

SUNY
SCHENECTADY
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

OUR COLLEGE – OUR FUTURE – The Strategic Plan to 2020

President's Report

June 2020

Expand Access and Increase Student Success

The Division of Academic Affairs reports the following achievements for this past month:

Academic student support services continue to be open and available to students through a combination of on-campus and virtual mechanisms. Library Services continue to successfully balance being open for students, faculty and staff and simultaneously planning for and implementing transition plans for moving into the new Learning Commons.

Dr. Lorena Harris, CSTEP Director, continues to work to connect students with STEM opportunities and most recently has been working to help students gain knowledge about the Medical Science Liaison (MSL) career field and has created a short MSL career suitability test that students can take to see if the career might be a potential fit for them.

The Office of Student Affairs continues to provide students with laptops for use during summer session, as well as coordinated the return of all laptops provided during the spring semester.

Food pantry continues to be open for students and staff.

Student Affairs has coordinated all communication to students regarding services available during the Pandemic.

Admissions has worked with Baker Public Relations firm to develop new marketing campaigns as a stand-alone, and in conjunction with the SUNY "Stay Near, Go Far" campaign.

The Office of Development reports the following accomplishments this past month:

On May 18, the Scholarship Selection Committee met to select the first round of recipients. A total of 229 scholarships are available, amounting to more than \$251,000.00

On May 26, the Foundation submitted an application for support from the Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region's *Community COVID-19 Response Fund*.

On May 26, the Foundation received confirmation of the renewal of the Dr. George Potter Scholarship at \$1,000.

On May 28, the Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region confirmed a grant of \$5,000 to our Student Emergency Fund from their Community COVID-19 Response Fund; this will be matched with an additional \$5,000 by the SUNY Impact Foundation. The Foundation continues to seek donations for the match.

The Center for Workforce Development & Community Education (WFD&CE) reported that the students from the Medical Administrative Assistant and the EKG Tech classes sat for their national certification and we had a 100% pass rate!

Eight students from Introduction to Craft Brewing and Distilling successfully completed their coursework and passed their final exam.

Ensure a quality, relevant, coherent and innovative curriculum

Deans and staff members have continued to outreach students to facilitate success, foster enrollment, and assist in their understanding of the course completion and grading options available to them during the spring 2020 semester.

Faculty have completed letters of recommendation and provided reference support for numerous students entering the workforce or applying to four-year colleges.

Dr. Tolbert and Dr. Faehmel completed the Teaching for Diversity and Equity Inclusion SUNY Certificate Program.

School of Music faculty continue to adapt to a life without live concerts. Their work will help redefine the professional landscape for our students in the months and years to come.

- The link provided [here](#) is a composition by School of Music alumnus, Robert Lindquist. "Life worth Living," featuring School of Music adjuncts, Brian Patneau (tenor saxophone), Dylan Canterbury (trumpet), with Tim Reyes (guitar), Daniel Lawson (bass) and Lance Comer (drums).

The School of Music successfully completed online performance examinations for all of its students in MUS 164, and MUS 264, Performance Concentration. Students performed remotely for a panel of faculty adjudicators and were evaluated using a detailed rubric addressing sight reading, technique, tone quality, intonation, rhythm, diction, articulation, and stage presence. Students, faculty, and staff were able to respond to a sudden shift to virtual instruction admirably. Assessment data was collected and analyzed, enabling the School of Music to continue to improve the quality of its instruction even while navigating remote teaching and learning.

SUNY Schenectady School of Music piano student, Niamh Schmid, '20 performed works by Beethoven, Bach, Chopin, and Ravel in a virtual Recital on Thursday, May 21.

- Ms. Schmid's [recital](#) is the culmination of her hard work this year and in partial completion of the MUS 272, Recital. The concert was recorded in Carl B. Taylor Auditorium on May 9, 2020. Without an audience. Safety protocols were strictly observed throughout this process. Niamh will be continuing her studies at the prestigious Conservatory of Music at SUNY Purchase.

Cayla Gaworecki, Professor of Mathematics and Co-Lead on the Strong Start to Finish Grant, responded to a call for proposals to present SUNY Schenectady's updated placement strategies for mathematics at the May 18 SUNY Strong Start to Finish Placement Strategies Meeting. Professor Gaworecki's proposal was one of only four chosen for inclusion. At the Meeting/Share Out, Professor Gaworecki presented our new process, developed based on the guidance provided through the Strong Start to Finish Grant, to the over 30 cohort colleges in attendance as well as SUNY System leadership, Elizabeth Barnett of the Community College Research Center at Columbia University, and Dan Cullinan of the Manpower Demonstration Research Center (MDRC) a key collaborator with the prestigious University of Texas at Austin, Charles A. Dana Center.

HCAT faculty members took part in completing a variety of key trainings in support of our continued planning for student success including the following:

- Ingrid O'Connell: Coronavirus Dialogue Series, What Employers Need to Know About Employment Laws; Work from Home Revolution; Open SUNY Best Practices for Supporting Faculty During the Transition to Remote Teaching; and the ServSafe Takeout COVID -19 Precautions Training.
- Sue Hatalsky: Branded Strategic Hospitality's industry technology solutions for the restaurant industry as society transitions to operating in a post COVID-19 new normal; Four areas of revenue generating tech solutions that operators can quickly adopt and implement (Delivery & Takeout; Contactless Options; Digital Human Capital; Super Tech) and the American Culinary Federation's Focus on Pastry - Best Practices & Future Trends for Bakers
- Kim Otis: completed the SUNY Center for Professional Development – Teaching for Racial Equity Certificate with Distinction; the ServSafe Takeout: COVID-19 Precautions Training Certification; and the ServSafe Delivery: COVID-19 Precautions Training Certification

Jacquie Keleher, Director of Library Services, collaborated with Information Technology Services staff to complete the successful transition from a stand-alone EZproxy server to a hosted EZproxy environment allowing for agile access to electronic resources.

As part of continued effort to support student success, and in preparation for the fall semester, members of the Library team have taken part in the following:

- Giovannine Matheron, Collection Development and E-Resources Librarian, has been engaged with the SUNY Office of Library and Information Services to ensure consistent and equitable access to electronic resources.
- Caroline Buff, Research and Instruction Librarian, is creating, updating and revising the Library Research Guides in continued support of virtual online instruction and has created a new search by "genre" feature in the library catalog to support students in the Early Childhood Education program.

As part of the continued effort to support the MSTH division, and particularly lab science courses, Dr. Richard Simons created a virtual EMG lab for BIO 151; coordinated with faculty instructing the BIO 112 laboratories in selecting and modifying virtual labs; created a virtual lab practical for BIO 151 using Hot Spot, a program that allows the user to select a portion of an image (When the image is shown to students, they click on the region of the image that was selected to earn points); and recorded and

maintained a library of virtual lectures for BIO 112, 151, and 203 that students are able to use for review.

On May 26, the Healthcare team began the first fully on line Medical Administrative Assistant class taught by Javonda Taylor. In addition, the class will integrate for the first time anew training platform on healthcare soft skills, Person Ability designed to provide students with the skill necessary to work in a high stress environment.

WFD&CE Grant Team Tiziana Rota, Christine McLearn and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow submitted a Phase 2 SUNY 2020 grant. The grant is a capital grant that would provide two state of the art mobile skills labs focusing on healthcare and advanced manufacturing. Through the use of mobile labs, WFD&CE can help Capital Region manufacturing companies and healthcare providers maintain their competitive edge while increasing productivity and quality of work through expedited, skill-based training delivered at a company's facility. These self-powered, climate-controlled, Wi-Fi-enabled Labs will offer educational programs from WFD&CE in the convenience of a mobile classroom. These professional training programs will cover a variety of disciplines including quality control, technical skills, business management, lean manufacturing, Phlebotomy, EKG, Medical Administrative Assistant, Behavioral Health and Community Health Workers. We hope to hear positive results soon.

Invest in Campus Renewal

The Division of Academic Affairs reports that Jacquie Keleher, Director of Library Services, continues to participate in the activities involved with the construction of the Learning Commons including meeting with SCI, the furniture vendor, to ensure seamless installation and continuity of implementation as well as taking part in each bi-weekly construction meeting for the project.

The Office of Administration reports that work on the Begley Learning Commons continued in May. Our contractors installed the large two-story window that faces the main campus quad and worked on interior finish items. On both floors of the Commons, drywall was installed and the drop ceilings were completed. The HVAC contractor re-installed the individual heat/air conditioning units and serviced the ceiling mounted units above the second floor ceiling. A request for bids was issued in May for the Learning Commons interior signage, which is due in early June. The Learning Commons is on schedule for completion in mid-August.

In May, the New York State Division of Budget implemented a freeze on all new capital project contracts. This impacts the college's capital projects that are out to bid and those that moved to the contracting phase. To date, this freeze is impacting all of our 2020 capital projects. SUNY and DOB have a process in place to request special consideration of projects that are health/safety, COVID-19 or substantially completed. To date, the College asked for consideration to move forward with the Campus wide IT Infrastructure, Stockade VCT Flooring and Elston Hall Façade project. As of this date, these projects have not been approved to move forward at this time.

On May 11, the Vice President of Development and External Affairs received training on the in2Trek platform for the Alumni Hall of Fame touch screen. All Distinguished Alumni have been uploaded to the system, including photos and descriptions, and the home screen has been finalized.

On May 27, the final brick order was sent to Permanent Mark and the engraving process has begun to complete the *Paving the Way for Future Royals* project.

Strengthen and Expand Community and Strategic Partnerships

Adjunct Ann-Marie Barker Schwartz, Director of Chamber Ensemble in Residence, Musicians' of Ma'alwyck, continued offering mini-concerts via live stream at the First Reformed Church every Sunday at 3:00 p.m. The concerts are now also being streamed on Open Stage Media at Proctors as well. Along with Professor, Sten Isachsen, she is working on developing virtual concert packages to share with retirement centers. The following is a link to one of Musicians of Ma'alwyck's virtual concerts: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NqtRPF_rUHs&feature=youtu.be

As part of his leadership of the national Lab Safety and Animal Use Committee, Dr. Richard Simons submitted the Chair's Annual Report to the Board of the Human Anatomy & Physiology Society and also participated in HAPS virtual Town Hall meeting in which instructional methods were discussed for adapting to virtual labs for fall 2020.

Dr. Lorena Harris presented as part of the National Girls Collaborative Project (NGCP) National Webinar CryptoClub Showcase Exploring Mathematics in a Playful and Engaging Way on May 20, 2020. The goals of the NGCP are (1) to maximize access to share resources within organizations interested in engaging girls in STEM, (2) strengthen the capacity of programs by sharing exemplary practices, research and program models and (3) use the leverage of a network to achieve gender equity in STEM. Dr. Harris was one of the four CryptoClub presenters. Following up on this effort, Dr. Lorena Harris is working to bring a Cryptography Curriculum (aka CryptoClub) to the Fall Rise High program. This collaboration connects Dr. Lorena Harris with students at Schenectady City School District middle schools and Schenectady High School.

During May, the Office of Development completed a mass upload to Constant Contact, to include graduates from 2018, as well as the over 5,000 alumni from WFD&CE.

On May 22, a special constant Contact email appeal was sent to Corporate Champions to encourage participation in the Virtual Business Roundtable.

The Department of Information Technology reports the following:

Banner security – ITEC requested to remove all departmental accounts and archive the data files. Staff will be limited to their departmental reports. Staff accounts no longer have access to directories within these servers.

Remaining Banner 8 functions on track to migrate to Banner 9 well before end of June.

Oracle security – Three phases of database password updates has been completed. The remainder will be executed on 6/3.

Unified mobile app project - Unified will be updating our portal mobile apps – completion estimate 6/15/2020.

Access to Apple App store has been achieved.

Off campus multifactor authentication will begin to roll out to students and staff. Delayed due to Covid-19 remote access.

Application Xtender (Banner scanning) scanning application project in progress will include updated functionality, including OCR search capabilities.

Slate implementation – Received welcome email from Constituo. Kick off meeting scheduled for June 2.

ISP recommendations approved beginning implementation process.

New services implementation in planning phase with new vendors awaiting on their scheduling departments for installation and activation

We have the County Capital Budget items mapped out.

- Wireless access point order ready to go.
- Laptop order ready to go.
- Classroom upgrades waiting a through requote based on physical audit of each room prioritized by the Academic Technology Counsel.

Network restructure: new VLAN structure implementation has begun.

- Elston 5th floor computer lab and IT offices on that floor complete. No issues. Plan for every building every floor underway.

Web conferencing options sent out to be discussed with the task force for fall semester options

The Hudson Mohawk Area Health Education Center and SUNY Schenectady County Community College Office of Workforce Development and Community Education are partnering to present a 4-part webinar series to benefit students interested in the health care and addictions field. Each course will cover a topic of interest for specific academic disciplines but with a focus on the interdisciplinary collaboration necessary to respond to the opioid epidemic.

Michael Henderson submitted a Phase II Workforce Development Initiative Consolidated Funding Application (WDI/CFA) to deliver training for the nursing staff at Ellis Hospital. Ellis Hospital needs to provide continuous nursing personal development and training to help nurses stay abreast of changing health and safety practices and evolving science. The training creates a forum to foster best practices, find workable solutions for departmental issues, and teach leadership skills for colleague and team support. It will help nursing staff adapt to their profession's difficult physical, mental, and emotional nature.

Ensure the College's Financial Sustainability

In response to anticipated reductions in State support and tuition revenues, the College instituted a hiring freeze and suspension of all non-essential spending. By implementing spending constraints, the

College will save needed resources to mitigate a decline in enrollment and other revenue losses due to COVID-19.

During May, the Office of Administration completed the State Liquor Authority license application for Mill Lane and replacement of our current license at 78 Washington Avenue. These documents are under review by our attorney and are anticipated to be submitted in early June. In addition to the SLA application, quarterly requests for capital project reimbursements were completed and submitted to the County for approval and submission to DASNY.

On May 6, a “communication and appreciation” letter mailed to all donors (approximately 3,000), including letters specific to campaign donors, scholarship owners, alumni donors, School of Hotel, Culinary Arts and Tourism donors, School of Music donors, corporate champions, and friends. Design work began on the “Within Reach” micro-campaign mail piece scheduled for June as a follow up “ask”.

On May 19, a 2019-2020 Board Appeal mailed; an additional **\$525** has been raised so far.

A round of *Paving the Way for Future Royals* order forms were sent to the Class of 2019 (approximately 415), the names and addresses for whom were recently made available to the Foundation .

Program Coordinator, Christine McLear, hosted the first NYS Consortia meeting for the Google IT Support Professional Certificate. The consortia consists of six Community Colleges throughout NYS who are working to offer this program as an entirely virtual offering this summer and fall.

President's Outreach

In May 2020, the Vice President of Administration, Patrick Ryan and I met with the County Manager and staff to discuss currently active and future capital projects. A list of critical projects was developed for consideration by the College's Board of Trustees at their June 2020 Board of Trustees meeting.

On May 28, 2020, SUNY Schenectady, with the assistance of Baker Public Relations, hosted a Virtual Business Roundtable about COVID-19. This Roundtable brought together local leaders together to provide insight on lessons learned and ways to move forward during this current Pandemic we are living in.

Panelists were:

Dr. Steady Moono, President, SUNY Schenectady

Rayn Boncie, Founder and Vice-President, Things of My Very Own, Inc.

Antonio Civitella, President and CEO, Transfinder

Mark Eagan, President and CEO, Capital Region Chamber

Mona Golub, Vice President of Public Relations and Community Service, Price Chopper/Market 32

Andy Guelcher, Dealer Principal and General Manager, Mohawk Chevrolet & Mohawk Honda

Catherine Hover, Founder, Palette

Honorable Anthony Jasenski Sr., Chair, Schenectady County Legislature

Honorable Gary McCarthy, Mayor, City of Schenectady

James P. McPartlon, President, Mohawk Ambulance Service

Jamaica Miles, Community Activist

James Salengo, Executive Director, Downtown Schenectady Improvement Corp. (DSIC)
Kim Siciliano, Executive Director, YWCA Northeastern NY

<https://youtu.be/Bjr-l1KjL6I>

I continue to meet with Community College Presidents to discuss the challenges we have faced, and the ones we will still face, as we all travel through these uncharted times.