



MANY VOICES, ONE CALL – The Strategic Plan to 2026

President's Report

June 2022

Promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Teaching and Learning Specialist David Wolf oversaw the conclusion of Cohort 12 Part 2 of the Online Instruction & Course Development Cohorts to address accessibility and equity issues.

Director of Library Services Jacquie Keleher, earned her Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Teaching and Learning Certificate from the SUNY Center for Professional Development. The certificate required the completion of three online courses and an e-portfolio.

Thirty rising 11th grade Smart Transfer students came to campus, to participate their Fall 2022 Advising Day for College in the High School Partnership Students. The students met with Leanna Luizzi, Student Success Coach, Mitzi Espinola, Assistant Director of Academic Advising and Retention, and Shannon Stone, Academic Advisor, to set up their classes and success plans for their arrival on campus in September 2022.

Teaching and Learning Specialist David Wolf worked in the [FACT2 Inclusive Teaching Task Group which strives](#) to advance recommendations C3.1 and C3.2 of SUNY's DEI Action Plan. The Task Group continues to research, document, and distribute best practices and a framework to help SUNY campuses and their faculty to adopt anti-racist curriculum. Currently, he is taking the lead in a sub-group on implementation and his work in the group will be showcased at the upcoming [SUNY CIT Conference](#) on June 2, 2022.

On May 2, 9 and 23, Director of Library Services Jacquie Keleher participated in a four-week SUNY Libraries Reflective Practice Group focusing on diversity, equity, and inclusion. The last meeting will be held on June 13.

On May 3, Interim Chief Diversity Officer Alicia Richardson met with Samuel Caldwell, Chief Diversity Officer & Associate Vice President at SUNY Albany, to discuss Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion best practices. Vice President Caldwell offered advice, guidance, and support as well as resources that will help Alicia Richardson support SUNY Schenectady as it seeks to achieve its long-term DEI goals.

On May 4, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow and Michelle Kraines met with Schenectady Police Chief and other Schenectady PD participants to solidify the Police Officer Candidate Prep class.

On May 4, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow presented at the Inclusive Entrepreneurship and Employment Pilot Program press event along with Assemblyman Santabarbara, Dr. Moono and John Robinson from Our Ability.

On May 6, Professor Renee Adamany and Professor Syeda Munaim, Ph.D. co-presented “Equitable Student Outcomes and Preparedness: Bridging Interdisciplinary Curriculum across Campus and Community,” a paper for the SUNY Student Success Summit.

On May 9, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow, Dean Fragale and Professor Barbara Jones met with representatives for Afghanistan refugees to discuss Aviation Science opportunities.

On May 10, Director of Library Services Jacquie Keleher attended the SUNY Libraries DEI small group meeting on Collection Development.

On Wednesday, May 11th the Early College High School staff, hosted a Completion Ceremony for the twenty-two graduating Smart Transfer students. The ceremony was held in the Carl B. Taylor Auditorium. Students and families heard from Dr. Steady Moono and Superintendent Soler. Student speakers highlighted the event and each student walked the stage to receive a graduation Stoll. Leanna Liuzzi, Student Success Coach, Mitzi Espinola, Assistant Director of Academic Advising and Retention, and Shannon Stone, Academic Advisor, also attended for student support.

On May 11, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and Library Services cohosted a “Let’s Talk About It” session on the leaked supreme court draft opinion on Roe vs. Wade. The session offered a “no judgement zone” for those who wished to communicate their opinions on the topic. The open discussion, led by Interim Chief Diversity Officer Alicia Richardson and Director of Library Services Jacquie Keleher, gave campus community members an opportunity to consider the lasting effects of supreme court decisions.

On May 13, School of Music Dean Christopher Brellocks, D.M.A. attended a Guided Pathways Curricular Group meeting. School of Music degree programs have been analyzed to develop a Program Mapping template.

On May 16, Michelle Kraines attended a meeting with Dr. Moono, Dr. Clickner, Dr. Shabazz, Alicia Richardson and Janice Rouse from NAACP to discuss the development of Anti-Racism training for the Schenectady Police Department.

On May 19, Michelle Kraines, Dr. Rota and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with WIDE Dynamic Dialogues to discuss a DEI focused training project.

On May 20, Michelle Kraines and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with Mayor McCarthy and representatives of the Schenectady Police Department to present a training program that seeks to increase the candidate pool and improve diversity of future Schenectady police officers.

On May 20, BIPOC students and campus staff members attended a lunch hosted by Interim Chief Diversity Officer Alicia Richardson and Professor Babette Faehmel for the commencement speaker, Dr. Katema-Banda, sponsored by the President’s office. The group had a spirited conversation about barriers to access and success for Black, Indigenous, and other people of color in higher education and specifically in medicine. They also discussed microaggressions, self-care, and support structures.

On May 26, Director of Library Services Jacquie Keleher and Interim Chief Diversity Officer Alicia Richardson led the “We MUST Talk About It: 10 People Killed in a Racist Attack” session for faculty, staff and students.

Human Resources is working on streamlining the search process to make it a more efficient, consistent, fair and unbiased process. We have begun by updating the search requisition Position Approval Form to include a section for the search committee chair and members to be listed. This will help in identifying and approving a diverse search committee in advance, as well as improve efficiency in moving the search forward once the position is posted. We are also implementing applicant screening rubrics and interview rubrics to remove bias during the initial selection process and during interviews when evaluating candidates.

Human Resources is looking to diversify job advertising for our searches to bring in more diverse applicants and have identified several advertising sites. We are currently gathering information relating to yearly unlimited job postings for the 22-23 budget year.

Human Resources collaborated with the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion with the vigil that was held for the victims of the Uvalde shooting, and provided information about the resources available to staff under the EAP program.

Michelle Ragucci, Director of Academic Services/Testing Center special assignment, attended a virtual professional development session geared toward advancing adult learner success, titled: "Regaining Learners' Trust: Strategies for Adult Learner Enrollment" hosted by AACRO and connected with the Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM) work.

Career Services worked with the DEI Professional Development Initiative members to plan and implement a recognition for ongoing DEI Cohort members.

TRIO celebrated 29 students who have completed the Student Support Services program and prepared to graduate with associate's degrees. Students, and their supporters, were invited to attend the Award Ceremony on May 6 where they received a certificate of recognition for their efforts. Then, at Commencement on May 20, TRIO's graduates were recognized with black, red and white honor cords to wear with their regalia. TRIO graduates include students going into bachelor's degree programs, students staying at SUNY Schenectady for additional credentials, those going into the workforce, and the program even celebrated a mother-son duo (Davetta Simmons and Jason Gibson) who completed their degree programs and are moving on to further their education.

TRIO has begun targeted outreach to encourage students to apply for the Excelsior Scholarship for the coming academic year. Eligible students are contacted with information about the scholarship and invitations to work directly with TRIO staff to complete the application as well as the FAFSA and TAP applications each of which are part of the process.

TRIO continues to work directly with students completing summer coursework. In-person and online sessions with TRIO Academic Specialists range from 15-minute check-ins to 4-hour intensive boot camps on a wide variety of subjects (e.g., English, Western Civilization, Psychology, Criminal Justice, etc.). Building off of a shared understanding of students' needs, Academic Specialists develop and implement individualized plans that address challenges students may face throughout their courses, especially due to the accelerated nature of the shorter summer terms.

TRIO Director, Ben DeAngelis, visited Schenectady High School to meet members of the senior class who are part of the Schenectady Promise program and have been automatically accepted to SUNY Schenectady. DeAngelis, along with EOP Director, Tiombè Farley, spent the day discussing college life, promoting their respective resources, and working with students on program applications. In addition to sessions held during lunch and throughout the afternoon, the two directors also hosted an after-school session with members of the Liberty Partnerships Program, as part of our *College Life & Support Services* workshop.

Michael Henderson, Student Success Coach, attended a meeting of the DEI Plan Working Group working to compose the College's DEI Plan, develop a tool to assess the campus DEI climate, finalize an action plan and a timeline, and set forth a communication plan identifying roles and responsibilities.

Laura Sprague, Director of Admissions, along with colleagues from other units formed the LGBTQ+ working group to identify the ways in which the campus can improve how it supports LGBTQ+ community members.

Laura Sprague, Director of Admissions, Carolyn Fielder, TRIO Academic Specialist, along with colleague from other units met as a DEI subgroup to discuss DEI activities that may be considered for Orientation.

After TRIO staff took part in the Data Summit, a collaborative activity to highlight pathways for early-semester identification of challenges and interventions to support student success. Subsequent internal conversations have led to the establishment of mandated early student check-ins with TRIO Academic Specialists for upcoming semesters.

Delivering a Meaningful Student Experience

The School of Music presented numerous end-of-semester recitals, concerts, and presentations including the Piano and Percussion Recital, the Chorus Concert with adjunct faculty Alfred Fedak accompanying on organ on, the Chamber Ensemble Concert, a Voice Recital, a Jazz Ensemble Concert, a Vocal Chamber Ensemble Concert, the Wind Ensemble Concert, a Digital Music and Beat Production Presentation, the Guitar Ensemble Concert and the Brass Ensemble Concert. All were free and open to the public.

Professor Susan Hatalsky and Professor Kimberly Otis departed SUNY Schenectady for a study abroad program in Italy with 16 students. They will attend four different culinary schools, visit wine vineyards, an olive grove and observe the production of cured meats, cheeses, and vinegar. The course includes cultural tours of Rome, Venice, and Cinque Terre.

Collection Development & Electronic Resources Librarian Giovannine Matheron began the "An Exploration of Belonging for Educators" from Lumen Learning.

Associate Professor Richard Simons, Ph.D. continued mentoring CSTEP student research, taking them out to Vale Park to measure an invasive species known as garlic mustard weed. The plant's roots emit a chemical that prevents other plants from growing creating a threat to native plants and habitat.

Teaching and Learning Specialist David Wolf has been training on the new LMS system in an effort to better leverage the colleges preparedness for the eventual transition. In the interest of the College he has taken a hands-on role in the development of SUNY wide D2L training and course templates by actively working in:

1. SUNY Digital Learning Environment Group – Template Creation Sub-Work Group
2. SUNY Digital Learning Environment Group – Training Resource Sub-Work Group
3. SUNY – Tools that Scale – group.

This will ensure that training and templates will both be more effective and meet various needs of our college.

Teaching and Learning Specialist David Wolf has worked with the team spearheading the college's migration to D2L. He presented the current timeline for the migration to the Academic Senate. This charge includes: arranging for student and faculty training, course migration, available templates for development, planning a pilot, coordinating the release of the SUNY Schenectady instance and what courses will appear in D2L first.

Professor Tammy Gummersheimer collaborated with Assistant Professor Margaret McLellan-Zabielski and Adjunct Instructor Lamyaa Hassib to conduct an assessment across four sections of CHM 113 Fundamentals of Chemistry.

HCAT Educational Aide Jasmine Lee Solana travelled to Indonesia with President Moono for recruitment purposes.

From May 1 to May 8, Associate Professor Jay Larkin, and Professor Kimberly Otis, Assistant Professor Vanessa Traver and Assistant Professor Courtney Withey accompanied 42 students to work at the 2022 Kentucky Derby as part of an ongoing internship with Levy. This internship allows students to work as managers in both front and back of the house positions.

On May 2, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow and Maria Kotary met with EMT instructors and Schenectady City School District leaders to discuss the EMT pathways in the College in the High School curriculum.

On May 3, Maria Kotary, Dr. Rota and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with Pam McCall to discuss EMT as part of Early College High School programming based upon interest from the Schenectady Fire Department.

On May 9, Dr. Rota, Lauren Lankau and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with Schenectady ARC to discuss DSP and DSP Supervisor Apprenticeships.

On May 13, 4 Phlebotomy students passed the NHA CPT exam and became nationally certified Phlebotomy Technicians.

On May 13, School of Music faculty held juries and auditions for Performance Concentration and Applied Music lesson students. Dean Brellochs met individually and advised all students who auditioned to discuss career, transfer, and registration for fall semester.

On May 16, 4 TNA to CNA students completed and passed the NYS CNA Certification exam.

On May 17, Maria Kotary and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with the Schenectady City School District, Schenectady Fire Department and our EMT instructor to discuss how to implement the EMT program into Early College High School programs.

On May 24, Professor Megan Hall presented the second in a series of upcoming workshops on DTL's Brightspace. She also wrote a brief training guide for faculty on the new learning management system.

The Virtual STEAM Academy is being organized by CSTEP Director Lorena Harris, Ph.D. to run this summer. It will include a series of webinars related to STEAM career exploration and applied learning, for example, the Micro Observatory Center for Astrophysics sponsored by Harvard and the Smithsonian, and the Webb Telescope Community Event Series sponsored by NASA.

Construction of the new fitness court has been completed, with plans underway to host a ribbon cutting on Monday, June 13.

Vice President McIlduff met with Tiombé Farley to discuss future support opportunities to enhance the EOP Program.

The 52nd Commencement of the College was held on May 20, 2022 in the new Music Building parking lot in response to student desires to hold a more traditional style ceremony. 419 students were invited to attend the ceremony representing students that completed or were anticipated to complete degree, certificate, and micro-credentials in December 2021, May 2022, or August 2022. 178 students attended along with their families, College employees, and teaching faculty for a total of approximately 1,000 total attendees.

Supportive counseling continues to assist students with decision making, problem solving, developmental crises, and basic needs crises. Classroom and virtual presentations were delivered including Non-physical Forms of Domestic Violence and Self-Care for the Helping Professions. The Therapy Dog program maintained a weekly schedule serving as a stress-reduction program for students and staff.

SUNY Schenectady successfully completed the membership renewal process with the NJCAA for the 2022-2023 school year in the first week of June.

Mary Silvestri, Interim Student Activities Advisor, attended the SUNY Student Success Summit on Holistic Approaches to Student Success. The virtual summit, held from May 4-6, shared ideas on improving and utilizing best practices in the areas of student success, applied learning, and advising. Sessions attended focused on SUNY Reach, Promoting Student Success and Equity, and Co-Curricular High Impact Practices.

Student Government, working with Mary Silvestri, the interim Student Activities Advisor, sent two students, Jenny Diaz and Sara Nava, to represent SUNY Schenectady at the SUNY Student Assembly at Albany. During the Assembly, representatives voted on new representation and discussed the agenda for the upcoming academic year.

Mary Silvestri, Interim Student Activities Advisor, working with Student Government, organized and executed a Block Party/Spirit Day. The Block Party/Spirit Day brought outdoor games and inflatables to the Quad, with popcorn and international snacks for all to enjoy. To encourage

student spirit, students were treated with a photo booth in the Begley Learning Commons Lobby.

Mary Silvestri, Interim Student Activities Advisor, working with Student Government leadership, ran a successful student election. The election, held over three days utilized Microsoft Forms and was advertised throughout campus and social media. The newly elected executive board is Jenny Diaz (President), Sara Nava (Vice President), and Rondacia Mcpherson (Student Trustee).

Mary Silvestri, Interim Student Activities Advisor, planned, coordinated, and hosted a SUNY Schenectady Awards Ceremony on May 6th honoring and celebrating students' accomplishments throughout the 2021-2022 year. Included in the ceremony were Student Government, TRIO, EOP, Mentoring, and CSTEP programs. During the program, students were acknowledged for their academic work, participation in campus activities, and their charitable works.

Mary Silvestri, Interim Student Activities Advisor, coordinated with students to assist with commencement. Students were assigned duties to assist with greeting guests at welcome stations. Eight students assisted with graduation. Additionally, SGA provided prepared congratulatory cards and candy to each graduate at commencement.

Vice President Ryan was a guest on the WAMC program Falling Into Place to discuss the college's food pantry, its critical service to our students and why food insecurity is an important issue for today's college student.

Leanna Liuzzi, Student Success Coach, provided two MySCCC portal overview sessions for Smart Transfer students.

Seven New Student Registration (NSR) days took place in May. NSR are days for new students who are greeted by Admissions, receive a tour, briefly learn about connecting with faculty, staff and support services, successfully log into their college email account, receive information about additional scholarship funding, complete the My Survey to Success needs assessment, meet with a Student Success Coach, then meet with an Advisor for a career, advising, registration session. This allows for individual attention and wrap around services to students. Laura Sprague, Director of Admissions, Mitzi Espinola, Assistant Director of Academic Advising and Retention, and Heather Lessard, Student Success Coach Manager, worked together to plan NSR days for the month of June.

Heather Lessard, Student Success Coach Manager, collaborated with members of the ReaCH Data Committee, Dale Miller, Director of Institutional Research, Beth Anne Horning, Research Analysis, and Mary Silvestri, Testing Center Coordinator, to configure and implement the end of semester student survey.

Alisha Russo, Director of LPP, met with Alice Menis, an Environmental Education Assistant, in the Bureau of Environmental Education of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, to discuss collaborating with them during our summer and school year programming.

LPP middle and high school students took an end of year field trip to the Utica Zoo.

The Director of LPP met with staff from Mediation Matters to discuss opportunities to partner on the next RFP. Mediation Matters will provide restorative justice support services and workshops to LPP students and parents in the next five-year grant.

Multiple SI & P Team members assisted with Commencement, welcoming and seating vision supporters in the appropriate guest area, assisting students, etc.

Laura Sprague, Director of Admissions, and Tiombé Farley, Director of EOP, collaborated with Dr. DeShawn McGarity, Executive Director of SCCOC, and held a virtual signing on an instant admission initiative to SUNY Schenectady for students of the SCCOC program. This collaboration and partnership offer an instant admission to first time, full-time eligible (12 credits) SCCOC participants who qualify. A signing ceremony was held commemorating this partnership between SCCOC students and EOP. This streamlined process eliminates a barrier for SCCOC participants to become degree seeking students.

TRIO continues to offer the TRIO Café series which features weekly online gatherings to connect with students, discuss resources, troubleshoot challenges, and encourage use of campus and community support systems. This month's topics included managing anxiety, test-taking, and transfer opportunities.

As part of the summer support service programming, TRIO is offering intensive prep sessions for student pursuing summer employment. Students have an opportunity to participate in a series of activities to sharpen their application and interview skills. Four students have completed the series, which includes resume reviews, job search trainings, and mock interviews.

Heather Lessard managed the referral workflow for the My Survey to Success, and coordinated Success Coach outreach for all newly registered new students for Fall 2022.

Shannon Stone, Academic Advisor and Heather Lessard, Student Success Coach Manager, attended an FASAP committee meeting to review appeals for the summer and fall terms.

Leanna Liuzzi, Student Success Coach, coordinated the Foundation Scholarship program. She offered two virtual scholarship information sessions; reached out to students who have started, but not completed their applications; provided information to the selection committee; and awarded scholarships for students graduating in May. She also attended two Award Spring webinars to learn updates to the system related to awarding recipients and post-award follow-ups.

Evelyn Makulski, Student Success Coach, coordinated the needs of the Student Emergency Fund, including communicating with students to discuss application procedures and documentation requirements. She has been researching and compiling information for a community resource guide for student use.

Student Success Coaches addressed Starfish flags and referrals and had meetings with students.

Thairy Echevarria, Admissions Advisor, attended a two-day SUNY sponsored event at SUNY Global in Manhattan, NY to meet with area high school counselors to discuss the programs and opportunities at SUNY Schenectady.

Laura Sprague, Director of Admissions, Mitzi Espinola, Assistant Director of Academic Advisement and Retention, Heather Lessard, Student Success Coach Manager, met with Dr. David Clickner, Vice President for Strategic Initiatives & Planning, to create a plan for call center D2M to do additional outreach to accepted not registered students to encourage them to register for a New Student Registration Day or attend an individual appointment with their Academic Advisor.

Building Organizational Effectiveness

CSTEP Director Lorena Harris, Ph.D. met with Workforce Development colleagues to review an opportunity to develop an apprenticeship in collaboration with the Department of Labor. The apprenticeship would align with MSTH's Biological Technician A.A.S. Degree.

On May 11, School of Music Dean Christopher Brellochs, D.M.A. met with colleagues on the Calendar Committee to discuss start dates for future Academic Calendars.

On May 16, Dean Brellochs, D.M.A. attended a Teaching and Learning Task Force meeting to discuss tools to examine student learning.

On May 18, Dean Brellochs, D.M.A. attended a Water Tower Relocation meeting to coordinate with all parties on this summer construction project.

On May 24, in collaboration with Interim Chief Diversity Officer Alicia Richardson, Teaching and Learning Specialist David Wolf finalized [a report outlining how developing a quantified professional development system](#) with badging and a dashboard can both increase faculty engagement in DEI training and simplify faculty review of professional development. Through its implementation, the increase in engagement through incentivizing professional development training will result in a more inclusive campus with higher success rates given an increase awareness of practices that factor in student success, such as: accessibility, instructional design, and inclusion. The proposal had been submitted to the DEI Committee and received its endorsement. The committee then presented the report to the President and his council on Tuesday, May 24th.

On May 24, Dean Brellochs, D.M.A. met with Academic Adviser Ana Westerman to streamline advising appointments for enrolled students who have yet to register.

The Foundation continues to work to refine the scholarship program to maximize funding available to support the student experience.

- In response to their call for contribution inquiries, Stewardship Officer Senneca submitted a request of \$1,000 to Schenectady Rotary to increase their scholarship endowment.

- The Foundation received **\$8,700** from the Judkins Trust Fund for aviation scholarships.
- In concert with President Moono, Vice President McIllduff led a group of (6) travelers to Indonesia for the purpose of forging a partnership with (3) hotel, culinary arts and tourism schools. In addition to culinary demonstrations and conversations with administrators and students, Dr. Moono signed MoU's with all three schools; NHI Tourism Polytechnic Bandung, Poltekpar Palembang, and Bali Tourism Polytechnic. So far (1) student from Bandung has been awarded a scholarship to study at SUNY Schenectady starting in the fall semester.

Marketing campaigns continue through June to build brand awareness and increase the frequency of exposure to the College marketing messaging.

Construction of the new Welcome Center continued in May as our contractors have moved the security camera system wires and infrastructure to the new IT closet. Wall enclosures for the offices and other areas of the Welcome Center are underway. In late May, we closed the entrance to Elston Hall from the quad so our contractors can complete work began work on renovation of the entrance, gathering space and hallway. The project is on schedule for completion in late July 2022.

The Begley Hall lobby restroom construction project continued. New wastewater lines were installed to replace existing lines that were no longer serviceable. The project's completion date is scheduled for late July 2022.

Work on the new Begley Building Cooling Tower is anticipated to begin during the Summer of 2022. This project involves reinforcing the roof structure in the old section of the School of Music and re-location of the cooling tower to the exterior roof from the indoor second floor utility space.

The campus-wide generator delivery is delayed until spring of 2023 due to manufacturing and supply chain issues. The college and county pressed the vendor to improve delivery time; which is dependent on national issues.

Contracts were finalized for the Elston Hall and CST Building roofing projects that will begin in late August 2022. Bids were received and approved for three new dishwashers and a combi-oven in the School of Culinary Arts.

The College and County met on the proposed 2023 Capital projects which are being presented to the College's Board of Trustees for the June 2022 meeting. Eighteen projects are being proposed for various high priority projects.

HR will be implementing a new requisition in Interview Exchange. The Personnel Action Form will be used to track all job status changes and approvals for all employees in one central location. Changes such as resignations, retirements, salary changes, Leave of absence, promotions, etc.

We currently have 16 open searches which consist of 3 civil service, 3 faculty, and 10 professional.

An onboarding process survey was administered to new hires and other stakeholders. The purpose of the survey is to gain insight on the overall experience for management during the integration of a new hire to SUNY Schenectady as well as the onboarding experience for new

hires. Results of the survey will be assessed to identify current onboarding strengths and weaknesses as well as determining the level of standardization and customization needed for the College's onboarding. Improvements to the process will be identified to include onboarding activities, ownership of the activities and overall communication process. Additionally, recommendations will be reviewed for next steps and implementation.

On May 25, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with ARC Erie County and Erie Community College to discuss development and implementation of an Apprenticeship program in Direct Support Professional and Direct Support Professional Supervisor titles.

On May 25, Lauren Lankau and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with Professor Tamara Calhoun to discuss our partnership on the Child Development Associate micro-credential.

Mitzi Espinola, Assistant Director of Academic Advising and Retention, and Anna Westerman, Academic Advisor II/ Veteran's Certifying Officer collaborated with Laura Sprague, Director of Admissions, and Heather Lessard, Student Success Manager, to decide to begin using Calendly again as an additional way for new students to schedule phone and virtual meetings for their initial advising session.

Dawn Jones, Assistant Director of Career Services, developed and facilitated a professional development training for academic advisors targeted toward the requirements for promotion and maintaining a high level of professionalism.

Director of TRIO, Ben DeAngelis attended the US Department of Education's Priority 1 Training for TRIO staff April 28-29. The 2-day session, hosted by Colorado State University's Access Center, focused on Evaluation, Recordkeeping and Reporting Student/Project Performance for TRIO grantees. Ben also completed the US Department of Education's Priority 2 Training for TRIO staff May 18-25. The online sessions, hosted by the Renaissance TRIO Training Project, focused on budget management and planning for TRIO grantees.

Members of the Student Success Center attended portions of the SUNY Center for Professional Development Student Success Summit: Holistic Approaches to Student Success, virtually.

The Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM) team led by Laura Sprague, Director of Admissions, met to discuss a shared knowledge management spreadsheet or calendar. The team includes Dr. David Clickner, Vice President for Strategic Initiative & Planning, Mark Bessette, Assistant Dean of Financial Aid, Tania Cabrera, Dean of Math, Science, Technology and Health, Steve Fragale, Dean of Academic Affairs, Brian Kasler, Assistant Vice President of Administration, Heather Lessard, Student Success Coach Manager, Karen Tanski, Executive Director of Marketing & Public Relations, Dale Miller, Director of Institutional Research, Michelle Ragucci, Director of Academic Services, Mary Silvestri, Testing Center Coordinator, Dr. Hamin Shabazz, Chief of Staff, Anna Westerman, Academic Advisor II/Certifying Veteran's Officer, Pamela McCall, Director of College & High School Partnerships, Mitzi Espinola, Assistant Director of Academic Advising and Retention, and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow, Vice President for Workforce Development.

Welcome Center

- New IT closet in operation for security cameras and supporting equipment
- Main Entrance security desk equipment moved to Casola Entrance until completion of Welcome Center.

13 State Street

- Work continues with vendors and contractors for the networking portions of the project.
- Additional work on IT closets in the basement continue before equipment installation takes place.

Distance 2 Learn, BrightSpace LMS

- All users, faculty and students now being auto synced
- Course work sync in progress, 80% ready

IT Department

- Classroom computers and readiness checks are in progress
- Continuous upgrades to servers to stay ahead of possible hacker intrusions, getting to be a daily issue
- Work for re-write of Infrastructure complete, electrical re-bid out to public.
- Applications monitoring upgrade
 - Implemented a Continuous Integration system as per software engineering best practices and Agile development.
 - Purpose is to be proactive on possible issues for new configurations, before fully implemented.

Ensuring Financial Sustainability and Self-Sufficiency

Associate Professor Allyson Keyser, D.M.A. visited to area high schools in Clifton Park, Averill Park, Scotia-Glenville, Saratoga, and Schenectady as part of a strategy broaden efforts to recruit new students and strengthen partnerships with area music educators.

On May 3, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with the grant writer from Onondaga Community College to work on Strengthening Community Colleges consortium grant.

On May 5, Danielle Sloane and Lauren Lankau met with The W Group and member of the Columbia-Greene WDB regarding funding a PCA class.

On May 6, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met the representatives from the Office for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) to discuss a statewide partnership to develop and improve the direct care pipeline.

On May 7, Assistant Professor Mark Evans hosted a Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) event which strengths our connection to the community and area music educators.

On May 9, Dr. Rota and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with SUNY Empire to discuss use of the Credential As You Go grant.

On May 9, Dr. Rota and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with MVP to work on finalizing the Medical Claims Examiner training project.

On May 10 & 11, Lauren Lankau and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with SUNY Administration and the NYSDOL to discuss expansion of SUNY Apprenticeship.

On May 10, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with National Grid Project C to discuss a proposal to support the Mobile Units and program development that would support National Grid's workforce needs.

On May 13, Lauren Lankau and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with FMCC and HANYS to discuss apprenticeship group sponsorship.

On May 16, Lauren Lankau met with the Department of Labor and Erie County Community College to assist with apprenticeship Development

On May 23, 24 and 31, the School of Music held auditions for new students.

On May 24, grant writer Sue Lombardi submitted the Apprenticeship 2.5 grant for \$2 million.

On May 24, Dr. Rota and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met to develop a budget for the Workforce Development Training Grant.

In April, Professor Matthew Farron and Teaching and Learning Specialist David Wolf submitted a proposal for funding to assist in the implementation of a [HyFlex](#) course in the Spring 2023 semester. Academic Affairs is pleased to announce that the grant proposal was accepted. Starting in June 2022, we will be exploring best options for HyFlex delivery in 2023.

The Foundation continuously builds and draws upon the strength of the Foundation Board members as advocates for the College:

- Vice President McIlduff met with Pastor Francis Rigobert and Chair Lynn Manning to discuss Board participation with a term beginning in September 2022.

The Foundation is creating a bold, new, positive case for growing flexible funding to support our students:

- Foundation staff have attended several webinars to increase our knowledgebase and help us respond to short- and long-term solicitation and donor trends:
 - *ADRP: Opting In: How to Inspire and Activate Donors Through Irresistible Connections*
 - *Odder Demo – for electronic stewardship reporting – connects to Fundriver*
 - *How to Plan an Effective Capital Campaign Using New Tools and Technology*

Marketing and Public Relations cultivates media engagements and responds to media inquiries to build a positive reputation for the college and develop brand awareness. Public relations, when used in concert with paid advertising, provides increased impressions in the community.

- 18 media mentions/engagements for May, spread across a press conference, print/online news articles, radio, SUNY System social media, and television news coverage



Vice President Ryan and Assistant Vice President Kasler attended the June 2022 SUNY Community College Business Officer Association (CCBOA) meeting in Saratoga Springs. During that meeting they received an update on the 2022-23 State budget which includes additional funding for the SUNY system for targeted initiatives during 2022-23. It is anticipated SUNY will release information on the one-time \$60 million for strategic investments and \$53 Million for new faculty in July.

The College's proposed 2022-23 Operating Budget is being presented to the college's Board of Trustees in June of 2022. Pending approval, the budget will be presented to the County legislature for consideration in July.

The Foundation is working to increase fundraising effectiveness to grow 5% annually by engaging alumni, businesses, and the community:

- The Foundation utilized ViewSpark and Constant Contact to send the following communications:
 - Personalized food pantry video for recent grantor Seymour Fox Memorial Foundation;
 - Requested (51) notes/photos/videos from graduating scholarship students;
 - Sent (8) personalized emails and (15) ViewSparks from graduating students to their scholarship donors;
 - Sent (4) performance videos from student music recitals to scholarship donors;
 - Sent a video from graduating Promise Scholar to (41) Promise Fund donors;
 - ViewSpark for *Many Voices; Once Call Podcast* to all contacts;
 - Sent a Commencement Challenge solicitation video to (1,247) alumni and (521) non-alumni and a solicitation text to (1,622) alumni and (144) non-alumni using Viewspark, resulting in \$116 in donations;

- (176) new followers on LinkedIn, and (131) page views in May.

Stewardship Officer Senneca organized special invitations for (2) scholarship donors to enjoy their recipients' music recitals. She also arranged for a Zoom call between a donor and his science award recipient.

Stewardship Officer Senneca received confirmation from scholarship owner, Judi Merriam, that she will endow their scholarship fund.

Stewardship Officer Senneca drafted, printed and sent the annual *Stronger Together: Your Philanthropy in Action* impact newsletter to (469) donors.

Stewardship Officer Senneca arranged for Patrick Ryan to speak about the College and Food Pantry on [WAMC's *Falling into Place* segment](#) which is sponsored by recent donor, Seymour Fox Memorial Foundation.

Stewardship Officer Boink met with alumna Audrey Osterlitz to talk about her experience and the importance of unrestricted support. Ms. Osterlitz committed to becoming a monthly sustaining donor.

Stewardship Officer Boink arranged for alumni Lecco Morris and Samantha Williams to visit the campus to assist with the creation of Commencement Challenge videos.

Stewardship Officer Boink drafted, printed and sent a solicitation letter to (190) individuals who gave last fiscal year but not yet this year; resulting in \$1,225 in donations.

Vice President McIlduff met with Sarah Wilson-Sparrow to discuss potential support from National Grid for the mobile skills labs.

Vice President McIlduff met with Coccio Family Scholarship donors to check in and discuss College updates.

Michelle Ragucci, Director of Academic Services/Testing Center special assignment/Perkins Grant Officer, completed the 2022-23 Perkins Grant Application for this coming academic year. The 2022-23 Perkins Grant, totaling \$233,245 dollars, will support positions within the Learning Center (tutors), the Success Center (coaches), the Advisement Center (advisor), the Admissions office (counselor), the Testing Center (assistants), and the Career Services office (navigators). Funds are also allocated to support student supplies and materials, textbooks, student memberships, software, assistive technology, and online tutoring support.

Heather Lessard, Project Director of the Title III grant, researched and collaborated with Perkins project and activity directors to reallocate budget items for the current year.

Heather Lessard, Project Director of the Title III grant, communicated with Activity Directors to discuss activity status, communicated with the external evaluator as needed, and consulted with Amiee Warfield, Controller, to review the budget.

President's Outreach



Traveled to Indonesia for the purpose of forging a partnership with (3) hotel, culinary arts and tourism schools. In addition to culinary demonstrations and conversations with administrators and students were held and we signed MoU's with all three schools; NHI Tourism Polytechnic Bandung, Poltekpar Palembang, and Bali Tourism Polytechnic. So far (1) student from Bandung has been awarded a scholarship to study at SUNY Schenectady starting in the fall semester.



Participated in the Flex Pod Hangar Ground Breaking ceremony that took place on June 8, 2022 at 2:00PM. It was held at the Schenectady County Airport, 21 Airport Road, Glenville, NY 12302. SUNY Schenectady (SCCC) and Schenectady County have partnered to build a new airplane hangar at the airport. The new hangar will contain four pods. The College will occupy two pods of the four-pod building. One of the pods will be used for airplane storage and the other for classroom/instructional space. By partnering with the County, SCCC will own and have a dedicated presence for the Aviation program and its future needs.



Participated in the City as our Campus announcement of Phase I and Ribbon cutting ceremony on June 15, 2022. "City as Our Campus," an outcome of the Schenectady City School District's secondary school redesign process that began in January, provides learning pathways that extend beyond the school walls. It is a multi-phased approach in which leadership communities are developed in partnership with and hosted within the community. The first phase will be launched in the fall of 2022 with a Freshmen Leadership Academy and two Schenectady High School Leadership Communities.: The Proctors Performing Arts Leadership Community and the Early College-Schenectady Scholars at SUNY SCCC Leadership Community.



Participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new SUNY Schenectady Fitness Court. The ceremony took place on Monday, June 13, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., and was held at the SUNY Schenectady campus near the entrance to the Mohawk-Hudson Bike Trail Access Point. SUNY Schenectady partnered with SUNY, MVP Health Care, Schenectady County Community College Foundation, and the National Fitness Campaign to build this community-oriented space that is designed to improve health and wellness by providing access to free outdoor fitness.



I was asked to serve as an honorary Marshal in the African Heritage Parade held on June 18, 2022. In 2019 a group of community volunteers ushered in a new tradition to the Capital Region, The African Heritage Parade. This event celebrates the cultures, nationalities, and contributions of the African diaspora both locally and internationally. As the leader of one of the region's prominent educational institutions, we directly serve the African diaspora who attend and work at our institutions as well as the greater community. Our participation will send a positive signal to the local African diaspora and the larger community. Due to a scheduling conflict, my Chief of Staff, Dr. Hamin Shabazz, participated to represent the College in my absence.