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# HCCC Happenings

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

A publication of the Communications Department





Hudson County Community College Trustee Chair William J. Netchert to receive ACCT Northeast Region Trustee Leadership Award



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# From the **Editor's Desk**

HCCC Happenings is on the College's website at http://www.hccc.edu

Items for the October newsletter are due by Friday, September 13, 2019.

Please send your news items, comments and suggestions to:

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# HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE **TRUSTEE CHAIR WILLIAM J. NETCHERT** TO RECEIVE ACCT NORTHEAST REGION **TRUSTEE LEADERSHIP AWARD**

udson County Community College (HCCC) announced that the College's Board of Trustees Chairman, William J. Netchert, Esq., has been named the recipient of the 2019 Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Northeast Region M. Dale Ensign Trustee Leadership Award.

The M. Dale Ensign Trustee Leadership Award honors an individual who has made significant contributions as a trustee in promoting the community college concept. The ACCT regional awards program recognizes one trustee from each of the five regions of the United States. The awards will be presented during the ACCT Leadership Congress in San Francisco on October 18, 2019. As a regional awardee, Mr. Netchert will be considered for the 2019 National Trustee Award, which will be presented at the Annual Awards Gala later that evening.

HCCC Trustee Vice Chair Bakari J. Lee, Esq. nominated Mr. Netchert for the award on behalf of President Reber and the entire HCCC Board of Trustees. In his nominating letter, Mr. Lee stated: "Mr. Netchert is passionate about education, our community, and most assuredly, about Hudson County Community College. He has devoted much of his life in service to the community and has been a stalwart advocate for our students and .....

their families. Mr. Netchert has worked tirelessly – and often out of public view to ensure that the students, faculty, and staff of Hudson County Community College are afforded the resources they need to succeed."



"This award is a testament to all Bill Netchert has done for the College, our students, and our community," said HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber. He noted that Mr. Netchert is determined to provide Hudson County Community College students with the very best education, and played a significant role in securing resources for construction of the College's award-winning Culinary Conference Center, North Hudson Campus, Gabert Library, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Building, as well as the revitalization and repurposing of several other facilities including the new HCCC Student Center, which will open next year.

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# <u>HCCC HOLDS WHITE COAT CEREMONY FOR</u> **2019 RADIOGRAPHY CLASS**



Members of the HCCC Radiography Class of 2019 following their White Coat Ceremony.

n Thursday, Aug. 8, Hudson County Community College (HCCC) held a white coat ceremony for students successfully completing the College's Associate of Science in Radiography degree program. The event was held at the College's Culinary Conference Center.

The graduates are now eligible to sit for the national American Registry of Radiologic Technol-

ogists exam. Radiologic Technologists are in high demand with a projected job growth rate of 13% over the next eight years, and median income of \$58,960 a year (according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics).

Daniel Saporito, President of HCCC's Radiography Class of 2019, delivered a farewell address.

# HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE CELEBRATES PROGRAM OFFERINGS AT NEW SECAUCUS CENTER

n Thursday, September 5, Hudson County Community College (HCCC) President Dr. Chris Reber hosted the Opening Reception of the College's new Secaucus Center, which is located on the Hudson County Schools of Technology Frank A. Gargiulo Campus, at One High Tech Way in Secaucus.

Hudson County Executive Thomas A. DeGise, HCCC Board of Trustees Chair William J. Netchert. Esq., Hudson County Schools of Technology Superintendent Amy Lin-Rodriguez, and HCCC Executive Director of the Secaucus Center Dr. Christopher Conzen joined Dr. Reber at the event.

"As a former educator, I appreciate the value of this partnership between Hudson County Community College and Hudson County Schools of Technology for our residents, and for the continued economic growth and development of the County," said County Executive DeGise.

"Our thanks to County Executive DeGise, the Board of Chosen Freeholders, and the Board and administrators of Hudson County Schools of Technology for their support in establishing the HCCC Secaucus Center," Dr. Reber said. "Our Middle States-approved Secaucus Center focuses on expanding opportunities. It will serve all of Hudson County - especially those who live or work in Secaucus, Kearny, Harrison, and East Newark - with full-credit, college-degree programs offered in the evening. In addition, we are also providing High Tech High School students interested in STEM education with the opportunity to complete an HCCC associate degree upon high school graduation."

"The partnership between Hudson County Schools of Technology and Hudson County Community College aligns with our district's mission to provide students of all ages with diverse learning opportunities," said Superintendent Lin-Rodri-



Pictured from left: Dr. Christopher Conzen, Executive Director, HCCC Secaucus Center; Nathaly Ibarra Santillan, the first HCCC student to register for Secaucus Center courses; William J. Netchert, Esq., Chair, HCCC Board of Trustees; Dr. Chris Reber, HCCC President; and Thomas A. DeGise, Hudson County Executive.

guez. "By working collaboratively, our current high school students are able to earn an associate degree from HCCC upon graduation, and we are able to expand our post-secondary offerings. I thank County Executive Tom DeGise for continuing to invest in public education, allowing everyone to further their studies and prepare for future career opportunities."

At the event, Dr. Conzen introduced Nathaly Ibarra Santillan, the first student to register at the HCCC Secaucus Center, and presented her with a certificate.

The HCCC Secaucus Center offerings include required courses in all HCCC majors. Further, two full-degree programs - Associate in Arts in Liberal Arts (General) and Associate in Science in Business Administration - will be offered in their entirety at the Secaucus Center. Classes are offered in weekday evening sessions, during which an HCCC Student Success Coach is available to assist with



Pictured from left: Thomas A. DeGise, Hudson County Executive; Craig Guy, Hudson County Schools of Technology Board President; Dr. Chris Reber, HCCC President; William J. Netchert, Esq., Chair, HCCC Board of Trustees; and Amy Lin-Rodriguez, Superintendent, Hudson County Schools of Technology.

degree planning, financial aid and scholarship applications, and transfer/career planning.

Hudson County Community College serves more than 17,000 credit and noncredit students annually. Thanks to the College's comprehensive financial aid programs and services, approximately 83% of HCCC students receive financial assistance. HCCC 2019-2020 students are encouraged to apply for the free-tuition New Jersey Community College Opportunity Grant (CCOG) program, which covers tuition and academic fees for eligible students. For more information about CCOG, current and prospective students may email freetuition@hccc.edu, call (201) 360-4222, or visit the College website at www.hccc.edu/ccog.

Hudson County Community College offers more than 60 degree and certificate programs, including award-winning English as a Second Language, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), Culinary Arts/Hospitality Continued on page 11

# **HCCC TO OFFER FULLY ONLINE A.S. IN ACCOUNTING DEGREE PROGRAM**

udson County Community College announces that it will offer the A.S. in Accounting as a fully online degree program. In the Fall 2019 semester, this 60-credit fully online degree program will meet the needs of students wanting to earn a credential in Accounting without attending HCCC's Campus. Students who enroll and complete the fully online A.S. in Accounting program will pay In-County tuition rates regardless of where they reside. Online degree programs at HCCC are available in the form of seven-week, 12-week and 15-week sessions with 24/7 technical support. Academic support is available by appointment online.

The A.S. in Accounting is a transferrable two-year program that enables students to complete the first two year requirements of a four-year Baccalaureate Accounting degree. The strong academic foundation supports and meets the eligibility requirements for students seeking professional licensure as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or Certified Management Accountant (CMA).

## **PROFESSIONAL NOTES**

Dr. Gina O'Melia, Adjunct Instructor (History/ Political Science), has published a book through Palgrave Macmillan Press on the influence of Japanese culture on American media (children's TV). The book, Japanese Influence on American Children's Television: Transforming Saturday Morning, is available for purchase at Amazon. com.

On Friday, June 1, two selective HCCC professors presented at the NJTESOL/NJBE Annual Conference at the Hyatt Regency in New Brunswick. The conference theme was "cELLebrate 50 Years! Celebrating the Success of Bilingual, Dial, & English Language Learners." Maria Schirta led off the morning with "Tips for Having an Effective Lesson" in which she shared her insights the NJTESOL/NJBE Annual into student focusing and redesigning her teaching craft.



Maria Schirta (left) and Dr. Nancy Booth, presenters at Conference.

Her audience was engaged and interested. Dr. Nancy Booth's presentation on "Reading Motivations" was a lunchtime favorite. Unfortunately, she ran into transmission problems, so when plan A, B, and C didn't work, she went old school and gave a vocal presentation using her handouts for some inside/outside the box techniques. The room was packed but she still managed to create an airplane for her audience. Both HCCC faculty members were repeat presenters.



## Please join the Human Resources team for the next round of Coffee Hour with Human Resources!

We will focus on the tuition reimbursement and tuition waiver benefits and related processes and will have an open Q&A for any other HR-related questions.

### **NORTH HUDSON CAMPUS:**

Friday, September 27, 10 a.m.

JERSEY CITY CAMPUS: Thursday, September 26, 3 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you in this program series!

# SAVE THE DATE

# HCCC's Annual Benefits Fair

## **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2019**

The Human Resources Team would like to welcome all HCCC employees to the Annual Benefits Fair to be held on Tuesday, October 8, 2019 on the Journal Square Campus.

This is an all-day event that will give employees an opportunity to meet our benefits vendors, participate in informational sessions, and get treated to a massage. Vendors will include our representatives from medical, retirement, mental health and our professional associations. Transportation to/from the North Hudson Campus will be arranged as well. We will continue with regular updates of confirmed vendors, representatives and information session to be held throughout this exciting day!

# SAVE THE DATE:

# CONVOCATION Wednesday, October 2

# NEW HIRES/ NEW TITLES

Ruth Aman, Instructor, English Jean Baptiste, Instructor, English Adriana Calixto-Soto, Student Success Coach Madeline J. Carchia, Administrative Assistant Christopher Ciely, , Executive Administrative Assistant, Finance Heather Connors, Instructor, English Ja'Via L. Hall, Programming Coordinator Charles Juliano, Safety & Security Coordinator Addison Keim, Career Coach Ruthann Kelman, College Lecturer, Clinical Specialist, Medical Surgical Nursing Alexis Muniz, Programs Coordinator Doreen Pontius, Associate Director of Counseling and Wellness Maritza Reyes, Business Developer Sarah Teichman, Librarian Andres Chuck Valencia.

# CHANGE TITLE WITH INCUMBENTS

Nydia James, from Secretary, Grants to Assistant Grants Officer

Digital Marketing Services Manager

# **MILESTONES**

Congratulations to the following on their anniversary with Hudson County Community College!

> **One Year** James Cox Victoria Marino Priyanka Naik Omar Williams

**Five Years** Jacquelyn Delemos

**40 Years** Daisy Baiza Jennifer Oakley

For professional development workshops, opportunities, and other resources, please visit the Office of Faculty and Staff Development page at http://my.hccc.edu

## JOBS

Applicants are now being sought for the following positions: Adjunct Faculty – Developmental English and Reading Adjunct Faculty – English Composition I and II Adjunct Faculty – ESL Adjunct Faculty – Medical-Surgical Clinical Instruction Adjunct Faculty – Medical-Surgical Theory Instruction Adjunct Faculty – Nursing Adjunct Faculty – Psychiatric Clinical Instruction Adjunct Faculty – Sociology and Anthropology Adjunct Positions (Nursing and Health Sciences) Administrative Assistant, College Libraries Admissions Recruiter Apprenticeship Program Coordinator Assistant Controller Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs Certified Nurse Aide Instructor Clinical Nurse Specialist College Lecturer / Clinical Specialist Medical-Surgical College Lecturer, Radiography: Didactic/Clinical College Lecturer, English College Lecturer (Radiography) Communications Assistant Community Education Instructors PT (multiple positions) Custodial Worker Customer Service Assistant PT Executive Administrative Assistant - Finance Hemodialvsis Technician Instructor PT Instructional Technologist Instructor, Accounting Instructor for the Center for Business & Industry Instructor, English (3 Positions) Instructor. Exercise Science Librarian (PT) Librarian Library Associate Library Associate - Technology Office Assistant, Radiology Program (Part-Time) Part Time Career Advisor Patient Access Representative Technician Instructor (PT) PC Technician Per Diem BLS and CPR Instructor Sign Language Interpreter (PT) Student Financial Aid Assistant Testing Assistant/Proctor (PT) Job Opportunities Sexual Misconduct Guide Vice President for Advancement and Communication

To apply, please submit a letter of application, resume, salary requirements, & three references to:

Hudson County Community College Human Resources Department 70 Sip Avenue, Third Floor Jersey City, NJ 07306 resumes@hccc.edu

Applicants for instructor and adjunct positions must submit transcripts.

For more information, please visit the New Jersey Higher Education Recruitment Consortium website at www.njherc.org, the Higher-EdJobs.com website at www.higheredjobs.com, www.latinoshighered.com or contact the Human Resources Department at (201) 360-4070. For a detailed description of these positions, please visit the "Jobs @ HCCC" page at www.hccc.edu.

# CULINARY STUDENTS TOUR CHEF'S WAREHOUSE

n Aug. 20, the students of the Culinary Arts Institute (CAI) together with Chef Marissa Lontoc, Chef Courtney Payne, and Lynette Lacson, CAI's Purchasing and Scheduling Coordinator, visited Chef's Warehouse. Chef's Warehouse is a family-owned specialty food distributor located in the Bronx, New York. They are a premier purveyor of specialty ingredients to over 30,000 high end independently owned restaurants, country clubs, and gourmet food stores in key Culinary Markets in North America.

The tour started with a tasting of the various ingredients that the company sells to their customers. The students got a taste of different cheeses, olive oils, produce, seafood, and chocolate. During the food tasting, the students were given more information about the products' source and use. They were eventually escorted to the warehouse where all the products are stored. The guide explained how deliveries are packaged and sent to customers. He also discussed about waste and the sustainable initiatives the company is undertaking.

At the end of the tour, everyone received a bag of food samples and a wealth of knowledge strengthened by speaking to food experts and visiting an actual food warehouse.



In August, Culinary Arts Institute students, faculty and staff toured Chef's Warehouse, a familyowned specialty food distributor in New York City. They sampled products and learned about their sources and uses.

# ALL COLLEGE COUNCIL HOLDS SUMMER RETREAT



The All College Council launched the new academic year with a planning retreat in August.

n Thursday, Aug. 22, Hudson County Community College's All College Council (ACC) held a summer retreat at the Culinary Conference Center.

Following breakfast, the retreat opened with introductions of the incoming executive board and committee chairs and secretaries.

The ACC Standing Committees then announced updates and conducted a planning session, during which the committees shared their

accomplishments from the past year and held a lively discussion of projects and goals for the coming year), shared ideas, and addressed Questions/ Concerns.

The Council also reviewed its charter, grounding its work in a discussion of the mission of the ACC and charges for each subcommittee.

After lunch, ACC representatives engaged in engaged in further discussion, concluding in a plan for its next steps.



# FALL 2019 OPEN HOUSES

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. **NORTH HUDSON** CAMPUS

Saturday, October 12 Saturday, November 9 10 am. – 12 p.m. JOURNAL SQUARE CAMPUS

RSVP at https://www.hccc.edu/openhouse/

# HCCC INSTALLS SIGNAGE AT JOURNAL SQUARE



uring the week of Aug. 19, Hudson County Community College in partnership with the Journal Square Special Improvement District installed pole banners featuring three of the College's most popular fields of study: Nursing, Culinary Arts, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) throughout Journal Square.

The banners have been posted on poles on Bergen and Sip Avenues in Jersey City and along the median Kennedy Blvd.

# **ENROLLMENT NEWS**

# **INTRODUCING HCCC PEER LEADERS**







**KORAL BOOTH** 

Major: Liberal Arts – English A.A. Hometown: Jersey City, New Jersey Favorite Moment at HCCC: When I went to the information session for NSLS Honor Society Favorite Spot on Campus: Sixth Floor of the Gabert Library in the summer when you can go outside to enjoy the view. Favorite Hobby: Writing and reading Best Advice for Incoming Students: Get involved

and stay active on campus.



SURI HIDALGO

Major: Criminal Justice A.S. Hometown: Union City, New Jersey Favorite Moment at HCCC: Spring induction for Phi Theta Kappa Favorite Spot on Campus: The Honors Lounge

Favorite Hobby: Discovering new music to listen and attempt to dance to.

**Best Advice for Incoming Students:** 

Learn to love learning to improve your academic experience!



### **CRYSTAL NEWTON**

Major: Business Administration A.S. Hometown: Jersey City, New Jersey Favorite Moment at HCCC: Winning the Writing Center's 2019 Student Writing Contest award for best poem.

Favorite Spot on Campus: Art Gallery and balcony on the sixth floor of the Gabert Library Favorite Hobby: Writing poetry, singing, reading an actual book, and knitting. Best Advice for Incoming Students: Don't allow fear to keep you from trying!



### **KATRICIA COLON**

Major: Criminal Justice A.S. Hometown: Bayamon, Puerto Rico Favorite Moment at HCCC: Being hired to do what I love, which is to help those seeking an education

Favorite Spot on Campus: The Art Gallery in the Gabert Library (Building L)

Favorite Hobby: Cooking, singing, and teaching Best Advice for Incoming Students: Do not be afraid to ask; curiosity paves the way for learning.



**HILLARY KOUEVI** 

Major: Accounting A.S. Hometown: Kearny, New Jersey Favorite Moment at HCCC: Volunteering at the food pantry in my free time Favorite Spot on Campus: Café at the Gabert Library

Favorite Hobby: Knitting and going out with friends

Best Advice for Incoming Students: Explore all aspects of what the College has to offer.



**BRIAN RIBAS** 

Major: Computer Science A.S. Hometown: Harrison, New Jersey Favorite Moment at HCCC: Joining Phi Theta Kappa

Favorite Spot on Campus: The Library! It's very relaxing and I can get a lot done there. Favorite Hobby: Reading and writing Best Advice for Incoming Students: Get involved as soon as possible. The opportunities are limitless!

# **INTRODUCING HCCC PEER LEADERS**



### **TYLER SARMIENTO**

Major: Liberal Arts A.A. Hometown: Jersey City, New Jersey Favorite Moment at HCCC: Attending the Albert Ellis event with Prof. Sal Figueras and the Psychology Club

Favorite Spot on Campus: Library Coffee Shop Favorite Hobby: Breathing

**Best Advice for Incoming Students:** Get enough sleep and eat before class.



### **KAILYN SEGOVIA**

Major: Theatre Arts A.F.A. Hometown: Bayonne, New Jersey Favorite Moment at HCCC: Guest speaking at HCCC's College Service Day Favorite Spot on Campus: The Honors Lounge Favorite Hobby: Singing and song writing Best Advice for Incoming Students: Own your voice! Don't be afraid to ask questions.



**ABOU TRAORE** 

Major: Computer Arts A.F.A. Hometown: Dakar, Senegal Favorite Moment at HCCC: Going to Harvard University for the Model UN Conference Favorite Spot on Campus: The group study rooms at the Gabert Library Favorite Hobby: Photography Best Advice for Incoming Students: Focus on your future. Get involved in student activities, and take advantage of all of the opportunities that HCCC has to offer.

# HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE INVITES STUDENTS TO ENROLL IN THE NEWLY EXPANDED CCOG FREE-TUITION PROGRAM

Hudson County Community College (HCCC) reminds prospective students that the New Jersey Community College Opportunity Grant (CCOG) program has been extended to cover the Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 semesters, and that the family income eligibility limit has been increased by \$20,000, to \$65,000.

CCOG covers tuition and educational fees, after other federal and state aid is applied. For the 2019-20 academic year, prospective and current students, who have adjusted gross household incomes of up to \$65,000 and who take six or more credits, may be eligible for CCOG awards.

"Thanks to Governor Murphy and our legislators,

greater numbers of students can take advantage of this free-tuition program," HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber said. "We are happy to note that under the expanded guidelines, an estimated 1,300 HCCC students will be eligible for CCOG financial assistance this fall."

Hudson County Community College has one of the most comprehensive Financial Aid programs in New Jersey, with 83 percent of HCCC students receiving assistance. Still, many students require additional tuition assistance.

"Thousands of HCCC students balance college with full-time employment, full-time studies, and caring for their families. This program enables our students to achieve their higher education goals while managing other important priorities," Dr. Reber stated. He noted that the program supports the education of a skilled, tax-paying workforce that benefits Hudson County's economy.

To qualify for the CCOG, students need to complete either the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), or the Alternative Application for New Jersey Dreamers by September 15, 2019. For more information about the Community College Opportunity Grant and attending Hudson County Community College, please contact the HCCC Admissions Office by phoning (201) 360-4222 or emailing freetuition@hccc.edu.



## COLLEGE PLACEMENT TESTING SCHEDULE

For information about the College Placement Test (CPT), including this month's schedule, please visit the Testing & Assessment website at: www.hccc.edu/ testschedule.

# PHI THETA KAPPA HONOR SOCIETY NEWS



Pictured from left: Prof. Ted Lai, Henry Bosch, and Lauren Lopena Judd volunteering at the gardening project at Liberty State Park on Aug. 10.

Congratulations to member and Peer Leader Brian Ribas, a computer science major, who has been selected to receive the Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholarship.

### 2019 Verizon New York City Triathlon

The 2019 Verizon New York City Triathlon was canceled on Sunday, July 21 due to extreme temperatures, but the pre-events including the Expo were held. Two days before the Triathlon, the ath-



Misona Ishida at the New York City Triathlon Expo.

letes attend the Expo to take care of matters before the competition. They pick up supplies including a t-shirt and bib number and have photos taken. Misona Ishida, who had completed her associate during Summer Session I, volunteered at the Expo. Other members, alumni, and Prof. Ted Lai had volunteered supposed to volunteer at the finish line in Central Park.

# TOWN HALL WITH PRESIDENT REBER



Kathleen Smith Wenning, Director of Health-Related Programs, announces the coming of new Pop-Up events in Personal Fitness and additional programs.

n Wednesday, Aug. 14, Hudson County Community College held its monthly Town Hall Meeting, open to all College faculty, staff, and students.

During the meeting, HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber shared several positive updates – including



Dr. Chris Reber, President of Hudson County Community College, opens the floor to questions and concerns from the audience.

the development of a new President's Advisory Council on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – as the College prepares for the 2019-20 academic year.

The next Town Hall will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 11 at the Culinary Conference Center, beginning at 12:30 p.m.



Monday, September 30, 2019 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Gabert Library, Sixth Floor Atrium

71 Sip Ave.

Come meet the team, enjoy discussions, view demonstrations and presentations.

# ACHIEVING THE DREAM UPDATE



John Scanlon, Executive Director of Institutional Research and Planning, presents on Best Practices in Data Analysis to members of HCCC's Dream Team.

n August 21, Executive Director of Institutional Research & Planning, John Scanlon presented to HCCC's Dream Team about best practices in data disaggregation and data visualization. Disaggregating data refers to the practice of separating key metrics like students' persistence in staying on the pathway towards their academic and personal goals by various demographic indicators (e.g., age, race, gender, Pell/non-Pell recipient status, and full- versus part-time enrollment status). Disaggregated data helps institutions more clearly see where opportunity gaps exist and what types of interventions may be needed in order to address those gaps. A commitment to disaggregating data will be a hallmark of HCCC's student success initiatives moving forward. In its first year of engagement with Achieving the Dream, the Dream Team's energy will focus heavily on exploring the data. By June 2020, the Dream Team, in concert with the HCCC community, will have worked to identify a handful of data-driven interventions that will inform HCCC's student success efforts throughout 2020 and 2021.

# HCCC SALUTES ALUMNI GRADS OF FELICIAN UNIVERSITY

Ongratulations to the following former students of Hudson County Community College, on whom degrees from Felician University were conferred on Thursday, May 30, 2019:

- Selena Riley, Nursing, BSN
- Cindy Bermudez, Nursing, BSN
- Michelle Mejia, Psychology, MA
- Guadalupe Contla, Nursing, BSN
- Awilda Rodriguez-Paulino, Nursing, BSN
- Cristal Valerio, Natural Sciences
  & Mathematics, BA
- Kaitlyn Albert, Graphic Design, BA

"We are proud of the results of our partnership with Hudson County Community College in helping students complete their path to their bachelor degrees," said Dr. Anne M. Frisco, President of Felician University. "These students benefited from the high standards and quality of the Felician experience because of the solid educational foundation they received at Hudson County Community College."



# **COLLEGE SERVICE DAY CELEBRATES HCCC'S COMMITMENT TO STUDENT SUCCESS**

### Annual Semester Kickoff Event Marks Official Launch of Achieving the Dream at HCCC

n Tuesday, Aug. 27 and Wednesday, Aug. 28, Dr. Mary Fifield, HCCC's Leadership Coach, and Dr. Rene Garcia, HCCC's Data Coach, made their inaugural visit to HCCC. They met with the President's Executive Council, conducted two Town Hall Sessions, and participated in College Service Day festivities to discuss their roles as Achieving the Dream Coaches. Achieving the Dream is a national educational reform network. Achieving the Dream helps colleges build and expand their capacity in seven areas that are essential to student success: leadership and vision; strategy and planning; policies and practices; data and technology; teaching and learning; engagement and communication; and equity. Throughout the next ten months, HCCC will be engaging in deep-dives into its data in order to see where opportunity gaps for students exist. In June 2020, HCCC will submit an action plan to Drs. Fifield and Garcia that describes the select student success initiatives towards which the College will adopt a laser-like focus in 2020-2021 and beyond.

Spearheading this work is HCCC's Dream Team, which is composed of Cabinet members, Deans, Executive Directors, and Faculty who have worked, and continue to work, as champions for HCCC's engagement with Achieving the Dream. In addition to planning and participating in Drs. Fifield and Garcia's visit, the Dream Team has been busy disaggregating data in order to gain a more complete picture of what students' experiences at HCCC look like.

The next step for the entire HCCC community is to complete the Institutional Capacity Assessment Tool (ICAT). The ICAT is a survey that evaluates how faculty, staff, and administrators at an institution perceive the institution's capacity across those seven dimensions of student success. All faculty, staff, and administrators are strongly encouraged to participate in the ICAT. Stay tuned for more information from HCCC's Dream Team!



Scenes from HCCC's College Service Day on Wednesday, Aug. 28, during which the College community prepared for the 2019-20 academic year and the first year of the College's participation in Achieving the Dream.

# ALL COLLEGE FACULTY ORIENTATION





Dr. Chris Reber, HCCC President, delivers a welcome address at the All College Faculty Orientation on Aug. 29.

n Thursday evening, Aug. 29, the Office of Faculty & Staff Development held a Fall 2019 All College Faculty Orientation. This working meeting enabled faculty members to learn about many exciting updates for the fall semester, including the Center for Teaching, Learning, and Innovation.

The attendees received warm greetings from HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber and Interim Dean of Instruction Elizabeth Nesius.

# Want to Get Involved with Achieving the Dream?

## Look for calls for participation to:

- Define what student success means at HCCC
- Complete the Institutional Capacity Assessment Tool (ICAT)
- Attend the Capacity Café
- And Much More!



## SAVE THE DATES for Drs. Fifield and Garcia's next visit: Thursday, November 21, 2019 Friday, November 22, 2019

**Foundation Art Collection** 

The Hudson County Community College Foundation Art Collection, which includes artworks in media such as prints, drawings, painting and sculpture, photographs, American craft pottery, and ephemera, reveals aspects of America's and New Jersey's rich artistic and cultural history from the Hudson River School period to today. In recent years, the College's acquisition efforts have focused on strengthening its American and New Jersey modern, and contemporary collections.

Each month, this page in HCCC Happenings provides updates on artists whose work is in the collection, and new additions to the collection.

### DONOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thank you to our generous donors: Thanks to Betty Bogert for the oil painting by Jersey City artist Adelaide Werger.

Thank you to Anne McKeown for the artworks by Stanley Roy Badmin, Joan Snyder, and William Lionel Wylllie, and for the related books and brochures.

Thank you to Mark Wurm for the two paintings by Jan Wurm.

Thank you to Kathleen Smith-Wenning for John Warhol, Ph.D.'s work Dr. Warhol's Periodic Table of Microbes.

Thank you to Dr. Glen Gabert for the 23 objects including historic photographs and autographs, ephemera, historic dedications and placards of importance to the College, albums, etc.

### **ARTIST NEWS**

Art by Chakaia Booker can be found throughout campus: on the first floor of 70 Sip Avenue, on the second floor of the Gabert Library, at the entrance to the STEM Building, and in the media center of the Nursing Program on the first floor of the Joseph Cundari building. Booker's work can also be found in the blockbuster exhibit, "Epic Abstraction," at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. If you're interested in finding out more about Booker's work, in which she uses tires as art materials, you might enjoy listening to this short podcast featuring Metropolitan Museum Curator Kelly Baum: https://soundcloud.com/metmuseum/2089-chakaia-bookerraw?in=metmuseum/sets/epic-abstraction. Baum notes that, "Booker herself is ... interested in the symbolic resonance of rubber which she associates with travel, transit, and movement. And many art historians have connected her use of the tire to the place where she was born and raised. New Jersey is



This work by Jan Wurm, called "Lear and His Fool " (2011), Oil on Canvas, 18" x 24" was recently donated to the Foundation Art Collection.

a state in which areas of great natural beauty exist alongside endless miles of highways and desolate scenes of post-industrial destruction."

Also featured in the Metropolitan Museum exhibit is work by **Joan Snyder**. You can hear Curator Kelly Baum talk about the Snyder work here: https://soundcloud.com/metmuseum/2097joan-snyder-smashed?in=metmuseum/sets/epicabstraction . You can find Joan Snyder's art on campus at the first floor Nursing Program lounge in the Cundari Building.

An ongoing exhibit "The Whitney's Collection: Selections from 1900 – 1965" at the Whitney Museum in New York City happens to feature many artists whose works are also in the HCCC Foundation Art Collection. For example, you can find the work of **Elizabeth Catlett** (on campus, her work is on the third floor of the Gabert Library and on the first floor of the Nursing Program in the Cundari Building), **Rockwell Kent** (on the first floor of the Gabert Library), **Jacob Lawrence** (third floor, Gabert Library), **Roy Lichtenstein** and **Man Ray** (both on the first floor of 2 Enos Place), **Andy War**- hol (on the second floor of the Culinary Conference Center), Tom Wesselman (installation pending), and Alexander Calder (on the second floor of the STEM Building). The Whitney Museum owns Calder's marvelous work *The Circus*. Here is a short film the Whitney made about *The Circus*. If you like Calder, this is worth a look: https://www.youtube. com/watch?time\_continue=357&v=0SRKLj\_Roec

Congratulations to **Michelle Doll**, who will be exhibiting new paintings in a solo exhibition, "As Above, So Below," at the Lyons Wier Gallery in New York City through Sept. 28. You can see her work at HCCC on the second floor of the Gabert Library.

Congratulations to **Ben Jones**, whose work will be on exhibit from Sept. 13 to Dec. 15 in the solo exhibition, "Resurgence – Rise Again: The Art of Ben Jones" at the August Wilson African American Cultural Center in Pittsburgh. The exhibit features large-scale artwork that brings awareness to the plight and ascension of humankind. Ben cites African spiritualism and ritual, and revolutionary struggles, especially of the people of Cuba as inspirations to his artistic practice. Closer to home, you can see Ben Jones' work in the STEM Building on the third floor.

To make a donation to the Foundation Art Collection, please contact Nicholas A. Chiaravalloti, J.D., Ed.D., Vice President for External Affairs and Senior Counsel to the President, at nchiaravalloti@hccc.edu, (201) 360-4009.

For detailed information regarding donating artwork, please visit https://www.hccc.edu/foundationart/

If you'd like a free tour of the Collection, please contact Andrea Siegel, PhD, Foundation Art Collection Coordinator at ASiegel@hccc.edu or (201) 360 – 4007.



Membership in the Hudson County Community College Foundation's dining series is your opportunity to enjoy world-class dining and service in your own backyard, and to help the College in realizing its goals of assisting deserving students! Our Executive Chef, team of culinary professionals, and students make meals at the Culinary Arts Institute into experiences to remember.

### FEATURES OF THE PROGRAM:

- Membership includes lunch in Hudson County Community College's Culinary Arts Institute on eight Fridays during the Fall 2019 semester: October 4, October 11, October 18, October 25, November 1, November 8, November 15, and November 22.
- Service hours are 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- Cost of membership is \$995 per table for a maximum of four guests.
- Meal includes appetizer, entrée, dessert, and non-alcoholic beverages. Alcoholic beverages available include beer and wine by the glass or bottle and must be paid by cash or credit card at the time of service.

For more information or to register, please contact Nicholas A. Chiaravalloti, J.D., Ed.D., Vice President for External Relations and Senior Counsel to the President at (201) 360-4009 or visit www.hccc.edu/foundationdonor

# DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS presents

# Pow(h)er

August 1 – September 24 Curated by Kristin J. DeAngelis & Michelle Vitale Dineen Hull Gallery, 71 Sip Avenue, 6th Floor

# CLOSING RECEPTION **September 24, 4-7 p.m.**

Join us for the *Pow(h)er* exhibition closing reception with a musical performance by Eldad Tarmu and his ensemble. Light refreshments will be served.



Women Can Do It #2, Blond Jenny



SOLO September 16 – December 15 Dineen Hull Gallery Atrium

DOCA presents SOLO, a new exhibition series celebrating projects by mid-career artists on display in the atrium of Dineen Hull Gallery. We are excited to feature Roberta Melzl as our first artist. Melzl is an artist living in Maplewood, NJ. She earned her MFA at Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers



Of Trellis and Field, Roberta Melz

University, and her BS in Anthropology and Studio Art at New York University. Melzl's work is created from an accumulation of sources. It is characterized by the incorporation of various systems of visual representation—embracing elements of technology, architecture, nature, design, and media.

www.robertamelzl.com

# POW(H)ER OPENING RECEPTION

The Spiritualists.

Leslie Shervll



Kristin DeAngelis, co-curator of the Pow(h)er exhibit.



Artist Pam Cooper with her sculpture.



Artist Jan Huling, with her beaded wedding gown sculpture, created from a replica of her mother's wedding gown.

# **TEACHER AS ARTIST**



Artist Katie Niewodowski (left) and her partner Wendy Norris.

n Tuesday, Aug. 20, the Department of Cultural Affairs held an opening reception for the current Teacher as Artist, Katie Niewodowski. Her artwork will be on view in the College Libraries through Dec. 15.

# HCCC TO CELEBRATES PROGRAM OFFERINGS AT NEW SECAUCUS CENTER

### Continued from page 3

Management, Nursing and Allied Health, and Fine and Performing Arts. The HCCC Culinary Arts/ Hospitality Management program was ranked number six in the U.S. by Best Choice Schools. Over 94% of HCCC Nursing Program graduates passed the NCLEX first time out, placing the program's graduates in the top tier of two- and fouryear nursing programs nationwide. In 2017, the Equality of Opportunity Project ranked HCCC in the top 5% of 2,200 U.S. higher education institutions for social mobility.

HCCC has partnerships with every major fouryear college and university in the greater New Jersey-New York area and beyond, accommodating seamless transfer for further undergraduate and graduate education.

The Secaucus Center staff in front of HCCC branded offices at the Frank J. Gargiulo Campus of Hudson County Schools of Technology. Pictured from left: Dr. Christopher Conzen, Executive Director; Adriana Soto, Student Success Coach; and Mariel Shinnick, Program Assistant.



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# **CONTINUING EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS**

# HCCC RECOGNIZES LOURDES VALDES FOR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT



Dr. Eric Friedman, Executive Vice President and Provost, addressed the Board of Trustees at its Aug. 13 meeting, introducing Lourdes Valdes (background at left), Director of Workforce Development and Grants for RWJBarnabas Health.



Lourdes Valdes (center), Director of Workforce Development and Grants for RWJBarnabas Health and Chairperson of the Hudson County Workforce Development Board, receives a plaque for her support of HCCC's workforce efforts. She is pictured with Dr. Eric Friedman (left), Executive Vice President and Provost, and Lori Margolin, Dean of Continuing Education and Workforce Development.

# HCCC HOSTS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING



Benjamin Lopez was appointed as Director of Workforce Development at the Hudson County Workforce Development Board meeting on Aug. 8.

# HCCC HOSTS JEAN KRAUSS YOUTH LEADERSHIP & CAREER DEVELOPMENT FORUM



On Thursday, Aug. 15, Hudson County Community College hosted the Jean Krauss Youth Leadership & Career Development Forum. Pictured from far left are speakers from the conference: Nicholas Chiaravalloti, J.D., Ed.D., HCCC Vice President for External Affairs & Senior Counsel to the President; keynote speakers Lewis Spears and Janine Brown; Patrick Kelleher, Hudson County Building and Construction Trades Council President and Hudson County Board of Chosen Freeholder Vice Chairperson William O'Dea; Tremaine Harrison, Director of Office of Education, Juvenile Justice Commission; Victoria Marino, HCCC Director of Career Services; Trevor Kyle Melton, Education Specialist, New Jersey Department of Education; and keynote speaker Janine Brown.

www.hccc.edu/continuingeducation

# STEM SPOTLIGHT



Three Hudson County Community College students – Samikshya Poudel, Brian Rivas, Mohanad Mohamed (fifth, fourth, and third from right) – were selected to receive Research & Development Council of New Jersey Merit Scholarships and were recognized at a scholars' luncheon in August. Kim Case, Esq., Research & Development Council of New Jersey Executive Director, is pictured at left. (Photo courtesy of Research & Development Council of New Jersey)

### CIAP of New Jersey Selects HCCC Students as Anselmi Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to Construction Management students Svetlana Dvoychenkova, Mulugeta Tiruneh, and Yahya Mossalamy, who were each awarded CIAP (Construction Industry Advancement Program) of New Jersey Gus Anselmi Civil/ Construction Engineering Technology Scholarships of \$1,500 each.

### Research & Development Council of New Jersey Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to Brian Rivas, Samikshya Poudel, and Mohanad Mohamed (all members of Phi Theta Kappa) who were selected as Merit Scholars by the Research & Development Council of New Jersey. The scholarship will be used towards their tuition, fees, and books. They recently attended the 10th Annual Merit Scholar Luncheon and will also be honored at the R&D Council's 40th Edison Patent Awards Ceremony and Reception in November at the Liberty Science Center.



On Tuesday, Sept. 3, Hudson County Community College held a grand opening for the Bits and Bytes Bistro, a café located in the Hudson County Community College (HCCC) STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) Building. Pictured from left are Gwyneth Cua, Hamza Malik; Lori Margolin, Dean of Continuing Education and Workforce Development; Aaron Rainone, FLIK Hospitality Group General Manager; Cindy Nguyen; Dr. Burl Yearwood, Associate Dean, STEM; Dr. Eric Friedman, Executive Vice President and Provost; and Leslie Soriano.

# Got News?



## Hudson County Community College's Communications

**Department** provides press releases, articles, email blasts spotlighting timely news, announcements, events and accomplishments within the College. The goal is to enhance the College's reputation by posting stories that have mass appeal and contribute to the success of the Strategic Plan.

# What Qualifies as a News Story/Newsworthy?

- Events or Conferences
- 2- Persons Named for Awards or New Positions
- 3- Community Activities
- 4- New Programs
- 5- Books or Research Publications
- 6- Awards, Grants and Partnerships

## **Submission Guidelines**

High resolution (300 dpi) photos to highlight a story are highly recommended.

News should be submitted from the Online Project Initiation Form available at the Communications MyHudson page or the Submit a News Story page on the College website. Submissions must include contact information that can be used by people who want additional information about the opportunity or event. Include the name of an individual or sponsoring group, a phone number, an email address and a URL for a website (if applicable). Please be specific and provide details. Please spell out acronyms.

Please submit your news at: www.hccc.edu/communications/ submit-your-story/ or

https://myhudson.hccc.edu/communications/

# TRUSTEE CHAIR WILLIAM J. NETCHERT TO RECEIVE ACCT NORTHEAST REGION TRUSTEE LEADERSHIP AWARD

### Continued from page 2

A lifelong Jersey City resident, Mr. Netchert is a Saint Peter's Preparatory High School graduate who earned his bachelor's degree from Saint Peter's College (now Saint Peter's University), and his law degree from Fordham University School of Law. He earned the Wall Street Award for Excellence in Economics in 1966.

Now a senior partner in the law firm of Netchert, Dineen & Hillman, Mr. Netchert formerly

served as Assistant Counsel and as Adjustor for the County of Hudson, and as the director's personal counsel on operations for the New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicles. Before that time, he was Law Secretary for Judge Peter P. Artaserse, and a Law Clerk at Emmett, Marvin, and Martin, Esqs. in New York City. A member of the American and New Jersey Bar Associations, and past President of the Hudson County Bar Association, he is also a member of the American Judicature Society, Ford-

ham Law School Alumni Association, and the New Jersey Planning Officials.

Mr. Netchert was sworn in as a member of the Hudson County Community College Board of Trustees in 2003 and has served as Chairman since 2005.

# THE ENGLISH AND ESL KICKOFF EVENT

by Joseph Caniglia, Interim Associate Dean for the English and ESL Division



Pictured from left: Joseph Caniglia, Interim Associate Dean, English & ESL Division; Elham Kamali, Secretary, Academic Foundations, English; Angelina HCCC President Dr. Chris Re-Bouret, Secretary, ESL/Bilingual; and Cynthia Gonzaga, Part-Time ESL/Bilingual Secretary.

n August 24, 2019, the English and ESL Division held a beginning of the semester Kickoff event for faculty. There were various workshops, which explored the many ways that reading and writing can enhance learning. In addition, the faculty engaged in workshops, which enhanced their pedagogy in exploring ways to use effective interactive teaching strategies to assist students in developing a deeper, more thoughtful understanding of the reading and writing process, engage in productive dialogue, and help students to recognize and direct their own learning.

I want to give a special thanks to Dr. Christopher Reber who gave the opening remarks at the beginning of the event. He congratulated and in-



ber listens to remarks during the kickoff event.



English and ESL faculty participate in workshops designed to explore how reading and writing enhance learning.

spired the faculty by thanking them for all of the hard work that they do. In addition, Dr. Reber thanked the faculty for having a positive impact on students lives. Furthermore, I want to thank Catherine Sweeting, Michael Whelpley, Karen Galli, Susannah Wexler, Alison Bach, Denise Phillips, Rick Skinner, Maria Schirta, Shannonine Caruana, Lauren Drew, and Jed Palmer for giving outstanding presentations. Most of all, a special thanks to the faculty who attended the kickoff event. Each one of you impacts students lives in a positive way.

Also, I want to thank the secretaries of the division, Angelina Bouret, Elham Kamali, and Cynthia Gonzaga for all of their help in making the event a huge success.





## WEDNESDAY, **SEPTEMBER 11, 2019** 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Culinary Conference Center** 161 Newkirk Street, Banquet Room, Jersey City, NJ

HCCC faculty, staff, and students are welcome! Light Refreshments will be served.

Transportation is available leaving North Hudson Campus at 11:30 a.m. to Journal Square Campus and departing from the Journal Square Campus to NHC at 2 p.m.

# HCCC Alumni: Get Involved!



Did you enjoy your experience at HCCC?

Are you willing to contribute time?

Do you want to inspire others with your success stories?

Are you looking for career support?

## If so join, socialize and network!

For information about the College's Alumni Association or membership benefits, please email alumni@hccc.edu.

# **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Monday, September 2** Labor Day – College Closed

### Tuesday, September 3

New Student Orientation, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., STEM Building, 263 Academy St., Multipurpose Room

Grand Opening of STEM Café, 11:30 a.m.

### Wednesday, September 4 –

**Tuesday, September 17** Add/Drop period for 15-Week Regular, LEAP and Culinary Evening terms

Wednesday, September 4 – Thursday, October 10 Culinary Cycle I classes

Wednesday, September 4 – Tuesday, October 22 Online Session A

### Wednesday, September 4

Classes begin for Regular, Online Regular/Hybrid & Culinary Evening classes

Free School Supplies, 9 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., while supplies last. Lobbies of Library Building, STEM Building, and North Hudson Campus

Free School Supplies, 12 p.m. to 12:30 p.m., while supplies last. Lobbies of Library Building, STEM Building, and North Hudson Campus

Meet a Real Life Librarian, James Cox, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Gabert Library Makerspace, 71 Sip Ave.

Free School Supplies, 6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., while supplies last. Lobbies of Library Building, STEM Building, and North Hudson Campus

### Thursday, September 5

Meet a Different Real-Life Librarian, Amy Keavey, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Gabert Library Makerspace, 71 Sip Ave.

Secaucus Center Opening Reception, 1 p.m., Hudson County Schools of Technology, One High Tech Way, Secaucus

Truckin' Thursday, 12:30 p.m., outside Gabert Library and North Hudson Campus

#### Friday, September 6 - Sunday, September 8

Performance by Speranza Theatre Company, Apple Tree House, 298 Academy St, Jersey City

### Friday, September 6

JC Fridays: Pow(h)er, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Gabert Library, Benjamin J. Dineen, III and Dennis C. Hull Gallery, 71 Sip Ave., Sixth Floor Atrium

Tangible Imaginings, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., SMUSH Gallery, 340 Summit Ave., Jersey City

### Monday, September 9

Muffin Monday, 9:30 a.m., Journal Square Campus, Gabert Library

Pizza with the President, 12:30 p.m., Journal Square Campus, Student Lounge

### Tuesday, September 10

Classes begin for Early College sessions (HP)

Pizza with the President, 12:30 p.m., Gabert Library, 71 Sip Ave.

Meeting of Hudson County Community College Board of Trustees, 5 p.m., Mary T. Norton Room, 4th Floor, 70 Sip Ave. Wednesday September 11 Last day to add ONR/Hybrid classes

Bagel Wednesday, 9:30 a.m., North Hudson Campus, Student Lounge

Town Hall with President Reber, 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m., Banquet Room, Culinary Conference Center, 161 Newkirk St.

### Thursday, September 12

Make Buttons at the Gabert Library, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., Gabert Library Makerspace, 71 Sip Ave., and North Hudson Campus, Student Lounge

Welcome Back BBQ, 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., Gabert Library, Sixth Floor

### Monday, September 16 – Sunday, December 15

Exhibit: "SOLO" featuring Roberta Melzl Gabert Library, Benjamin J. Dineen, III and Dennis C. Hull Gallery, 71 Sip Ave., Sixth Floor

### Monday, September 16

Muffin Monday, 9:30 a.m., STEM Building Lobby, 263 Academy St.

### Tuesday, September 17

Last day to drop ONR/Hybrid classes

Empanadas in the Evening, 6 p.m., while supplies last, North Hudson Campus, Lobby

### Wednesday, September 18

Bagel Wednesday, 9:30 a.m., North Hudson Campus, Student Lounge

Student Leader Meet and Greet, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., Gabert Library, Sixth Floor

### Thursday, September 19

Welcome Back BBQ, 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., North Hudson Campus, Student Lounge

### Friday, September 20

Outdoor Movie in the Park: *Avengers: Endgame*, 7 p.m., Culinary Plaza Park.

### Saturday, September 21

Constitution Day: Day Trip to Philadelphia. Bus leaves the Gabert Library (Building L) at 10:30 a.m. Student Ticket: \$20; Guest/Staff Ticket: \$45. Visit www.hccc.edu/tickets to purchase. Tickets on sale September 6.

### Sunday, September 22

Trip to 9/11 Memorial and Museum. Group leaves Gabert Library at 10:30 a.m. HCCC Student Ticket: \$5; HCCC Staff/Faculty Ticket: \$10. Visit www.hccc. edu/tickets to purchase.

### Monday, September 23

Muffin Monday, 9:30 a.m., Gabert Library Lobby, 71 Sip Ave.

## Tuesday, September 24

Blood Drive, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., STEM Building, Multipurpose Room, 263 Academy St. and North Hudson Campus, Student Lounge. Visit www.hccc. edu/tickets to sign up for an appointment.

Art of Yoga, 12 p.m., Gabert Library, Benjamin J. Dineen, III and Dennis C. Hull Gallery, 71 Sip Ave., Sixth Floor Atrium

Book discussion of "The Power," 2:30 p.m., Gabert Library, Benjamin J. Dineen, III and Dennis C. Hull Gallery, 71 Sip Ave., Sixth Floor Atrium 3D Printing with Lotta, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., Gabert Library Makerspace, 71 Sip Ave.

Closing Reception for "Pow(h)er," 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Gabert Library, Benjamin J. Dineen, III and Dennis C. Hull Gallery, 71 Sip Ave., Sixth Floor Atrium

Pizza with the President, 5:30 p.m., North Hudson Campus, Lobby

### Wednesday, September 25

Classes begin for Q section, off-campus and College Student Success courses (12 weeks, through Dec. 20)

Bagel Wednesday, 9:30 a.m., North Hudson Campus, Student Lounge

Pizza with the President, 5:30 p.m., Gabert Library, 71 Sip Ave.

#### Thursday, September 26

Involvement Fair, 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., STEM Building, 263 Academy St., Multipurpose Room

Truckin' Thursday!, 12:30 p.m., outside of Gabert Library (Building L) and North Hudson Campus

Coffee Hour with Human Resources, 3 p.m., Journal Square Campus

### Friday, September 27

NHC Book Club: Educated by Tara Westover, 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., North Hudson Campus Library

Coffee Hour with Human Resources, 10 a.m., North Hudson Campus

Silent Dance and Glow Party, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., STEM Building, Multipurpose Room, 263 Academy St. Tickets will be dispersed starting Monday, September 16 in the Office of Student Life & Leadership (JSQ Campus, Building A, 3rd Floor and North Hudson Campus, Room 204). You must bring five (5) items to be donated to the HCCC Food Pantries in order to secure a ticket. One ticket per student. Limited amount of guest tickets available. Tickets are while supplies last.

### Sunday, September 29

Out of the Darkness Walk, Babbio Center, Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken. Check-In begins at 9 a.m.; Program/Walk begins at 10 a.m. Visit www.hccc.edu/tickets to join the team or to donate.

Renaissance Faire trip; group leaves Gabert Library at 10 a.m. Student Ticket: \$15; Guest/Staff/Faculty Ticket: \$30. Register at www.hccc.edu/tickets.

### Monday, September 30

Muffin Monday, 9:30 a.m., STEM Building Lobby, 263 Academy St.

Center for Online Learning Meet and Greet, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Gabert Library, Sixth Floor Atrium, 71 Sip Ave.

Empanadas in the Evening, 6 p.m., while supplies last, Gabert Library Lobby, 71 Sip Ave.

*Aladdin* on Broadway, show time 7 p.m., New Amsterdam Theatre. Student Ticket: \$30; Guest/Staff/Faculty Ticket: \$60. Register at www.hccc.edu/tickets.

# **ALUMNI CORNER**

# Elizabeth Perez

Class of 2011

## Associate in Applied Science (Hospitality Management)

### What factors led you to decide to attend Hudson County Community College?

One of the greatest factors that led me to decide to attend HCCC was the feedback from former and current college friends I searched for advice during my application process. The positive feedback and recommendations I received referencing the College were truly the reason why I decided to attend. Not only did students appreciate the costs of the College, but the caring and dedication from the faculty made the decision for me rather quickly.

# What is your favorite memory of the College, in or out of the classroom?

My favorite memory has to be during my Hospitality class I had with Ara Karakashian (Mr. K) in the Culinary Arts Institute. His classes not only were educational, but were fun as well. You left his classroom interested and wanting to learn more on a diversity of topics we discussed such as cost control in the food industry. We had a graduation dinner and Mr. K asked me to speak on my experience about the program and how excited he was for me to be graduating. After several attempts to get on stage, I finally decided to get up and share my story. I couldn't! I started to cry, because I have been so fortunate to meet not only a professor who helped me make good choices in my career, but he motivated me to keep reaching towards my career goals. Mr. K and the rest of the faculty show what it is to be great professors. Professors that not only teach, but care and motivate their students. I have always said, I am very thankful to HCCC faculty and Mr. K for being always supportive and appreciative during my tenure there.

### How did you become interested in hospitality?

Although HCCC was amazing from the start, I was unsure of my career path. I searched for counselors to assist me on a search for a major and ultimately decided to join the Hospitality Program. That was the best decision I made! Mr. K was my counselor and guided me every step of the way.

# How did your time at HCCC prepare you for your career/ life now?

I am Senior Human Resources Business Partner for Kushner Company, for the hospitality side. My career advancement has been a huge success factor in the guidance of my counselors at this amazing college. HCCC prepared me through my prime classes within my Associate Degree and led me to continue my studies with their articulation agreement at Fairleigh Dickinson University. The curriculum and internship requirements provided me with real-world experiences for which I am forever grateful.

### What is a typical work day for you?

Being in HR is the most rewarding and exciting career path I am glad to have chosen! I oversee three different hotels: The Wave Resort in Long Branch; the Bungalow Hotel a boutique chic hotel also located in Long Branch; and the Westminster Hotel, located in Livingston. My commute to work usually is roughly around an hour or so which allows me to catch up on calls with staff members. Every day is different for me. My day can range from coaching and counseling sessions to benefit enrollment questions – no day is the same! What has been the most memorable project/case you have worked on? I had an internship at Hope Lodge in NYC. The American



Cancer Society Hope Lodge program provides a free home away from home for cancer patients and their caregivers. More than just a roof over their heads, it's a nurturing community that helps patients access the care they need. Each Hope Lodge community offers a supportive, homelike environment where guests can share a meal, join in the evening's activities, or unwind in their own private room (HopeLodge.org). This was a very rewarding experience in meeting different patients around the world attending this facility. I was also able to learn the hotel industry which led me to make a career move after I completed my internship.

# Who are your biggest inspirations that have impacted your work in some way?

My biggest inspiration that impacted my career decisions and gave me that motivation and guidance has been Mr. K from the Hospitality program. At one point, I was going to leave HR and seek another employment opportunity. While attending HCCC, I worked full-time at the Jersey City Medical Center as an HR Specialist. I wasn't sure if I wanted to stick to this field. I remember asking Mr. K every week, "Should I start applying maybe a different field?" I was so unsure! We were chatting one day and he said, "Liz, you have great potential and I really think you can go far with this career. Give it time." And I am glad I did!

Additionally, while working at Jersey City Medical Center, I was also fortunate to have an outstanding manager, Norma Melendez, who has been working for over 25 years at JCMC. She provided me the guidance and support I needed as a new college student entering the Human Resources field. Her eagerness to teach me was outstanding. She provided me support in learning various aspects of the HR industry that consisted of labor relations, pension plans, union contracts, payroll and much more! Norma's professionalism and guidance molded my experience for the future I held in this industry.

# What advice would you give to recent HCCC graduates?

"Find a job you enjoy doing, and you will never have to work a day in your life." (Mark Twain) Don't just pick a major because you have to pick one; wait for the right time and find your passion. I have such a passion for what I do; I love my career. I never worked since!

# What advice do you have for those students who are just starting their college careers?

Stay on target and keep reaching for you career goals. Don't take time off for a year, unless you really have to. I finished my Associate and right after that summer I went on to FDU for my Bachelor's and finally my Master's degree with no time off! I am a single mom with a beautiful 5-year-old girl who inspires me every day to keep reaching the top! If I could do it, you can too!

## Hudson County Community College Board of Trustees

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