

HCCC Happenings

A publication of the Communications Department



HCCC GIVES BACK!



Hudson County Community College delivering supplies to the Hudson County Office of Emergency Management. **Kathleen Smith-Wenning**, Director of Health Related Programs and Coronavirus Task Force Co-Chair, is pictured in center.



Adoum Allamine, a criminal justice major, Phi Theta Kappa member, Vice President of the Criminal Justice Club, Secretary of the Honor Students Council, and a member of NSLS, donated 10 boxes of food items to HCCC's Food Pantry.



The Division of Nursing and Health Sciences donated additional PPE materials in April to Christ Hospital and Hoboken University Hospital.



Through a donation drive, the Food and Shelter Coalition of Hudson County donated 548 food items to Hudson County Community College's Food Pantry. The goods were delivered to the College on Monday, March 9.



Abderahim Salhi, HCCC Board of Trustees Alumni Representative, has made and donated multiple shields: 10 shields to the College, two to a friend whose niece is a nurse, and 10 to Phi Theta Kappa member who will give them to paramedics. He is making more.



HCCC student **Rawinder Singh's** brother, Ranvir, is currently on the front lines fighting coronavirus: "He is an individual who always seeks the welfare of others regardless of what detrimental effect it may cause him. He is currently a RN at Holy Name Medical Center." Rawinder hopes to "become an RN and assist this hero in any future crisis."



HCCC student **Betty Adames**: "I work for Englewood Hospital in a primary physician office. We screen patients and submit for testing. ... I have seen so many people sick that it breaks my heart. I wake up every morning and I get ready to see the worst. I'm praying for my patients that are in the ICU fighting for their lives while they are quarantined alone with no one by their side. This is the worst thing I have ever seen in my life and it's really hard to focus on school right now, but every day I try my best."



Tariq Baxley (HCCC Class of 2019) has continued to work as an employee in an essential business: "As a warehouse worker, I help my job ship safety and sanitary products, medical equipment, pharmaceuticals, chemicals and food processing items. These items are needed for everyone in the community. ... I also volunteer my time helping local food banks, and clothes drives. I have donated a number of clothes, food, and supplies to those who are less fortunate, and those who have been affected by COVID-19." Baxley is a student at Rutgers University-Newark, balancing his time between online school, being an essential worker, and also helping those in need in the community. "Instead of being in quarantine, I'm risking my health to provide for my community."



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

HR News 4

PTK News..... 7

Continuing Education Programs 10

Alumni Profile 17

From the Editor’s Desk

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

Items for the May newsletter are due by Friday, April 10, 2020.

Please send your news items, comments and suggestions to:

Jennifer Christopher, Director Communications Department
162-168 Sip Avenue, 2nd Floor
Jersey City, NJ 07306
Phone: 201.360.4061
Fax: 201.653.0607
jchristopher@hccc.edu

PLEASE NOTE:

Digital photos must be high resolution JPG. This means 300 dpi at actual print size.

Images in this issue used for other purposes is strictly prohibited without the express advance consent of the Communications Department. Permission to use these photos may be requested by submitting a detailed summary to communications@hccc.edu.

HCCC GIVES BACK!

In the wake of the spread of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) across New Jersey, on Monday, March 23, 2020, Gov. Phil Murphy issued Executive Order 109 requesting that businesses and non-hospital sites (including institutions of higher education) contribute PPE (personal protective equipment), ventilators, and respirators to local OEMs. In response to this directive, Hudson County Community College’s Division of Nursing and Health Sciences donated all PPE and health care supplies to the Hudson County Office of Emergency Management (OEM), Christ Hospital and Hoboken University Hospital.

As a result of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Hudson County Community College (HCCC) transitioned instruction of courses to online beginning Monday, March 30, to continue at least through the end of the Spring 2020 semester. Recognizing that many students did not have access to a computer at home



Pictured from left: June Barriere, Administrative Assistant for the Associate Dean of Student Affairs; Naykia Santos, Admissions Recruiter; Janine Nunez, HCCC Recruiter; and Kathleen Smith-Wenning, Director of Health Related Programs.

– which would prevent them from fully participating in online learning – the College has loaned 60 computers to HCCC students who submitted a request via the Coronavirus Concern Form. To accommodate the needs of more students with technology needs, the College purchased 650 Chromebooks, which students may borrow for the duration of fully online learning. These devices have arrived and are being distributed to students as requests are received.

CALLING HCCC FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS AND ALUMNI:

Are you on the front lines, performing needed community service during the COVID-19 pandemic? We want to hear about it! Please send an email and photos to communications@hccc.edu.



Support our students affected by the COVID-19 pandemic with a donation to the HCCC “Hudson Helps” program, which is administered by the HCCC Foundation.

Make your tax-deductible donation at www.hccc.edu/foundationdonor

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT RECEIVES PTK WALGREENS PHARMACY TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION SCHOLARSHIP

Hudson County Community College (HCCC) student Rahma Gado has been awarded the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Walgreens Pharmacy Technician Certification Scholarship. The award will cover the cost of the pharmacy technician certification exam fee.

The new PTK Walgreens Pharmacy Technician Certification Scholarship recognizes PTK members who are enrolled in Allied Health or Pharmacy Technician programs, and intend to take the pharmacy technician certification exam. Ms. Gado is one of just 35 students to receive this award.

“Everyone at Hudson County Community College joins me in congratulating Rahma on this honor, and on all she has achieved,” said HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber. “She exemplifies the challenges, dreams, and determination of so many of our students.”

The 31-year-old Jersey City resident is married, and the mother of three. A Pharmacy Technology major, she will receive her Associate of Applied Science in Health Science degree in May. Ms. Gado

plans to continue her education and study Biological and Biomedical Science at Rutgers University-Newark. Her HCCC leadership activities include STEM Club; Chemistry Club; Student Government Association; HCCC Food Pantry; PTK chapter gardening projects at Liberty State Park; and tutoring in Jersey City Head Start.

An Egyptian immigrant and first-generation college student, Ms. Gado aims to fulfill a family dream of becoming a pharmacist. “My mother



Continued on page 12

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ATTENDS ACCT NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT



U.S. Senator Bob Menendez (foreground, in center) spoke with the New Jersey community college presidents and board members. Pictured in foreground from left: Pamela E. Gardner, HCCC Trustee; Christopher M. Reber, Ph.D., HCCC President; Abderahim Salhi, 2019-2020 Alumni Representative to the Board of Trustees; Nicholas A. Chiaravalloti, J.D., Ed.D., Vice President for External Affairs and Senior Counsel to the President. Pictured in background from left: Eric Friedman, Ph. D., Executive Vice President and Provost; Warren Rigby, SGA President; and Hamza Saleem, 2017-18 Alumni Representative to the Board of Trustees

From Feb. 9 to Feb. 12, a delegation from Hudson County Community College (HCCC) attended the Association of Community College Trustees' (ACCT) National Legislative Summit (NLS) 2020.

On Tuesday, Feb. 11, the New Jersey Council of County Colleges hosted a statewide breakfast meeting with New Jersey presidents, trustees, student and alumni representatives at the Capi-

tol Hill Visitors Center. During the breakfast, U.S. Senator Bob Menendez met with the group.

Following the statewide breakfast meeting, presidents, trustees, student and alumni representatives from the colleges met with Members of Congress. These meetings gave the colleges a great opportunity to strengthen relationships with the federal congressional delegation.



U.S. Senator Bob Menendez (left) with HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber.



Caption: U.S. Senator Cory Booker (left) with Eric Friedman, Ph. D., Executive Vice President and Provost.

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE PODCAST REVEALS HOW STUDENTS COLLABORATE, USE SCIENCE TO ADDRESS FOOD INSECURITY

Recently, members of the Hudson County Community College (HCCC) Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) chapter and STEM Club teamed up to address food insecurity in a very unique manner. In the latest "Out of the Box" podcast <http://hccpodcast.libsyn.com/hccc-aquaponics-greenhouse-project>, students talk with HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber about their "Aquaponics Greenhouse Project."

The groups worked together to plan, finance, design and build the aquaponics greenhouse prototype in the College's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Building. Mushrooms and scallions grown in the greenhouse are used to stock the HCCC "Hudson Helps" food pantry, and for cooking in the Culinary Arts program.

"The members and advisors of these inspirational student organizations collaborated enthusiastically on the 'Aquaponics Greenhouse Project,'" said HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber. "They're growing food in a really innovative way. The grand vision is to provide food for those in need, and for our Culinary Arts program."

The project began because members of the HCCC PTK chapter wanted to pursue a green initiative for the international honor society's annual service project. "We brainstormed ideas and decided on something to address food insecurity. The aquaponics greenhouse gives back to the



Pictured from left: Christine Tirado, President, Phi Theta Kappa, Beta Alpha Phi Chapter; Dr. Chris Reber, HCCC President; David Martinez, STEM Club member; and Anass Ennasraoui, STEM Club President.

college community and helps the environment in its recycling initiatives," said Christine Tirado, HCCC PTK Chapter President.

The project aligned with the HCCC STEM Club's mission to organize fun and challenging workshops and activities for students to improve their STEM skills. "The STEM Club addressed the technical side of the greenhouse prototype. The greenhouse uses goldfish to nurture scallions. There are two bins of mushroom logs, each with a watering system that we built from scratch. The project has two purposes: to provide healthy, fresh food options, and to educate our STEM Club members," said STEM Club President Anass Ennasraoui.

Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) is the premier, international honor society for students in community and junior colleges. The organization provides

Continued on page 12

DON'T MISS Hudson County Community College PODCASTS

Out of the Box



Hosted by HCCC President, Dr. Chris Reber, and featuring HCCC students, faculty, and special guests at hccc.edu/outofthebox!

There's more online! Watch previous videocasts and discover more about the people, programs, events, issues, and solutions from Hudson County Community College. Go to www.hccc.edu/outofthebox.

MILESTONES

Congratulations to the following on their anniversary with Hudson County Community College!
FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES

MARCH

One Year

Anna Krupitskiy
Burl Yearwood

10 Years

Djadji Sylla-Samassa

15 Years

Roberto De Fina
Giovanni Stoduto

40 Years

Maria Arroyo

APRIL

One Year

Laura Rojas
Jing Yang

5 Years

Jennie Pu

10 Years

Jacquelyn Delemos

15 Years

TaraLyn Dugan

PART-TIME EMPLOYEES

MARCH

One Year

Koral Booth
Laura Rojas
Manira Traore

Five Years

Mohamed Amarir
Felix Cruz
Kristofer Fontanez
Rafael Osorio
Saedel Pensoy
Angline Plummer
Gianny Suero
Yisela Tacsá

APRIL

One Year

Christian Dominguez
Lia Finnegan
Scott Kushner
Lisbeth Romero
Marco Scherillo
Teresa Sierra
Reynel Zamora

5 Years

Domonique Callens
Alexandria Stanley

10 Years

Stephanie Arena
Andrea Siegel

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

2020 SUMMER HOURS

HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber issued the following:

As most of you are aware, HCCC has observed a four-day summer schedule for many years, opening Mondays through Thursdays at 8:30 a.m. instead of 9:00 a.m. during the summer, and closing at 5:30 p.m. instead of 5:00 p.m., with Fridays off. This year, the four-day week will begin Monday, May 18, with the first Friday off scheduled for Friday, May 22. The five-day schedule will resume on Monday, Aug. 17. The regular hours of operation during this period will therefore be 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays, and

the College will not be open for regular business on Fridays. Employees are asked to reduce their lunch breaks to 30 minutes in order to help compensate for the shorter hours of operation during the week. College activities on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays during this period will be minimized to reduce energy and other operating costs.

Should you have any questions about this schedule, please contact the Office of Human Resources. Here's wishing everyone a happy and safe summer!

CELEBRATING ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY



Congratulations to Anna Krupitskiy (third from right), Vice President for Human Resources, on her first anniversary with the College. Here, she is pictured with the Office of Human Resources team.

NEW HIRES/TITLES

Jose Acosta,
Custodial Supervisor

Aycha Edwards,
Research Analyst

Geraldine Kiefer-Necklen, College Lecturer,
Clinical Nurse Specialist

Timothy Moore,
Library Associate - Technology

Please be advised that the HCCC Testing & Assessment Center does not conduct testing for novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Hudson County residents in need of COVID-19 testing are advised to contact the Hudson Regional Hospital in Secaucus at (201) 388-1097 to schedule an appointment.

SECURITY OFFICERS LAUDED FOR SERVICE



HCCC's Office of Safety & Security, along with Allied Universal, has awarded William Spates and Madeline Catano for their outstanding work performance at the College.

THE DOCTOR(ATE)S ARE IN!



Congratulations to these HCCC faculty members who have recently earned doctorate degrees:

Dr. Alison Wakefield (Instructor, Education), Ed.D., Educational Leadership, Management, and Policy, Seton Hall University (Graduation Date, May 2019); and Dr. Peter Cronrath (Instructor, Business), Ph.D., Management, Leadership and Organizational Change, Walden University (Graduation May 2020).

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND BAYONNE BOARD OF EDUCATION SIGN AGREEMENT FOR EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM



Dr. Eric Friedman, HCCC Executive Vice President and Provost (seated at right) and John J. Niesz, City of Bayonne School District Superintendent (seated at left) sign on Tuesday, Feb. 25 an agreement that will bring the HCCC Early College Program to Bayonne High School. Standing from left: Christopher Wahl, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs, HCCC; and from the Bayonne Board of Education, Denis F. Wilbeck, Trustee; Michael J. Alonso, Trustee; Jan Patrick Egan, Trustee; Maria Valado, Board President; Christopher Munoz, Board Vice President, Jodi Casais, Trustee; and Lisa Burke, Trustee.

On Tuesday evening, Feb. 25, Hudson County Community College (HCCC) and the City of Bayonne School District signed an agreement that will bring the HCCC Early College Program to Bayonne High School. The signing took place at the Bayonne Board of Education.

HCCC Executive Vice President and Provost Dr. Eric Friedman and City of Bayonne School District Superintendent John J. Niesz were joined by

HCCC Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs Christopher Wahl.

The Early College Program provides an opportunity for select Bayonne High School students to take credit-bearing, college courses and earn an Associate in Arts degree from Hudson County Community College free of cost, while earning their high school diploma. Students will take all of their HCCC classes at Bayonne High School (BHS) during

their first two years. In their third year, students will travel to HCCC for half of their college coursework; and in their fourth year, students will attend HCCC for the majority of their classes.

“We at Hudson County Community College are elated about this new partnership with the Bayonne Board of Education. It will not only benefit the Bayonne High School students, but also, ultimately, it will benefit their families and the community,” HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber said.

“The Bayonne Board of Education is excited about the future of this new partnership. It will not only save our students time, it will save them the cost of community college tuition as well,” Mr. Niesz stated. “Bayonne High School is the only public high school in Hudson County to have this type of rigorous academic program with a two-year college. The Hudson County Community College Early College Program will provide our students with a huge jump-start towards a career or a baccalaureate degree.”

The HCCC Early College Program will be initiated this September for 26 incoming Bayonne High School freshmen. Additional information on the program may be obtained by emailing Renae M. Bush, Director of Student Personnel Services at the Bayonne Board of Education, at rbush@bboed.org.

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND STATEWIDE HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF NEW JERSEY SIGN MOU

On Tuesday, March 3, 2020 Hudson County Community College (HCCC) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey (SHCCNJ) to acknowledge and formalize the next steps of their partnership. The event took place in the HCCC Culinary Arts Conference Center, 161 Newkirk Street in Jersey City, NJ.

HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber was joined at the signing by SHCCNJ President Carlos Medina, Chairman Luis De La Hoz; and the Chamber’s Hispanic Entrepreneurship Training Program (HETP) Manager Valeria Aloe. Also in attendance from HCCC were Vice President of External Affairs and Senior Counsel to the President Nicholas Chiara-valotti; Dean of Continuing Education and Workforce Development Lori Margolin; and Director for Continuing Education and Workforce Development Catherina Mirasol.

“The College recognizes the significant role that Latino entrepreneurs play in helping breathe new life into Hudson County’s commercial corri-

dors and neighborhoods,” Dr. Reber stated. “Our agreement with the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey will further strengthen our community, and provide our students with opportunities to participate in Chamber events held at the College and beyond that will assist them in expanding their professional networks, and succeeding in their careers.”

Under the terms of the agreement, the College will provide space for SHCCNJ programs and events – such as HETP. The Chamber will also receive information about HCCC programs and degrees to share with its members.

Lifelong Hudson County resident Ezekiel Rivera, a graduate of the HETP and the founder of EVOLVE, a brand strategy and design company, spoke about the critical role that program plays in providing opportunities and resources for small business owners.

“Our newly strengthened partnership with the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New



Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey (SHCCNJ) President Carlos Medina (left) joins HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber at the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to acknowledge and formalize the next steps of their partnership.

Jersey is truly a win-win-win, as it benefits HCCC students, Chamber members, and the entrepreneurs of our community,” Dr. Reber said.

ENROLLMENT NEWS

HCCC PROMOTED ON EL KAN TV



Yeurys Pujols, Executive Director of HCCC's North Hudson Campus (center), with El Kan TV hosts Abel Rodriguez (left) and Brayddy Araya.

In February, Executive Director of the North Hudson Campus Yeurys Pujols appeared as a guest on the television show *El Kan TV* to discuss all upcoming programs and initiatives at Hudson County Community College. Scenes from HCCC's marketing video played during Pujols' 10-minute segment. The show aired on Sunday, Feb. 16 on cable stations Optimum, Verizon FiOS and Super Canal, which airs shows taped in the Dominican Republic and the tri-state area.

APPLICATION PERIOD OPEN – HCCC SCHOLARSHIPS

The Hudson County Community College Foundation announces that the application period has opened for the Hudson County Government Scholarship and HCCC Foundation Scholarship.

To be eligible for either scholarship, students must Hudson County residents, must submit FAFSA or NJ Alternative Application for Financial Aid (if eligible), and must maintain a minimum 2.75 GPA. Each scholarship covers tuition and fees which are not covered by financial aid, but students may not receive more than one HCCC scholarship at a time.

To submit an application or for additional requirements, please visit <http://www.hccc.edu/government-foundation-scholarship/>

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.

PIZZA WITH THE PRESIDENT



HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber greets students during a "Pizza with the President" event at Gabert Library on Tuesday, Feb. 4.



Listen to Libby
and Register on
Thursday, April 2!
Open to ALL Students!

It's time to Register for Summer & Fall 2020!

IMPORTANT DATES

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

Remote Veteran Priority Registration

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

Online Registration
(For eligible students who have exited ESL/English Foundations coursework)

THURSDAY, APRIL 2

Remote Registration for ALL students

For a current schedule, go to
www.hccc.edu/schedule

Go to: <https://bit.ly/3960bkV> to Access HCCC Remote Resources.

Although we are remote, we are still here to serve.

Go to HCCC Remote Resources for more information.

DO IT THIS SUMMER!

Get ahead on your current degree.

SUMMER I begins Tuesday, May 26 **ONLINE A** begins Tuesday, May 26
SUMMER II begins Monday, July 13 **ONLINE B** begins Wednesday, July 8

- Save hundreds of dollars as you lighten your course load.
- Credits transfer to four-year colleges and universities.
- Eligible students can attend with Pell Grant funds.
- Earn up to 12 credits over the summer!

View Course Schedule at www.hccc.edu/schedule

APPLY NOW! www.hccc.edu/apply



Remote Registration opens to all students

Go to: <https://tinyurl.com/hcccremotesupport> to Access HCCC Remote Resources.

Although we are remote, we are still here to serve.



HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

For more information contact:
admissions@hccc.edu
text or call 732-509-4222

PHI THETA KAPPA HONOR SOCIETY NEWS



Dr. David Lieberman discusses the Research Experience for Undergraduates summer program at Queensborough Community College.

Dr. David Lieberman of Queensborough Community College visited Hudson Community College on Wednesday, Feb. 19 to speak about the Research Experience for Undergraduates summer program at Queensborough and to encourage students to apply.



Beta Alpha Phi participated in the Bayonne Nature Club Cleanup at Ahern Stadium Park on Feb. 15.

Sarra Hayoune, a 2019 graduate of the College, was selected to participate in a 10-week National Science Foundation (NSF) research project in 2018. She used cosmological simulations to study wandering supermassive black holes, and developed a Python program to track and analyze their



Phi Theta Kappa served hot food to the homeless at Journal Square on Sunday, Feb. 2.

positions in dwarf galaxies. Among the presentations she gave over the summer was at the 16th annual Physical Sciences REU Student Symposium.

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESIDENT DR. CHRIS REBER TO RECEIVE PHI THETA KAPPA MIDDLE STATES REGIONAL AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Hudson County Community College (HCCC) President Dr. Chris Reber has been named to receive the Middle States Regional Award of Excellence from the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) International Honor Society. Dr. Reber was nominated by Professor/Advisor Ted Lai and members of the College's Beta Alpha Phi Chapter. The award was presented at the Middle States virtual convention on Saturday, March 28, 2020.

In informing Dr. Reber of the award, Pattie Van Atter, Regional Coordinator of the PTK Middle States Region, wrote: "The Middle States Regional Award of Excellence is given when appropriate to any individual who goes above and beyond in support of Phi Theta Kappa, the Middle States Region and their local chapter. The nomination they provided tells us of your dedicated support of Phi Theta Kappa and the success of your students, and we couldn't agree more."

Dr. Reber responded: "Wow! What an honor! I thank PTK and our amazing students and staff for this most meaningful recognition."

The HCCC nominating letter noted that since Dr. Reber became President at HCCC in July 2018, he has shown strong support of student success by recognizing academic achievement, leadership and service among high achieving students at the College. The HCCC PTK chapter related that Dr. Reber congratulates students for their accomplishments and awards in person; invites PTK members to share their successes at HCCC Board of Trustees meetings; attends PTK chapter events; spotlights the chapter's work and achievements at College events and in the College's "Out of the Box" podcasts; supports travel for chapter members; and assists with the chapter's community projects.

Phi Theta Kappa is the premier honor society recognizing the academic achievements of students at associate degree-granting colleges and help-

ing them grow as scholars and leaders. Established in 1918, the Society has more than 3.5 million members, and nearly 1,300 chapters in 11 nations, with approximately 240,000 active members in the United States.



Beta Alpha Phi, the HCCC chapter of PTK, has earned the distinction of Five Star Chapter Status, Phi Theta Kappa's highest level of recognition. The PTK Chapter Plan offers five levels of engagement, with each level consisting of prescribed activities to build a strong, active chapter taking advantage of all PTK has to offer.

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT AND ALUMNA NOMINATED FOR PHI THETA KAPPA ALL-USA ACADEMIC TEAM SCHOLARSHIPS



Rimsha Bazaid



Kailyn Segovia-Vazquez

Hudson County Community College (HCCC) student Rimsha Bazaid and alumna Kailyn Segovia-Vazquez have been nominated for the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) International Honor Society All-USA Academic Team scholarship.

The PTK All-USA Academic Team recognizes high-achieving students who demonstrate academic leadership and intellectual rigor combined with leadership and service that extends their education beyond the classroom to benefit society. Twenty team

members from throughout the United States are named each year, with each receiving a \$5,000 scholarship.

Nominees to the All-USA Academic Team may also be considered for the Coca-Cola Academic Team, New Century Scholars Programs, and All-State Academic Teams.

"We are very proud of Rimsha and Kailyn. The dedication they have shown in achieving their academic

Continued on page 13

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 the anonymous donor for the biography of New Jersey artist **Ben Shahn**, whose work is in the 2nd floor Multipurpose room and the Library at North Hudson.

This column was drafted before the closing of our cultural institutions due to the pandemic. All of the galleries and museums listed are now closed. Please stay home, be safe, and go to virtual galleries. A list of great options appears at the bottom of this page.

ARTIST NEWS

New Jersey painter **Siona Benjamin** is originally from Bombay. According to a recent exhibit, "Her work reflects her background of being brought up Jewish in a predominantly Hindu and Muslim India. In her paintings she combines the imagery of her past with the role she plays in America today, making a mosaic inspired by both Indian miniature paintings and Sephardic icons." You can see her work on the fifth floor of the Culinary Conference Center in Journal Square. She also is having a faraway exhibition called "Blue Like Me: The Art of Siona Benjamin" through May 2020 at the Gotthelf Art Gallery at the San Diego Center for Jewish Culture in California.

In 2021, builders will break ground for an **Alexander Calder** exhibition space in Philadelphia! "We don't know what we're going to call it, but it's not a museum," said Alexander S.C. Rower, president of the Calder Foundation and grandson of the artist. Calder attended Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken. You can see his work sooner than 2022: closer to home, check out the lithograph in the STEM Building, second floor Dean's reception area. You can also see a Calder exhibit including mobiles, drawings, prints, and paintings at the Neuberger Museum of Art, Purchase College, SUNY through May 17, 2020.

Mary Beth Edelson's work is on view with many other feminist artists on the sixth floor of the Gabert Library in the corridor between L606 and L612. One of her most famous works is also featured in a new group show called "SUM Artists: Visual Diagrams & Systems-Based Explorations" at the Wellin Museum of Art at Hamilton College in Clinton, New York, through June 14, 2020. The work in question is the now-legendary hand-colored lithograph *Some Living American Women / Last Supper* (1972). The show's curators write of this work, "the artist collaged the faces of preeminent yet under-recognized female artists atop those of Jesus Christ and his apostles in Leonardo da Vinci's iconic painting *The Last Supper*, thereby

creating her own artistic pantheon." Even though the work is nearly 50 years old, it is still controversial.

Many people have commented on the small **April Gornik** ceramic plate on view in the Gabert Library on the first floor. She is exhibiting her work at the Miles McEnery Gallery, 525 West 22nd Street in NYC through March 28. She is famous for her pictures of nature including skies, clouds and trees that are so vivid you almost feel like you are outdoors. Gornik says, "I hope that when people are standing in front of the work they'll feel their physicality, their temperature, their humidity, their air. They may feel more of less comfortable standing there, delighted, wary, seduced or however else they may react. I want them to invite the complexity I feel about them."

The charismatic American heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali is the subject of an exhibition, "Gordon Parks x Muhammad Ali: The Image of a Champion, 1966/1970." 55 photographs **Gordon Parks** took of Ali while on assignment for Life magazine will be on view at The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, Mo. through July 5. "During their lives, Parks and Ali transcended their respective roles as journalist and athlete to make sense of the American struggle against racial injustice," said Julián Zugazagoitia, Director of the Nelson-Atkins. "Though they held different views on the challenges they faced as black men, they understood each other as few others could." April Watson, the curator notes, "As a seasoned journalist, Parks well understood the power wielded by the media to shape public opinion ... Ali, who was a master of media hype, could easily have been a challenging subject, were it not for the trust he placed in Parks. Their mutual respect resulted in a collective portrait that is at once intimate, nuanced, and earnest: qualities not often associated with the controversial young champion during these years." Closer to home, you can see a photographic portrait of Muhammad Ali on the fifth floor of the North Hudson Campus in the corridor devoted to portraits. We plan to re-install the Foundation Art Collection's work by Gordon Parks, *Place de la Concorde* (1951) later this year.

In the show, "Vida Americana: Mexican Muralists Remake American Art, 1925-1945," the Whitney Museum in New York City will be exhibiting work by several artists whose work is also in the HCCC Foundation Art Collection. The show focuses on the profound influence of Mexico's three leading muralists— José Clemente Orozco, Diego Rivera, and David Alfaro Siqueiros—on



Cassius Clay
by Bonnie Schiffman, 1982, photograph. This work was donated as part of the Museum Project.

American art up to the mid-Twentieth Century. While American artists and Americans were grappling with the Great Depression, Mexican artists provided a model for portraying social and political subject matter relevant to people's lives. Included in the show are works by **Elizabeth Catlett**, an African American artist who went to Mexico on a grant from the Julius Rosenwald fund, and then stayed in Mexico because she appreciated being free of America's virulent racism. Her work can be seen on the HCCC Campus on the first floor of the Cundari Building in the Nursing Program, and the third floor of the Gabert Library near the work of **Jacob Lawrence**, who is also featured in the Whitney exhibit. The work of **Ben Shahn**, whose art is in the Whitney show as well, can be seen in the North Hudson Campus. The Whitney exhibit will be up through May 2020. Friday evenings from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., the entrance fee is pay-what-you-wish. So give them a nickel and go see the show!

If you like the wonderful collection of donated photographs on the fifth floor of North Hudson, you might enjoy this short film about the donors and The Museum Project, which is the name for the group of photographers who have donated over \$8 million worth of photographic art to Art Museums around the world, including ours: <https://vimeo.com/393644811>

If you miss seeing the art on campus, you can virtually visit any work of art or many kinds of work by theme. Here is a link to the HCCC Foundation Art Collection: <https://www.hccc.edu/FoundationArt/Collections>

You can also use this time as an opportunity to make a virtual visit to many of the world's great museums and exhibits. Use this link: <http://mcn.edu/a-guide-to-virtual-museum-resources/> and scroll down to: Virtual Tours/Online Exhibits. Or use this link: https://hyperallergic.com/547919/2500-virtual-museum-tours-google-arts-culture/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=D031720&utm_content=D031720+CID_bf5062c2dea283f0eb541b939d548a9f&utm_source=HyperallergicNewsLetter&utm_term=2500%20Museums%20You%20Can%20Now%20Visit%20Virtually

We welcome anecdotes and information about how the art collection benefits our community. If you have enjoyed using the art collection in your teaching, your studies, or your everyday life, please let us know! Contact ASiegel@hccc.edu and tell us the story of how the art collection works for you.

DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURAL AFFAIRS
presents



TEACHER AS ARTIST



Dorothy Anderson, Instructor of History, discusses the special collection focusing on the art and culture of the African diaspora in a talk on "The Art of Collecting" on Feb. 24.



Joseph Gallo, Instructor of Theatre Arts, gives a talk on Feb. 24 on his extensive Broadway Playbill® collection, featuring over 250 Playbills®.

ALL DOCA programs are postponed.

For up-to-date program and event information, please visit www.hccc.edu/cultural-affairs.

UPDATE ON HCCC'S COMMITMENT TO STUDENT SUCCESS



On Tuesday, Febr. 18, five members of the HCCC team attended the Equity Institute. Pictured from left: Heather DeVries, Lisa Dougherty, Suri Hidalgo, and Dr. David Clark. Photo credit: Abou Traore.



Eight HCCC students attended the DREAM 2020 conference. Seven are pictured here with HCCC Academic Advisor and DREAM 2020 Conference Participant, Jenny Henriquez. Pictured from left: Koral Booth, Katricia Colon, Suri Hidalgo, Alcía Batchelor, Crystal Newton, Tyler Sarmiento, Hillary Kouevi, and Jenny Henriquez. Photo credit: Abou Traore.

During February 18-21, 2020 a team of 17 HCCC faculty, staff, and administrators and eight students attended Achieving the Dream's flagship DREAM 2020 conference in National Harbor, Maryland. Student delegates included Student Government Association Vice President for the Journal Square Campus Alcía Batchelor and Peer Leaders: Koral Booth, Crystal Newton, Suri Hidalgo, Hillary Kouevi, Tyler Sarmiento, Kailyn Segovia Vazquez, and Abou Traore. In reflecting on her experience at DREAM 2020, Koral said that the conference "left [her] with a world of knowledge and an experience that [she] will [...] be able to look back on and appreciate for years to come." Peer Leaders Abou Traore and Suri Hidalgo also participated in ATD's Pre-Conference Equity Institute on Tuesday, February 18, 2020.

At DREAM 2020, HCCC faculty, staff, administrators, and students attended sessions on how to incorporate students' voices in across College

initiatives, how to meet students' basic needs more effectively, and how to integrate Student Success initiatives into strategic planning efforts. HCCC was also well represented in the DREAM 2020 conference program. Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Lisa Dougherty presented on HCCC's Chatbot Libby while Dr. Sheila Dynan, co-chair of HCCC's Dream Team and Associate Dean of Student Success, and Jenny Henriquez, Academic Advisor, presented on how HCCC is working to change the culture of registration using a "high touch, high tech" framework.

On the final night of DREAM 2020, the entire HCCC team had an opportunity to celebrate its work and enjoy dinner with Dr. Mary Fifield and Dr. Rene Garcia, HCCC's Leadership and Data Coaches, respectively. Upon returning to campus, HCCC's Dream Team is eager to implement its takeaways from DREAM 2020.

HCCC ATTENDS NEW JERSEY ALLIANCE FOR ACTION MEETING



On Tuesday, Feb. 25, HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber delivered a presentation, "Transforming a Campus," at the Hudson County Chapter meeting of the New Jersey Alliance for Action. The Alliance is a non-profit, non-partisan coalition of over 2500 business, labor, professional, academic and government leaders.

CONTINUING EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS



Hudson County Workforce Leadership Academy Closing Retreat, March 2020

The Hudson County Workforce Leadership Academy (HCWLA) sponsored by Hudson County Community College in partnership with The Aspen Institute Economic Opportunities Program launched this 12-month fellowship on June 26th with a 3-day opening retreat. It is the first in Hudson County, and one of four to be launched in 2019 through the national support of JPMorgan Chase, The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and local support of the County of Hudson, LeFrak Family and Mack-Cali. HCWLA is designed to strengthen the local network of workforce leaders through a series of retreats and workshops that will acquaint the participating Fellows with new tools and strategies. The 19 HCWLA Fellows represent a range of nonprofit organizations, businesses, education institutions (K-12, colleges, universities), and public agencies. HCWLA is the first Workforce Leadership Academy to be established in partnership with a local community college, and the first public- and private-funded Workforce Leadership Academy.

The closing retreat, held on February 26 – 28, focused on workforce policy, leadership development and the Fellow's Collaborative Leadership Lab (CoLab) project. The CoLab provides an opportunity for Fellows to work together to further develop their collaborative leadership skills and deepen their knowledge of specific Hudson County issues related to their projects.

For additional information please email ajones-belle@hccc.edu.



On February 14 students worked alongside their Valentines for a night of romance and delightful food in CE's hands-on culinary celebration, "Valentine's Date Night" with Chef Sean Wilson.



Eastern Millwork Apprenticeship Information Session



Scene from CE's Sushi & Sake class on February 1 with Chef Kim Fong. In this hands-on class students learned professional sushi making techniques and enjoyed their fresh creations paired with sake.



Scene from CE's Soul Food class on February 8 with Chef Rene Hewitt. In this hands-on workshop students learned how to make soul food classics while learning about the cuisine's history and southern origin.



Continuing Education and Classroom Au Pair partnered to offer "Fundamentals of Acting" on January 18-19 at HCCC's theater in Gabert Library. Through improvisation, script analysis and the study of monologue materials, students were introduced to the fundamentals of acting and performance by professional Actor, Melissa Teitel.



Continuing Education and Classroom Au Pair teamed up to offer an exciting and educational course called, "The Making of Walt Disney World" on February 7-9. Students packed up and traveled to Florida for the weekend where they learned about the history and making of Walt Disney World, but also about different countries and cultures, the history and progress of communication and technology, US history, animals and wildlife, literature and animation. Students also visited educational attractions in all four Walt Disney World theme parks: Epcot Center, the Magic Kingdom, Animal Kingdom and Hollywood Studios.

The next session of this course will run in October and is open to the general public! For more information please email cfarrell@hccc.edu

SAVE THE DATE

GROW YOUR BUSINESS WITH THE USE OF CENSUS DATA.

Learn how to use Census Business Builder to research and gain insight into you target customer, market, and competition through access to demographic and business data.

**Join us for a free webinar on
Wednesday, April 22, 2020,
from 9 am to 10:30 am.**

Information and registration coming soon.

For more information or questions, please call Maritza Reyes at (201) 360-5383. This program is brought to you by Hudson County Community College, Continuing Education and Workforce Development; Hudson County Economic Development Corporation (HCEDC); Jersey City Economic Development Corporation; and the Statewide Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey.

THE CENTER FOR TEACHING, LEARNING, AND INNOVATION



Laurence (Tony) Howell presents “Being a Great vs. a Good Leader: Characteristics of Great Leaders” on Feb. 20.



Presenter Tony Howell (left) with Dr. Paula Roberson, Director, Center for Teaching, Learning, and Innovation.

The Center for Teaching, Learning, and Innovation was honored to present Mr. Laurence (Tony) Howell as the first guest speaker in its Inaugural Series. An enthusiastic crowd of approximately 50 students, faculty, and staff members assembled in the STEM building multipurpose room to be inspired with his words of leadership wisdom. Mr. Howell, a Green Beret Army veteran, graduated from Indiana State University, where he founded the Black Student Union. His career is filled with many leadership roles of student support organizations including the Upward Bound Program, NJ Department of Education, and Joint Committee on Education, where he worked with Indiana Senators Birch Bayh, and Paul Simon.

During his presentation, Mr. Howell engaged the audience with his rich experiences in leadership as Director of the Consortium for Pre-College Programs in Greater Newark, TRIO, National Society of Black Engineers, State Hispanic

Chamber of Commerce and a host of other federal, state, and local educational organizations.

His inspiring presentation on being a great leader highlighted that leaders do not sugar coat reality, do engage the heart, refuse to accept the status quo, create a sense of urgency, call people to act in accord with their highest values, refuse to settle, acknowledge the sacrifice of others, and paint a vivid picture of tomorrow. Mr. Howell most inspiringly shared that leaders have gratitude enough to say “Thank you” for the small things.

The Center for Teaching, Learning, and Innovation is committed to its mission to enhance teaching effectiveness thereby improving student learning and student success. Proposals for faculty professional development workshops for the fall of 2020 are now being accepted. Previously postponed workshops will be considered. Send your workshop proposal to Dr. Paula Roberson in Academic Affairs or email it to ctli@hccc.edu

NHC HOSTS JUVE EXPO 2020



The North Hudson Campus hosted the New Jersey chapter of Organización Juventud Ecuatoriana for JUVE EXPO 2020.

On Saturday, Feb. 29, the North Hudson Campus hosted the New Jersey chapter of Organización Juventud Ecuatoriana for the annual JUVE EXPO 2020 event. The event was the first general meeting for prospective volunteers and members, where they presented to the community calendar events and activities for the year. JUVE seeks to provide services to the Hispanic community who are in pursuit of their goals in higher education.

grams aimed to empower the Hispanic community through information and education. These services include seminars on Immigration, Technology, Leadership, Financial Management, Human Rights, Civil Rights, Project Management, GED Programs and more. One of JUVE’s more popular seminars, “Doors to Higher Education,” aims to increase the hispanic community’s engagement, enrollment, and access to a college education.

For more information, please visit their website at juvuedecuadoriana.org.

JUVE was founded in 2006, and offers pro-

HCCC AND JCPS LEADERSHIP TEAMS MEET TO DISCUSS EXPANDING PROGRAMS



On Tuesday, February 25, HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber welcomed Jersey City Public Schools (JCPS) Superintendent Franklin Walker and JCPS Deputy Superintendent Dr. Norma Fernandez to HCCC to discuss the expansion of the College’s programs for JCPS students. Also present were Dr. Eric Friedman, Dr. Darryl Jones, Christopher Wahl, Lisa Dougherty, Yeurys Pujols, and Matthew Fessler.

NURSING & HEALTH SCIENCES MEET AND GREET



Pictured from left: Kathey Rodriguez, Administrative Assistant, Radiography; Kathleen Smith-Wenning, Director of Health-Related Programs; Suzette Samson, Recruitment Specialist, Nursing Program; and Lisa Cieckiewicz, Admission and Recruitment Coordinator, Nursing Program.

On Wednesday, Feb. 12, HCCC’s Nursing & Health Sciences Division held a meet and greet session at the North Hudson Campus to acquaint students with its programs.



Pictured from left: Tejal Parekh, EOF Counselor; Paola Leon, HCCC work study student and member of EOF; Natalia Vazquez-Bodkin, North Hudson Academic Support Center Head Tutor; and Yeurys Pujols, Executive Director of North Hudson Campus.

HCCC LATINO NETWORKING EVENT

On Thursday, Feb. 13, Hudson County Community College (HCCC) held a Latino Networking Event at the Gabert Library.

This event brought together Latino civic, business, social service groups and other stakeholders leaders with representatives from HCCC's offices of student services, admissions, non-credit courses and provided a unique opportunity to highlight HCCC equity, diversity and inclusion initiatives, programs and services.

The HCCC Latino Advisory Committee is a vehicle to help build and sustain strategic partnerships with civic, business, faith-based, social services and other stakeholders, to provide recommendations and share information, intended to enhance the experience for Latino students and community.



Dr. Chris Reber, President of HCCC, brings greetings to the assembly during a Latino Networking Event on Feb. 3.

TOWN HALL



HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber leads Town Hall meetings at the Culinary Conference Center on Feb. 3 and at the North Hudson Campus on Feb. 27.

DEI CLIMATE SURVEY FORUMS CONCLUDE



Yeurys Pujols (left), Executive Director, North Hudson Campus, and Lilisa Williams, Director of Faculty and Staff Development.

The President's Advisory Council on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (PACDEI) held Climate Survey discussion forums on Jan. 31, Feb. 12 and Feb. 18. More than 100 administrators, faculty, staff, and students attended the three sessions. These fora were held to disseminate and discuss publically the extensive results of the Climate Surveys undertaken in the fall.

YEAR UP LAUNCHED THE INAUGURAL CLASS OF HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Year Up New York | New Jersey (YUNYNJ) is pleased to announce that it has officially launched the inaugural class of Hudson County Community College on February 12, 2020. This first cohort encompasses 27 Business students who will be interning under Year Up's Business Fundamentals career track and 13 Com-

puter Science students who will be interning under the Helpdesk/Network Support (IT) career track. All 40 students in the cohort are fully engaged and ready to launch their careers as they complete their Associate's degree at HCCC! We are excited by the opportunity to serve talented and motivated young adults in New Jersey. This is

HCCC PODCAST

Continued from page 3

members with opportunities to develop character, leadership and service, to exchange ideas and ideals, and to stimulate interest in continuing to achieve academic excellence.

The state-of-the-art HCCC STEM Building opened in 2017. The six-story structure has floors dedicated to Mathematics, Geology and Environmental Studies, Physics, Engineering and Electrical Engineering, Biology, Microbiology and Histology, Construction Management, and Chemistry.

The "Aquaponics Greenhouse Project" podcast is part of the College's monthly "Out of the Box" series that launched last year. Discussions featuring guest speakers focus on programs, events, issues, and solutions that affect the people of Hudson County.

Links to all of the College's podcasts may be found at: <https://www.hccc.edu/outofthebox/>.

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION SCHOLARSHIP

Continued from page 2

hopes that I could find a medical solution for the disease my father died from, liver disease. My husband is supportive of me so I can focus on studying. It's a great challenge to balance family and college. My HCCC chemistry and calculus professors always support me. As a member of PTK, I've gained valuable experiences, which enhance me personally and practically and will help me in my career," Ms. Gado said.

Learning English was her biggest challenge two years ago. She slowly gained confidence and improved her fluency enough to excel in science and math classes and to assist others. "I apply my English in community service while volunteering to help refugee children practice English and do their homework. I teach my three kids English and how to write a good essay, using skills I learned at Hudson County Community College," Ms. Gado said.

Phi Theta Kappa is the premier honor society recognizing the academic achievements of students at associate degree-granting colleges and helping them grow as scholars and leaders. Established in 1918, the Society has more than 3.5 million members, and nearly 1,300 chapters in 11 nations, with approximately 240,000 active members in the United States.

Beta Alpha Phi, the HCCC chapter of PTK, has earned the distinction of Five Star Chapter Status, Phi Theta Kappa's highest level of recognition. The PTK Chapter Plan offers five levels of engagement, with each level consisting of prescribed activities to build a strong, active chapter taking advantage of all PTK has to offer.

a very big step for Northern New Jersey and will have a tremendous impact in our region.

If you have any questions, please contact Amy D'Aulerio, Events Manager, at ADaulerio@yearup.org.

HCCC TEAM SELECTED TO PRESENT SPECIAL SESSIONS FOR CLASSIFIED AND SUPPORT STAFF AT NISOD 2021

Hudson County Community College is pleased to announce that a team of faculty, staff, and administrators will present a slate of professional development sessions at the National Institute of Staff and Organizational Development's (NISOD) International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence, with expenses covered by NISOD. The team was selected as a major contributor for the annual conference, which will be held in 2021.

HCCC's proposal was selected from among multiple institutions. These presentations represent the first time NISOD is offering topics targeted specifically for the community college and technical college's classified and support staff.

The list of topics include: Communicating with Compassion and Empathy in the Workplace; Empowering You on Your Journey to Health and Wellness; Time Management Skills for the 21st Century; Positive and Effective Communication for Everyone; Thinking Outside the Box: Connecting Heart, Mind, and Body; Dealing with Difficult People; Secrets to Delivering Exceptional Customer

Service; Understanding How to Apply Emotional Intelligence; Conflict Resolution in the Workplace; Everyone Makes a Difference!; Your Personality Traits + How You Communicate = How to Thrive; and The What, When, Where, and Why of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. This achievement is another example of HCCC's growing national visibility.



Pictured top row from left: Dr. Darryl Jones, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs; Bernard Adaminty, Academic Foundations Math Instructor. Center row from left: Sharon Daughtry, College Lecturer, Business; Linda Guastini, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Executive Vice President and Provost. Bottom row from left: Dr. Jihan Nakhla, Medical Assistant Instructor; Lilisa J. Williams, Director of Faculty and Staff Development. Missing from photo: Dr. Sirhan Abdullah, Instructor of MDA, MDC, HLT; Joseph Caniglia, Interim Dean of English and ESL; Veronica Gerosimo, Assistant Dean, Student Life and Leadership; and Susannah Wexler, Assistant Professor of English.

HCCC ANNOUNCES NISOD 2021 DELEGATION

As in past years, Hudson County Community College's Foundation awards funds for a team of faculty, staff, and an administrator to participate in the National Institute of Staff and Organizational Development's (NISOD) International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence. The HCCC Team will participate in the Conference, which will be hosted in 2021. This conference represents one of the most comprehensive professional development events for community college employees. Attendees from HCCC will have the opportunity to learn new skills and techniques that they can bring back to campus and apply immediately. In addition, they will gain valuable knowledge that can be shared with their colleagues and the institution. The conference will feature over 300 workshops focused on learning, teaching, equity and inclusion, personal development, team building, leadership, and so much more, presented by people from all around the world and geared at improving student achievement. In addition to what attendees from HCCC will learn, they will also have the opportunity to share with other attendees some of their knowledge, tips, and strategies gained throughout their careers. This conference provides an excellent venue to showcase HCCC's progress toward a commitment to continuous improvement in institutional and student success work. This year the team from HCCC includes, Dr. Darryl Jones, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Bernard Adaminty, AF Math Instructor, Susannah Wexler, Assistant Professor of English, Linda Guastini, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Executive VP and Provost, Veronica Gerosimo, Assistant Dean of Student Life and Leadership (conference presenter) and Dr. Jihan Nakhla, Medical Assistant Instructor (conference presenter).

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT AND ALUMNA NOMINATED FOR PHI THETA KAPPA ALL-USA ACADEMIC TEAM SCHOLARSHIPS

Continued from page 7

goals and serving our community is truly inspirational. We congratulate them on their nominations, and we are cheering for them to be named to the All-USA Academic Team," said HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber.

Rimsha Bazaid is a 21-year-old Jersey City resident who will graduate with an Associate of Applied Science in Medical Assisting degree this May. She plans to transfer to New Jersey City University. Her leadership activities include serving as the Director of Community Service Outreach for the Student Government Association, Treasurer of Sigma Kappa Delta, Vice President of Beta Alpha Phi, participation in the Goldman Sachs Local College Collaborative Program, mentoring in the HCCC Student Success program, and volunteering at community service events such as Earth Keepers, HCCC student service events and Hunger Free Bayonne.

Ms. Bazaid's parents and siblings encouraged her to be the first in her family to complete a college degree. "My parents don't speak fluent English, so my siblings translate, and make sure my parents are aware of my educational milestones," Ms. Bazaid stated. "I chose the health care field because it helps individuals grow into people who care about others' well-being."

Kailyn Segovia-Vazquez is a 20-year-old Bayonne resident who earned her HCCC Associate of Arts degree in Theatre Arts in December 2019. Her HCCC leadership activities included Honors Institute events, and Honors in Action projects. She is now studying Marine Biology Behavioral Husbandry and Theatre Arts at Montclair State University.

"Both theatre and marine life have been the complete loves of my life, and I wanted to study both fields. I managed to integrate both subjects for over seventeen years, and made sure to pur-

sue this dream and make it a reality," Ms. Segovia-Vazquez said. Her goal is to become the first female marine biologist to conduct behavioral research on a giant squid. She also wants to work with dolphins, sea lions and walrus.

Phi Theta Kappa is the premier honor society recognizing the academic achievements of students at associate degree-granting colleges and helping them grow as scholars and leaders. Established in 1918, the Society has more than 3.5 million members, and nearly 1,300 chapters in 11 nations, with approximately 240,000 active members in the United States.

Beta Alpha Phi, the HCCC chapter of PTK, has earned the distinction of Five State Chapter Status, Phi Theta Kappa's highest level of recognition. The PTK Chapter Plan offers five levels of engagement, with each level consisting of prescribed activities to build a strong, active chapter taking advantage of all PTK has to offer.

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE OFFERS STUDENTS PASS/FAIL OPTION FOR SPRING 2020 SEMESTER

Hudson County Community College (HCCC) President Dr. Chris Reber announced that the College will offer students a Pass/Fail grading option for Spring 2020 courses.

"We are deeply committed to supporting our students, and to doing all we can to assist them in achieving academic success, especially during this COVID-19 pandemic. We understand that staying isolated, caring for families, and working from home may be stressful enough,"

Dr. Reber stated. "We also know online studies may take some adapting, and we want to alleviate as much tension about grades as possible."

HCCC students will be permitted to make the choice of a letter grade or the Pass/Fail grade through Thursday, May 28, 2020. The option will apply to the College's Traditional, Late-Start, On-line A and B, ESL, Developmental, and Culinary Arts cycles. Courses with the grade of Pass or Fail will carry no weight toward a student's Grade Point Average (GPA), and will not harm or improve academic standing. Pass grades will provide academic

credit toward program and degree completion.

Notice of the Pass/Fail grading option was emailed to all current HCCC students in late March. The email provided details of Pass/Fail grades, FAQs relevant to the option, and contact information for the advisors who will assist students in determining whether to utilize the option. The email also supplied information on programs that may not qualify for the Pass/Fail option, such as certain Nursing and Health Sciences programs.

Dr. Reber said that developing and implementing the Pass/Fail option with this needed expedience is the result of the input and work of the College's Executive Vice President and Provost, Dr. Eric Friedman; the College's faculty; Student Government President Warren Rigby; HCCC administrators; and the Offices of Student Affairs, Registrar, and Financial Aid, among others.

"We have a remarkable team working for our inspirational students, who deserve nothing less than the best," Dr. Reber said. "We want to do all

we can to ensure our students' academic success and everyone's health and safety."

Information about the HCCC Pass/Fail option is available at http://hccc.edu/uploadedFiles/Pages/Campus_Life/Coronavirus/DrFriedman-Pass-Fail-Letter-3-29-2020-ENGLISH.pdf.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE NEWS

The Urban Policing Institute (UPI) hosted its first seminar in the STEM 103 Conference Room on February 13.

Co-founders Richard Walker, Criminal Justice Lecturer at HCCC and Keith Stith, Chief of Investigations at the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office, invited Chief Robert Dowd from the North Bergen Police Department as the guest speaker. The audience members included law enforcement officers and community members.

The topic of the seminar, "21st Century Policing in Urban Communities" allowed Chief Dowd and the audience to examine the issues commonplace in present day policing. Chief Dowd, a law enforcement executive with over two decades of experience, discussed the components of former President Obama's 21st Century Police Task Force Report. The report encourages law enforcement to address issues including community policing and crime reduction; policy and oversight; and police legitimacy.



Chief of Police Robert Dowd of the North Bergen Police Department (standing, second from left) was the guest speaker at the Urban Policing Institute's Feb. 13 seminar, "21st Century Policing in Urban Communities."

GEROSIMO WINS CAMPUS EVENT PLANNER OF THE YEAR AWARD



Congratulations to Hudson County Community College and Veronica Gerosimo, Assistant Dean, Student Life and Leadership, have won the Campus Event Planner of the Year Award for 2019.

According to Robert Johnson, President/CEO of Power Performers, "Veronica stood out among more than 4,200 campuses nationwide to be honored ... This award was created to honor the hard work and dedication that Veronica put forth creating memorable campus activities and events during 2019 for [HCCC] students."

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION



18TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Monday, July 13, 2020

Forest Hill Field Club

Bloomfield, New Jersey

Continental Breakfast, Cocktails, Luncheon and Awards. Proceeds from the event will be dedicated to the growth and development of the College and students. Space is limited, so make your reservations soon!

For more information, contact:

Mirta Sanchez

201) 360-4004 | msanchez@hccc.edu

DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS

NOW HAPPENING VIRTUALLY!

CALLING ALL CURRENT STUDENTS planning to register for Fall 2020 term!

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

1 p.m to 3 p.m.

Current students will have the opportunity to virtually meet live with a HCCC Tutor or have their scholarship application reviewed. Tutors can assist with applying for HCCC Scholarships, including assistance with the scholarship application and forming and writing the essay portion

Appointments can be made through the HCCC online tutoring platform:
<https://hccc.mywonline.com>

NHC HOSTS WELCOME AND WELLNESS CELEBRATION



On Wednesday, Feb. 26, Hudson Pride, Hackensack Meridian-Palisades Medical Center and the North Hudson Partnership hosted their first ever "Welcome and Wellness Celebration" at the North Hudson Campus.

More than 30 local agencies and organizations

participated in the event. They were able to connect and provide residents of northern Hudson County with health screenings, legal services, mental health services, and much more. The event was the first of many dedicated to addressing health, educational, and economic barriers that exists in the community.

ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB HOLDS CLIMATE CHANGE WORKSHOP



Dr. Fatma Tat and members of the Environmental Club following a presentation on "The Impact of Climate Change on the United States" on March 12.

On Thursday, March 12, the College's Environmental Club presented a workshop, "The Impact of Climate Change on the United States" at the STEM Building Multi-Purpose Room. This workshop was one of the HCCC Environmental Club activities during the Spring 2020 semester.

ATD COACHES RETURN TO HCCC



Pictured from left: Dr. Rene Garcia, ATD Data Coach; Dr. Sheila Dynan, Associate Dean of Student Success and ATD Co-Chair; Dr. Mary Fifield, ATD Leadership Coach; Sylvia Mendoza, Associate Dean of Financial Aid; Dr. Pamela Bandyopadhyay, and Associate Dean, Academic Development and Support Services; Heather Devries, Assistant Dean of Curriculum and Academic Assessment and ATD Co-Chair; and Victoria Orellana, Registrar.



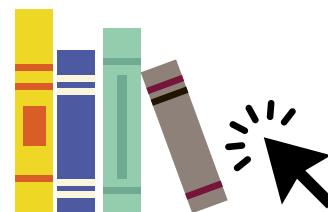
The ATD Coaches meet with the Onboarding Think Tank and Testing, a group charged with mapping out the prospective student and enrolled student experience.



Pictured from left: Dr. Sheila Dynan, Associate Dean of Student Success and ATD Co-Chair; Yeurys Pujols, Executive Director, North Hudson Campus, co-chair of the PACDEI; Dr. Rene Garcia, ATD Data Coach; Dr. Mary Fifield, ATD Leadership Coach, and Heather Devries, Assistant Dean of Curriculum and Academic Assessment and ATD Co-Chair (Lilisa Williams, who serves as the other PACDEI co-chair is not pictured.)



The ATD Coaches meet with HCCC's Core/Strategy Team.



LIBRARY VIRTUAL OFFERINGS

Librarians are available daily via chat, email, and live via video conferencing.

Reach out to us with assistance with moving to remote instruction.

Visit <https://library.hccc.edu/remot> or email librarian@hccc.edu.

For information and resources about HCCC's response to the coronavirus pandemic, please visit our website:

<http://www.hccc.edu/Coronavirus-Resources/>

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE 'OUT OF THE BOX' PODCAST SPOTLIGHTS CULINARY ARTS INSTITUTE SUCCESSES



Dr. Chris Reber, HCCC President (center) is joined by HCCC grad and cable TV's 'In the Kitchen' star, Chef Rene Hewitt (left) and Chef/Instructor Kevin O'Malley.

In the newest Hudson County Community College (HCCC) "Out of the Box" podcast (<http://hcccpodcast.libsyb.com/hccc-culinary-arts-program>), HCCC alumnus Rene Hewitt discusses how the nationally renowned HCCC Culinary Arts Institute (CAI) has impacted his life. He also demonstrates for viewers the how-to's of creating an easy and delicious vegetable hors d'oeuvre.

Chef Hewitt, and one of the HCCC CAI founders and most knowledgeable and beloved Chef/Instructors, Kevin O'Malley, are the guests of HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber.

"The Chef/Instructors make our program special, personal and heartfelt. What's beautiful about our program is that so many of our faculty chefs are alumni," said Dr. Reber. "We have incredible kitchens with state-of-the-art equipment that specialize in every aspect of the cooking experience. Students are learning in an authentic, top-shelf culinary environment," he added.

Leaving a lifetime of experience in business and IT to pursue his passion for cooking at the HCCC Culinary Arts Institute, Chef Rene Hewitt is now a graduate of the Fairleigh Dickinson Bachelor of Science in International Hospitality and Tourism program, which holds classes on the HCCC campus. He is also an adjunct professor in the HCCC Continuing Education program, a tester for "America's Test Kitchen" on PBS, and the host of his own cooking program on local cable TV stations in northern New Jersey and Queens, NY.

"The first time I walked down these halls, put the chef coat on, unpacked my knives, and stepped into the kitchen, it was a whole new world. From there, I started doing videos and wanted to create

these little shows and get sponsors. One of my biggest dreams was to come back here and teach," Chef Hewitt said.

Chef Kevin O'Malley has been teaching in the HCCC Culinary Arts program throughout its 40-year history, noting that graduates and the College's alumni Chef/Instructors "have worked in top restaurants worldwide. "Our Culinary Arts program is one of the best programs in the country. Everywhere I go, I see our students' successes, whether it's the chef of a favorite Italian restaurant in Rahway, or the owner of one of the best catering businesses in New Jersey," he said.

The HCCC Culinary Arts Institute is nationally recognized for its award-winning curriculum and is accredited by the American Culinary Federation Accrediting Commission and the American Culinary Federation Educational Foundation (ACFEF). CAI faculty take a unique approach to hands-on learning and guaranteeing personalized attention to each student. The 72,000 square-foot HCCC CAI/Conference Center includes state-of-the-art kitchens and classrooms including bakeries, hot-food and cold-food kitchens and classrooms, an ice-sculpting studio, a fish-and-butchery room, mock-hotel hospitality suite, and a library of more than 4,000 cookbooks. Its kitchens were featured in TLC's "Cake Boss: Next Great Baker" and Progresso Soup's "Ring-Ring" commercials.

The HCCC Culinary Arts Program podcast is part of the College's monthly "Out of the Box" series that launched last year. Discussions featuring guest speakers focus on programs, events, issues, and solutions that affect the people of Hudson County. Links to all College podcasts may be found at <https://www.hccc.edu/outofthebox>.



The North Hudson Campus is launching a daily dialogue/support group for all staff and faculty. This daily dialogue is expected to act as a safe space For peer support during these trying times.

**The meeting will take place
daily at 1 p.m. through
Wednesday, May 13, 2020.**

JOIN THE MEETING AT:
<https://tinyurl.com/hccctalkaboutit>
Meeting ID: 291 919 445
Password: 081472

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.

ALUMNI CORNER

Hudson County Community College Board of Trustees

William J. Netchert, Esq., *Chair*
 Bakari Gerard Lee, Esq., *Vice Chair*
 Karen A. Fahrenholz, *Secretary/Treasurer*
 Joseph V. Doria, Jr., Ed.D.
 Adamarys Galvin
 Pamela E. Gardner
 Roberta Kenny
 Jeanette Peña
 Silvia Rodriguez
 Harold G. Stahl, Jr.
 James A. Fife, *Trustee Emeritus*
 Joanne Kosakowski, *Trustee Emerita*
 Christopher M. Reber, Ph.D., *College President*
 Abderahim Salhi, *Alumni Representative*

County Executive and Board of Chosen Freeholders

Thomas A. DeGise, *County Executive*
 Anthony P. Vainieri, Jr., *Chairperson*
 William O'Dea, *Vice Chairperson*
 Anthony L. Romano, *Chair Pro Temp*
 Albert J. Cifelli, Esq.
 Fanny E. Cedeño
 Kenneth Kopacz
 Caridad Rodriguez
 Joel Torres
 Jerry Walker

JOURNAL SQUARE CAMPUS

70 Sip Avenue
 Jersey City, NJ 07306
 Phone (201) 714-7100

NORTH HUDSON CAMPUS

4800 Kennedy Boulevard
 Union City, NJ 07087
 Phone (201) 360-4600

SECAUCUS CENTER

Located at the Frank J. Gargiulo Campus of
 the Hudson County Schools of Technology
 One High Tech Way
 Secaucus, NJ 07094

FOLLOW US ON:



www.hccc.edu
myhudson.hccc.edu

Sarah Elizabeth Smyth

Class of 2018

A.S. Human Services/Pre-Social Work



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

My grandfather always talked to me about college from as far back as I can remember. Attending and graduating from college was still a goal of mine. When 2015 rolled around, I graduated high school, and one of the first people in my family that had the opportunity to attend college. While my friends were contemplating which four-year university they were going to attend, I already knew Hudson County Community College (HCCC) would be an enormous advantage toward my future endeavors. Many factors influenced my decision to attend HCCC; affordability, convenience, and the Educational Opportunity Fund Program.

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

My college experience at HCCC was scattered with internships, volunteer opportunities, club involvements, and some of the best memories with my EOF family and friends. However, my favorite story I share with people will always be how I entered the Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) Pre-College Summer Program in 2015. I got a first-time taste of what college was like by the exposé of English and Mathematic courses and professor expectations. Also, I established relationships with students and staff that I still speak to today. I'm forever grateful for the experiences we shared.

How did you become interested in social work?

I choose the social work profession because it allows me to work in a variety of settings and to work towards change. For me, it was never about money; it was about social justice. The fact is, I am passionate about helping people, respecting diversity, and creating change. While I was told that social work would be emotionally challenging, it is not something you can fully comprehend until you see the difference you made for that person, family, or community. I believe that social work can truly make a positive difference in people's lives. The point is not to stop fighting and be an agent of change.

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

At HCCC, I was active in several organizations and activities serving as a Work-Study Assistance, EOF Peer Mentor, Student Secretary for The Alliance of Educational Opportunity Fund Students of New Jersey (AESNJ), Student Body President for the Human Services Club, and inducted into the Chi Alpha Epsilon Honor Society. Being a part of these organizations helped me build on personal and professional development skills that are necessary to succeed. Also, the Human Services Pre-Social Work major, strengthen my knowledge in human services and provide fantastic opportunities that held a positive impact in preparing me as I transitioned to pursue my baccalaureate from Rutgers University-Newark in Social Work.

What is a typical workday for you?

We often talk about the hats we wear in relation to our jobs, and I take on several roles, such as a student, EOF retention specialist, and Social Work Intern. A typical workday for me is advocating for students and providing ongoing personal, social, and professional support that will assist in personal and academic growth. Also, as a Social Work Intern at the Hudson Pride Center in Jersey City, I serve as an advocate for both the LGBTQ+ and HIV/AIDS communities, facilitate youth-focused psychoeducational workshops and conduct outreach in Hudson County!

What has been the most interesting project/ case you have worked on?

One of the most memorable projects I have had the pleasure of working on was the Student Success Initiative. The Student Success Initiative was a series of psychoeducational workshops, such as Study Skills 101, Tackling Test-taking Anxiety, and Effective Note-taking. These workshops had a positive impact on students' by hearing and sharing their experiences, and the intellectual dialogue was incredibly empowering for all in the room. I want to give a shout-out to my EOF team for believing in this project and giving me the support to make it happen!

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

Along the way, I've found inspiration from everyone in my support circle from my family, friends, and co-workers. They always encouraged me by speaking life into me and helped me develop a strong sense of myself.

What advice would you give to recent HCCC graduates?

First, I want to say congratulations on one of the many achievements you will accomplish in life! The advice I would give is never to stop learning and growing as a person. We are multidimensional beings that can concur with anything our hearts desire.

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

It is pivotal to have a healthy sense of self both in and out of the classroom. Also, take your time in college to explore the vast realm of academia to find what you enjoy learning or love to do. Classes will give you great insight into any given area, but be sure to get involved and network. Take advantage of every opportunity to get active!