PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS
THE TRANSFER OFFICE IS THE CONDUIT BETWEEN NCC AND FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES NATIONWIDE

Nassau Community College has meant a lot of things to a lot of people in its fifty years of existence. To some it has meant being the first in their family to go to college. To many others, it’s been an excellent, affordable supplement to their four-year school. For a large number of students—thanks to the NCC Transfer Office—it has been the steppingstone to a four-year college.

Transfer Coordinator Prof. Evor Ingram and Transfer Counselor Prof. James Hoyt have facilitated thousands of students’ journeys from Nassau Community College to colleges and universities near and wide, including: the Ivy League schools; the SUNY and CUNY schools; colleges in North Carolina, California and Florida; Hofstra; Adelphi; C.W. Post; Dowling; the University of Maryland; Johnson & Wales University; Fordham; NYU; and St. John’s University. “We serve as a liaison between Nassau and the four-year schools,” said Prof. Ingram. “We want to make students aware of the opportunities that are out there; to help them crystallize their goals.”

Towards that end, she and Prof. Hoyt see hundreds of students each year on a personal basis. In addition, approximately 3,000 students and representatives from over 100 colleges and universities come to Transfer Day, which is held each fall on campus. An evening transfer program is held each year as well. The transfer office also arranges for NCC students to visit the campuses of other colleges in which they may be interested. It works in tandem with other departments to provide students with appropriate information and connections within specific programs, such as nursing or teacher education.

Over the years, thousands of students have taken advantage of the services of the NCC Transfer Office. One recent program they’ve been working on is the Pathways to Success Community College Partnership program, in which Cornell University commits financial aid and other resources to high-achieving Nassau students selected to be in the program. The program is funded by the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation.

With its excellent academic reputation and extensive network of advisement and support, Nassau is considered a good “feeder school” for other colleges, according to Prof. Ingram. Transfer coordinators from four-year colleges and universities agree. “Hundreds of successful Nassau students have graduated from the NYU Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development,” said Prof. Ingram.

Continued on page 3
A Message From the President

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO THE NASSAU COUNTY ECONOMY

by Dr. Sean A. Fanelli

What is less known about Nassau is the major part the college plays in the county’s overall economy. In the 2006-2007 fiscal year (the latest figures available), the following economic contributions were made by NCC:

- As a major employer, a major purchaser of goods and services and a leading educational institution in the Long Island region, NCC contributes over $65 million per year to the local economy.

- NCC continues to repay taxpayers year after year, because Nassau graduates continue to live, work and pay taxes in New York State.

- The college provides New York and Nassau county taxpayers with a return of $13.46 for each $1 of their investment of state and local support.

- NCC is Long Island’s 26th largest employer, with approximately 3,240 full- and part-time faculty and staff (Newsday, May 14, 2007).

- During the fall 2007 semester, 2,483 full- and part-time students registered for courses at the college. They contributed over $260 million in direct spending in the Nassau county region.

- Yearly tuition at the college remains one of the lowest in the region. That, coupled with the fact that we provide the highest quality of instruction, contributes to high levels of employment and earning for NCC graduates.

Without question, Nassau Community College is a major component of the Nassau county economy, providing essential resources in the county’s social and employment infrastructure. The economy of the county depends on the sum of all its parts. NCC is a significant component of that economy. While providing an excellent education is certainly the primary mission of the college (a task we take very seriously), we also recognize that by our very presence we are forging considerable partnership with all of the students, citizens, taxpayers and vendors in the county of Nassau.

Our school motto, “Where success starts... and continues,” speaks both to the nature of our academic enterprise and to the ongoing contribution Nassau Community College makes to the economic stability of the county.

From Nassau Community College to a Four-Year University

School,” said Bart Grachan, Director of the Community College Transfer Opportunity Program (CCTOP) at New York University. Sunil Samuel, Director of Admissions at Hofstra University, agrees. “Hofstra University welcomes Nassau Community College students with open arms,” he said. “They come with great collegiate preparation to continue their studies here at Hofstra and move on to achieve their dreams in career paths that are both rewarding and fulfilling.”

The Transfer Office encourages students to come see a counselor as soon as possible in their NCC career. This way, they can be advised as to which colleges might be best for their professional aspirations and the types of courses they need to take at Nassau to get there. “I always ask them, ‘What do you want to do with your life?’ and then I encourage them to think beyond their sometimes self-imposed limits,” said Prof. Hoyt. He and Prof. Ingram also let students know which colleges have articulation agreements with Nassau—that is, which ones will accept all NCC credits for particular programs of study. In addition, many schools provide scholarships to students who meet their requirements.

Hundreds of successful Nassau students have graduated from the NYU Steinhardt School.

—Bart Grachan, Director of the Community College Transfer Opportunity Program at New York University.

to get an education. I attribute my success in higher education so far to the support I found at Nassau and the bond I made with my professors,” she stated. Brand hopes to attend Cornell.

Prof. Ingram and Prof. Hoyt keep in contact with several of the students with whom they have worked and are especially heartened to see their success. One such successful student is Ginelle John, who grew up in Hempstead. Ginelle graduated from Nassau in 1994 and worked with the Transfer Office to be admitted to Cornell University. She obtained her bachelor’s degree from Cornell and then moved on to Columbia University Teachers College, where she got her master’s. “I’m building on the excitement I received from NCC’s staff and faculty prepared me for success,” said Ginelle. “There are excellent resources there and opportunities for students to explore and develop their potential.”

Ginelle is currently pursuing her doctoral studies at New York University.

“We see ourselves as advocates for the college community. If the students we work with continue on to the college or university of their choice and then have a successful career, we’re satisfied,” concluded Prof. Ingram.

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS A MONSTER SUCCESS AT NCC

This year’s spring musical, Little Shop of Horrors, was a monster success (pardon the pun). Audiences loved the popular story of nebbishy Seymour Krelborn, who discovers a new breed of plant with a taste for human blood. Audrey II, the man-eating plant from outer space, forever changes the fortunes of Seymour and his little flower shop on New York’s Lower East Side. As you can see from the photos, colorful costumes, cool props and terrific performances by the cast added to the general merriment.

Nassau student Jennifer Brand speaks with Prof. Evor Ingr x, NCC Transfer Coordinator.

Photography by Richard Ginsburg.

Nassau Community College - Nexus

Spring 2009

Spring 2009

March 2009
NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CELEBRATING FIFTY YEARS OF SUCCESS

I

In many ways, the history of Nassau Community College mirrors the history of Long Island. After World War II, prosperity and population growth fueled a mass migration to the suburbs. The post-war baby boom caused a swell of school construction across the country. By the 1950s, a generation of parents—many of whom had gotten a college education via the GI Bill—wanted their kids to go to college as well. The drive was on to create an affordable college on Long Island.

Long Island actually had a community college of sorts for a while during the depression. The Nassau Community College was “a temporary public junior college” set up by New York State and CCNY, the City College of New York, and later run by the Workers Progress Administration (WPA). But the Nassau Community College closed in 1937, leaving the area with no local affordable institute of higher education.

Creating a College

In the early fifties, the Citizens Committee for a Community College, in a grass-roots effort to persuade the State University of New York to open a college in Nassau or Suffolk, collected signatures, petitioned local and state government and publicized Long Island’s need for affordable higher education. They cited a study estimating that the 1960 enrollment in high schools in Nassau and Suffolk counties would be double that of 1954 and that demand for college space would grow accordingly. The hard work of the Citizens Committee paid off. Nassau Community College was created by SUNY in 1959. When the college first opened in February 1960, it was housed in a wing of the old county courthouse in Mineola. There were some 632 full-time students and 30 faculty.

The first commencement was at A. Holly Patterson County Home in Uniondale on January 28, 1962. 42 students received degrees as 500 guests looked on. The first September graduating class—students who had attended the college for a full two years—graduated on June 12, 1962, in the auditorium of W. Tresper Harper High School in Westbury. Among them was NCC’s current Coordinator of the Adult Resource Center, Prof. Bob Rubin, refurbished and many of the old barracks and darkroom and a modern kiln. The College Adult Resource Center, Prof. Bob Rubin,

The former Mitchel Field military barracks were used as temporary classrooms during the early days of NCC.


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Dr. Joseph Coppolino, Communications, conducted a workshop for the Nassau County Library Association (NCLA), Clerical Division, on the topic of “Power, Influence, Conflict, and Teamwork in Interpersonal Communication.” He also presented a paper to the NCLA Continuing Education Committee on “The Ten Worst Listening Habits of Most Americans.”

Dr. Sally Ann Drucker, English, led three five-hour workshops on Jewish literature in public libraries. Her topics were “Fathers and Daughters,” “Merrick and Durham, North Carolina and ‘Between Two Worlds’ in Port Washington.” Each part series was funded by the Newsday/Nassau Book Club American Library Association “Listen to the Library” grants.

Dr. Dianne Guarino, Assistant Director of Admissions, was the recipient of the Counselor of the Year Award from the Nassau Councilors’ Association for her contributions to the organization.


Dr. Jack Mandel, Marketing/Retailing, was interviewed on a News 12 Long Island segment on the demise of fortune tellers. He was also an in-studio guest at the station on the influence of “Magic Mondays” on Long Island retailers. Prof. Mandel spoke at Harborside Library, Half Hollow Hills Library, and Rockville Centre Library. His topic was “Everything You Need to Know About Dating, the Second Time Around,” which he also spoke about at the 3rd annual Long Island Singles Lifestyle Expo. Whole Foods hired him to produce its Valentine’s Evening Singles Soiree. As a keynote speaker for the Glen Cove Business Improvement District, Prof. Mandel spoke about “How Magnetic Marketing Can Keep Your Business Profitable in This Recession.” Finally, he writes a monthly column in LI Pulse magazine on singles issues.

Dr. Stephen Sparaco, English, has written a novel entitled Strawberries and Diamonds, An Ellis Island Mystery, which was recently published by A. S. Patterson Publishing in British Columbia, Canada.

Dr. Joseph Varacalli, Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work, Director of the Center for Catholic Studies, was quoted in The Long Island Catholic about an article on the passing of Father Richard John Neuhau, who served as an adviser to former president George W. Bush on bioethical issues.

Prof. Denise Witt and Kristine Cole, Allied Health Sciences, Surgical Technology Program, were asked to present a review course for nurses who are planning on becoming certified preoperative nurses. This two-day course was given at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, St. Francis Hospital, Maimonides Medical Center and North Shore University Hospital. It’s approved by the Association of Peri-Operative Nurses and has received that organization’s national first place award.

Dr. Elizabeth Anne Wood, Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work, published “Consciousness-Raising 3.0: Sex Blogging and the Creation of a Feminist Sex Common” in Feminism & Psychology. The edition was a special issue addressing developments in the New View campaign against the medicalization of sexuality.

Kudos to the NCC Speech and Debate Team: Number One Five Years in a Row!

In January, Nassau Community College’s Speech and Debate team traveled to Towson University in Maryland for the Northeast Speech and Debate Championships. Prof. Trent Webb, Coordinator of the team, reports that NCC was named the top community college for the fifth year in a row. This achievement comes on the heels of the Speech and Debate team’s first place overall finish at the New York University tournament in November, where the college bested the likes of Cornell University, the University of Houston and Seton Hall University. Well done, team!

Jo anne Muscarella, President of Nassau Community College, is pleased to announce that Dr. Joseph Muscarella has recently been named vice president for administration and planning. “Dr. Muscarella will bring to the NCC campus community the in-depth experience in public works and facilities management that he has already demonstrated in institutions as varied as the University of Illinois at Chicago and Fort Knox (yes, the Fort Knox),” said Dr. Fanelli. “His extensive experience in working with public agencies on the national, state and local levels will also assist in continuing the cooperative relationship between NCC and its governmental sponsors on behalf of our students.”

Dr. Muscarella has had a distinguished career in the U.S. Army and in higher education. His most recent position was Vice Chancellor for Administration at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Dr. Muscarella has had vast experience in working with public agencies on all levels. He held the positions of Director of Public Works at Fort Knox and Deputy Director of the New York District of the Corps of Engineers. In one way, Dr. Muscarella is coming home. While in the deputy director position, he lived on the Mitchel Field base.

Dr. Muscarella is excited about his new position. “I’m looking forward to getting back to New York and working as part of the leadership team of Nassau Community College, a nationally recognized institution of higher education. While the current environment is challenging, there is always plenty of opportunity for innovation and progress,” he said. After obtaining a B.S. in engineering from West Point, Dr. Muscarella earned a masters and a Ph.D. in structural engineering from the University of Texas at Austin.
Summer Session 2009

REGISTRATION IS GOING ON NOW FOR SUMMER SESSION 2009 AT NCC

Summer Session I: May 26 – June 25
Summer Session I Late: June 1 – July 2
Summer Session II: July 6 – August 6
Summer Session II Late: July 13 – August 7

For more registration information, please visit www.ncc.edu/Myncc

Save the Date
Nassau Community College’s 49th commencement will take place on Wednesday, May 20 at 7:00 p.m. at Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum.

For more information, check out www.ncc.edu/graduation

Nassau Community College
Where Success Starts...and Continues