



OUR COLLEGE – OUR FUTURE – The Strategic Plan to 2020

***President's Report***  
October 2020

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***Expand Access and Increase Student Success***

The Development Office reports that a new Ronald H. Baker Scholarship was established on September 18, in memory of a School of Music student who recently passed away.

On September 18<sup>th</sup>, the Vice President of Development and External Affairs met with Chef Michael Stamets, Joan Dembinski '10, and Robyn King of the Food Pantry to initiate plans for putting together approximately 200 Thanksgiving meal kits for students. Additionally, a request was submitted on September 21<sup>st</sup> to the Golub Foundation for an in-kind donation of turkeys for the meal kits.

On September 3, 2020, Meaghan Johnson from Zones Infrastructure visited the Google IT Support Professional Certificate course to speak to students about job openings at her company, virtual interviewing, and job search skills.

On September 11, Project Director for Workforce Development and Community Education attended the Race Bias and Systemic Racism training.

On September 14, seventeen students successfully completed their coursework in Python for Data Analytics, offered in partnership with Albany Can Code.

On September 23, 2020 Program Coordinator Christine McLearn attended the Urban/Noncredit Affinity Group call with Jobs for the Future (JFF) to begin sustainability planning for offering the Google IT Support Certificate program once the grant funding ends.

On September 24, 2020 Lauren Groff from Groff NetWorks visited the Google IT Support Professional Certificate course to talk with students about getting started in the field of IT, his experiences as an owner of a local IT company, and job openings that would be a good fit for program completers.

Student Affairs reports that the laptop loan program has given out 148 laptops to date.

Student Affairs also maintains the COVID Surveillance Pool Testing, which began last week. The daily data is uploaded to the SUNY COVID dashboard and the SUNY Schenectady website is changed Monday - Friday, to include updates.

Student Government Elections are under way and will be held October 20-23, 2020.

### ***Ensure a quality, relevant, coherent and innovative curriculum***

In Fall of 2016 SUNY Schenectady partnered with Ed2Go to offer a multitude of personal and professional development online courses in a variety of topics as well as Career Training online programs that will assist students in preparing professional level positions. The partnership has continued to grow and has seen exponential growth in the 2019-2020 academic year. The number of students enrolled grew by 43%. We enrolled 48 students in 2018-2019 and 85 in 2019-2020. The number of students in our 6-week classes has grown from 36 students to 67 and the number of students in our career courses grew from 12 to 18. We have not received the final payment for August 2020, but through July of 2020, the profit-over-revenue also grew by 8%.

The Center for Workforce Development & Community Education has been busy on-boarding new students. They started Community Health Workers (CHW), Behavioral Health Tech (BHT), Certified Nurse Aide, Personal Care and Home Health Aide (Trifecta), EKG Technician, Medical Administrative Assistant (MAA) and Phlebotomy (PHL) for a total of 66 enrolled students between grant and privately funded students, with Phlebotomy being the most popular course with 40 students.

On September 30, 2020, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow and Christine McLearn met with staff from the Carey Institute, regarding the development of a professional development program for NYS breweries, as well as updates on the Craft Beverage Producer apprenticeship title. Additionally, they finalized plans for a new partnership with the Carey Institute that will allow SUNY Schenectady to host online training for Craft Breweries across the State.

### ***Invest in Campus Renewal***

During September and October, more progress occurred on the Begley Learning Commons. Light fixtures, the IT Help Desk and the Circulation Desks were installed. Furniture for the Learning Commons arrived in late September and was located throughout the building. Room signage was also installed in late September. At this time final items to complete the project are underway such as installation of technology, printers and glass etching decals. We anticipate completion of the project in mid to late October.

Progress continued on the Mill Lane confectionary learning space. Representatives from the College met with the general contractor and the HVAC contractor to firm up the HVAC system. Requests for proposals were issued for plumbing and electrical services. Our kitchen supply contractor continued the ordering of kitchen equipment and specialized confectionary equipment.

The Information Technology Services area is working on the College's new "mobile app" that can be used for access to student accounts, educational materials, course registration and other features.

The Development Office reports that a tour of the Learning Commons construction project was conducted on September 10<sup>th</sup>, with campaign co-chairs Jeanne Maloy and Dick Kotlow. Additionally, a virtual tour of the construction progress was provided to the lead campaign donor, Dr. Joshua Schwartz, by the Vice President of Development and External Affairs, on September 24, 2020.

### ***Strengthen and Expand Community and Strategic Partnerships***

Vice President Ryan and Chief of Staff Ohlhaus met with representatives from Discover Schenectady about locating a free informational kiosk on campus that will provide information about events and activities in Schenectady. The kiosk will be linked to five other kiosks throughout the city and can be used to promote college activities and events.

Vice President Ryan participated as a guest speaker in a seminar class on community colleges at the University at Albany. Mr. Ryan shared his views on community college financing, experience as a chief financial officer and skills required to effectively perform this role.

The Development Office reports that on September 30, the Special Events Committee rallied to kick-start the online auction planning for the virtual *"Food for Thought and All That Jazz."* Filming for this event began on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

On October 1, the newly formed Alumni Advisory Committee gathered to discuss goals for 2020-2021 for moving the needle on increased alumni engagement.

The Center for Workforce Development and Community Education reports that Sarah Wilson- Sparrow was a presenter for the NYCCAP Apprenticeship Presentation, highlighting/promoting apprenticeship opportunities in New York State.

On September 1, 2020 and September 30, 2020 Program Coordinator Christine McLear hosted meetings of the NYS Google IT Support Professional Consortium of colleges with grant partners Jobs for the Future (JFF).

On September 2, 2020 Sarah Wilson-Sparrow attended a NYS Educational Opportunity Center Committee (EOC) to discuss alignment between NYS EOCs and apprenticeship opportunities.

On September 2, 2020 Program Coordinator Christine McLear attended the Education and Business Partnership Committee meeting with the Capital Region Chamber of Commerce.

On September 10, 2020 Sarah Wilson-Sparrow attended the Monthly Capital Region Employer Resource Network (ERN) Advisory Group Meeting which seeks to address workforce needs in the Capital Region particularly in light of pandemic related job losses.

On September 15, 2020 Sarah Wilson-Sparrow attended the One Schenectady Workforce Development Coalition Meeting (Schenectady One Stop, Employer Resource Network, the City Mission, The Schenectady Foundation and SCAP). This group meets to discuss strategies for workforce supports related to COVID-19.

On September 18, 2020 Sarah Wilson-Sparrow attended the Greater Capital Region Workforce Coalition Meeting.

On September 18, 2020 Sarah Wilson-Sparrow attended a meeting with the Department of Labor, Racker (Human Services organization), Tompkins-Cortland Community College to discuss Racker's Direct Support Professional certificate program.

On September 18, 2020 Program Coordinator Christine McLear attended the Greater Capital Region Workforce Coalition Meeting.

On September 20, 2020 the Office of Workforce Development and Community Education hosted Jobs for the Future (JFF) for a virtual site visit. We were one of six colleges from across the country chosen to participate in a program review featuring our successes and challenges throughout the program. Jobs for the Future (JFF) spoke with administrators, instructors, students, and partners.

On September 21, 2020 Sarah Wilson-Sparrow attended an Industry Roundtable with statewide apprenticeship representatives to promote apprenticeship programs.

On September 29, 2020 Sarah Wilson-Sparrow and Christine McLear attended a Google IT Support Professional Certificate/Consortia Lead Interview to measure progress in the Jobs for the Future (JFF) grant project.

On September 29, 2020 Sarah Wilson-Sparrow presented at an Industry Roundtable hosted by SUNY Sullivan. This roundtable focused on the development and implementation of a Direct Support Professional apprenticeship program at SUNY Sullivan in partnership with DOL and human services organizations in that region.

### ***Ensure the College's Financial Sustainability***

The College's 2020-21 budget to the State University of New York was reviewed and received a preliminary approval by the SUNY Budget Office. The SUNY Board of Trustees will review and approve all community college budgets during their October 2020 meeting. The budget was implemented on September 1, 2019.

In September 2020, the College received information from SUNY on a potential 20% reduction in State support for our State Education Department grant funded programs that include CSTEP, Liberty Partnership Program, Early College in the High School, and the Smart Scholars program. To prepare for this potential reduction in spending, each program revised their 2020-21 budgets. In addition to these programs, HESC informed SUNY that TAP and Excelsior awards may be awarded at 80% of the approved amounts for 2020-21.

A search for a new Chief Information Officer is underway after the departure of Mr. Jeffery Snow. A search committee recently interviewed multiple candidates and will continue the recruitment process during the month of October.

Members of the 2020 Legal Services RFP continue their work in interviewing firms who responded to our request for proposals. During the month of October, work of this committee is scheduled to conclude with a recommendation to the Board of Trustees.

The Finance Office began the 2019-20 fiscal year close-out in preparation for year-end reporting and audit. Our auditors are scheduled to be here virtually between November 9<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>.

The Foundation received an anonymous gift of **\$1,000,000** on September 9, to start a fund that will underwrite student support programs and initiatives.

On September 25, the Foundation rolled out the 2020-2021 Employee Campaign with the introduction of a new Employee Relief Fund; a total of **\$6,786** has been raised thus far and a portion of those gifts will be directed to the new fund.

### ***President's Outreach***

Dr. Moono was asked to serve as a member of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education's Committee on Applicant and Candidate Institutions.

The charges of the Committee on Applicant and Candidate Institutions are to:

- Review applicant materials and determine the institutions' ability to proceed to its application as well as determine whether institutions should be recommended to the commission for candidacy and accreditation in accordance with the Application and Candidacy Review Cycle and Monitoring Policy and Procedures;
- Participate as team chair during team visits in accordance with the Application and Candidacy Review Cycle and Monitoring Policy and Procedures;
- Make recommendations to the Executive Committee of the Commission or to the full Commission in accordance with the Accreditation Actions Policy and Procedures. Commission for candidacy and accreditation in accordance with the Application and Candidacy Review Cycle and Monitoring Policy and Procedures.

The Committee on Applicant and Candidate Institutions will meet four times annually and will transact its business virtually. The next three meetings have been planned for November 2, 2020, February 1, 2021, and July 6, 2021.

Dr. Moono was also asked to Chair a Middle States team to the University of Puerto Rico System (Ponce) in Spring 2021. The dates will be formalized in the coming months when he has had a pre-visit meeting with the University

Dr. Moono is a member of The Schenectady Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Steering Committee, which is responsible for organizing meetings to solicit input from community members regarding changes and/or reforms to the Schenectady Police Department. Through this review process, the Steering Committee seeks to identify ways to better serve the City's diverse community, build confidence, strengthen trust and legitimacy and address disparities that affect communities of color. The Collaborative has partnered with The Finn Institute for Public Safety through which they will serve as an independent research partner; systematically collecting and tracking input, themes and surveying participants. At the conclusion of the series of meetings, a formal document outlining the recommended changes voiced by the community will be presented for public comment and then taken up by the Schenectady City Council for appropriate action by April 1, 2021.

Presidents of the Community College Consortium continue to meet virtually to discuss challenges they are faced with during the Pandemic, as we continue to move through uncharted waters.