



MANY VOICES, ONE CALL – The Strategic Plan to 2026

President's Report
June 2021

Promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

On May 3, Collection Development and Electronic Resources Librarian Giovannine Matheron attended a webinar entitled “Diverse Views and Discussions in Library Programs” hosted by the New York Library Association.

On May 4, Jamie Hungerschafer, Maria Kotary, Christine McLearn and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met to discuss marketing opportunities through online streaming services (Pandora, Spotify, etc.) to better reach prospective Workforce Development & Community Education students—particularly those who are looking to retool/retrain their skills in light of COVID recovery efforts.

On May 6, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow presented at a virtual career fair for Schenectady High School students highlighting opportunities available in traditional and non/traditional career pathways.

On May 18, Dr. Rota attended a meeting on the Inclusive Entrepreneurship and Employment Pilot Program with Dr. Moono, Dr. Clickner and Assemblyman Santabarbara.

On May 20, Giovannine Matheron attended the SUNY Global Accessibility Awareness Day.

From May 24 - May 26, Director of Library Services, Jacquie Keleher, participated in multiple sessions of the 2021 Northeast OER Summit which highlighted ways to integrate equity, diversity and inclusion into the adoption and use of Open Educational Resources

On May 25, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow attended the One Schenectady Workforce Development Coalition to discuss recovery efforts and workforce needs in Schenectady County and the larger Capital Region.

On May 25, Dr. Rota and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met to discuss the Inclusive Entrepreneurship and Employment Pilot Program in partnership with Assemblyman Santabarbara.

Workforce Development & Community Education (WFDCE) Staff continued participation in the DEI subgroups meetings.

Teaching and Learning Specialist (TLS) David Wolf continues with Cohort instruction that specifically addresses accessibility and equity issues. Faculty are made aware of the demographics of our college and of ways they can use an inclusive design to accommodate our students' needs. Most importantly, Cohort trainings introduce the Principles of Universal Design for Learning that ensure equitable learning environments. Cohort 9 Part 1 is completed and preparations for Cohort 8 Part 2 has begun. Cohort 8 will also entail quality reviews (OSCQR) of six of our courses.

David Wolf ran an accessibility report to confirm that our accessibility standing is improving. The rate of inaccessible content, though still concerning, is gradually decreasing. He continues to discover new ways to inspire faculty to focus on only using accessible content, as this is essential for inclusive learning environments.

Professor Carol Maimone continues her ongoing work with the DEI Microaggressions team, even as we move into the summer session. They are preparing plans for fall projects that can be implemented at the College.

C-STEP Director Lorena Harris, PhD. participated in the SUNY Online Summit, where she connected with other faculty and learned about unique and creative ways to teach effectively online for all learners. She also held the Summer STEAM Academy orientation session for educators who are slated to help the program run in June. The Summer STEAM Academy is aimed at inspiring young women to pursue studies and careers in the STEM fields.

Throughout the month, BCJL Dean Hamin Shabazz, PhD. met with all faculty to examine current courses as listed in each program for diversity, equity, and inclusion content. Faculty were encouraged to develop or revise at least one required course for each program would deliver such content.

Professor Dean Bennett has completed the SUNY Center for Professional Development course entitled "Teaching for Racial Equity".

Delivering a Meaningful Student Experience

On May 3, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with representatives from Clinton County Community College, Mohawk Valley Community College, North Country Workforce

Development Board regarding the Brewing/Distilling title being developed with the NY State Department of Labor.

On May 3, Hotel, Culinary Arts and Tourism (HCAT) Dean David Brough, PhD., Professor Susan Hatalsky, Associate Professor Michael Stamets, Instructor Vanessa Traver and Adjunct Instructor Rain O'Donnell presented a virtual tour of the HCAT labs and facilities for Pro-Start students. They walked through the labs, Casola Dining Room, and the Van Curler Room explaining to the students everything the culinary program has to offer. At the end they answered questions from students who were participating virtually.

On May 3, Collection Development and Electronic Resources Librarian Giovannine Matheron attended a webinar entitled *Embedding Library Resources to Increase Engagement*

On May 4, Christine McLear and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with Dan Paris of the NYS Department of Labor and CEK RN Consulting regarding the Community Health Worker (CHW) NYS Department of Labor apprenticeship title.

On May 5, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with the NYS Department of Labor, Frog Alley, Albany Distilling Co. and other subject matter experts in the craft beverage industry to finalize a draft for the new Brewing/Distilling apprenticeship title.

On May 6, 13, 20 and May 27, Christine McLear and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with SUNY Apprenticeship, NYS Department of Labor and Mohawk Valley Community College to manage apprenticeship applications throughout New York State.

On May 6 and May 20, Christine McLear and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with the statewide Workforce Development call hosted by SUNY.

On May 7, Christine McLear and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow presented at a virtual roundtable with Mohawk Valley Community College, SUNY, Cayuga Community College and the NYS Department of Labor met to promote SUNY Apprenticeship in healthcare in the Cayuga region.

On May 12, Christine McLear, Lauren Lankau and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with Family and Child Services of Schenectady regarding the Child Development Associate program at SUNY Schenectady and apprenticeship opportunities with the Childcare Assistant NYS Apprenticeship title.

On May 13, Christine McLear and Sarah Wilson-Sparrow presented at the Industry Roundtable titled "SUNY Apprenticeship Session—Craft Beverage Industry in the North Country." The meeting included the NYS Department of Labor, Frog Alley, Albany

Distilling Co., North Country Workforce Development Board, War Cannon Spirits, SUNY Apprenticeship, Workforce Development Institute, Mohawk Valley Community College, Essex County, North Country Community College to promote the Brewer/Distiller title that is in progress.

On May 15, The School of Hotel, Culinary Arts and Tourism hosted the 12th annual Spring Culinary Classic at SUNY Schenectady. Associate Professor Michael Stamets CEC, served as the show chair for the competition. Students were judged by ACF Certified Culinary judges (of which there are only 150 in the country). Judges were Michael Morgan CEC, AAC (our lead judge) and Northeast Region Culinary Competition Chair, Victor Sommo CEC, as well as the National Student Team Competition Chair, and William Hohenstein CEC. The feedback they provided will be invaluable to help our students further their careers. We are pleased to offer our congratulations to LeeAna Doolin, Gold Medal, Damion Virgo, Silver Medal, Arvin Clemente, Silver Medal, Zakiyyah Hood, Silver Medal, Zomarielys Quierman, Silver Medal, Harry Hart, Bronze Medal, Ileana Hernandez, Bronze Medal and David Pendergast, Bronze Medal. On May 21, 2021 Instructor Vanessa Traver participated in the Charlton Heights Elementary School's virtual career day. She recorded a video where she explained the job of a Pastry Chef, answered questions submitted by the students and walked them through the process of bean to bar chocolate making in the Mill Lane Chocolate lab.

On May 21, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with the NYS Department of Labor, Albany Distilling Co, Frog Alley and other subject matter experts to finalize the Brewer/Distiller draft title. The title will be submitted for comment in May and be submitted for approval to the NYS Department of Labor Committee on June 22nd.

On May 27, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow participated in a Public Sector Industry-Focus Call focusing on apprenticeship including Mohawk Valley Community College, NYS Department of Labor, SUNY Apprenticeship and successful programming in Nebraska.

Eight students successfully completed coursework for CNA/PCA. All eight received PCA certification. Six out of eight received CNA certification (remaining 2 will retest in June).

Four students successfully completed coursework for Community Health Worker. Two out of the four have begun internship placements. Remaining two are set to begin early June.

The Scholarship Selection Committee, made up of select faculty and staff, Foundation Board members, and friends of the Foundation, had their first of two meetings to award scholarships to our students. Over \$110,000 in scholarship support was awarded to 67 returning students.

The Foundation celebrated graduates by providing them with an alumni pin during the 51st Commencement, in addition to “welcome to the alumni family” messaging on diploma inserts.

Teaching and Learning Specialist David Wolf is working in an ongoing collaboration with SUNY Administrators to further implement and employ Blackboard Ally and improve its accessibility across all SUNY campuses. This group strives to create awareness and a unified experience for faculty, students, and administrators. During the month of May they concentrated on concerns about increasing accessibility awareness among faculty and staff. They have confirmed that the tool is platform agnostic to avoid issues of risk involved with a change in Learning Management Systems.

David Wolf is also researching how to improve the synchronous learning experience through better teaching practices to benefit our students in the event the College needs to pivot back to remote learning. This work also benefits faculty wishing to adopt HyFlex models that will offer our students more options to complete their courses, and coincidentally have been found to increase retention and enrollment. Results will be presented to faculty via a webinar in the near future.

Professor Carol Maimone attended *Embedding Library Resources to Increase Engagement* with Librarian Caroline Buff.

Director of Library Services, Jacquie Keleher, took part in the SUNY Conference of Instruction and Technology (CIT). The 2021 conference theme was “**Working Together to Prepare all Students for a Lifetime of Learning**”. **She attended several sessions including “Updates to SUNY-wide Programs and Initiatives”, “Technology Use in a Post-pandemic Environment”, “Diversity, Equity, Access and Inclusion and Open Education”.**

Associate Professor Michael Stamets CEC, visited Fort Drum to work with their Student Culinary Team. He has been named an advisor to the team as they prepare for the ACF National Convention where they will compete in the National Student Team Competition.

Business, Criminal Justice and Law (BCJL) Dean, Hamin Shabazz, PhD., met with program advisory boards to determine the availability of internship or shadowing opportunities for our students at their respective agencies and to solicit their suggestions for updating current curriculum in order to better meet the demands of employers.

The Spring and Summer 2021 Infant Toddler CDA Cohort in the Early Childhood Education Program was a resounding success and has been asked to participate in another Infant/Toddler Child Development Associate (CDA) Cohort in collaboration with CUNY/PDI for Spring/Summer 2022 in which CUNY/PDI will be funding the expenses for 15 students including tuition, textbooks, and course materials.

The Food Pantry, coordinated by Counselor IV Robyn King will begin a beta-test of online ordering for the SUNY Schenectady community on Monday, June 7th using a program called PantrySoft, which was developed specifically for college food pantries.

As of today, we are the only SUNY Community College using PantrySoft. A full roll-out will start on the first day of Fall classes. Online ordering will provide many benefits, not the least of which is having the ability to place an order 24 hours a day on any computer, laptop, tablet, or cell phone, and schedule a convenient pick-up day and time. PantrySoft streamlines gathering client data, inventory management, and report generation, which will greatly simplify our day-to-day operations and eliminate the labor-intensive tasks of doing all of these things by hand. Long lines and in-person wait times will also be a thing of the past, as well as protecting the privacy of our visitors. The "storefront" (where ordering takes place) is user-friendly, and within each of the categories we have, every item is listed separately and has a corresponding photograph so visitors will see what is available. Once an order is placed, visitors will receive a confirmation email, and a reminder text and email 2 hours before their scheduled pick-up. The strategic plan pillars that this initiative meet are Promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Delivering a Meaningful Student Experience; and Building Organizational Effectiveness. We're very excited to be offering this opportunity, and welcome feedback.

508 students were approved for graduation and invited to the May 2021 ceremony. These included students who completed requirements in December of 2020, Spring 2021 graduates and August 2021 pending graduates who were within 2 courses of degree completion and who were registered for Summer 2021. 205 students ordered regalia paid for through SGA funds.

Building Organizational Effectiveness

On May 3, Cheryl Renée Gooch, Ph.D. began her new position as Vice President for Academic Affairs, and has convened working meetings with Deans and Directors to develop Academic Affairs 2021-2022 Division and Unit Goals.

On May 4, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow and Christine McLear met with CEK RN Consulting to discuss their new apprenticeship program for Community Health Workers. CEK RN Consulting is the first employer to pursue this trade under the SUNY Apprenticeship Program.

On May 6, Hamin Shabazz, PhD. began his new position as Dean of BCJL. He has since held virtual meetings with all full-time faculty and adjuncts in the division as well as with the advisory boards of the programs within the division.

On May 12, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow and Christine McLear met with the Schenectady County Family Children Services staff to discuss areas of partnership and potential collaboration.

On May 17, Christopher Brellochs, D.M.A. began his new position as Dean of School of Music (SoM). Interim Dean of SoM Ed Marschilok has been working closely with him to ensure a smooth transition.

On May 18, Director of Library Services Jacquie Keleher attended the SUNY Sector meeting of Engaging Faculty in Professional Development for Community Colleges, and she learned about great ideas and tips on how to engage faculty in professional development.

On May 21, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with Paula Ohlhous, Chief of Staff and Sarah Pauley of the Clarus Corporation regarding digital marketing strategies in targeting the unemployed, underemployed, job seekers, displaced workers, and career changers as well-developing a marketing calendar for the year.

On May 26, part-time Reference Librarians Tracy Salvage and Matthew Montalbano attended a session held by Assistant Director for Career Services Dawn Jones, on the *Focus 2 Apply* tool recently implemented with perspective students. This session started a discussion on how the Library can better support the students and Career Services by including more information about campus Career Services within the Career Services Research Guide maintained by the library.

On May 28, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with Professor Matt Farron to discuss alignment between business, leadership and marketing areas of the college.

Dr. Brellochs held his first Division meeting wherein he solicited faculty feedback on recruitment and social media efforts and worked on aligning SoM Unit Goals with the new SCCC Institutional Strategic Goals.

David Wolf is the recipient of the [FACT2 Excellence in Instructional Support: Community Colleges Award](#). This is a system-level honor conferred to acknowledge and provide SUNY-wide recognition for consistently noteworthy achievement. He competed across the 64 campuses with the largest pool of applicants in the history of the award. He presented material at the [CIT conference](#) this month.

David Wolf will also be presenting material on teaching and accessibility at the OTTER Institute in June. The OTTER Institute is a week-long conference promoting excellence in remote learning by [SUNY Center for Professional Development](#).

The Spring 2021 webinar series finished up in May. The series had both a presentation by SUNY Schenectady Librarian Caroline Buff and a guest speaker. The webinars were:

- *Hyflex: Lesson Learned* by Dr. Craig Lamb who is the Dean of Distributed Learning at SUNY GCC. Dr. Lamb offered his knowledge from the successful HyFlex program offered at SUNY GCC. The recording is being processed and will be made available soon.
- *Embedding Library Resources to Increase Engagement* by Caroline Buff about techniques available to embed librarians and library resources in online courses to advance information literacy and student research skills.

Work has begun on scheduling the Fall 2021 sessions with several guest instructors with over 50 years of combined experience in leading areas in online learning. Throughout the month, Registrar Cindy Zielaskowski has collaborated closely with the Dean of Academic Affairs, Jessica Gilbert and Assistant Director of Academic Advisement and Retention, Mitzi Espinola to implement *College Scheduler*, a course registration software package. *College Scheduler* is used at dozens of other SUNY campuses making it easier for students to choose courses based on their personal needs like work and family responsibilities. *Scheduler* will give the student every possible schedule based on their input and is mobile friendly. The goal is to eliminate the frustrations of scheduling for students and advisors.

Assistant Registrar Holly Sociagrosch has been working on a major upgrade of our DegreeWorks software that all SUNY campuses use for degree audits. This upgrade from SICAS takes what we have been working with for years and brings it into the 21 Century. The changes (scheduled for installation on June 15) make the product both ADA compliant and mobile friendly. Holly has worked diligently to try to ensure that no features from the current version are lost in the upgrade.

Professor Carol Maimone is working on updating HIM 204 – The Medical Coding and Billing Internship course outline. Many students need a virtual internship either because they cannot be placed into offices due to COVID or for personal reasons with work and life obligations. As such, she is taking the time to change the outline to make sure all students have the opportunity to get an internship opportunity, both in-person and virtual where needed. This also intersects with Goal I.

Associate Professor Richard Simons, PhD. is currently participating in the annual Human Anatomy and Physiology Society (HAPS) conference where he serves as the international chairperson of the laboratory safety committee. He also acted as a liaison to reach out to other instructors to encourage them to present at this year's virtual meeting. As part of this HAPS conference, Dr. Simons attended several workshops on diversity in Anatomy and Physiology instruction (intersection with Goal I), and workshops on how to improve his teaching of Anatomy and Physiology courses. This is important professional development for Dr. Simons as he cares deeply about delivering effective courses to all of his students.

The College's capital projects were underway in May and June of 2021. During this time our contractors completed work on three roof sections on the Begley Building/old wing of the School of Music. In early June, the roofers completed work on replacement of the roof over the 1991 culinary wing of Elston Hall.

During May and June, College representatives met with partners from Metroplex, the City of Schenectady and contractors to complete planning activities for renovation of the So. Church Street parking lot. The College's parking lot project is part of a larger project to reconstruct the South end of Church Street. Once plans were finalized, bids were solicited for contractors to build-out the project. In early June, a contractor was selected pending approval by the Metroplex Board.

Design work continued on replacement of the Begley Building Cooling Tower which is located inside the second floor mechanical room in Begley Hall. In early June, the engineer was on-site to take measurements and locate pipes necessary for relocation of the tower to the exterior roof of the building. Bids for construction will be released by the County in June.

Electrical contractors were selected by the County for work to install the new campus-wide generator. Representatives were on-site in early June to prepare for installation of a new electrical meter and switches needed to connect the generator. We anticipate installation of the generator in late Summer/early Fall 2021.

Representative of the College and County met with architects who are designing the re-construction/renovation of the Route 5 Skybridge. Architectural renderings were presented to the College officials and a design has been selected for further engineering and costing purposes. Re-construction of the Skybridge will be included in the FY 2022 Capital request.

Planning for construction of new and renovation of existing restrooms in the Begley lobby continued. Our architects and engineers are in the process of finalizing the design drawings and developing construction bid specifications. We anticipate this project will go to bid during the Summer of 2021.

The architect designing the Admissions and Welcome Center area met with representatives from the College and County on plans for this major renovation project. Design plans were shared and are currently under consideration.

In early June, our contractors returned the library collection and archives to the new Begley Learning Commons. During the Summer, library staff will be organizing materials and the ITS staff will be installing computers and infrastructure to prepare for the Learning Commons opening in late August.

In May 2021, the President and Vice President of Administration 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 August 2021 Board of Trustees meeting.

In June 2021, the Information Technology Services office implemented Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) for all College staff. MFA is an enhance IT security protocol that requires users who access SUNY Schenectady systems from unknow (external) devices to proceed through multiple questions upon logon. Implementation of this feature will reduce the likelihood of our systems being hacked by external parties. A roll out of MFA to faculty will occur upon their return in August.

In May, the College received 500 new laptop computers for student and faculty/staff use in support of virtual education and college services. These computers are in the process of being inventoried, imaged and prepared for use by the college community during the 2021-22 academic year.

At the April 19, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting, the Board approved Financial Policy 6.11 Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (FASAP) policy. The Financial Aid Office began implementing this policy with the posting of the Spring 2021 semester grades on May 21, 2021.

The policy had two significant updates in terms of administering the College's compliance with Title IV Federal Student Aid regulations: (1) allows for the administrative approval of Financial Aid Probationary status for students who can return to Good Financial Aid Standing within in one semester and (2) provided clarity on how we are to administer the Maximum Time Frame for completion component of the regulations.

The first has allowed us to assist students in the continuation of their financial aid eligibility with minimal burden being placed on the student to navigate the appeal process. The later has brought us into compliance in an area that we needed to improve. The Financial Aid Office has been successful in implementing this board approved policy in collaboration with both the Academic Advisement staff and the Registrar's Office.

COVID Pool Tests were performed by 522 faculty and staff and 136 students for the month of May 2021. One test was positive from the student pool testing and the student was asymptomatic.

Ensuring Financial Sustainability and Self-Sufficiency

On May 10 and May 21, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow continued progress on the Hill & Markes Supply Chain Management and Leadership project.

On May 12, Sarah Wilson-Sparrow met with the Schenectady ARC regarding developing a grant around underserved adults and formerly incarcerated individuals. In addition to the eight funding sources identified in the last monthly report, the following have been secured during the current reporting period:

- River Ridge Living Center (Amsterdam, NY)
- Saratoga County Department of Employment and Training

Increased Social Media postings for Healthcare classes on Facebook and utilizing Mailchimp distribution

Participated in Virtual Career Exploration with Mohonasen High School Students through Business Advisory Board where 50+ visitors explored our booth to learn about how our trainings can prepare them for careers in healthcare

The Foundation launched its first-ever *Commencement Challenge* in partnership with Commencement Underwriter Marshall & Sterling, resulting in more than \$2,890 in donations in honor of the Class of 2021, made possible by the following efforts:

- During Commencement a video touting the *Commencement Challenge* was sent to 7,844 alumni.
- With the ceremony in the background, the Vice President of Development and External Affairs recorded 17 personalized ViewSpark messages to key prospects, asking for their help in meeting the \$7,500 matching gift challenge.
- A concurring phone-a-thon reached out to nearly 2,000 never and lapsed donors.

The Foundation submitted grant inquiry letters to four foundations:

- William Gundry Broughton Charitable Private Foundation (Communicate gratitude, share updates, and request opportunity to connect and learn about current funding priorities.)
- Smachlo Foundation (Strengthen relationship, communicate gratitude, share updates, and request opportunity to reconnect and tour campus.)
- Statler Foundation (Communicate gratitude, share updates, and request opportunity to reconnect and learn about current funding priorities.)
- Massry Charitable Foundation (Communicate gratitude, share updates, and request opportunity to connect, tour campus and learn about funding priorities.)

The Vice President of Development and External Affairs reached out to (9) major donors for continued relationship building.

The Vice President of Development and External Affairs met with a representative from National Grid to discuss sponsorship and grant opportunities at the local and regional levels.

In line with our donor stewardship and retention strategy, the Foundation sent out several “good news” communications in May:

- The first edition of “Stronger Together; Your Philanthropy at Work” newsletter mailed to 550 donors.
- Utilizing the ViewSpark platform, the Foundation sent a feel-good Friday post entitled, “Katherine Wants to Change the World” to 7,225 alumni and friends.
- Several personalized “thank you” videos for new donors acquired during our *Commencement Challenge*.
- The May 2021 edition of *alumNEWS* was successfully sent to 18, 517 alumni and associate alumni and featured the *Commencement Challenge*, a link to the new *Many Voices, One Call* podcast, Class Notes, and information about fall preschool enrollment for the Gateway Montessori.
- Several notes of thanks from graduating scholarship recipients, and photos of graduating students to their scholarship donors, sharing the joy of Commencement and reminding both parties how essential and fulfilling scholarship support can be.
- A “Thank You” book for Patricia Gioia and the Gioia Family for the Mary Regina Gioia Scholarship support they have provided since 2002, utilizing notes from former beneficiaries and a beautiful update from a grateful graduate.

C-STEP Director Lorena Harris, PhD. has been awarded a stipend through C-STEP to hold a community event that will share the launching of the Webb Space Telescope by NASA. Dr. Harris and MSTH Dean Tania Cabrera are planning a community event for the launch.

**Note on the Webb Space Telescope: The James Webb Space Telescope (Webb) will be the largest, most powerful and complex space telescope ever built and launched into space. Launching from French Guiana in October of 2021, NASA and its international partners want to help you celebrate this generational moment in our common exploration of the wider universe, through celebrating together with the community. Our goal is to make an event to reconnect with the community and educate our families about a particular topic connected to the Webb Space Telescope launch.*

Dr. Harris has also been invited to present at the Association of Program Administrators of C-STEP (APACS) Conference on a panel called “Enhancing Student Retention and Engagement.” She is currently preparing her presentation.

Director of Library Services Jacquie Keleher and Collection Development and Electronic Resources Librarian Giovannine Matheron, worked with SUNY Shared Library Services for better pricing on the CQ Researcher database.

SoM Dean Christopher Brellochs, D.M.A. observed auditions and advised 14 students for summer and fall registration into one of the four music curricula. He notes that enrollment in Music is up 28% compared to this time last year.

During May, the 2021-22 College Operating Budget was finalized for Board of Trustee consideration. The proposed budget includes a modest decrease in spending from 2020-21.

During May of 2021, contract negotiations continued with two employee bargaining units. SEIU represents the College's adjunct faculty and CSEA represents clerical, maintenance and computer staff. Negotiations continued into June.

Ben DeAngelis, Student Activities Advisor, was able to re-negotiate the cost for the new online New Student Orientation provided through the COMEVO product realizing a 60% cost-savings in the 2021-2022 SGA Budget.

President's Outreach

As a member of the Human Rights Commission, I attended meetings held in May, of which the main topic of interest was the discussion of the Executive Director Role.

Presidents from various SUNY campuses participated in the Aspen Institute Workshop, for Strategic Finance. The Presidents were challenged with completing this workshop with understanding Aspen's three-part framework for strategic resource acquisition and mission alignment and consider how it can be applied in the current environment; determine key actions to take using finance as an institutional culture driver through conversations with the CFO and increased transparency, identify where stranded assets are in their institutions, and to develop an understanding of how strategic partnership can be used as a financial strategy.

The New York Capital Region Higher Education Council (NYCRHEC) met during the month of May, of which I was in attendance for. A presentation was provided by the Government Affairs Associate, resulting in a stimulus funds discussion. Additionally, it has been recommended that all of the NYCRHEC Council Presidents participate in a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) training session.

Student recruitment from Puerto Rico was a topic of interest amongst myself and a few staff members recently.

Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) recently met and the topic of discussion was the Committee on Applicant and Candidate Institutions Meeting.

On May 20, the College celebrated its 51st Commencement, via a drive-thru event. Students waited in their cars until their name had been called and then crossed the stage to receive their achievements. Dr. Steady Moono, President, Dr. Cheryl Renee Gooch, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Mrs. Ann Fleming Brown, Chair of the Board of Trustees greeted them and congratulated them. Faculty and staff members were present to cheer and congratulate the graduates.

On May 21, the College celebrated recent and future 20/21 retirees, via a drive-thru event. Each retiree had their own decorated booth, the line of cars began in the West Lot and paraded through the parking lot wishing the retirees well.



On Friday, May 28 the College hosted a ground breaking ceremony for the County's Veteran's Memorial Park located at SUNY Schenectady, near the back parking lot and the Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail. The memorial park will be the first County Park to honor Schenectady County residents who served in the military during the Vietnam War. Remarks were heard by Chairman Jasenski, Legislator Vellano, Veteran Bill Frank and myself. I was also joined by Trustee King and members of the Leadership Team: Dr. David Clickner, Dean Fragale, Chief of Staff Paula Ohlhous, and Vice President Patrick Ryan.

