprocky received this award for her dedication to working with and mentoring Suffolk students through the creation of an internship option that gave students an opportunity to learn about various aspects of the hospitality industry, including front desk, guest services, marketing, sales and special events.
- The solo exhibition of Loren Munk's work that the Ammerman Campus Flecker Gallery mounted in the spring of 2015 was included among the Top 10 shows of 2015 in *Brooklyn Magazine*.
- The College Office of Financial Aid received its yearly metric from the Department of Education. These metrics are now mandated to appear on a universal award letter. Our default rate is 8.9% compared to the national average of 11.8%.



*Our campaign to become tobacco free resulted in the College being recognized as a Tobacco Control Champion.*

## College News – Student Recognition and Awards

Twelve students from Suffolk County Community College earned the Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. The award acknowledges students who have demonstrated and been recognized for their integration of academic excellence with other aspects of their lives including leadership, campus involvement, community service, arts (creative or performing), athletics, and/or career achievement. It is the highest honor bestowed upon a student by the State University of New York. The SUNY Chancellor's Student Awards Ceremony was held on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Christopher Adams accompanied our students and their families on the trip to Albany. Seven of our 12 student recipients were recognized with a medallion and certificate and went on stage and had their photo taken with the Chancellor. The five students who could not attend the ceremony on the 5<sup>th</sup>, received recognition at their campus awards banquets in May. The students selected to receive the award this year were: Michael Brenkert (A), Elisandra Fini (G), Menely Genao (A), Alisha Hartman (A), Rachel Heinicke (G), Abigail Heins (E), Dawson Kopp (E), Justin Lerner (A), Anam Rabbani (G), Matthew Sclafani (A),



Emily Vaughan (A) and Leorelkys Villar (G).

Student Anam Rabbani from our Michael J. Grant Campus was selected as a 2016 Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship recipient by The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, which will provide her with a scholarship that covers tuition, fees, books, and living expenses up to a total of \$40,000 annually for up to three years. The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Scholarship is the largest private scholarship awarded to community college transfer students in the country. This prestigious award was presented to only 75 students nationwide. Anam is the College's tenth Jack Kent Cooke Scholar in our history. She was selected from a nationwide pool of over 2,000 applicants.

The College's Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) All-USA recipients – Amie Bernstein (A) and Elisandra Fini (G) – along with the All-State recipients – Leorelkys Villar (G), Alisha Hartman (A), Abigail Heins (E), and Dawson Kopp (E) – were invited to attend a special luncheon in Albany to honor their achievements. Students traveled with family members and enjoyed a day where they met the President of PTK, Dr. Lynn Tincher-Ladner, and networked among fellow officers of PTK. Our All-USA recipients, Elisandra Fini and Amie Bernstein, were selected as two of only 20 national members of the 2015 All-USA Community College Academic Team, from among more than 1,900 nominations. For this accomplishment, they were recognized in the April 12, 2016, issue of USA TODAY. They were also both selected to receive the 2016 Phi Theta Kappa Guistwhite Scholarship, for which over 1,800 applications were received. They are two of only 15 students to be selected for this honor. The combination of these two academic awards came with \$10,000 in scholarship funds for each of them. Their awards were presented at the Presidents Breakfast, which I was honored to attend, during the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) Annual Convention in Chicago.

The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation announced that Abigail Heins from our Eastern Campus was one of nine 2016 Coca-Cola Scholars from the state of New York. The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation recognizes 50 Gold, 50 Silver, and 50 Bronze Scholars from across the country, and provides nearly \$190,000 in scholarships annually. Selection as a Coca-Cola Scholar is based on scores earned in the All-USA Community College Academic Team competition, for which more than 1,700 students applied this year. As a Gold Scholar, Ms. Heins received a \$1,500 scholarship and a special medallion. Phi Theta Kappa recognized the 2016 Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team Scholars on stage at its Annual Convention in Maryland in April.

Leorelkys Villar was selected as one of only 20 students to receive Phi Theta Kappa's 2015 Frank Lanza Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship recognizes the outstanding academic and leadership accomplishments of students enrolled in registered nursing, respiratory care, or emergency medical services associate degree programs. As a Lanza Scholar, she will receive a \$2,500 scholarship.

I am pleased to share with you that our student Rachel Heinicke was selected as one of only 10 students to receive Phi Theta Kappa's 2016 Hites Transfer Scholarship. This is PTK's most prestigious and largest scholarship offering and is bestowed to assist students in the attainment of a baccalaureate degree. Rachel was selected from more than 2,200 applicants based on outstanding academic achievement, engagement in college and community activities, and leadership accomplishments. As a Hites Scholar, Rachel received a \$7,500 scholarship.

Students from the College's Dietetic Technician Program participated in National



*Emily Vaughan was a recipient of the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence.*



*Anam Rabbani is the 10<sup>th</sup> Jack Kent Cooke Scholar in the College's history.*

## JACK KENT COOKE FOUNDATION



*Abigail Heins was chosen as a Gold Coca-Cola Scholar.*



Amie Bernstein (l) and Elisandra Fini (r) were selected for PTK All-USA honors.

Food Day events at Brookhaven Memorial Hospital, Southside Hospital and Peconic Bay Medical Center. Food Day brings awareness to making healthy food choices and our students presented on “Rethinking Your Drink.” The students explained to staff and visitors why they should decrease their sugar consumption, especially by cutting added sugars such as those found in many beverages. Different displays showed the actual amount of sugar consumed in common drinks. The students provided specific suggestions for decreasing sugar intake including the American Heart Association’s recommendation to limit added sugar for women to 6 teaspoons per day and nine teaspoons each day for men.

Student Trustee Maria Gomez was selected to attend the New Leadership New York (NLNY) Summer Institute, held on the SUNY Albany campus. During the Institute, she was able to meet many powerful and influential women, including state and local elected and appointed officials, jurists and educators. As part of the program, she also toured the State Capitol and courts and United Nations headquarters.

Suffolk County Community College Culinary students were regional champions for the third consecutive year and tops in the Culinary Knowledge Bowl after advancing past five other college teams during the American Culinary Federation’s (ACF) Regional Conference in Atlanta. Our team’s excellent academic preparation, culinary talents, hard work, and coaching leadership were a winning combination and I am proud of our team’s accomplishment. The team went on to represent the College at the national tournament in Phoenix over the summer.



Leorelkys Villar received Phi Theta Kappa’s 2015 Frank Lanza Memorial Scholarship.

The Speech and Debate Team from our Michel J. Grant Campus placed second at the New England Championship held at Emerson College. For the first time in the team’s history, they advanced to the final round in every event they entered. Team President Jake Salemo from West Islip placed second in After Dinner Speaking, second in Prose Interpretation and fifth in Persuasive Speaking. Commack’s Austin Santiago, competing in his first tournament, finished third in Persuasive Speaking.

Kristen Campo of Middle Island was selected by the scholarship committee of the New York State Mathematics Association of Two-year Colleges (NYSMATYC) as the 2016 Dan Dodway Memorial Scholar. The Dodway award recognizes a top student with an interest in mathematics and includes a \$1,000 scholarship. Dan Dodway was a professor of mathematics at Broome Community College who served as NYSMATYC’s 21<sup>st</sup> president. NYSMATYC awards are granted annually to mathematics students in New York State who expect to transfer from a two-year college and continue their studies in mathematics or a related field. Ms. Campo will attend Stony Brook University in the fall to study mathematics.

Seven School of Nursing students developed a program that was presented as a webinar by Pearson Publishing entitled “Thinking Like a Nurse.” Over 50 nurse educators nationwide registered and participated in the student-run webinar to learn about student experiences as part of a faculty-led research project using NovEx. NovEx is a digital learning methodology designed to prepare students to clinically reason and problem-solve and to bridge the gap between the classroom and the clinic. It is based on the work of Dr. Patricia Benner, who is the author of *Novice to Expert Learning*.

Two Suffolk students were elected to serve the New York Region of Phi Theta Kappa. Lauren Bury from the Michael J. Grant Campus was elected to serve as NY President, and Sean Deery from the Eastern Campus was elected to serve as NY Western District Vice President. Over the course of the next year, these students will have



weekly conference calls with regional leadership, engage in goal setting and action implementation for the region, attend leadership training events, and plan and run two conferences.

During this year's commencement, I recognized Dr. Leonard Marino, a retired pediatrician who returned to school and completed the degree requirements for our Veterinary Technician program. He now assists his son, veterinarian Dominic Marino, at Long Island Veterinary Specialists in Plainview. Dr. Marino, at age 83, is among the most senior graduates in our history.

The College was a strong competitor in the New York State Mathematics Association of Two-Year College's (NYSMATYC) Math League Contest as well as the competition hosted by the American Mathematical Association for Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC). Congratulations to our team members on their achievements, which include a statewide second-place team finish and the first-place individual score earned by our student Maciej Wlodek. Additionally, two students placed in the top five in the Northeast region – Jakub Wlodek and Maciej Wlodek. Congratulations also to our faculty coordinators across all of our campuses for their successful preparation of our team members.

Bay Shore's Shannon Bloomquist won Suffolk's culinary competition, "Battle for the Beach." Nearly a dozen culinary program students participated in the competition. The competition is similar to the reality TV show *Chopped*, with judges evaluating each student's creation on creativity, presentation and taste. Chef Bloomquist won a seven-night stay at the Sheraton Clearwater Beach Resort in Florida and an opportunity to work under the supervision of the resort's executive chef.

The College's Women's Softball Team volunteered at the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Freezin' for a Reason Polar Plunge for the Special Olympics of New York at Cedar Beach in Mt. Sinai. The event was hosted by the Town of Brookhaven and raised more than \$150,000 for Special Olympics of New York.

This year, we proudly celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Grainger Tools for Tomorrow scholarship program. Since 2006, Grainger has supported outstanding students pursuing skilled trades and public safety careers. Recipients are recognized with a \$2,000 scholarship award and a Westward toolkit upon graduation. At Suffolk, skilled trades programs are those leading to a degree or licensed certification in Automotive Service Specialist; Construction Technology; Electrical Technology; and Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration. Public safety programs are those leading to a degree or licensed certification in Emergency Medical Technician; Paramedic and Fire Protection Technology. The two newest Grainger scholars are Daniella Lucana and Stephen Orkiszewski, who are both enrolled in Electrical Engineering Technology on our Ammerman Campus.

The College's Michael J. Grant Campus Western Student Press received five awards at the Press Club of Long Island's (PCLI) 2015 Annual Media Awards banquet, including second place for Best Long Island College Newspaper.

Scott Erath's Amityville company, Wm. Erath & Son, Inc., has helped build students' futures for a decade by supporting the construction technology program at Suffolk County Community College with student internships, jobs and hardware. Erath recently awarded two students with laptop computers preloaded with construction industry software. Donnalyne Berech of Mastic Beach, now a construction inspector



*The College has earned its reputation for developing outstanding Speech and Debate teams.*



*Kristen Campo (r) is the 2016 Dan Dodway Memorial Scholar.*



*Shannon Bloomquist won the Battle for the Beach competition.*



*Women's Softball was Freezin' for a Reason.*

for the New York State Department of Transportation, and Ted Seip of Ronkonkoma were awarded the laptops by Erath, valued at nearly \$2,000.

Erin Hoel's summer sangria cupcake with passion fruit mousse was chosen the winner in the College's Culinary Arts Program's first Cupcake Wars competition. Seventeen baking program students participated, with each student having three hours to create a dozen cupcakes consisting of a cake, filling, icing and decoration.

Suffolk County Community College's Theater Arts Department students performed extraordinarily well at the prestigious Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF), competing in numerous acting and technical theater categories at this year's host location Western Connecticut State University. The College's production of *Eurydice* garnered the coveted Golden Hammer Award. Scott Cavallo, who served as the technical director for the production, was awarded a scholarship from the Stagecraft Institute of Las Vegas, earning a one-week, all-expenses-paid internship at the Institute. Avery Orvis (Shirley) captured the National Award for Excellence in Sound Design and will present his work at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Michael Fales (Miller Place) was recognized with the New England Theater Conference Best Comic Actor Award, and five Suffolk theater majors made it to the semi-final round of the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship competition. The awards are a testament to the incredible commitment shown by our faculty in expanding and enhancing the learning opportunities for our theatre majors.

### **START-Up New York**

The College received formal notification from SUNY regarding its approval for our START-Up NY plan. We were the fourth Long Island institution of higher education approved to participate in the program. The three sites approved within our plan include 71.2 acres adjacent to our Ammerman Campus, 7.9 acres located on our Michael J. Grant Campus and commercial space that is part of the Wyandanch Rising project in Babylon.

### **Computer Information Systems (CIS)**

The Office of Computer and Information Systems has accomplished much this past year, supporting our efforts to deliver on College projects that impact our Institutional Objectives.

The department completed the implementation of text messaging and a mobile app. Text messaging complements the emergency messaging system currently in use by adding capabilities to distribute reminder messages on important events like registration and bill payment. The mobile app is available for both Android and Apple phones and includes public information, such as building maps, event calendars, and College contacts, along with applications that require a login. Among the latter are access to grades, class schedules, and both the MySCCC portal and Self-Service Banner. Links are also included to the College's learning management system (Blackboard) and the Aramark dining services site. Text messaging and the mobile app focused on the College's Measurable Institutional Objectives (MIOs) of Access and Affordability (3.0) and Communications (5.0). Also addressing these objectives was a version upgrade to the portal and several email campaigns with complementary websites. The portal upgrade was done to provide a better user login experience. The campaigns targeted prospective students and their parents and included analytics for tracking effectiveness. The campaigns generated a significant number of leads for follow-up by the College's enrollment management team.



*Wm. Erath & Son, Inc. continues to support our construction technology program.*



These same MIOs were also the driving force behind the implementation of the new scholarship management system, AcademicWorks, and the continued work on the development of the College's new mobile-friendly website. AcademicWorks is a hosted system for which CIS provided integration and configuration support services. The system allows students to search and apply for scholarships while enabling the College to automate the award process.

The College continues to work with Omni-Update for webpage setup, template migration and final content migration to the new website. The formatting of content and style sheets has been reviewed and updated. A project management plan has been created for the new website and staff has identified outstanding tasks to be addressed by team members prior to the launch. Staff has also begun developing reports of a prospective student's online journey from start to finish, which will help to measure and better understand the results of ongoing digital marketing initiatives.

The transition to Aramark as our new food service was supported by several IT initiatives. Upgrades were made to our Banner system to provide the ability for students to bank funds for use in the cafeterias and vending machines. The transition was further supported by the construction of more advanced networking connectivity within the facilities and the move to a magnetic stripe ID card, which is useable both at the cash registers and vending machines.

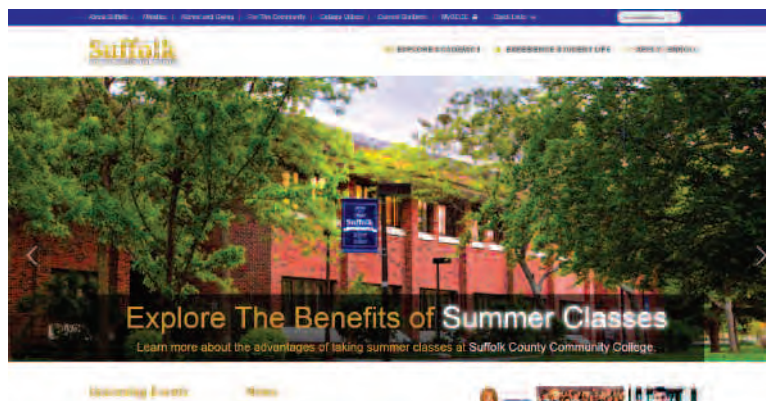
The IT department also began the deployment of tablets for the Board of Trustees. These devices reduce the burden of printing and mailing, and provide members with better access to agenda information. To complement tablet use, a collaborative BOT site has been created in the portal to handle such tasks as calendaring and document distribution.

Efforts continue on the upgrade to the College's infrastructure. This includes the College's on-campus fiber plant and network infrastructure, and the completion of the transition to the next software versions for email and MS Office. The network projects provided connections to open the William J. Lindsay Life Sciences Building (A) and support for the LIU building (G). Both projects extended Suffolk's voice and data facilities and added to the College's safety capabilities with additional security cameras and emergency messaging.

Staff was also instrumental in a number of projects meant to improve employee productivity and address both access and institutional effectiveness. These included the integration of Banner with Unimarket's hosted purchasing system, which delivers an Amazon-like purchasing experience for College departments. It also includes work with OPIE on the integration and support of its planning application, which provides a portal-like experience for departments participating in annual assessment, unit review, Middle States Accreditation, SUNY Excels and Achieving the Dream. CIS implemented an instance of Microsoft's SharePoint portal to house the display application and worked with the application's vendor to make the necessary data connections. Further, CIS implemented a new end-user reporting application, Argos, and began workflow improvement projects to automate the process for hiring new part-time staff and to allow vendors to self-register with the Unimarket purchasing system. Argos provides datasets from Banner to allow departments to access standard reports and create custom reports.



*Erin Hoele won the Cupcake Wars with a tasty summer sangria and passion fruit mousse creation.*



## IN MEMORIAM



*Robert T. Kreiling  
Suffolk Community College's  
Second President (1983-1991)*

### Remembering the College's Second President – Robert T. Kreiling

Last August, we learned of the passing of Suffolk County Community College's second president, Robert T. Kreiling. Following Dr. Albert Ammerman's retirement in 1983, Mr. Kreiling, who had served as Executive Vice President under Dr. Ammerman, was appointed President. Early during his career, he proved to be an effective, hands-on leader and was given responsibility for numerous significant initiatives, including overseeing the opening of our Riverhead and Brentwood campus locations and the expansion of alumni outreach and fundraising efforts. During his tenure as President from 1983-1991, he instituted the Honors Program, strengthened the College's developmental studies curriculum, and established child care services on two campuses. To serve effectively as President of this great institution requires vision, fortitude, and the ability to forge consensus. Robert Kreiling's leadership was instrumental in helping to shape our College into the beacon of knowledge and excellence it is today.

### Looking Forward

As this academic year reaches its conclusion, I would like to express my appreciation for the effort I have seen put forth daily by our incredible faculty and dedicated staff. I am also grateful for the guidance and wisdom of our Board of Trustees and our State and County partners, all of whom have been instrumental in the progress that has occurred. Collectively, we continue to transform lives through education. Our focus now shifts toward new work, new demands and new expectations. I look forward to joining our faculty, staff and administrators as we complete each step of this next portion of our journey forward. By maintaining our focus on excellence and pushing ourselves to keep moving forward, we will continue to generate the transformational power of education that serves to enrich the lives of our students and further advances the development of the College. I am looking forward to sharing it all with you and hope that the 2016-2017 academic year is one that we will remember fondly for its energy and the forward momentum that brought all of us to the next level of success.





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