

# CT Board of Regents for Higher Education



## *At a Glance*

**MARK E. OJAKIAN, *President, Connecticut State Colleges & Universities***

**Jane Gates, *Provost & Senior VP for Academic and Student Affairs***

**Elsa Núñez, *Vice President for State Universities***

**David Levinson, *Vice President for Community Colleges***

***Established – 2011***

***Statutory Authority – Title 10a of the Connecticut General Statutes***

***System Office – 61 Woodland Street, Hartford, CT 06105-2337***

***Organizational Structure – The CT Board of Regents for Higher Education is the governing board for the Connecticut State College and University (CSCU) System. The CSCU System is comprised of 17 public institutions of higher education, including 12 community colleges, four state universities, and one distance learning college.***

**The Board consists of 21 members, including 15 voting members: nine members are appointed by the Governor, four members are appointed by legislative leadership, and two members are elected by students (the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Student Advisory Committee). The six non-voting, ex-officio members are the Commissioner of the Department of Education, the Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development, the Commissioner of the Department of Labor, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health, and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Faculty Advisory Committee.**

## **Members (as of 8/28/17)\***

Matt Fleury, Chair

Yvette Meléndez, Vice Chair

Richard J. Balducci

Aviva D. Budd

Naomi K. Cohen

Felice Gray-Kemp

Dr. Merle W. Harris

Holly Howery

David R. Jimenez

JoAnn Ryan

JoAnn H. Price

Elese E. Wright

**Ex-Officio, Nonvoting Members:**

Delwyn Cummings  
Kurt Westby  
Dr. William Lugo  
Dr. Raul Pino  
Catherine H. Smith  
Dr. Dianna R. Wentzell

\*Student Regents Hector Navarro and Juan Carlos Leal graduated in May. Their seats are currently vacant, pending elections for Student Advisory Council Chair and Vice Chair.

***Campus Leaders***

Asnuntuck Community College – James Lombella, President  
Capital Community College – Duncan Harris, Interim Campus CEO  
Central Connecticut State University – Zulma Toro, President  
Charter Oak State College – Ed Klonoski, President  
Eastern Connecticut State University – Elsa Núñez, President  
Gateway Community College – Paul Broadie, Interim President  
Housatonic Community College – Paul Broadie, President  
Manchester Community College – Tanya Millner-Harlee, Interim Campus CEO  
Middlesex Community College – Steven Minkler, Lead Campus Administrator  
Naugatuck Valley Community College – Daisy Cocco De Filippis, President  
Northwestern Connecticut Community College – Michael Rooke, President  
Norwalk Community College – David L. Levinson, President  
Quinebaug Valley Community College – Carlee Drummer, President  
Southern Connecticut State University – Joe Bertolino, President  
Three Rivers Community College – Mary Ellen Jukoski, President  
Tunxis Community College – James Lombella, Interim President  
Western Connecticut State University – John B. Clark, President

***Full-time Employees (Spring 2018) – 5,306***

***Part-time Employees (Spring 2018) – 7,690***

***Recurring Operating Expenditures: Operating Fund – \$579,385,000***

***General Fund – \$564,664,000***

***Building Value – Cost Basis: \$2,495,199,000 – Less Depreciation: (\$948,271,000) =  
Net Book Value: \$1,546,928***

***Contents Value – Cost Basis: \$423,905,000 – Less Depreciation: (\$255,727,000) =  
Net Book Value: \$168,178,000***

***Total Student Enrollment (Fall 2017) – 82,410***

## **Mission**

*The Connecticut State Colleges & Universities contribute to the creation of knowledge and the economic growth of the state of Connecticut by providing affordable, innovative, and rigorous programs. Our learning environments transform students and facilitate an ever increasing number of individuals to achieve their personal and career goals.*

## **Statutory Responsibility**

The responsibility of the 17 institutions that make up the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities is to provide access to quality and affordable higher education to the people of the state of Connecticut. The Board of Regents for Higher Education is charged with setting policies to carry out that responsibility while aligning with the following goals:

- to ensure that no qualified person be denied the opportunity for higher education on the basis of age, sex, gender identity or expression, ethnic background or social, physical or economic condition,
- to protect academic freedom,
- to provide opportunities for education and training related to the economic, cultural and educational development of the state,
- to assure the fullest possible use of available resources in public and private institutions of higher education,
- to maintain standards of quality ensuring a position of national leadership for state institutions of higher education,
- to apply the resources of higher education to the problems of society, and
- to foster flexibility in the policies and institutions of higher education to enable the system to respond to changes in the economy, society, technology and student interests

## **Public Service**

The chief beneficiaries of CSCU's work are the students served by our institutions. CSCU gauges its effectiveness by engaging in a variety of continuous improvement activities that surround assessment and the analyses of key performance indicators.

Assessment focuses on a data-driven process of educational change, and assesses student learning outcomes, student employment/income outcomes, courses, programs and the institutions that make up CSCU. The analyses of key performance indicators track opportunities for improvement in numerous areas, for instance; student success measures at different points in the post-secondary experience, student retention and graduation rates, changes in the diversity of the CSCU student, faculty and employee populations, as well as peer institution/system comparisons.

## **About Connecticut State Colleges & Universities**

- In the last two decades, CSCU institutions have conferred over 260,000 degrees and

certificates.

- Connecticut State Colleges and Universities educate Connecticut students, and a small but growing number of out-of-state students. More than 97% of CSCU students are Connecticut residents.
- With over 83,000 students, the CSCU system is the second-largest public college system in New England.
- About 37% of all college students in Connecticut attend a CSCU institution.
- Approximately 87% of CSCU graduates remain in Connecticut after receiving their degrees.
- Non-credit programs, such as those targeting workforce training, serve an additional 30,000 students.

## **Improvements/Achievements for fiscal year 2017-2018**

### **Connecticut State Colleges & Universities**

In response to feedback from NEASC, President Ojakian proposed and the Board of Regents endorsed a revised “Students First” plan. The revisions changed the original plan in three significant ways: it extend our timeline for the single accredited community college to 2023 thereby keeping the 12 accreditations of the colleges, develop a more gradually paced academic planning and transition process, and maintain the current department chair structure.

The revised plan is estimated to save \$17M when fully implemented versus the \$23M as originally proposed. Our revised plan also includes:

- Regionalizing our community colleges and creating a new leadership structure. We will hire three Regional Presidents in spring 2019, while maintaining the 12 college-based CEO, CFO, and CAO positions per NEASC standards.
- Aligning college curricula statewide to support high quality educational programs and seamless transfer, including adoption of a statewide general education curriculum.
- Implementing initiatives such as guided pathways to improve and increase student enrollment, retention, and completion.
- Integrating administrative functions into centralized shared services.
- Sharing resources across campuses to stabilize critical college functions, reduce redundancies, and leverage expertise.
- Hiring a number of positions to raise additional income for the system including a VP of Enrollment Management and a CSCU Development Officer.

As part of Students First, the CSCU Student Success Center launched the Guided Pathways initiative, part of a national movement to redesign college practice and policy to help students efficiently earn credentials, transfer, and attain jobs with value in the labor market; similar recent efforts in other states have led to dramatic increases in college completion rates. As part of this effort, CSCU received a grant and pro bono consulting from Social Venture Partners. The grant supported three teams of CSCU faculty, staff, and administrators working throughout the summer on redesigning students’ first year experience, general education core, and academic and

career planning

Financial aid experts from across the CSCU system worked in coordination with their peers at the University of Connecticut to develop uniform policies and procedures to open institutional aid for undocumented students. In accordance with PA 18-2 this aid will be available to undocumented veterans immediately, and all other students in 2020.

In partnership with the Department of Transportation, over 57,500 students had access to our UPASS at participating schools. This pass allowed students to access all CT bus and rail public transit options for a \$20 fee per semester.

Partnered with Connecticut Public Television (CPTV) to produce *College Bound: A Look into Connecticut State Colleges & Universities*, a new and original documentary about the CSCU system and public higher education in the state. The documentary features CSCU students, high school students and guidance counselors, employers, professors and alumni sharing their personal stories and discussing the impact going to college has on Connecticut families. The documentary also provides relevant insight into topics such as the rising cost of college tuition, what college rankings really mean, what skills employers are really looking for, and what the difference is between a public and private college.

In March of 2018, CSCU received a Safe and Friendly Environment (SAFE) grant (\$750,000) from the federal Office of Violence against Women. In addition to prevention education and bystander intervention training for students the new funding will focus on:

- Disability related and trauma informed training for Campus Resource Team members and CSCU employees to support students who have been victims of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking
- Resource guide/toolkit for students who identify as LGBTQ that includes statewide resources/support services
- Resource toolkits for CSCU faculty and staff and students on sexual violence prevention, stalking prevention and intimate partner violence prevention, including safety planning
- Confidentiality training for CSCU faculty and staff.

In partnership with GE, Sunlight Solar Energy, and the CT Green Bank, solar systems were installed at Manchester and Middlesex Community Colleges as well as Southern CT State University in the fall of 2017. Additionally, CSCU entered into 12 Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) to purchase 100% green solar electricity at a discounted rate at 9 of our CSCU institutions to date (Asnuntuck CC, Central CT State University, Housatonic CC, Manchester CC, Middlesex CC, Quinebaug Valley CC, Southern CT State University, Tunxis CC, Western CT State University). Over \$10M of savings will be realized over the life of these PPA contracts.

### **ASNUNTUCK COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

- Through a generous grant from the Aurora Women and Girls Foundation, Asnuntuck Community College's Women's Leadership Institute is expanding its program "Launch Your Leadership Journey" to Tunxis. This program is designed to equip female students with the

skills, knowledge and confidence they need to succeed in the classroom, in the community and in their careers.

- A cohort of 25 international students came to Asnuntuck for the summer for a seven-week, non-credit program that included ESL, Job Skill Essentials, Introduction to Dental Assisting and Introduction to Early Childhood Education. The students were also able to job shadow at several businesses in the area and were officially welcomed with a Proclamation from the Mayor of Enfield. ACC students befriended the visitors and volunteered as “conversation partners” to help these students strengthen their English skills.
- Asnuntuck has begun a Manufacturing Apprenticeship program wherein students combine 2,000 hours of on-the-job training with a participating employer with 144 of related instruction at the college for a period of one to five years commonly. This partnership allows both the apprentice to gain valuable experience and wages while the employer realizes a steady source of dependable, trained workers and reduced turnover.
- *G.I. Jobs* has selected Asnuntuck Community College to be designated as an official Military Friendly School every year since 2009. This honor ranks Asnuntuck in the Top 15-20% of all colleges and universities nationwide as a Military Friendly School.
- Asnuntuck continued to build upon its unprecedented enrollment growth from the previous year. The college came within one percentage point of matching its prior year fall enrollment increase of 18.5% in full-time-equivalent (FTE) enrollment, thus maintaining double-digit enrollment growth over a two-year period. Asnuntuck experienced an increase of 4.6% in FTE enrollment in the spring, thus building upon an increase of 11% in the previous year.
- Asnuntuck Community College was named one of the Top 25 Two-Year Trade Schools: Colleges That Can Solve The Skills Gap by Forbes in August 2018.

### **CAPITAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

- Capital Community College was recognized as one of the 10 best two-year colleges for adult learners in the nation, according to a survey by the Washington Monthly magazine in its September-October 2017 edition. Capital ranked 10th among two-year schools based on federal government education data and the College Board’s Annual Survey of Colleges. The statistics were combined with “seven general measures of colleges’ openness and responsiveness to adult students and to how well those students fared once they left.”
- The Connecticut League for Nursing honored five faculty emerita of Capital Community College as part of the League’s 65 over 65 Nursing Legacy Recognition program. Professors Joanne Anfinson, Pat Duclos Miller, Linda Kapinos, Cathy Pavalock and Julia Rosa received the legacy award for their careers in educating a generation of RNs in the Associate in Nursing degree program. Capital’s nationally accredited nursing program, established in 1974, was the first established at Connecticut community colleges and the region’s largest RN education programs.

- The CCC Foundation was the recipient of a new \$40,000 grant from the Widows Society in support of women's scholarships (June 2018). Over four years the Widows Society has provided scholarships to Capital students totaling \$130,000.
- The 10th anniversary of the Career Advancement Program funded by Travelers as part of EDGE (Empowering Dreams for Graduation and Employment) was celebrated at the 12th Changing Lives Gala. Travelers launched its EDGE initiative at Capital in 2007, providing grants targeting academic and career success. The nationally recognized program now serves students at nine colleges and universities in four states.
- Taking advantage of Hartford's nationally acclaimed theatrical and performance venues the College established a Theatre Arts Associate in Arts Degree (Fall 2017) that prepares graduates for employment in various aspects of theatre production, such as stage and production management and performance. Utilizing place-based instruction that sprung from Capital's unique Hartford Heritage project, the Theatre Arts program is connected to a variety of professional theaters in Hartford, including Hartford Stage, Theaterworks, Hartbeat Ensemble and Sea Tea Improv.
- Capital joined with the University of Saint Joseph and University of Hartford to secure a CT Next grant. The project created a 10-week summer interdisciplinary Integrated Solutions Laboratory Experience (ISLE) that brought students together for a learning experience focused on targeted product development and entrepreneurship. Four Capital Architectural Engineering interns were part of a team that developed products to help students with special needs.
- Capital was part of the core team in securing Hartford's Working Cities Challenge grant of \$450,000 over three years funded by the Boston Federal Reserve. The initiative is creating a South Hartford Young Adult Employment Zone. The College will provide transitions/developmental instruction and support in the target area for 18-29 year olds in an Education and Training Consortium.

### **CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY**

- President Toro collaborated with President Ojakian to obtain approval from the BOR to offer in-state tuition to students from the University of Puerto Rico displaced by Hurricane Maria. This facilitated the implementation of the Airbridge Program, which has benefitted 37 unique students. Two of these students received their undergraduate degree from CCSU in the most recent commencement ceremony.
- The Nursing Learning Center was unveiled on April 11, 2018. This state-of-the-art facility is equipped with mannequins and medical equipment simulating real-life situations including an emergency room and home care scenarios.

- The dedication of the new Dance Education Center honoring Professor Catherine J. Fellows for her generosity, vision, leadership and impact on CCSU's Dance Education program was held on April 22, 2018.
- Private scholarship dollars to support students continued to increase with the amount awarded exceeding \$2,000,000 during fiscal year 2018. The CCSU Foundation distributed \$1,944,127 through a new scholarship process to 1,173 unique students and another \$139,034 was awarded to 283 student-athletes.
- A partnership with the New Britain CREC Academy of Science and Innovation and the New Britain High School has been established. It is anticipated that between 50-60 students from these two schools will enroll in courses in the School of Engineering, Science and Technology in fall 2018.
- CCSU established the Blue Devil Direct program with the West Hartford School District. The goal of the program is to expose students from underserved populations to the CCSU teacher preparation program.
- A collaboration with the Hartford Public Schools (HPS) was established with the goal of creating a pipeline to CCSU for graduating Hartford High School and Bulkeley High School seniors displaced by Hurricane Maria. As of today, 18 students are enrolled in a bridge program developed to facilitate the transition of these students to CCSU. In addition, we will be introducing current HPS 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade displaced Puerto Rican students to CCSU through participation in the High School Student Research Apprentice Program CCSU offers in collaboration with the UCONN Health Center.
- The first year of the CCSU/Ana Grace Project was highly successful. In addition to sustaining a full-year presence in six elementary schools in New Britain, the year saw the birth of the "Love Wins" online lecture series through Continuing Education, available to on-and-off campus community members. Through the collaborative, a professional development event was held at CCSU for over 900 teachers, a Broadway experience for over 200 local high school students was facilitated, and our signature event "Finish the Race" was held with the participation of six elementary schools and two middle schools impacting over 600 kids.
- A new multidisciplinary collaboration involving the Department of Nursing, and the Health Psychology faculty group was established with the support and encouragement of President Toro. The collaborative is located at 600 East Street in New Britain, and its goal is to provide services to underserved populations. Specifically, the goal is to encourage individuals and families to develop self-care, through methods of psycho-education and training and through nursing education to promote well-being.
- CCSU provided accommodations to over 800 Eversource employees and contractors to assist with the clean-up resulting from the tornadoes that hit Connecticut on May 15, 2018.



- Through the CCSU/Ana Grace Project a “community day” with author and speaker Chelsea Clinton was offered which brought 1,000 guests to our campus. This “community day” served as a fundraiser for our signature event “Finish the Race.”
- Dr. Michele Dischino, professor of Technology and Engineering Education, received one of the Connecticut Science Center's STEM Achievement Awards on April 24. Dischino received the Petit Family Foundation Women in Science Leadership Award, which recognizes women working in a STEM field who make significant efforts to support other women and encourage girls’ interests in STEM.
- Dr. Fumilayo Showers, an assistant professor of Sociology, received a 2018 Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship this spring. She was one of 55 recipients of the prestigious fellowship, which draws applicants from the across the United States and Canada. The fellowship pairs African host institutions in Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, and Uganda with an African-born scholar to work on host-submitted projects in research collaboration, graduate student teaching, and curriculum co-development. Showers traveled to Ghana this summer to work with her colleagues at the University of Cape Coast.
- Dr. Stanley Kurkovsky, a professor of Computer Science, garnered a \$5 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to establish a program aimed at increasing the diversity of students who pursue careers in computer science, mathematics, and physics. Over the past decade, Dr. Kurkovsky’s work to increase the number of students preparing for STEM careers has earned him two previous NSF grants.
- Linda Sagnelli, CCSU Head Volleyball Coach, was named the 2017 Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Coach of the Year and Northeast Conference (NEC) Coach of the Year. Under her leadership, CCSU volleyball earned its third Sportsmanship Award after winning a share of the 2017 NEC regular-season title. Sagnelli’s players also earned the American Volleyball Coaches Association’s Team Academic Award for the 11th straight year in recognition of the team’s cumulative 3.30 grade point average and success in reaching its Dig Pink fundraising goals on behalf of the Side-Out Foundation.

### **CHARTER OAK STATE COLLEGE**

- Charter Oak State College (COSC) graduated the first class from the new Master of Science in Organizational Effectiveness and Leadership.
- Received licensure and accreditation for Early Childhood Education, Criminal Justice, Public Safety Administration, Sociology major from BOR. Previously they were all concentrations within the general studies major.
- Received licensure and accreditation for ADN to RN in Nursing major from BOR.
- Received approval to offer Health Care Administration and Health Informatics graduate degrees.

- Implemented tuition-match scholarship program for CT community college graduates.
- Signed dual enrollment articulation agreement with Manchester Community College for a number of allied health programs.
- Launched the PLA Audit Tool on the Charter Oak website at [www.charteroak.edu/pla](http://www.charteroak.edu/pla).
- Conducted seven (7) Connecticut Credit Assessment Program (CCAP) reviews of training programs resulting in 254 credits available and 12 reviews of professional credential resulting in 164 credits available. Last year's CCAP reviews included the Paramedic Training Programs at the Hartford Hospital new Center for Education, Simulation, and Innovation and the New Britain EMS Academy, making college credit available through Charter Oak for all three non-credit Paramedic training programs in the state. Credit was also made available for all four levels of EMS professional certification at both the national and state levels, as well as for others in areas such as Early Childhood Education, Healthcare and Health Information Management, and Business.
- Awarded 29 PLA Scholarships to 23 students, resulting in 116 credits.
- Received \$40,000 from the Widows' Foundation and \$25,000 from Hartford Area Foundation for the Women in Transition Program

### **Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium (CTDLC)**

- CTDLC's Student Engagement Services continue to positively impact student enrollment and retention at the CSCU institutions. This service includes targeted one stop services across multiple departments for eight community college campuses as well as outbound call campaigns to high risk students across the CSCU system. The call center is staffed by local college students, giving them the opportunity to develop professional workplace skills while performing a much needed service to Connecticut higher education institutions.
- CTDLC continues to lead an Open Education Resources (OER) awareness and adoption campaign throughout the State of Connecticut and the surrounding region to build awareness and facilitate the adoption of open education resources to increase student access to course materials while greatly reducing the cost of college textbooks. Documented students savings from OER exceed \$1 million for the CSCU system.
- CTDLC continues to expand and support the CT Education Academy program to facilitate state employee training and professional development through an online learning platform. The program has served over 16,000 unique users from 266 different agencies/organizations, accessing 52 different courses with over 14,500 enrollments since the program's inception in 2015.

- CTDLC's online tutoring program ([eTutoring.org](http://eTutoring.org)) continues to support colleges and universities across North America, collaboratively serving over 126 institutions across 17 states (including 11 in CT) and in one Canadian province.
- CTDLC continues to provide a virtual high school program for the Adult Education centers throughout the state. This partnership program with the State Department of Education provides online high school courses for adults seeking to complete their high school diploma and serves an average of 2,000 enrollments across 20+ adult education centers since its inception in 2003.

### **EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY**

- The University again achieved a balanced budget in 2017–18, with a \$500,000 positive balance and a reserve fund approaching \$28 million. Utility savings, open staff positions and other operating expense reductions were key to achieving a balanced budget.

To support academic innovation, faculty research and other institutional initiatives, Eastern received more than \$2.7 million in grant support in the past year, including almost \$1 million to support the Center for Early Childhood Education; \$1.3 million to support the Institute for Sustainable Energy (mostly from private foundations); continued support from the Davis Educational Foundation to support our Liberal Arts Core; and more than \$400,000 to support faculty and student research.

- The Health Sciences Major, launched in fall 2014, graduated its first four-year cohort, with students entering doctoral programs in medical schools and other graduate programs throughout New England. The program features state-of-the-art technology ranging from a confocal microscope to the only virtual dissection table in the CSU system.
- An Eastern student represented Connecticut for the fourth straight year and the 7<sup>th</sup> of 12 years at the annual Posters on the Hill Conference in Washington, D.C. In recent years, Eastern has sent more than twice as many students to the national Undergraduate Research Conference as all other Connecticut colleges combined; in 2018, Eastern was New England's leading institution at the conference.
- For the second year in a row, Eastern won the LEC Commissioner's Cup for having the top aggregate record across the conference's 19 sports. In addition, the men's soccer team received the national *Team Ethics and Sportsmanship Award* from the United Soccer Coaches Association for on-field sportsmanship.
- In fall 2018, the Communication Building is reopening after an extensive renovation. A new TV studio, a new radio station, new instructional equipment, a new tiered classroom, offices, classrooms, and an additional 2,000 square feet of space mark the renovation. Current major construction projects include the conversion of Shafer Hall into a residence hall (fall 2019) and the renovation of Goddard Hall (fall 2020).

- For the ninth time, Eastern was named a “Great College to Work For” by the Chronicle of Higher Education, excelling in seven of the 12 criteria and making the national Honor Roll for the fourth straight year. Also for the fourth year in a row, Eastern was the only public four-year institution in New England to receive this honor.
- Biology Major Jacob Dayton '18 was awarded the prestigious Goldwater Scholarship for undergraduates in STEM fields. Dayton is Eastern's first Goldwater recipient and the only student from a Connecticut institution to receive a Goldwater Scholarship this year. He intends to pursue a Ph.D. in molecular biology, and spent the summer of 2018 in an NSF-funded internship at Jackson Laboratories.
- Stefanie Dominguez '18, an Early Childhood Education and Communication double major, had her research thesis, “A Qualitative Study of the Play and Dual Language Learners in Preschool,” published in the Early Childhood Education Journal. Dominguez's thesis is one of the first to document social interactions of low English-proficient preschoolers, referred to as Dual Language Learners (DLLs), in classrooms. She has received national attention for her ground-breaking work.
- Political Science and History Major Adam Murphy '18 was honored as the University's second Fulbright Scholar in the past two years. Adam spent the past two summers in Indonesia, learning the language and conducting historical research. This fall he starts a master's program in Southeast Asia Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- Health Sciences Major Mariana Serrano '18 received a \$7,500 scholarship through the Biomedical Science Careers Program at Harvard University's School of Medicine. The scholarship, funded by Radius Health, a biopharmaceutical company in Waltham, MA, supported Serrano's senior year.
- A number of Eastern students conducted research this past summer in fields ranging from organizational psychology to plant genetics, supported by grants that included funding from the National Science Foundation the American Society of Plant Biologists.
- Biology Professor Matthew Graham has received a grant in excess of \$500,000 from the National Science Foundation for a multi-year genetics research project.
- Tarchee Brown '18 of Rockville, CT, was named to the national First-Team All America team for NCAA Division II men's basketball.

### **GATEWAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

- GCC has introduced Gateway to College (GtC). GtC is a national network committed to closing the achievement gap for disconnected high school students who have fallen behind or are in danger of dropping out and creates a plan where the community college and public high schools play a role in contributing to the success of high school students by re-engaging

them toward a high school diploma and a meaningful college credential. The Program will bring 50 high school students to Gateway Community College in fall semester, 2018. Over the months of May, June and July, the College has designed a three-semester dual enrollment program for these students, featuring seven career certificates. Funding for this initiative comes from a combination of resources from New Haven Public Schools and the Gateway to College national network.

- The GCC English and math bootcamp program provides students who place into developmental courses the opportunity to strengthen their math and English skills prior to the start of the semester, saving students time and money. Of the 377 students enrolled, 80% successfully completed the program and 76 % of those students moved up one or more course levels, allowing them to bypass a 6-credit developmental course.
- Financial Literacy Bootcamps helped 247 students and another 124 students scheduled to participate during the Winter Intersession. Because of the program's success, Guardian Life, Inc. expanded their sponsorship of the program to include 10 non-credit workshops that were offered through Spring 2018. Over 300 students participated in these outreach programs.
- GCC and local partners set up the first of its kind job fair held exclusively for the re-entry population in response to the growing need to reintroduce ex-offenders into the work community. Over 20 local employers and community organizations participated.
- GCC applied successfully to the U.S. Department of Education and became the Hispanic-serving Institution. Providing expanded opportunities to receive federal grants to support programs and services designed to target the Hispanic population and increase student success.
- GCC has become an Achieving the Dream institution exposing the college to grant opportunities and best practices in students services and teaching and learning.
- GCC received an Opioid Grant to address the opioid epidemic, hosting both community and college-wide awareness events.
- Gateway's Great Center obtained grants totaling \$362,000 for the delivery of non-credit programs and services that benefit the community, businesses and the Greater New Haven area.
- Subaru of New England and GCC's automotive department entered into a formal partnership to bring Subaru U to GCC. The program prepares automotive technology students to become Subaru technicians.
- GCC worked with Housatonic Community College (HCC) to establish an on-campus Family Economic Security Program to provide career, professional, financial and academic wrap-around support to qualified, low-income students. The program has a proven track record of yielding high retention and completion rates for student that have attended both NCC and HCC.

- GCC and HCC have partnered on a joint Surgical Technology program, with the aim of having Gateway a satellite program of the Housatonic program. The program shares a common plan of study and curriculum, and each college will admit 20 students for a total enrollment of 40 students. This collaboration is unique in that Gateway and Housatonic have also partnered with Yale-New Haven Hospital to offset some of the cost of the program. YNH has hired and funds the required Clinical Coordinator position for the program. The position is shared by both colleges. The Program Coordinator is also shared between Housatonic and Gateway, creating a structure that promotes a model of shared resources, collaboration, and cost savings.
- GCC and HCC Business Departments have partnered to offer a joint course that was in danger of cancelling on both campuses. One campus offered the courses in person and it was video conferenced to the other campus using a single faculty member. This prevented the course from being cancelled on both campuses.
- GCC and HCC partnered to establish a regional entrepreneurial resource for small business. A new Venture Lab, with locations at both campuses, provides resources, guidance and mentoring to budding entrepreneurs.
- GCC and Southern Connecticut State University expanded their partnership to include housing at SCSU for GCC students, SCSU class at GCC, and launched a new joint-degree program in Public Utility Management
- GCC partnered with sister institutions, Housatonic and Norwalk, to host a regional Peace Building Institute with a series of lectures and events focused on building a “culture of non-violence” in part supported by the Gateway Community College Foundation.
- GCC celebrated the opening of WNPR’s New Haven studios on the GCC campus with a day-long event that included live broadcasts, talks and tours of the new studio.
- GCC Professor of Biology, Eric Meyers, received statewide recognition as the recipient of the Campus Teaching Award by the Board of Regents for the Connecticut Colleges and Universities.
- Kellie Danso, Director of Student Engagement and Career Development was awarded an Ed.D. in Higher Education Administration from Northeastern University in May 2018.

### **HOUSATONIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

- HCC granted Leader College status by Achieving the Dream. Achieving the Dream leads America’s largest network of community colleges working to become strong engines of student and community growth. ATD’s proven model helps colleges identify emerging needs and ways to improve practices across the full spectrum of capacities required for whole-college reform. The Leader college status is awarded to institutions that have shown three

years of steady improvement in student success outcomes like graduation and remedial education completion.

- The Housatonic Student Success grant proposal was selected to receive \$1.3M in Title 3 Grant funding. The grant will enable the college to significantly advance our student success and retention efforts. The areas of focus will include student preparedness, advising, orientation, and professional development for faculty and staff in topics that include equity, retention, and completion.
- HCC named one of the top 150 community colleges in the nation by the Aspen Institute. The Aspen institute is committed to recognizing colleges that are concentrating on these priorities and showing success.
- HCC's Open Educational Resources (OER) initiative has saved students \$752,000 in the cost of textbooks
- HCC as part of our focus on being a global college, hosted 20 professors from two-year schools in China for approximately two months as part of a professional development exchange. Similar arrangements with other countries are being arranged in addition to a student exchange program.
- GCC and HCC have partnered on a joint Surgical Technology program, with the aim of having Gateway a satellite program of the Housatonic program. The program shares a common plan of study and curriculum, and each college will admit 20 students for a total enrollment of 40 students. This collaboration is unique in that Gateway and Housatonic have also partnered with Yale-New Haven Hospital to offset some of the cost of the program. YNHH has hired and funds the required Clinical Coordinator position for the program. The position is shared by both colleges. The Program Coordinator is also shared between Housatonic and Gateway, creating a structure that promotes a model of shared resources, collaboration, and cost savings.
- HCC Admissions Office initiated and held the first joint CT College Fair with GCC, NCC, and NVCC at HCC – sites will alternate between schools. All 12 colleges were invited.
- HCC, NCC, and GCC held the second annual CT Community College Day with Fairfield Public School
- Exciting Partnership with Southern CT State University (SCSU) – SCSU is now offering bachelor's degree level courses at HCC.
- HCC received an Opioid Grant to address the opioid epidemic, hosting both community and college-wide awareness events.
- HCC and GCC partnered to establish a regional entrepreneurial resource for small business. A new Venture Lab, with locations at both campuses, provides resources, guidance and mentoring to budding entrepreneurs.

- HCC and GCC Business Departments have partnered to offer a joint course that was in danger of cancelling on both campuses. One campus offered the courses in person and it was video conferenced to the other campus using a single faculty member. This prevented the course from being cancelled on both campuses.
- Housatonic faculty member Robin Avant was this year's recipient of the Board of Regents 2018 System-wide Teaching Award for the Connecticut Community Colleges.
- HCC employee Sharon Blackmon received her Master's in Business Management from Albertus Magnus College.

### **MANCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

- MCC finalized the CSCU Master Plan Update for Manchester Community College dated July 2017. The report, prepared by the planning firm of Perkins+Will, provides a detailed prioritized list of 10-year space needs. MCC worked closely with the BOR Facilities staff to complete this project. The Master Plan will help guide facility planning moving forward.
- MCC completed the solar energy project in August 2018. Working closely with the BOR Facilities staff and vendor, General Electric, solar fields were installed in two designated areas on campus. The use of solar power generated from this project will significantly reduce energy costs in the future.
- Manchester's Chef Challenge – 1<sup>st</sup> place MCC Culinary Arts Department (Ricardo Aragon, Associate Professor) – 2018, The event is hosted by the Manchester Chamber of Commerce and benefits the students showcasing the culinary arts program to potential recruits and providing practical experience for culinary students to participate in a professional chefs challenge.
- Hospitality students presented to CT General Assembly during the annual Tourism Coalition Day – Three MCC students testified in front of legislature regarding tourism marketing in CT and encouraged the legislature to promote tourism because more tourism leads to more jobs for community college graduates. William Williams, Assistant Professor and 12 students attended.
- National Society for Minorities in Hospitality National Conference – MCC won 1<sup>st</sup> place for chapter public relations (1 of 172 colleges and universities) beating out 4 year college participants. William Williams and five student participated.
- MCC student Morgan Patile was the first community college student elected to the national executive board for National Society for Minorities in Hospitality.
- MCC Foundation Extraordinary Volunteer Service award goes to MCC Tutor Terrence Hoye, a volunteer tutor in the Writing Center. Terry has offered hundreds of hours of his time



working with students to improve academic writing and he has mentored many MCC students through the transfer process to baccalaureate institutions.

- MCC's Continuing Education Department implemented a SNAP Education & Training program for SNAP students to attend select Allied Health and IT certification programs beginning fall 2018.
- MCC's Continuing Education Department Coordinated a CVS Externship program beginning summer 2018; to date, three Pharmacy Technician students completed an externship and all three were offered full-time positions.
- Vernon Regional Adult Based Education (VRABE) has named Manchester Community College the recipient of the John Ryan Award for a Distinguished Friend of Adult Education. This award recognizes the major contributions of a person or organization to adult education generally and VRABE specifically. John Ryan retired as a Bureau Chief from the State Department of Education, was a pioneer for adult education, and has always been a great friend of VRABE. He developed a model program for the State of Connecticut and was influential in our program becoming a Regional Program.
- In addition to being named the best CE program by Hartford Business Journal for the second year in a row, MCC was also awarded the Best Place to Take a Cooking Class by CTNOW.

### **MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

- The inaugural graduation ceremonies for the Center for Prison Education were held this past summer. CPE is a partnership between Middlesex Community College and Wesleyan University that allows students to enroll in a variety of courses and earn an MxCC associate degree in General Studies. Six inmates at the women's York Correctional Institution in Niantic and 18 inmates at the men's Cheshire Correctional Institution received their diplomas. Governor Dannel P. Malloy delivered the keynote address at Cheshire; playwright and Wesleyan faculty member Quiara Alegría Hudes spoke to the graduates at York.
- MxCC and Eversource Energy formed a new partnership to offer a non-credit Natural Gas Field Technician Certificate, a program designed to help develop the future workforce in the growing natural gas industry. Classes are held at Eversource's new state-of-the-art training facility in Berlin. The natural gas industry is experiencing tremendous growth in meeting and serving the energy demands of homeowners, businesses, and municipalities across Connecticut. Expanding access to natural gas and accelerated replacement programs have driven a higher demand for skilled resources to construct, maintain, and service the natural gas infrastructure.
- MxCC students and faculty spent 10 days in France thanks to a grant from the French Embassy in the U.S. known as the Transatlantic Friendship and Mobility Initiative—Partnerships for Innovation and Collaboration on Study Abroad Grants Program (PICSA). The grant, awarded to Tunxis CC as the lead institution for Connecticut CLICKS: The CT

Community Colleges' International Education Initiative, contributed to the funding for eight students and three faculty members from Middlesex, Asnuntuck, and Tunxis community colleges. The Connecticut contingent met with French students and teachers at several institutions near Paris to learn about French academics, STEM, and student life.

- MxCC hosted several events throughout the year that attracted nearly 1,000 high school students to our main campus. These included the sixth annual “Experience College Day”; Manufacturing Awareness Day; IT Tech Fest; a “360-degree Learning” symposium; and, master classes taught by visiting experts from the fields of Computer Technology, Digital Media Production, Early Childhood Education, and Veterinary Technology.
- Members of the Middlesex Institute for Lifelong Education (MILE) celebrated their 25th anniversary. Created in 1993 and sponsored by MxCC, MILE is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization with stimulating educational programs designed by its members. Membership is open to adults age 50 and older, who are retired, semi-retired or employed in Middlesex County. Currently, membership averages about 350 people from all walks of life.
- MxCC hosted a successful site visit with a NEASC evaluator assigned to assess the college’s Prison Education Partnership and its new satellite location in the city of Meriden at Platt High School. NEASC’s Commission on Institutions of Higher Education approved both substantive changes.
- MxCC was one of several Middletown-based organizations that participated in the successful application for a Working Cities Challenge Grant offered by the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. The Challenge is a grant competition designed to support cross-sector, collaborative leadership to improve the lives of low-income and people of color in the Constitution State, created in partnership with national and local philanthropy, the State, and private sector leaders.

## **NAUGATUCK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

- NVCC became the first community college in CT to award a total of more than 1,000 associate degrees and certificates in 2012. This achievement was repeated for the seventh year in a row in 2018 when the College conferred 1,080 awards. Since Academic Year 2007-2008, NVCC has seen a 102% increase in the total number of awards conferred, a 149% increase in the number of male graduates and a 530% increase in Hispanic student graduates.
- In September of 2017, the Aspen Institute named NVCC as one of the top 150 community colleges in the country, a signature recognition of high achievement and performance among 1,200 community colleges nationwide.
- In November of 2017, *Washington Monthly’s* “For Adult Learners--Among Two-Year Colleges,” ranked NVCC #38 nationwide for contributions to social mobility, research and service.

- The Association of College and Research Libraries named NVCC's Max R. Traurig Library as its 2018 Excellence in Libraries Award winner in the community college category.
- The Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center (AMTC) at NVCC continued to thrive, and the College expanded its curriculum to offer responsive programs in spring manufacturing. NVCC continued to report 100% job placement for its graduates from the classes of 2016-2018 at the Waterbury and Danbury campuses. NVCC also awarded the highest number of National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS) certifications of any community college in the CSCU system during AY2017-2018. Industry partner Praxair Corporation, donated \$150,000 in support of the AMTC program, and the Connecticut Community Foundation continued to provide scholarship funding for some AMTC students.
- NVCC continued to grow scholarship and jobs on campus funding to support an increasing number of students. Nicholas Donofrio, former chairman of the Connecticut Board of Regents, the Connecticut Community Foundation, and many individual donors provided funding that allowed the College to employ more students on campus. Generous transfer scholarships from Fairfield County's Community Fund and the Pascualano Family as well as President to President scholarships from the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities supported NVCC students upon completion of their associate degree and aided in transfer to a baccalaureate-granting institution.
- The Women's Giving Circle at the Connecticut Community Foundation awarded the NVCC Foundation a grant in the amount of \$10,000 to support the NVCC Women's LEAP (Lead, Empower, Achieve, Persist) Program. LEAP is designed to support the needs of at-risk women who, despite overwhelming challenges, have demonstrated resilience and tenacity in furthering their education. The program will enhance their college experience with relevant workshops and mentorships that help to improve retention to graduation, and prepare these women for meaningful careers.
- In the spring of 2018, NVCC opened the Student Food Pantry on its Waterbury Campus. Grants from the Connecticut Community Foundation, ION Bank and The Exchange Club of Waterbury allowed the College to purchase required equipment and stock the Pantry. Generous donations from the NVCC family and the community allowed shelves to remain stocked.
- The NVCC Foundation inaugurated its Leadership Breakfast fundraiser to support the educational needs of NVCC students, including scholarships, emergency services, jobs on campus, and the NVCC Student Food Pantry. The program featured a keynote address by George Bodenheimer, Current Acting Chair and Former President and Executive Chairman of ESPN.
- Dr. Sandra Valente secured a \$10,000 Opioid Education and Awareness Grant for NVCC that facilitated monthly NARCAN training for faculty, staff and students, the

implementation of a survey to identify the impact of substance abuse, and a conference, *The Opioid Crisis: A Call to Action*, organized by Dr. Valente and Dr. Kathy Murphy.

- Professor Steve Parlato published his second novel, *The Precious Dreadful*, and, in addition to numerous readings and appearances around the state, was the Keynote Speaker at the Tassy Walden Awards in Branford, CT, and presented at Teen Bookfest by the Bay in Corpus Christi, TX.
- Chelsea Clow, a 2018 graduate of NVCC's Physical Therapy Assistant Program, was awarded the 2018 Mary McMillan American Physical Therapy Association Scholarship Award.
- NVCC's student newspaper, *The Tamarack*, received six awards in the collegiate division at the 2018 Connecticut Society of Professional Journalists' Excellence in Journalism Awards ceremony.
- NVCC's fourth application for a Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence was approved for funding for Academic Year 2018-2019. NVCC will welcome Aguibou Bougobali Sanou, from Burkina Faso, West Africa. He is an international performer, specializing in African dance, and he will teach classes at the College and collaborate with community and college partners.

## **NORTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

- In August, Wallethub.com again ranked Northwestern as the highest ranked Connecticut Community College for the third year in a row, based on cost & financing, educational outcomes and career earnings and other outcomes of students.
- NCCC had nine of its current or former students recognized as leaders in the 40 Leaders Under 40 list prepared by Northwestern CT Chamber of Commerce
- NCCC was the first CT community college to partner with NROC.org, which is an open-educational resource providing free educational materials to students in English and math, preparing for college courses.
- NCCC partnered with a local bank to support several student scholarships in our Team Success Scholars program, supporting low income and minority students.
- NCCC received a \$600,000 National Science Foundation grant to build a STEM pipeline of students from Torrington public school's middle, high school and the college.
- The American Society for Microbiology (ASM) and the Indo-US Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF) awarded Sharon Gusky, professor of Biology at Northwestern Connecticut Community College (NCCC), a 2018 ASM-IUSSTF Indo-US Teaching Professorship. The Indo-US Teaching Professorship seeks to broaden scientific collaboration between India

and the United States by providing microbiologists in each country with opportunities to teach short interactive courses within a microbiology discipline abroad.

- Prof. Sharon Gusky was also named by Connecticut Science Center as a recipient of the STEM Achievement Award for 2018.
- President Rooke literally went Over the Edge, rappelling down a 15-story tower building to raise \$1,600 for local charities, and he also completed Harvard Business School's leadership program Strategic Perspectives in Non-Profit Management.

### **NORWALK COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

- NCC received a \$225,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to develop initiatives for closing the gender gap in engineering occupations and encouraging more women to study engineering in college. The three-year NSF grant will fund a pilot program on *Recruitment and Retention of Women in Engineering and Engineering Technology*.
- NCC made state history in May when 12 high school students became the first cohort to graduate from the Norwalk Early College Academy (NECA), a full two years ahead of schedule. Connecticut's first Pathways in Technology (P-Tech) school, NECA was jointly founded by NCC, IBM and the Norwalk public schools. Students in grades 9-14 simultaneously earn a high school degree and tuition-free NCC Associate degree within six years.
- The New England Board of Higher Education presented its 2018 Connecticut Higher Education Excellence Award to David L. Levinson, Ph.D., NCC President and CSCU Vice President for the Community Colleges, at a ceremony at the state capitol in Hartford. Dr. Levinson was honored for strengthening the relationship between higher education and the economic well-being of New England.
- NCC entered the second year of a five-year \$2.3 million Title V grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions program to expand and enhance its academic offerings and student success initiatives for Hispanic and low-income students. During the academic year, NCC refined its onboarding experience for new students, launched a new Student Orientation program, provided supplemental instruction in gateway courses, and began design of a Learning Commons to house student services.
- NCC and Temple University Japan (TUJ) formed an educational partnership to give students and graduates the opportunity to study abroad at an accredited American University in Tokyo. TUJ is Temple University's international campus. In July 2018, NCC Japanese Instructor Yumi McCarthy escorted a group of NCC students to TUJ, where they observed classes and learned about Japanese culture.

- NCC was awarded a 2018 TD Green Streets and Arbor Day Foundation grant to support innovative practices in community forestry and environmental education programming in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods in Norwalk, Conn. Funding was used to develop a horticultural therapy program for senior citizens and help children at a housing complex plant seeds and trees in their neighborhood.
- With funding from the NCC Foundation, NCC established a Makerspace on campus to help students turn ideas into tangible parts and products. The facility provides space and the latest tools and digital fabrication technologies to support innovation and entrepreneurship. Tools include a 3-D printer, milling machine, electrical building and testing equipment, and laser cutter.
- NCC was named the *2018 Best Online Two-Year College in Connecticut* by AffordableCollegesOnline.org, an online resource for higher education information and rankings.
- NCC established a Veterinary Technology Live Animal Lab on campus to give Vet Tech students “paws on” experience with animals. Faculty and staff bring in their own pets during specified classes for students to observe and practice routine procedures on. This contact with different species enhances the clinical experiences students receive off-campus at farms and veterinary practices. The Lab was funded by the NCC Foundation.
- NCC held a graduation ceremony in January for the first class to complete its new Retail Customer Service and Sales certificate program. The non-credit program is funded by a \$250,000 grant to the NCC Foundation from real estate developer General Growth Properties.
- Environmental Science Professor Erica Kipp received the 2018 Aquarion Environmental Champion Award for her significant contributions to the improvement of environmental quality through the protection and stewardship of natural resources.
- NCC student Sean Kin Yat Lam was named a 2018 Coca-Cola Academic Team Gold Scholar, one of only 50 gold scholars in the nation. He was selected for his outstanding academic achievement, leadership and community engagement.
- Adjunct English Instructor Meira Rosenberg won the Tennessee Mountain Writers Excalibur Award and a publishing contract for her first novel, *Indiana Bamboo*, a young adult book about a precocious 11-year-old sleuth.
- NCC student Catalina Arenas was named a 2018 Campus Compact Newman Civic Fellow. The program recognizes students who are committed to finding solutions for challenges facing communities nationwide.

## QUINEBAUG VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

- For the eighth consecutive year, QVCC students transferred to a four-year college or university or entered the workforce without any federal loan debt, thanks to the resolute generosity of donors to the QVCC Foundation's scholarship fund and the diligent efforts of the Financial Aid team.
- QVCC is one of 67 community colleges in the country participating in the Second Chance Pell Program. During the 2017-2018 academic year, QVCC enrolled 167 students from the Brooklyn Correctional Institution, and 12 graduated in June 2018 with a certificate in applied management. In addition, 18 earned Dean's List status for the spring semester.
- The National SEED Project (Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity) selected QVCC employees Dr. Pauline Clifford and Michelle Jones to participate in New Leaders Week and lead 10 SEED seminars during fall 2018. A peer-led professional development program housed at the Wellesley Centers for Women and Wellesley College, the National SEED Project advances greater equity and diversity on college campuses around the globe.
- With the leadership of Jakob Spjut, Associate Professor of Engineering Science, the Robotics Club captured first place in the Quadcopter Challenge sponsored by the NASA Connecticut Space Grant Consortium for the third consecutive year.
- QVCC's Marketing Department captured one silver and two bronze medals from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) for a photo, short video, and holiday card respectively. These awards recognize "outstanding achievement in design and communication at community and technical colleges".
- Responding to the "Me Too" movement, the *On Cue: Conversations at QVCC* Committee sponsored "Jane Doe No More: Sexual Assault Survivors Fighting for Change" featuring guest speaker Dylan Farrow, Woody Allen's stepdaughter. The organization seeks to make the prevention of sexual violence and re-victimization personal through education, awareness, advocacy, and support.
- Professor of English Jonathan Andersen's collection of poems, *Augur*, received the 2017 David Martinson - Meadowhawk Prize. Published by the Red Dragonfly Press, the book represents work completed during Professor Andersen's recent sabbatical.
- Director of Information Technology Jarrod Borek earned a doctor of business administration (DBA) from Walden University. His dissertation, "*Managerial Strategies for Maximizing Benefits From Electronic Health Record Systems*", explores the advantage of electronic records in the healthcare industry.
- Creative Commons, the license structure behind Open Educational Resources, selected Director of Library Services Jennifer Cournoyer to participate in a certificate program. With that credential, she is one of a few professionals in the nation to be OER Library-Certified.

- Fourteen-year-old Aurora Dziadul graduated *summa cum laude* from QVCC with a 3.98 GPA. Enrolling at the age of 11, she is the youngest graduate in the history of the College.

## **SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY**

- Launching a unique partnership with the City of New Haven and the city's school system, Southern broke ground for the Barack H. Obama Magnet University School. The \$45 million, 64,000-square-foot school, at 69 Farnham Ave., is expected to open at the beginning of the 2019-20 academic year. It will be the first New Haven school teaching early education on a university's campus, serving pre-K through fourth grade, with almost 500 students. The partnership will place Southern students pursuing a degree in education into Obama School classrooms, offering excellent opportunities for experiential learning. Within the school will be an "innovation center," where teachers will plan and strategize about new educational methods.
- Southern's Academic Science & Laboratory Building was certified LEED Gold, placing it among the top one-third most sustainably designed buildings in the state. Designed by Centerbrook Architects & Planners, the 104,000-square-foot building is the second to receive such recognition at Southern. The university's greening initiatives in building design, energy efficiency and student-driven recycling programs have received regional and national plaudits in recent years. Southern is also about to go solar in a big way, with more than 3,000 panels with an annual generation capacity of one million kilowatts to be installed on the west side of campus.
- After analyzing more than a thousand colleges and universities offering fiscal advisement services to students, the website LendEDU placed Southern at #29 in its annual Top 50 Financial Literacy Programs report - the second year in a row that Southern was recognized for excellence in this field. Southern's Financial Literacy and Advising Program helps students learn about payment plan options as well as financial aid and scholarship opportunities through one-on-one advising, presentations and resources.
- With its trans-Atlantic partner, Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU), Southern formed a consortium with institutions in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and Shanghai, China to promote international student exchange, particularly at the graduate level. Southern has a pending joint graduate program in coastal resilience with LJMU, the first of a portfolio of joint graduate degrees that will make the collaboration unique in American higher education. The university also launched its third doctoral program - a Professional Doctorate in Social Work - that is the first of its kind in New England. Due to the specialization now required for advanced employment and leadership roles in health and related fields, the social work program is expected to be a draw both locally and overseas, in countries such as China.
- Southern was officially designated as an inclusive, Breastfeeding-Friendly Campus by the Connecticut Breastfeeding Coalition (CBC) — the first college or university to receive this designation in the state and in the nation. The CBC recognized the university for its work in making the campus accessible to all breastfeeding mothers and providing lactation space to



students, faculty, and visitors: “Its unique approach to recruiting breastfeeding champions and alternate spaces alongside information and on-site professional lactation support set a new standard for providing necessary support on campus.”

- David Levine, chairman of Southern’s Art Department and an expert on art history, was selected for one of the most prestigious faculty awards within the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities system; the title of Connecticut State University Professor. During a long and distinguished career at Southern, Levine has received international acclaim as a scholar, in particular for his research on the Dutch and Flemish artists working in Rome during the Baroque era. His specific interest is in investigating the political dimensions of Dutch painting and the cultural competition with Italy.
- Southern’s Support Team for Undocumented Students partnered with Connecticut Students for a Dream (C4D) to provide leadership for campus-wide education in support of undocumented students. One of those students, senior and Presidential Merit Scholarship winner Jonathan Gonzalez-Cruz - born in Mexico City and brought to the U.S. with his family when he was 4 years old - was a leader with the Dream group. He led events for undocumented immigrants in the community and held presentations for educators who worked with this population. His lobbying efforts in Washington, D.C., secured the support of key members of Connecticut’s congressional delegation and the math and economics major helped argue successfully for passage of a Connecticut bill allowing undocumented students to apply for institutional aid.
- An assistant professor of public health at Southern will analyze the growing epidemic of opioid addiction – including heroin — in the New Haven-area suburbs. The study is being funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), which awarded a three-year, \$340,000 grant to SCSU’s Aukje Lamonica, and her research partner, Miriam Boeri, an associate professor of sociology at Bentley University, Mass. Lamonica specializes in social determinants of drug use and addiction, and her research in the area suburbs is one of three regions along the East Coast being examined as part of this study. Other major grants were awarded to psychology faculty members Julia Irwin: NIH, \$394,859 (Neurobiological Signatures of Perception of Audiovisual Speech in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders) and Kelly Stiver, National Science Foundation, \$325,618 (What are the causes and consequences of reproductive cooperation between unrelated male fish?)

### **THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

- Three Rivers introduced its first fully online degree offering, General Studies, A.S., for the Fall 2018 term, developing dedicated enrollment webpages and marketing efforts to promote it and another existing online program, the Library Technology Certificate. Three Rivers has also received designation as a NC-SARA (National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements) college, recognizing TRCC an authorized, accredited college of higher education able to offer online education to students in states across the county. This will enable Three Rivers to expand its online degree and certificate offerings.

- NEASC approved the Three Rivers Community College 5-year Interim Report which required TRCC to reflect on its progress since the last comprehensive review and to focus on the next five years. The report was created through a team effort with input drawn from across the College community.
- A newly accredited program, Certified Clinical Medical Assistant, A.S., was offered for the Fall 2018 term. It is fully enrolled and will train students for this high-demand position in the field of healthcare.
- Three Rivers opened three new spaces that support student success and quality of life: the newly renovated, state-of-the-art Tutoring and Academic Success Center (TASC) that now serves double the number of students; the Full Plate Food Pantry which now has a permanent, dedicated space serving students who are food insecure; and a gender neutral bathroom to better serve TRCC's diverse community.
- In its growing Manufacturing programs, Three Rivers began work on the development of a dedicated space to the TRCC Manufacturing and Apprentice Center in the new Grasso Tech building which will open for the Fall 2019 academic term. A high school Intro to Manufacturing program was successfully offered this summer in partnership with Norwich Free Academy, providing another pipeline for students into the manufacturing industry.
- Summer tuition grants, made possible by the Three Rivers College Foundation, were offered for the first time in 2017. They were given to 68 students for 78 courses, resulting in a 91% completion with 86% retention. Because of its success, it was continued this summer with 2018 grants being increased by 9%.
- On April 12, Three Rivers was the first community college in Connecticut to hold a Lavender Graduation, which pays tribute to students and their ally supporters for living their authentic lives. Renowned Transgender Youth Advocate Tony Ferraiolo was the keynote speaker.
- Three Rivers successfully completed the second year of its Second Chance Pell Grant program at Radgowski and York prisons. 48 students are enrolled for the 2018-2019 term. Two students, who participated in the inaugural year, were released from prison but have continued their studies in Environmental Engineering, traveling from Bridgeport for classes. Both were awarded Environmental Health and Safety Management Certificates at the May 2018 Commencement and are continuing their studies toward an associate degree.
- President Mary Ellen Jukoski was honored with the 2018 Distinguished Woman in Higher Education Leadership Administrative Award by the Connecticut ACE Women's Network in Higher Education (CTAWN) as well as being an honorary inductee into the premiere international engineering technology honor society, Epsilon Pi Tau.
- Three Rivers students were high achievers in very competitive programs.
  - Mackenzie Ansich, 2018 Nuclear Engineering Technology graduate, was named runner-up for the American Technology Education Association National Technology Student of the Year Award.

- George Simones, 2018 Graphic Design graduate, was chosen to participate the NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars onsite experience at Langley Research Center.
- Sam Day, Visual Fine Arts student, was the winner of the highly competitive and prestigious exhibition, the Community Exhibition and Transfer Scholarship, held by Hartford Art School at the University of Hartford. As the winner, she received full tuition to UH for four years, worth approximately \$36,000 per year.
- Andrew Nymen, Environmental Engineering student, received the student award from American Society of Civil Engineers CT Chapter.

## **TUNXIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

- With U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal and the Connecticut State Colleges & Universities, Tunxis announced its new Advanced manufacturing technology programs offered this fall, and became the 8<sup>th</sup> community college in CT to offer this training, which meets critical workforce needs for skilled graduates and strengthens the state's economy. Students can start associate degrees and certificates in Machine Technology and Electro-Mechanical Maintenance Technology.
- Tunxis Community College is among a group of higher education partners which has been awarded \$237,069 for the first year of a "Partnership in Innovation and Education (PIE)" grant from CTNext to provide college students with hands-on research opportunities in bioscience and health-related fields. Tunxis is the only community college in the consortium of seven Connecticut higher education partners for the three-year grant program, led by University of Connecticut. Two Tunxis students participated in the first 10-week summer 2018 fellowship program and were matched with host research laboratories for summer--long mentored research, where they worked with mentor faculty. They also attended weekly seminars on bioinnovation and a research symposium at the end of their research. Student research projects focused on basic, translational and commercializable research that could lead to future therapies, diagnostics, devices, or services.
- Tunxis Community College's Energy Management Program was awarded a \$120,000 grant by Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP) in spring 2018 to implement a residential building practices field study for the state of Connecticut. The study is the first of its kind in Connecticut and will help the state determine whether municipalities and builders are in compliance with state energy codes. Tunxis Energy Management students were invited to participate in the study and were paired with former Norwalk Community College Building Efficiency program students and graduates, who are certified to perform energy efficiency audits on homes. The teams were paid to conduct field inspections and diagnostic testing of new homes throughout Connecticut to determine whether new single-family residences comply with 2009 energy codes.
- Tunxis hosted the Mechanical Engineering Technologies Program (MET<sup>2</sup>) in January for 23 students from the Connecticut State Colleges & Universities and College of Technology partner universities, who participated in training and prepared to continue

work on real-world technology projects they started last spring. Over eight days during winter break, Tunxis students joined their peers from Manchester, Housatonic, Gateway, Quinebaug Valley, and Northwestern Connecticut Community Colleges, Central Connecticut State University, UConn, and University of Hartford, to learn about team building, leadership, 3-D design, and rapid prototyping as they prepared to kick off another semester of group research.

- Offered through the College of Technology's Regional Center for Next Generation Manufacturing (RCNGM), the program is taught by CT Community College faculty and consultants, and designs its curriculum based on survey responses from CT manufacturers to address the skills gap in high-tech sectors, while strengthening career pathways for college students. During the semester, the students reconvened in four groups to carry on the work they started last spring on an economically priced prosthetic arm; a bioreactive ankle brace, a project for the United States Geological Survey (USGS) that examines ground fracture networks, and a modular manufacturing project that will combine several high-tech machining applications.
- Tunxis Community College students saved \$414,906 on textbooks over the past year through several initiatives aimed at continuing to help make textbooks and course materials as affordable as possible for students. Starting in July, Tunxis Bookstore, managed by Follett Higher Education Group, began offering students a 10 percent discount on the list price of new textbooks as part of a new contract that was negotiated with Follett and the 12 Connecticut Community Colleges. In a five-month period, Tunxis students saved \$39,272 on new book purchases through this effort alone. Of the total, another \$375,634 in savings was the result of giving Tunxis students multiple options on books and materials—price match, textbook rentals, digital, used books, and the buyback program.
- Tunxis celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> graduating class of its Dental Hygiene program in May. Dental hygiene students have many opportunities to participate in community outreach projects on the local, national and international level, providing services to underserved populations including children, the elderly and those without dental insurance. Students of the dental hygiene program have collectively seen close to 149,000 patients to date in community clinics throughout Connecticut since its founding in 1976. Students also see over 2,000 public school students annually in New Britain, Hartford, and Plainville, where they provide screenings and oral health education. Accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation, Tunxis is the only public college in the state to provide a degree in dental hygiene

## **WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY**

- The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) has granted accreditation to the Ansell School of Business at Western Connecticut State University. The designation places WCSU among the top 5 percent of business schools in the world. The accreditation will help the school attract more individual students as well as potential corporate contracts for classes at business sites.

- WCSU's innovative approach to tuition is paying dividends, with the first year-over-year enrollment increase in nearly a decade. The university offers New York and New Jersey high school graduates the same tuition rate that Connecticut residents pay, resulting in a nearly four-fold increase in students from New York alone. The extra students make up for a decline in the number of high school-age students in Connecticut.
- For the third year in a row, the WCSU Department of Theatre Arts has been recognized by the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival for performances that rank among the best in the nation. The department's production of "Evita" won 10 awards, including for distinguished production and direction, and several student performance awards.
- WCSU will use a \$1.8 million federal grant to improve and expand training for students in programs that teach them how to respond to mental health crises. Dr. Gabriel Lomas, professor of Education and Educational Psychology, led the application for the grant. "A key aspect is to grow our program so we can increase the behavioral health workforce in the area," Lomas said. "We will be able to place more students in primary care with physicians and train all students in the behavioral health program in trauma and crisis models."
- The university added four new sports for the coming seasons: Golf, men's and women's cross country, and men's swimming/diving. The addition of the four sports offers more opportunities to local athletes who might not have previously considered WCSU and its outstanding Division III program.
- Leah Juliatt, a WCSU student majoring in political science and minoring in justice and law administration, conflict resolution and women's studies, was one of 10 college students recognized by Glamour magazine as a 2018 College Woman of the Year. Juliatt was featured in the June/July issue of Glamour that celebrates the "campus leadership, scholastic achievements, community involvement, activism and entrepreneurship." The 21-year-old, who will graduate from WCSU in December 2018, is already a highly visible advocate and leader for LGBTQ+ rights, both on campus and on the world stage.
- Western Connecticut State University biologist Dr. Neeta Connally, director of a four-year federally funded research study at WCSU of tick-borne disease prevention, has been named to a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services subcommittee formed to provide expertise to inform the HHS and Congress about effective means to monitor and prevent tick transmission of illnesses.
- Adjunct Professor of Art David Boyajian is completing a sculpture that will create a "gateway" installation in the pedestrian walkway of the State of Connecticut's newest office building along the Connecticut River at 450 Columbus Blvd. in Hartford. Boyajian's creation, titled "Flourish," represents an artistic expression of the natural beauty and diversity of Connecticut's forests, inspired in part by the historical tradition of the Charter Oak during Connecticut's colonial era and early years of statehood.