

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 4 • APRIL 2021

# HCCC Happenings

A publication of the Communications Department



## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND NEW JERSEY CITY UNIVERSITY JOIN FORCES FOR NEW CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRANSFER PROGRAM AGREEMENT





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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 May newsletter are due by Friday, April 9, 2021.

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](mailto:jchristopher@hccc.edu)**

### PLEASE NOTE:

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## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND NEW JERSEY CITY UNIVERSITY JOIN FORCES FOR NEW CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRANSFER PROGRAM AGREEMENT

**H**udson County Community College (HCCC) signed an articulation agreement with New Jersey City University (NJCU) on Tuesday, March 16, 2021. The signing took place in the new HCCC Student Center at 81 Sip Avenue in Jersey City. HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber was joined for the signing by NJCU President Dr. Sue Henderson, and members of their faculties and staffs.

"This new agreement will provide current HCCC students and graduates with a seamless pathway to transfer and complete a Bachelor of Science degree at NJCU. Further, it will guarantee that HCCC students, who meet certain criteria, have a reserved place in the NJCU Criminal Justice bachelor-degree program," Dr. Reber stated. "We are excited to again partner with NJCU and provide opportunities for the people of our community to advance in their education and prepare for economic-resilient careers."

"Hudson County Community College has long been a valued partner of our university and both institutions share a similar educational mission in our community. This articulation agreement further strengthens our partnership," Dr. Henderson said. "Last year, transfers from HCCC received degrees in 24 different academic



**HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber (right) with NJCU President Dr. Sue Henderson (left) and NJCU Provost Dr. Tamara Jhashi.**

disciplines and our nationally-ranked Criminal Justice program was among the most sought-after degree. We look forward to continuing to welcome HCCC students to NJCU."

Under the terms of this new agreement, HCCC students who receive an Associate of Science degree in Criminal Justice from the College may

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**ON THE COVER:** Pictured at the signing, seated from left: NJCU President Dr. Sue Henderson and HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber. Standing from left: Dr. Nicholas Chiaravollati, HCCC Vice President for External Affairs and Senior Counsel to the President; Dr. Tamara Jhashi, NJCU Provost; HCCC Lisa Dougherty, Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment; Cathie Seidman, HCCC Professor, Criminal Justice; Dr. Darryl Jones, HCCC Vice President for Academic Affairs; and Dr. Alison Wakefield, HCCC Interim Associate Dean, Humanities & Social Sciences.

## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE JOINS #CCMONTH CAMPAIGN TO IMPROVE AWARENESS OF VALUE, NEED TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY COLLEGES

**H**udson County Community College announced that it will join #CCMonth, a month-long grassroots education and stigma-busting campaign coordinated by the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT). The primary goals of #CCMonth are to improve awareness of the economic, academic and equity advantages of attending community colleges, and to bust longtime stigmas wrongly associated with public two-year colleges.

"The past year has proved beyond any doubt that our College is absolutely vital to our community and our state," said HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber. "#CCMonth is an opportunity to reach out into both and to demonstrate not only that community colleges should be the first choice of many

collegegoers, but why community colleges are first-class institutions that are vital to our local and state economies."

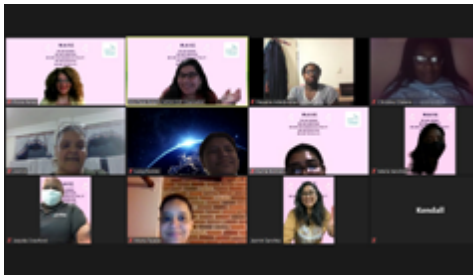
Public community colleges are a uniquely American educational model that was designed to guarantee access to affordable, high-quality higher education for all people. They are the primary educators of life-saving nursing and other healthcare professionals among many others. They also serve as an onramp to bachelor's, master's and higher-level degrees for many stu-



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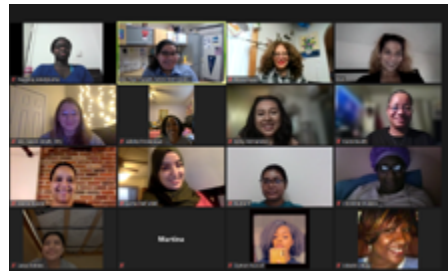


## EOF SCHOLARS GAIN EMPOWERMENT THROUGH W.A.V.E.



EOF Scholars attend a womxn-empowerment group, W.A.V.E., on March 10.

On Wednesday, March 10, 2021 EOF Scholars attended their womxn-empowerment group which is W.A.V.E. This term stands for- We are Women, We are Ambitious, We are the essence of Vitality, We are Educated- WE ARE THE W.A.V.E! This empowerment group is facilitated by EOF Counselor Ms. Tejal Parekh, MSW every semester and tonight with the support of Ms. Maria Tejada, Career Advisor from Career Services who is also an EOF Intern. This women-empowerment is open to both the Educational Opportunity Fund Program Scholars and is open for all HCCC Scholars every month. The month of March is both Women's History Month and National Social Work Month. The group discussed how they are making "Herstory" by breaking barriers every day as



EOF Scholars from HCCC and Saint Peter's University attending a March 31 session for womxn-empowerment group W.A.V.E.

women while obtaining their education including in fields where there are not represented. Holding their degree programs in the field of their choice, they are creating inclusion and making "herstory" for the next generations.

On Wednesday, March 31, 2021, EOF W.A.V.E. Womxn Empowerment Group at HCCC, facilitated by Tejal Parekh, MSW EOF Counselor, invited Saint Peter's University EOF Program and SPU EOF Womxn Scholars to bring womxn together across colleges/universities to end Womxn History's Month. The group discussed how we can continue to empower every womxn throughout this year by "fixing each other's crowns." W.A.V.E. is open to all HCCC and EOF Scholars every month.

## UPDATE ON HCCC'S STUDENT SUCCESS WORK

From March 16 – 19, 2021, Dr. Mary Fifield and Dr. Rene Garcia, HCCC's *Achieving the Dream* Leadership and Data Coaches, respectively, participated in their second visit to HCCC of the 2020-21 Academic Year. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, their visit was conducted through a series of virtual meetings. HCCC *Achieving the Dream* Dream Team Co-Chairs Heather DeVries and Dr. Sheila Dynan would like to extend their sincere thanks for all who made Dr. Fifield and Dr. Garcia's visit a success.

In the coming weeks, President Reber will receive a letter from Drs. Fifield and Garcia that will provide a summary of their visit, including key findings and recommendations for further consideration. As with past letters, it will be shared with the entire HCCC community for review and reflection.

HCCC's *Achieving the Dream* Dream Team continues to implement the College's Student Success Action Plan through eight How Teams. Each How Team is tasked with implementing one specific strategy of the Action Plan. The How Teams are pleased to share the following updates on their work.

**How Team 1.1 ("ESL")** has been working in collaboration with the faculty of the ESL Program to develop an ESL Proficiency Certificate. This proficiency certificate is comprised of 15 college credits and nests into the AA Liberal Arts General degree. Co-leads: Jenny Bobea & Alexa Riano.

**How Team 1.2a ("AF English")** is currently examining the fall 2020 outcomes for students who were placed through the Directed Self Placement (DSP) protocol as well as how the DSP process could be improved. How Team 1.2a is continuing to explore alternate modes of writing assessment and course exit processes. Co-leads: Lauren O'Gara & Robin Singer.

**How Team 1.2b ("AF Math")** is currently examining the fall 2020 outcomes for students who were placed through the DSP protocol. Next, How Team 1.2b will be conducting research on the emporium model of instruction. Co-leads: Laura Samuelsen & Kyle Woolley.

**How Team 2.1 ("Student Leaders")** shared some of their "Hudson is Home" testimonials with Drs. Fifield and Garcia. Next, How Team 2.1 will gather testimonials using a different medium (i.e., video recordings). Co-leads: Koral Booth & Abou Traore.

**How Team 2.2 ("Remove Barriers")** has distributed a survey aimed at evaluating the current course design of CSS-100. How Team 2.2 is also examining the "life cycle" of placement for various student types (i.e., new, continuing, returning). Co-leads: Dr. Pamela Bandyopadhyay & Victoria Marino.

**How Team 2.3 ("Hudson Helps")** is pleased to share that, to date, 4,000 meals have been prepared by the Culinary Club and Chefs for distribution through HCCC's food pantries and other

## HUDSON COUNTY EXECUTIVE TOURS NEW HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT CENTER



Student Services work area on the second floor.

Recently, Hudson County Community College (HCCC) students and staff provided Hudson County Executive Thomas A. DeGise with a tour of the recently completed Student Center at 81 Sip Avenue in Jersey City.

HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber and Mr. DeGise were joined by students and administrators in a tour of the renovated building, which was completed last March just prior to the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown.

"This building represents a milestone for Hudson County Community College as it is the first, dedicated Student Center in the College's 47-year history," Dr. Reber stated. "We are exceedingly grateful to County Executive DeGise, the County Commissioners, HCCC Trustees, and



Hudson County Executive Thomas A. DeGise (left) with HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber.

everyone who assisted in making this dream a reality for our students."

Dr. Reber said the \$8.2 million renovation to a College-owned building was designed by Di Cara | Rubino Architects to create a state-of-the-art setting that affords students the very best in technology, safety and convenience. The renovation by APS Contracting, Inc. included the addition of façade brick stained to match that of the adjoining HCCC Gabert Library; replacement of the existing roof; complete interior demolition; the addition of a new entrance vestibule; installation of new HVAC systems, elevators, emergency generator; and a direct, indoor connection to the Gabert Library. Wi Fi and computer stations are available throughout

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## MILESTONES

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

### FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES

**One Year**  
Amaalah Ogburn  
Geraldine Kiefer-Necklen

**Five Years**  
Jose Acosta  
Willie Shirer

**15 Years**  
James Oliver

**20 Years**  
Mark Murray

### PART-TIME EMPLOYEES

**One Year**  
Thomas Larson

**Five Years**  
Indra Sanders

## NEW HIRES

Qu'fayshia Ransom,  
Coordinator, Continuing Education  
and Workforce Development

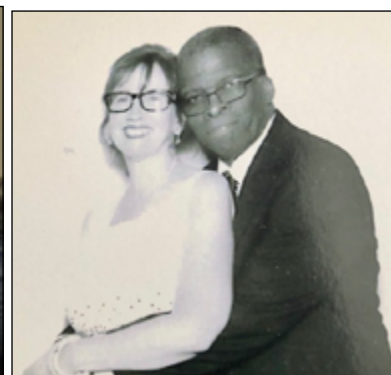
## SUMMER HOURS

This year the summer four-day week will begin Monday, May 17, with the first Friday off scheduled for Friday, May 21. The five-day schedule will resume on Monday, August 16, when we should all plan to be fully back on ground for the fall semester.

The daily hours of operation during the summer four-day weeks will 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.

**For information about online,  
remote, and on-ground learning and  
the College's on-ground operations,  
students, faculty and staff are  
encouraged to visit the Return to  
Campus Task Force web page -  
<http://www.hccc.edu/returntocampus/>**

## OUR STORIES UNTOLD



Prof. Katie Sweeting in the classroom (photo at left) and with her husband, Pastor William Sweeting (photo at right).

Submission by Yeury Pujols, Executive Director of the North Hudson Campus, and Anna Krupitskiy, Vice President for Human Resources.

"The web of our life is of a mingled yarn good and ill together," began Professor Katie Sweeting as our featured storyteller for Our Stories Untold series program. She was joined by over 60 students, staff, faculty, and family guests on Tuesday, March 16th, 2021, sharing her journey from the San Fernando Valley, California, to Kenya, East Africa, and Queens, New York, to Jersey City. A student appreciated Katie's "openness, the windows open on her family, the sharing of personal pictures, the quality of her friendships."

Supported by her husband of 37 years, Pastor William Sweeting, Katie encouraged the audience to think about their own life as she shared how her experiences, threading teaching, multiculturalism, and compassion, prepared her for each stage of hers. While she grew up in a white family and a white neighborhood, her parents wanted to make sure that she did not grow up racist and went out of their way to integrate black colleagues and friends into the family. Katie had a positive black male role

model, a lifelong friend of the family for over 50 years. She credits this man because she ended up falling in love with and marrying a black man and mothering three black sons.

Katie became a follower of Jesus at the age of 17, one of the most important decisions of her life. Her journey enthused multiculturalism in her personal and professional milestones, becoming a better person and a professor. She understood what it feels like to be a minority, at one time the only white member of a 3,000-member black church. She questioned standards of beauty when they did not match one's own culture. When students told her about their struggles, grief, and loss, she listened with empathy and compassion. She learned to live in the moment and focus on what you have, and not on what you don't have, as the best way to go about it -- simple things. "Be kind to yourself," she said.

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## #MaskUpHCCC CONTEST

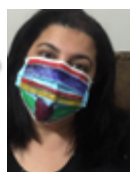
And the winners are ...



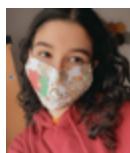
**Statement Piece**  
Michelle Vitale



**Team Spirit**  
Melissa Murray



**Most Artistic**  
Hanah Said



**Cultural Pride**  
Diana Gomes



**Best Throw Back**  
Celeste Bonilla



**School Spirit**  
E. Merles



**Essential Workers (Students)**  
LPN Students



**Essential Workers (Employees)**  
ITS Team



### Libby Award

Veronica Gerosimo and Tyler Sarmiento

View the video: <https://tinyurl.com/HCCCmaskup>





## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS ADVANCE AS 2021 JACK KENT COOKE SCHOLARSHIP SEMIFINALISTS



Adoum Allamine



Gerardo Leal



Pedro Moranchel



Sofia Pazmino

Hudson County Community College (HCCC) students Adoum Allamine, Gerardo Leal, Pedro Moranchel, and Sofia Pazmino have been named semifinalists for the highly competitive and prestigious 2021 Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. The recipients will be announced in April.

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation recognizes exceptionally talented community college students seeking to complete baccalaureate degrees. This year's 406 semifinalists were chosen from a pool of more than 1,500 applicants attending 398 community colleges throughout the United States. Recipients are selected based on their exceptional academic ability and achievement, financial need, leadership, persistence, and service.

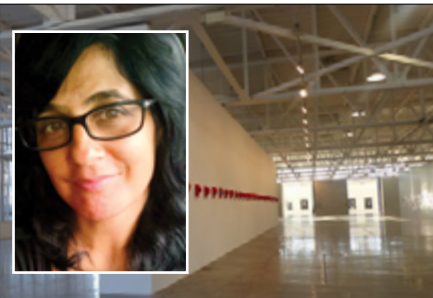
"Everyone at Hudson County Community College joins me in congratulating Adoum, Gerardo, Pedro, and Sofia on this great achievement," said HCCC President Dr. Chris Reber. "These extraordinary students have worked diligently and are most deserving of this major scholarship and

recognition. They are an inspiration to our entire community."

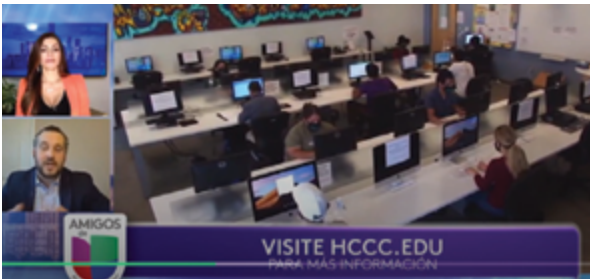
Nearly half of all postsecondary students begin their college journey at two-year institutions. The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation research found that community college students who transfer to four-year institutions have equal to or higher graduation rates as compared to students who enrolled at these institutions directly from high school, or transferred from other four-year institutions. The Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship aims to increase the number of community college students completing their education at prestigious and high-performing four-year colleges and universities.

Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship recipients receive financial support for the full cost of attendance at four-year and graduate institutions, comprehensive educational advising, opportunities for internships, study abroad, and graduate school funding, as well as access to a network of over 2,800 fellow Cooke scholars and alumni.

## PROFESSIONAL NOTES



Artwork by **Michelle Vitale**, Director of Cultural Affairs (also known as Woolpunk), will be featured in "RE:GROWTH, A Celebration of Art, Riverside Park, and the New York Spirit." The exhibit will feature works from over 20 artists, displayed across 13 site-specific installations throughout the park starting June 5 through the end of the summer. The exhibit was recently featured in *The Gothamist* and *Time Out New York*; for more information, please visit the official exhibition website at <https://app.mobilecause.com/e/gZw-4A?vid=h11lf>.



**Yeurys Pujols**, Executive Director of HCCC's North Hudson Campus, appeared on a recent episode of "Amigos de Univision" with host Damaris Diaz to discuss the recently enacted Community College Opportunity Grant (CCOG) program at the College. The segment is available for viewing at <https://tinyurl.com/HCCC-Univision>.

**Associate Professor of English Katie Sweeting** had an essay published in February in *The Daily Ovation*, an online magazine based in Los Angeles, on "How to Raise an Anti-Racist: A White Valley Girl's Perspective," <https://dailyovation.com/2021/02/26/raise-anti-racist-white-valley-girls-perspective-black-history-month/>

## HCCC DEBUTS NEW VAN WRAPS



The Safety & Security Department at Hudson County Community College recently debuted College vans with wraps displaying the new College tagline, "Hudson is Home."

The wraps were designed by HCCC's Communications Department.

## HCCC HEALTH STUDENTS LEARN FROM GUEST LECTURER



On Thursday, March 4, Prof. Javier Garcia Galicia lectured on "Indigenous Healing Practices and Healers" to students in Culture, Diversity, and Healthcare (HLT 110). Pictured from left: Bill Schindler, Javier Garcia (red shirt), Christina Schindler, and Vendadora de Chapulines.

# Foundation Art Collection

The Hudson County Community College Foundation Art Collection of 1,500+ works is installed in the public areas of ten campus buildings. The entire College is an educational art museum. This Collection 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.



**Homage to Ben Shahn (1971)**  
by Alexander Calder, Lithograph in Eight Colors, 39.5 x 24.5 in

## DONOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thank you to Claudia Stone for the generous donation of over 200 paintings, drawings, sculptures, prints and mixed media works.

## ARTIST NEWS

In 2020, George Floyd's murder sparked a long-overdue national discussion about discrimination against BIPOC individuals and communities, a discussion which we are actively engaged in at HCCC. In this important matter, in a time when critical change needs to happen, the arts community is drawing attention to the need for humble learning. We see this in a recent article by Ann Hernandez, a Senior Diversity Fellow at the American Alliances of Museums, who writes about "How to Master Humble Learning."

Hernandez says that we often feel "that we need to be experts and wise contributors in every situation, especially if we are dubbed 'leaders' in our organization. We do not allow ourselves to be vulnerable, humble learners, recognizing that we all have areas to develop and things we need others to teach us. ... Cultural competence development

Thanks to the amazing generosity of our donors, the Foundation Art Collection has grown from 25 installed art works to over 1,500 works. This accomplishment is a testament to our extraordinary community.

is exactly one of these areas that require humble learners. To 'master' cultural competence is to never feel like you know everything. You are constantly asking questions, observing details, and carefully experimenting with what actions make sense in a given situation and culture. You are constantly reflecting on your own beliefs, traditions, and way of being in order to respect how others live differently."

She suggests eight steps that may be helpful inside (and outside) the arts: 1. Understand that what's normal for you may not be for others. 2. Observe a situation before jumping in. "In some cultures, including the white American culture, we are rewarded for 'jumping in and taking action.' It is seen as taking initiative and adapting quickly. Humble learning is not about that. The value lies in getting outside of yourself for a moment and recognizing other ways of being first. Then, you compare them with your way of being and take action from there." 3. Be curious and ask questions: others don't know what you don't know, and it's important to learn about others' "values, behaviors, and cultural patterns." 4. Try to find the ways you can relate to another person or culture. 5. "Be uncomfortable. It probably means you are learning something. Challenge yourself to embrace experiences or differences that are new to you. Reflect on why something makes you uncomfortable and use that to understand the difference that you are encountering and how it relates to your norms." 6. Celebrate each new thing learned; and check your ego at the door. 7. Be patient, because it can take a lifetime to learn about a culture. Forgive yourself when you make a mistake. 8. Embrace the practice of being a beginner. By doing this your process can be joyful and educational, and you may find yourself eventually in step with this person or this culture. To read more, go here: <https://www.aam-us.org/tag/humble-learning/>

If you like the Alexander Calder lithograph installed in the second floor administrative reception area in the STEM Building, you might enjoy a new website created by the Calder Foundation.

"The platform is a growing database, [which] includes over 1,300 Calder works across different media; 1,000 photographs and archival documents; and 48 historic and recent texts by the artist, his contemporaries, and present-day scholars. ... Viewers can discover public installations of Calder's works around the world using a new interactive feature on the website" <https://calder.org/calder-around-the-world/>. For more information, you can read about it here:

An Online Haven for Lovers of Alexander Calder ([https://hyperallergic.com/627069/an-online-haven-for-lovers-of-alexander-calder/?utm\\_campaign=daily&utm\\_content=20210308&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=newsletter](https://hyperallergic.com/627069/an-online-haven-for-lovers-of-alexander-calder/?utm_campaign=daily&utm_content=20210308&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter))

Congratulations to Prof. Laurie Riccadonna, Chairperson of the Art Department. Her current show at the Dineen Hull Gallery on campus was featured in a recent Art House Virtual JC Fridays. You can see a recording of that talk here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BADqmJL7ens&list=PLSzNpMrFVwHTjM8VoFzNYci9DODfnc&index=13>. You can also see her work on view in the Foundation Art Collection on the first level of the Gabert Library, and on the sixth floor of the STEM Building (an area devoted to New Jersey artist/teachers).

**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](mailto:ASiegel@hccc.edu) and tell us the story of how the art collection works for you.**

**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](mailto:nchiaravalloti@hccc.edu), or (201) 360-4009.**

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

**Would you like to explore the Foundation Art Collection using our new online searchable tools? Go to [www.hccc.edu/FoundationArt/Collections](http://www.hccc.edu/FoundationArt/Collections)**

Adler Jarach Fund of Equity Foundation  
Adolf Konrad Foundation  
Alma Peralta  
Anna-Maria Vag  
Anne Q. McKeown  
Annie Plumb  
Annina Nosei  
Anonymous (3)  
Barry Andersen  
Ben and Evelyn Wilson Foundation  
Benjamin J. Dineen III and Dennis C. Hull  
Betty Bogert  
Bob Blackburn Workshop  
Bonnie Schiffman  
Bruce Stiglich  
Carmen Cartness Johnson  
Carol Adler  
Charles Kessler  
Chongkiat Ong and Patrick Jordan  
Claudia Stone  
Clifford Brooks  
Dan Bozza  
Darryl Curran  
Dean Edwards  
Denise and Bruce Eckenrode  
Deseree McFarland  
Dominican Nuns of the Perpetual Rosary  
Monastery of the Immaculate Heart  
of Mary in Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Dr. Eric Friedman  
EFA Robert Blackburn Printmaking  
Workshop  
Elizabeth Bogert  
Estate of Arnold Rose MD  
Estate of Peter W. Scheinman  
Estate of Todd Walker  
George Dukov  
Gerard and Cathleen Sova  
Gregory Ratcliff and Dr. Glen Gabert  
HCCC art students Christian Bergner,  
Jeremy Bonn, Mervin Florez, Daniel Guzman,  
Denise Harvey, Shakira Howard,  
Bryanna Lashley, Elmer Ledesma, Paulina  
Mazur, Aja Moore, Christina Nada, Bernadette  
Nepomuceno, Lorenzo Pickett,  
Carlos Rodriguez, Edwin Sebastiani, Louis  
Valderrama, and Yamel Veras, under the  
supervision of Prof. Laurie Riccadonna  
donated their time and talent to making  
the beautiful World of Possibilities mural.  
James White  
James E. Byrne  
Janet and Keith Frerichs and Joan  
and Chris Madormo  
Joe Waks  
John Crowley T.O.P. and Ronald Threm  
Jon Rappleye  
Joseph Cundari

Judy Mensch  
Karen Fink  
Kathleen Smith-Wenning  
Kay Deaux  
Kenda North  
Kiki Romero  
Kirsten, Kyra, and Edward Eyerman  
Linda Butti  
Lisa Parker Hyatt  
Mandy Otero  
Manny Panagilinas  
Mariano Molino  
Marion Grzesiak  
Mark Wurm  
Marthalie Furer  
Martina Nevada  
Melanie Walker  
Melissa Macalpin  
Michael Cox  
Michael Stone  
Mickey Mathis  
Nancy Stein  
Nancy Cohen  
Nancy Schenman-Wheeler  
Nancy Webber  
National Gallery of Art Museum Shop  
New Jersey Museum's Remember  
9/11 Project  
New Museum of Contemporary Art

Norma Feldman Nathan and Tom Nathan  
Pioneer Boys and Girls of America  
Print Club of New York  
Prof. Joan Rafter  
Prof. Elaine Foster  
Prof. Shannone Caruana  
Provident Bank  
Represent Us  
Rich Zaborowski  
Richard La Rovere  
Robb and Jill Kushner  
Robert Fichter  
Robert Von Sternberg  
Rodriguez Calero  
Sheila Pinkel  
Sister Carol Marie Scanlon, O.P.  
Sisters of the Blue Chapel  
Sperry Family  
Steve Montgomery  
Steve Fretz  
Suda House  
The late Renne Fotouhi and Henry  
Scholder  
The Museum Project  
Tony Mendoza  
Victor Landweber  
Woolpunk  
And others.



# DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

presents

## PROGRAMS:

**Art + Feminism Wikipedia Edit-a-Thon,**  
April 7, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Advance registration required to receive the Zoom link. To register, please visit <https://shu.libcal.com/event/7528016> or email [info@arthouseproductions.org](mailto:info@arthouseproductions.org).

**Holocaust Remembrance Day featuring Pieter Kohnstam**

Thursday, April 8, 12 p.m. Register at <https://zoom.us/j/97608460977?pwd=NEZ4VlhMaFo5am5Qb2E1ejVzTWlzd09; Meeting ID: 976 0846 0977; Passcode: 317048>

**Community Artist Interviews  
Hudson Presents: Conversations  
with Contemporary Artists**

Friday evenings at 6:30 p.m. On Zoom & Facebook Live. For more information, email: [gallery@hccc.edu](mailto:gallery@hccc.edu)

Hosted by HCCC adjunct professor Michael Lee, this four-part series explores the work of one contemporary New York/ New Jersey area artist in each episode. Guests not only discuss their studio practice but also talk "artist to artist" about the events and culture that have shaped them as people. Spirited and informal, you will enjoy these intimate conversations and share in looking at examples of these artists' works.

April 16: Lucas Thorpe, photographer, [www.lucasthorpe.com](http://www.lucasthorpe.com)

**Wellness Wednesdays  
with Mindful Play Yoga**

<https://www.facebook.com/mindfulplayyoga/>  
Facebook Live at 10 a.m.

April 14, "Kindness Begins with Me" Inspired by "Kindness" by poet Naomi Shihab Nye

**Saturday Drawing Series  
with Katie Niewodowski**

Zoom and Facebook at 2:30 p.m.

For more information, email: [gallery@hccc.edu](mailto:gallery@hccc.edu)

**April 17 and May 8**

Join artist Katie Niewodowski for 45-minute drawing sessions throughout the spring semester starting Saturday, February 20 at 2:30 p.m. This workshop series is designed for beginners but will inspire drawing love for all levels. Niewodowski is a Jersey City-based artist well-versed in creating and inspiring a love for drawing. She currently teaches drawing at HCCC and Montclair State University. To learn more visit: [www.katieniewo.com](http://www.katieniewo.com)

**Young Masters Art Classes  
with Kristin DeAngelis**

<https://www.facebook.com/youngmastersartclass>  
Facebook Live Only on Fridays at 10 a.m.

APRIL 16: Laurie Riccadonna:  
Earth Day Celebration

**In Full Color with Summer Dawn**

<https://www.facebook.com/infullcolorus/>  
Facebook Live and Zoom on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

**April 14: Step Up to the Mic**

At least one budding poet activist from the HCCC and Jersey City community will work with director Summer Dawn to edit, craft and refine their activist poetry live! Then, we'll celebrate National Poetry Month with works by other great local poets.

**April 28: Jersey City...In Full Color**

Three writers from Jersey City share original works including activist poetry and monologues.



A display of the poem "in heaven's wakanda" by Rashad Wright, Inaugural Poet Laureate of Jersey City. His work was recently featured in the Benjamin J. Dineen III and Dennis C. Hull Gallery.

JOIN THE WORLDWIDE MOVEMENT  
TO AMPLIFY FEMALE ARTISTS  
THROUGH WIKIPEDIA

**ART + FEMINISM**  
LECTURE +  
WIKIPEDIA EDIT-A-THON

EDIT-A-THON • APRIL 7 • 10:00AM-1:00PM EST • ON ZOOM

HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE CULTURAL AFFAIRS

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

ART HOUSE  
CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF ARTS IN JERSEY CITY  
ARTHOUSEPRODUCTIONS.ORG

**For more information, email: [gallery@hccc.edu](mailto:gallery@hccc.edu)**

## HUDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE SPEAKER SERIES EVENT FEATURES DR. CADY COLEMAN

On Wednesday, March 24, Hudson County Community College presented the next speaker in the Spring 2021 Speaker Series, Dr. Cady Coleman, as part of its Women's History Month programming.

Former NASA Astronaut and Air Force Colonel Dr. Cady Coleman is a veteran of two Space Shuttle missions and a six-month expedition aboard the International Space Station (ISS), spending 180 days in space.

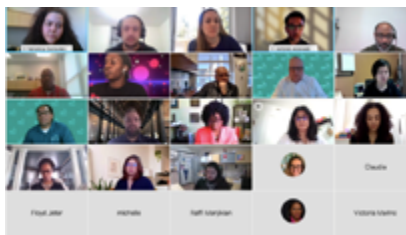
Dr. Coleman served as the Lead Robotics and Lead Science officer aboard the ISS, performing the second-ever robotic capture of a supply ship from the station. On ground at NASA, Dr. Coleman served as the Chief of Robotics within the Astronaut Office and as the lead astronaut for integration with NASA's commercial partners.

In keeping with the HCCC President's Advisory Council on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (PACDEI) practices, the College encouraged members of the community to participate by submitting questions they had for Dr. Coleman.

Those who wish to access the Speaker Series event featuring Dr. Coleman on March 24, 2021 may do so by visiting <https://youtu.be/btXXytYAXLg>.



## NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION



The President's Advisory Council on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (PACDEI) has been working with individuals, employees, departments, and community members on programs and initiatives that improve diversity, equity, and inclusion for

HCCC's students, faculty, staff, and all we interact with. Everyone's input and support are greatly appreciated! We had a successful month of activities that included a monthly meeting with PACDEI members and attendance by our special guest from Achieving the Dream (ATD) Coaches, Dr. Mary Fifield and Dr. Rene Garcia and Cochairs Heather DeVries and Dr. Sheila Dynan. Drs. Fifield and Garcia engaged with PACDEI members in a lively discussion on the efforts of DEI at Hudson. They shared an outside perspective of all the group work that ATD is engaged in around the nation. PACDEI is happy to announce the addition of a 4th overarching goal that will have direct focus on student success. This was one of the recommendations from our ATD coaches. Dr. Aaron Fitcher, President of the New Jersey County of Community Colleges will be a guest at our April meeting on Thursday, April 15th. We are eager to hear about the work that they are doing and will share updates with you later.

PACDEI members are actively engaged in planning, implementing, supporting, and leading a wide range of activities. These include, but are not limited to, the completion of updates to our portal page and developing other platforms to share information with the community. We also want to thank Lisa Dougherty and Omar Williams for helping us out with the PACDEI external Website. PACDEI member Dr. Paula Robertson is working closely with the Bayard Rustin Center for Social Justice and will be providing two workshops for the college on April 23rd and April 30th. The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Student Passport Program (DEISPP), a leadership and DEI development preprogram specifically for students, is going strong. This is just a small sampling of the efforts of PACDEI. We encourage the entire college community to participate in these efforts that support and expand diversity, equity, and inclusion at our institution and the communities we serve.

PACDEI Cochairs will continue sharing updates at the President's Town Hall each month and look forward to seeing you at one of our events, programs, and trainings. Please contact us if you would like to discuss how we can collaborate or support your DEI efforts. Please follow the efforts of PACDEI's DEI initiatives via the website or contact us directly by sending an email to [pacdei@hccc.edu](mailto:pacdei@hccc.edu).

## Summer Classes at HCCC!

You can earn up to 12 credits over the summer!  
**APPLY NOW!**

<b>Summer I:</b> Mon., May 24 – Wed., June 30, 2021	<b>Online Session A:</b> May 24 – July 3, 2021
<b>Summer II:</b> Tues. July 13 – Wed., August 18, 2021	<b>Online Session B:</b> July 8 – August 18, 2021



"It's not just a college – HUDSON is HOME!"  
Gabriela Melendez,  
Valedictorian, Class of 2020

**Veteran Priority Registration and Continuing Honors Student Registration**  
Begins March 31

**Online (for students who are eligible to take Eng 101), In-Person, and Remote Registration** Open to all students April 1

**For In-Person and Remote Registration Appointments** go to  
[www.hccc.edu/remoteservices](http://www.hccc.edu/remoteservices)

**We are open On-Ground, Hybrid and Online!**

**View Course Schedule at** [www.hccc.edu/schedule](http://www.hccc.edu/schedule)

**For more information contact:**  
[admissions@hccc.edu](mailto:admissions@hccc.edu) | 201.714.7200  
[www.hccc.edu/apply](http://www.hccc.edu/apply)



## Spring 2021 OPEN HOUSE

**Join us in-person and outdoors  
at our Culinary Plaza Park!**

*Covid-19 safety protocols will be followed, and masks will be required.*

**SATURDAY, MAY 1**

161 Newkirk St, Jersey City, NJ 07306

**10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

If cancelled due to weather, the event will take place on Saturday, May 8.

**Join us to:**

Receive a tour of our campus

Meet with Financial Aid and find out if you are eligible for free tuition

Complete an Admissions application (\$25 app fee will be waived)

Engage with different academic programs

Speak with students, faculty, and staff

**REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.**

**Choose the time that works best for you!**

**10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.:**

<https://tinyurl.com/OHsession1>

**11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.:**

<https://tinyurl.com/OHsession2>



[www.hccc.edu/openhouse](http://www.hccc.edu/openhouse)



## PHI THETA KAPPA HONOR SOCIETY NEWS



Walid Achkir, Kevin Gajraj, Yerani Heredia, and Mario Gonzalez volunteered at the cleanup of the shores of the Richard J. Sullivan Natural Area behind the Nature Center at Liberty State Park on March 6.



Congratulations to Beta Alpha Phi Chapter, its members and officers, and advisor Prof. Ted Lai on the following recognition received at the Middle States Regional Awards in April:

- Chapter Member Hall of Honor – Adoum Allamine
- Chapter Officer Hall of Honor – Darciane Barbieri-Eltz and Pedro Moranchel
- 4th Most Distinguished Officer Team (Darciane Barbieri Eltz, Abou Traore, Courage Lahban, Racco Maristela, Sofia Pazmino, Christopher Galarza, Mariame Sow, and Pedro Moranchel)
- 4th Most Distinguished Chapter Project
- 11th Most Distinguished Chapter
- Five Star Chapter
- Middle States Gold Chapter
- Reach Chapter

## HCCC RECEIVES PERSONAL CARE ITEMS FROM SHARP BUSINESS USA



In March, Hudson County Community College received a donation of alcohol wipes and hand sanitizers from Sharp Business USA. The College is most grateful for these donations which will help keep the College community safe.



HCCC Food Pantries now offer fresh and frozen food options for those in need.

For a complete list of items to donate, visit the food pantry page at <https://myhudson.hccc.edu/food-pantry>

### KEEP IN CONTACT WITH US!



### The food pantries hours of operation are:

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND FRIDAY  
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**JOURNAL SQUARE**  
2 Enos Place (Building J),  
Jersey City, NJ  
201-360-4109

**NORTH HUDSON**  
4800 John F. Kennedy Blvd.,  
Union City, NJ (Building N)  
201-360-4709

### Center for Teaching, Learning, and Innovation (CTLI)

### presents a STAFF AND FACULTY WORKSHOP



### "4th Amendment Rights and Reform Initiatives"

With Presenters:

Keith Stith, Chief of Detectives, Hudson County Prosecutor's Office (Ret.);  
HCCC Adjunct Instructor, Criminal Justice  
Richard Walker, HCCC Criminal Justice Lecturer

**FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 2021- 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.**

The workshop addresses how citizens can be aware of illegal searches and seizures in addition to reform initiatives that combat unethical activity by law enforcement officers. Staff and faculty will be able to provide this information to students, family, friends, and colleagues after attending this workshop.

### CLICK HERE TO JOIN US

<https://tinyurl.com/HCCC-CTLI>

**Meeting number: 132 834 6843**

**Meeting password: NPcEf5exX93**

## CONTINUING EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEWS



*Chef Rene Hewitt and co-host Anthony Spirito welcome guest Pete Peterson to "Sunday Brunch: Live" on March 7.*

### The Culinary Club at HCCC Continuing Education —Join us on Facebook!

The Culinary Club at HCCC Continuing Education (CE) offers delicious recipes, interactive, educational culinary videos, live culinary shows, and a place where members share fun food photos and tips. Whether you are a novice cook or a true gourmet, this lively Facebook group has something to offer every foodie at heart.

Chef Rene Hewitt moderates the group of approximately 300 active members. Chef Rene is an HCCC alum, CE's Soul Food and Vegan Cooking Instructor, and the host of "In the Kitchen with Chef Rene Hewitt" on Comcast in New Jersey.

"Sunday Brunch: Live!" is a new series available live on Zoom, through The Culinary Club's Facebook group. Show creator, Chef Renee Hewitt, hosts the show along with his co-host, home cook and Culinary Club member, Anthony Spirito.

"I created Sunday Brunch Live on Facebook as a way to express, through conversations on Zoom with my co-host and selected guests, the different types of cultures, recipes, food, and challenges people are surviving today. The Covid-19 pandemic has set the entire nation back and it has changed the way people are living and communicating." – Chef Renee Hewitt

On March 7, the show welcomed home cook, Pete Peterson, and on March 21 Chef Mark Mclean will visit the show. Sunday Brunch: Live! is sponsored by R.L. Schreiber Spices and Bases and Da Kine Hawaiian. The show will air on Sundays at 4 p.m., bi-monthly. Join The Culinary Club at HCCC Continuing Education to be updated on future shows: [facebook.com/groups/culinaryhccc](https://facebook.com/groups/culinaryhccc)



*Therese Camporeale,  
CE Project  
Management  
Student*

### Project Management Certificate Student: Therese Camporeale

During Fall 2020, the Continuing Education Department offered a new Project Management Certificate program that promised participants would gain a comprehensive understanding of various principles and processes involved in managing a project of any size in any industry effectively. Continuing Education developed this program alongside the instructor, Susan Seradilla-Smarth, who has over 18 years of experience as a Project Manager Professional (PMP) and is a Certified Six Sigma Black Belt and Certified SCRUM Master. The goal of the program is to provide participants with strategies and practical hands-on tools to drive successful project outcomes. The certificate program provides participants with 36 hours of Project Management education, which is necessary if they want to receive certification from the Project Management Institute (PMI.)

Continuing Education interviewed Therese Camporeale, a student from the first cycle of the Project Management Certificate program.

#### What inspired you to take the Project Management Certificate program at HCCC?

I came to Continuing Education after my employment was affected by the pandemic in early 2020. I was looking for a substantial change in my career prospects and started researching Project Management. I noticed that more companies were pivoting toward Project Management and Agile Processes, with PMI projecting growth in their industries over the next 10 years.

#### What sort of experience did you already have managing projects?

I worked on projects during my time in education, travel, media, and non-profit organizations and knew this was the path I needed to take.

#### What is your opinion of the program?

The PMP Certificate course at HCCC lived up to the course outline, syllabus, and my expectations!

#### What were your biggest takeaways from the program?

The program provided me with a comprehensive view of all the Knowledge Areas and Process Groups, and it was presented in a lively and interactive manner.

#### What is your opinion of the program's instructor?

Professor Susan Serradilla-Smarth provided online presentations, real-world PM examples, opportunities for discussion, and fun learning tools for my success.

#### What certification did you achieve after you completed the program?

Thanks to the program I met the educational requirement to sit for a PMI certification. Along with my experience, I qualified to take the CAPM certification exam and recently passed the exam!

#### Congratulations! What are your next steps?

I look forward to applying my enhanced skills to the growing PM career marketplace.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES

*Now is the time to explore all services available to your business. Classes are affordable and can be covered through New Jersey Business and Industry Association grant funds, pending eligibility and availability. All classes can be offered online or at your location.*

Call Maritza Reyes at 201-360-5383 or email at [mreyes@hccc.edu](mailto:mreyes@hccc.edu)  
[www.hccc.edu/BusinessIndustry](http://www.hccc.edu/BusinessIndustry)

**Basic Computer Skills—Remote Work/Digital Literacy**

**Communication Skills (Written And Verbal)**

**Customer Service Skills:**

**Developing Good Management Skills:**

**English As A Second Language:**

**Microsoft Office Skills (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Access, Outlook):**

**Problem Solving**

**Spanish For The Workplace**

**\*additional classes available**





## HCCC AND NJCU JOIN FORCES FOR NEW CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRANSFER PROGRAM AGREEMENT

*Continued from page 2*

transfer up to 60 credits towards a B.S. in Criminal Justice degree at NJCU. They will enter NJCU as fully matriculated students with junior-year standing. A minimum of 39 credits in Criminal Justice are taken at NJCU to complete the bachelor degree requirements.

An especially important feature of the new agreement provides HCCC students with access to NJCU financial aid counselors who will assist with early financial planning and furnish estimates of

financial aid and scholarships that are useful in creating a four-year plan for completing the Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice degree.

Individuals with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice are eligible for a wide variety of rewarding careers in law enforcement, the court systems, and corrections systems on the local, state and federal levels.

## Mental Health Resource for Our Students: TalkCampus



### What is TalkCampus, and how can it help?



Online global mental health support network



Peer-to-peer support



Access to instant, any time 24/7

### College Students who have participated in peer support has been linked to:



An increased ability to cope and feel less alone



Higher levels of self-esteem and confidence.



A greater sense of well-being and resilience.



**TalkCampus** is a team of volunteers who are trained in active listening and providing support online. They have safeguards in place to monitor in real-time crisis and will launch interventions as needed. If they detect that a student is in crisis, they will launch platform interventions and escalate support in **real-time**. TalkCampus will have direct communication with H.C.C.C. Mental Health Counseling & Wellness.

As an added benefit, HCCC students can volunteer & get training on how to be a peer support buddy.

Access TalkCampus 24/7:

<https://www.talklife.co/hudson-county-community-college>

If you have any questions, please contact Doreen M. Pontius, M.S.W., L.C.S.W. at 201.360.4229 or email [mentalhealthcounseling@hccc.edu](mailto:mentalhealthcounseling@hccc.edu)



## Lucky You! There's Still Time to Win!

Enter the  
Lucky Odds Raffle

**Grand Prize**  
40% of ticket sales

Enter the Hudson County  
Community College Foundation's  
"Lucky Odds Raffle!"

**Tickets \$50 each**

**Second Prize**  
6% of ticket sales

Winning ticket will be drawn on  
**Thursday, April 15**

**Third Prize**  
4% of ticket sales

**To purchase a raffle ticket or  
for more information:**

Please contact Mirta Sanchez at  
[msanchez@hccc.edu](mailto:msanchez@hccc.edu)  
or (201) 360-4004.

[www.hccc.edu/foundation](http://www.hccc.edu/foundation)



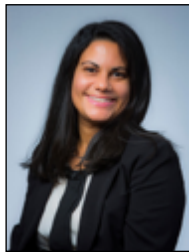
## PROFESSIONAL CAREER PATHS



Heather DeVries



Nadia Hedhli



Jennifer Rodriguez



Sharon Wilson-Harriott

On March 23, 2021, the Office of Human Resources organized Professional Career Paths, an employee panel, in honor of Women's History Month. The panelists were Nadia Hedhli, Associate Professor, STEM; Heather DeVries, Dean of Academic Affairs and Assessment; Jennifer Rodriguez, Coordinator of Early College Programs; and Sharon Wilson-Harriott, Assistant Controller in Finance. Each reflected on their professional career path along with the opportunities and challenges of work-life balance. The conversation was facilitated by Anna Krupitskiy, Vice President for Human Resources.

Over 45 in attendance, the audience shared that it was an uplifting experience to learn about the successes and setbacks of fellow female colleagues. Many viewed themselves in some of the speakers' experiences, like balancing demands of parenting and professional development pursuits. The audience appreciated the opportunity to hear and learn from women of HCCC that often work behind the scenes to keep our institution and programs running. The program had a significant impact from hearing the career journeys of other women and discussing strategies, goals, and the importance of mentorship.

## OUR STORIES UNTOLD

*Continued from page 4*

A staff member appreciated the discussion on "[t]he truthfulness that we all have a level of bias within us and that we need to own it and acknowledge it!" Professor Sweeting shared that we should not ignore the fact that we all have some level of racism. Instead, we should confront it, own up to it, and then we can move on from there. If you don't, "you won't help anybody else's heart," she stated. Pastor Sweeting shared the importance of talking to his black sons and other young men about encounters with law enforcement. He noted that these conversations must happen early and as an ongoing reminder. He also added that Any significant change will happen over time and that it is important to see one's role and involvement in a movement and use each individual space to move this forward. Pastor Sweeting further appreciated HCCC's work, as part of this movement, on diversity and what the college represents of its student body.

"The entire *Untold Stories* program is powerful in connecting employees," a participant stated. *Our Stories Untold* storytelling emerged as a partnership between the Office of Human Resources and the President's Advisory Council on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (PACDEI). This series highlights the HCCC community members' personal, educational, and professional experiences, advice, and insight. Each program aims to introduce some of our outstanding and influential colleagues to enhance inclusion and create community. Do you know someone with an inspirational story? Do you want to tell your story? Tell us by contacting PACDEI@hccc.edu.

## UPDATE ON HCCC'S STUDENT SUCCESS WORK

*Continued from page 3*

venues. How Team 2.3 continues to reach out to other institutions with programs similar to Hudson Helps to learn about their best practices. Co-leads: Dr. David Clark & Dr. Ara Karakashian.

**How Team 2.4 ("Academic Supports")** is launching the next cohort of the Student Success Academy and is exploring other ways to leverage the effectiveness of this model. Co-leads: Joseph Caniglia & Jacqueline Safont.

**How Team 2.5 ("Pre-Nursing")** had its first meeting on March 15. How Team 2.5 is beginning its work by examining curricular pathways for students whose goal is to gain admission to HCCC's Nursing Program. Co-leads: Heather DeVries & Dr. Sheila Dynan

**Did something catch your eye? How Teams always welcome new members. To get involved, contact Heather DeVries (hdevries@hccc.edu) or Dr. Sheila Dynan (sdynan@hccc.edu).**

CHASE | yearup

# OWN YOUR future

Are you between the ages of 18-26?  
Year up can get you on a path towards a rewarding professional career in just one year.

EARN AN AVERAGE OF  
**\$42,000**  
A YEAR



Year Up is a one-year career development training and paid internship program for motivated young adults, ages 18 to 26, seeking to launch a career in Business or Tech. To speak to a Year Up recruiter, visit <https://bit.ly/YUNYNJ1to1>.

The Office of Admissions & College Enrollment  
Hudson County Community College  
[admissionsnyj@yearup.org](mailto:admissionsnyj@yearup.org) | (646) 341-6800



## HUDSON COUNTY EXECUTIVE TOURS NEW HCCC STUDENT CENTER

*Continued from page 3*

the building, as are “green” elements for energy efficiency and the sustainability of resources.

The HCCC Student Center’s first floor includes Student Lounges, Student Welcome Center, full-service Café, Veterans’ Lounge, and Security Command Center. The second floor houses offices for Student Life, Student Government and a variety of other student organizations, as well as an Open Lounge, and a large, Multipurpose Room for events and meetings. The office of the College’s Security, Custodial and Facilities Departments, and storage space are located on the lower level.

The new HCCC Student Center is the latest of several construction projects undertaken by HCCC that have transformed Journal Square. It is

representative of the College’s mission to serve its diverse communities with inclusive educational programs and services that promote student success, socioeconomic mobility, and provide resources for growth. Students can meet outside the classroom, share ideas and values, assist and advise one another, pursue career and employment opportunities, develop better understanding of diverse cultures, and build longstanding relationships.

The project was financed with Chapter 12 funding, a state program for county colleges that is funded through State and County capital bond financing. All of the College’s capital improvement endeavors have been completed with appropriated capital. As a result, the College does not carry any capital debt, and not one dollar of student tuition is utilized for debt.

## HCCC JOINS #CCMONTH CAMPAIGN TO IMPROVE AWARENESS OF VALUE, NEED TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY COLLEGES

*Continued from page 2*

dents, and particularly for the most demographically and socioeconomically diverse students. They guarantee fair admissions for all students. They offer supports for adult students who have to work to support their families. And without community colleges, many American students would not be able to access higher education at all.

Despite all this, many American people wrongly believe that community colleges are inferior institutions, and in most states, universities receive significantly more per-student state support than community colleges do. These negative attitudes and disparities support and encourage ongoing socioeconomic and demographic disadvantages and inequities in the United States.

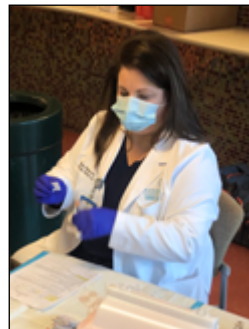
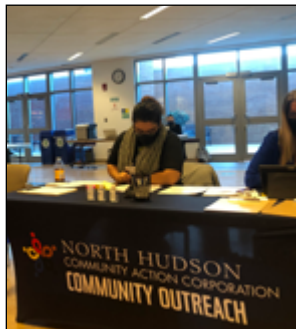
“Community colleges are engines of diversity, equity and inclusion,” said ACCT President

and CEO J. Noah Brown. “They give opportunities to all students, and they support all students throughout their educations, whether they attend to attain an associate degree or certificate, intend to transfer on for a bachelor’s or higher degree, or they take one or a few courses to learn a new skill or expand their horizons.”

The campaign is expected to have strong participation from community colleges and their supporters throughout the country.

A #CCMonth campaign toolkit is housed on the ACCT website, [acct.org](http://acct.org), including a logo, sample op-eds and press releases, social media posts, board resolutions and additional information. ACCT’s Twitter account, @CCTrustees, will be sharing information from member colleges throughout the month to amplify awareness.

## HCCC FACULTY SERVES ON FRONT LINES ADMINISTERING COVID-19 VACCINE



Scenes from the North Hudson Community Action Corporation vaccination drive at the North Hudson Campus. Kathleen Meehan-Hart, Lecturer-Nursing, is pictured at right.

## DON'T MISS Hudson County Community College OUT of the BOX PODCAST



THIS MONTH'S TOPIC IS:  
**HCCC A.S. in Business Degree  
& Women in Business**

WITH GUESTS:

**Professor Elana Winslow and  
Alumna Betsy Apena**

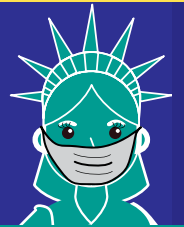


Tune in to our monthly podcast for timely discussion about education, people, programs, events, issues, and solutions that affect those who live and work in Hudson County.

Each session is hosted by HCCC President, Dr. Chris Reber and features special guests and HCCC students.

## PLEASE PROPERLY WEAR YOUR FACE MASK

### FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES



- Wash your hands before and after touching the mask.
- Touch only the bands or ties when putting on and taking off your mask.
- Make sure the mask fits to cover your nose, mouth and chin. If you adjust the mask to cover those areas, wash your hands before and after.
- Make sure you can breathe and talk comfortably through your mask.
- Wash reusable masks after each use. If the mask is disposable, discard it when visibly soiled or damaged.

# HCCC Learning Communities

## VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSION

### Wednesday, April 14 at 5 p.m.

Discover how Learning Communities at HCCC are transforming your educational experience through:

- Linked groups of students who progress together (the community)
- Smaller, informal and interactive classes
- Support of two or three professors that coordinate class work, assignments and field trips
- Developing leadership skills as well as insight into your next phases of education or career
- Having an Academic Coach available to you inside and outside of the classroom
- And more!



## REGISTER NOW!

<https://tinyurl.com/HCCC-LCinfo>

## QUESTIONS?

Contact HCCC Learning Communities Program at (201) 360-4162 or e-mail [LC@hccc.edu](mailto:LC@hccc.edu).

## NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF FACULTY AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Thanks to funding from Hudson County Community College's foundation, we have secured an institutional registration to attend the NISOD 2021 Virtual International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence to be held on April 28-30, 2021. This is good news for our college as it allows us to provide timely and valuable professional development on a variety of topics. The Office of Faculty and Staff Development worked closely with Planning and Development and Academic Affairs to create this opportunity. Special thanks to the Foundation, Nicholas Chiaravalloti, VP for External Affairs and Senior Counsel to the President, and Dr. Darryl Jones, Vice President for Academic Affairs Darryl Jones for their continued support.

## REGISTER TO ATTEND THE NISOD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TEACHING AND LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE!

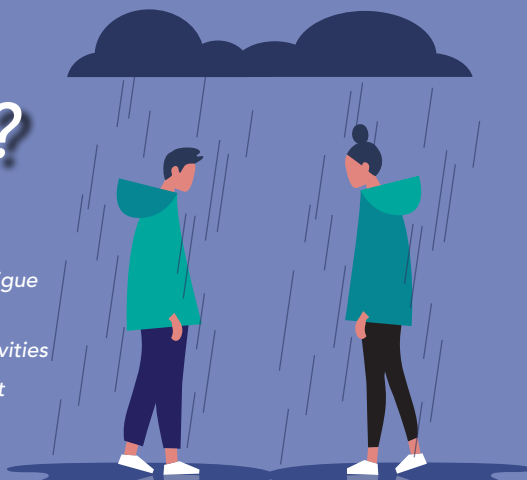


HCCC's institutional registration allows all employees to register **at no cost** for this event. Registering for the conference will allow you to engage in 70 live sessions, three general sessions, as well as a series of pre-recorded sessions, and countless opportunities to connect with colleagues throughout the event. In addition, you will have access for 12 months to watch sessions you may have missed during the live event.

All you need to do to participate without cost is register here using your college email address. The full program and schedule for the conference can be found on NISOD's website NISOD's 2021 International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence. All who plan to attend the virtual conference must individually register using the link above. The link allows you to register underneath Hudson County Community College's institutional registration. For questions, please contact [williams@hccc.edu](mailto:williams@hccc.edu).

## Feeling the Blues?

- Difficulty concentrating
- Feeling irritable or angry
- Feelings of exhaustion and fatigue
- Feelings of loneliness
- Lack of pleasure in normal activities
- Losing interest in activities that you normally enjoy
- Sleeping much more or much less than normal
- Trouble making decisions
- Withdrawing from friends and family



**YOU ARE NOT ALONE.**  
Talk with people who get you.



### TalkCampus

24/7 Support  
<https://www.talklife.co/hudson-county-community-college>

### New Jersey Suicide Prevention HOPELINE

24/7 Peer Support & Suicide Prevention  
1.855.654.6735  
<http://www.njhopenline.com>

### Crisis Text Line

Text HELLO to 741741  
Free, 24/7, Confidential

Visit our CARE Team portal page at <https://myhudson.hccc.edu/hudson-care> for more information and additional resources.

### Mental Health Counseling & Wellness

(201) 360-4229  
[mentalhealthcounseling@hccc.edu](mailto:mentalhealthcounseling@hccc.edu)

To seek services please visit –  
<https://myhudson.hccc.edu/mental-health-counseling-wellness-center>

We are still here for you!  
Click here to complete a Care Form  
<http://www.hccc.edu/wecare/>

### Staff and Faculty Resources:

Employee Assistance Program  
Emotional support line at 833-848-1764  
Visit <https://eap.ndbh.com>  
(Username: hccc Password: guest)



## CALENDAR

### Thursday, April 1

Online Self-Registration for eligible students and registration with an Advisor for all other students begins

### Friday, April 2 to Sunday, April 4

Easter Break – College closed

### Wednesday, April 7

Art + Feminism Wikipedia Edit-a-Thon, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Advance registration required to receive the Zoom link. To register, please visit <https://shu.libcal.com/event/7528016> or email [info@arthouseproductions.org](mailto:info@arthouseproductions.org).

### Thursday, April 8

Holocaust Remembrance Day, 12 p.m. Join at [https://zoom.us/j/9760846097?pwd=NEZ4VlhMaFo5am5Ob2E1ejVzTWIzd09](https://zoom.us/j/9760846097?pwd=NEZ4VlhMaFo5am5Ob2E1ejVzTWIzd09;); Meeting ID: 976 0846 0977; Passcode: 317048

### Friday, April 9

Subscription Dining Luncheon Series, 11:30 a.m., Culinary Conference Center, 161 Newkirk Street

Fourth Amendment Rights and Reform Initiatives, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Join via Webex: <https://tinyurl.com/HCCC-CTLI>; Meeting number (access code): 132 834 6843; Meeting password: NPcEf5exX93

### Tuesday, April 13

Meeting of the Hudson County Community College Board of Trustees, 5 p.m.; <https://tinyurl.com/HCCC-AprilBOT>; Passcode: 707285, Telephone: US: +1 929 205 6099; Webinar ID: 930 4882 7206; Passcode: 707285

HCCC Personal Fitness Training and Exercise Science Virtual Info Session and Announcement of New Public Health Program, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Join via Zoom at <https://jclibrary.zoom.us/j/81024757331>

### Wednesday, April 14

Wellness Wednesdays with Mindful Play Yoga, 10 a.m., <https://tinyurl.com/HCCC-Yoga>

Learning Communities Virtual Information Session, 5 p.m. Join via Webex: <https://tinyurl.com/HCCC-LCday>

### Friday, April 16

Young Masters Art Classes with Kristin DeAngelis, 10:30 a.m., <https://tinyurl.com/4srxwywh>

The Doctoral Journey: Examining Mentorship, 11 a.m. Join at <https://tinyurl.com/c98mu23p>; Meeting number (access code): 132 028 6423; Meeting password: uHPgX3fBm98

Subscription Dining Luncheon Series, 11:30 a.m., Culinary Conference Center, 161 Newkirk Street

HCCC Speaker Series featuring Jerald Walker, 2 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. Join via Webex: <https://tinyurl.com/HCCC-Walker>

### Saturday, April 17

Saturday Drawing Series with Katie Niewodowski, Zoom and Facebook at 2:30 p.m. For more information, email [gallery@hccc.edu](mailto:gallery@hccc.edu)

### Friday, April 23

Subscription Dining Luncheon Series, 11:30 a.m., Culinary Conference Center, 161 Newkirk Street

### Monday, April 26

Virtual Town Hall Meeting, 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Join at <https://hudsonccc.webex.com/hudsonccc/j.php?MTID=m1d4f85123b5f9d35b12aaee68b543878>; Meeting number: 132 241 7042; Password: AprTH2021

### Tuesday, April 27

Speaker Series featuring Series featuring Executive Editor and Inclusion Leader at America's Test Kitchen, and Founder of SheChef, Inc., Chef Elle Simone Scott, 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. via Zoom. To submit a question for Chef Elle Simone Scott, email [studentlife@hccc.edu](mailto:studentlife@hccc.edu) by April 19 with "Chef Elle Simone Scott" as the subject line. Register at <https://hccc.life/chefscott1>

### Wednesday, April 28

All College Council General Meeting, 3:30 p.m. Join at <https://tinyurl.com/HCCC--accmeet>; Meeting number: 132 535 3609; Password: sharedgovernance

Speaker Series featuring Series featuring Executive Editor and Inclusion Leader at America's Test Kitchen, and Founder of SheChef, Inc., Chef Elle Simone Scott, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. via Zoom. To submit a question for Chef Elle Simone Scott, email [studentlife@hccc.edu](mailto:studentlife@hccc.edu) by April 19 with "Chef Elle Simone Scott" as the subject line. Register at <https://hccc.life/chefscott2>

### Thursday, April 29

Open Pedagogy and OER workshop, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Join via WebEx: <https://tinyurl.com/HCCC-OER>; Meeting number (access code): 132 935 5209

Learning Community Day, 2 p.m. Join via Zoom: <https://tinyurl.com/rfseh8rz>; Meeting ID: 894 1459 1310; Passcode: OTBGVO

### Friday, April 30

Subscription Dining Luncheon Series, 11:30 a.m., Culinary Conference Center, 161 Newkirk Street

Professional Association Cultural Committee in collaboration with Student Life and Leadership workshop featuring Dr. Dean Blumberg, 1 p.m. <https://tinyurl.com/Lecture-Blumberg>



## 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](mailto:alumni@hccc.edu).

## ALUMNI CORNER

*Continued from page 16*

### What advice would you give to recent HCCC graduates?

My advice to recent HCCC graduates is to look for any opportunity in your field. If you do not have the experience, an internship is the best opportunity to excel your skills and start a career. Never stop learning, and keep educating yourself with diverse podcasts, webinars, seminars, and so on. We always learn something from other experts. Be determined on what you want to work on and networking help you open several doors. I had to knock on several doors to learn and be where I am right now on my personal experience. Nothing is

impossible if you are determined and optimistic. One door will be open when you need it. Remember... Never give up on your dreams.

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

My best advice for those students is to enjoy their college experience and be involved in all the activities that HCCC has for them. Nowadays, companies are looking for leaders with diverse skills, and these activities will help them boost their skills in the workforce. Learn to manage your time with work and school. Make space for additional activities as part of your class. Education is a powerful tool to be successful and help you achieve your goals.

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 Union City, NJ 07087  
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## SECAUCUS CENTER

Located at the Frank J. Gargiulo Campus of  
 the Hudson County Schools of Technology  
 One High Tech Way  
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# ALUMNI CORNER

## Betsy Apena

Class of May 2017

### Associate of Science – Business Administration

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

I grew up in a business environment since I was a child. My parents opened diverse businesses; unfortunately, they failed several times due to the lack of knowledge and skills. One of the main reasons my parents did not attend college was that they did not have time and had many family responsibilities. Once I immigrated to this country, I worked hard to learn and have my own business. After I saved a great deal of money, I invested in a small business. Unfortunately, I failed for the lack of understanding of the language and knowledge of business management. For that reason, I did not want to repeat the same mistake as my parents. I decided to come back to college and became the first-generation student in my family to achieve a college degree. Hudson County Community College is near to where I live and affordable compared to other universities. Also, the quality of learning is high compared to other community colleges.

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

My favorite memory is the diverse activities that HCCC has for all the students and the learning experience. I was a shy student and afraid to talk in class presentations. I joined and became a student leader of the most prestigious Honor Societies, including Phi Theta Kappa and the National Society of Leadership and Success. Also, I joined Accounting & Business Club, the college newsletter, and many more. My advisors and mentors exposure me to diverse events and activities to conquer my fears. I love to be part of the learning experience and visited various cities representing the school, including Miami at HACU event, Delaware and Pennsylvania at Phi Theta Kappa events, and many more.

#### How did you become interested in Business?

After I failed to manage my own business due to a lack of knowledge, I decided to return to college and pursue a Business Administration career. Even though I had the experience, I believe education is an essential key to success. The Business environment is a competitive career and demand a lot of diverse of skills and critical thinking to take better decisions. After I got my A.S. in Business Administration, I decided to pursue my bachelor's degree at Rutgers Business School in Newark in Supply Chain Management. I remember I took this decision after I took a Business class at HCCC. Professor Elana Winslow explained me the opportunities this career could bring to my career. I always thanked her for the valuable advice.

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

My time at HCCC was awesome. English is my second language, and my writing skills were lacking. I struggled writing essays during ESL classes. For that reason, I decided to join the newsletter college and start writing small stories. The editor assisted me

with the proofreading and gave me diverse ideas to enhance my writing skills.

I went to tutoring classes many times. In the end, I started writing smoothly, and my essays improved. Later, I was part of the Psi Beta Honor Society, where I got more support. Being part of the National Society Leadership & Success, I could boost my leadership skills and time management. Being Phi Theta Kappa International Honors Society student leader, I could work on team projects, including research and case analysis. Being Accounting and Business Club member, I competed in case competitions between other colleges, increasing my skills. Learning is a process and being part of these activities improved my communication skills and helped me develop myself as a professional. Consequently, I could handle management positions and be part of essential projects in various jobs. Therefore, I recommend all students to be part of these valuable activities.

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

I am a Project Coordinator in a Service Company. My day starts with checking my emails and organizing the team's schedule on various jobs or projects. Also, I manage the logistics and coordinate with suppliers the diverse projects weekly. I am always busy with multiple meetings and creating proposals for our customers. Besides, I am a Supply Chain Consultant who assists some companies in the reverse logistic area. It is an online part-time job, and I am always on my emails.

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

My most memorable project is to audit and oversee the warehouse from my last job. I just took a Lean and Six Sigma class at Rutgers University, and my boss gave me this project. It was a fantastic experience to put all the learning experiences in the class into action. I had the opportunity to create reports and communicate with managers from all levels to increase effectiveness and solve problems. Teamwork was vital for this project. I could be able to manage this project thanks to my experience at HCCC.

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

I am always feeling inspired by all businesswomen who are successful and strong these days. During my time in college, the founders of the Laundress were my biggest inspiration. Gwen Whiting & Lindsey Boyd are wonderful women who created an eco-friendly company and gave the opportunity to all women who want to be successful. They worked hard and developed their business on another level. I started part-time when I was in ESL, and they allowed me to study and work to become a professional woman. They always encouraged me to continue my studies and educate myself. After my graduation, they gave me the opportunity to hold management positions, and I am always grateful for it.



*Continued on page 15*