Charles B. Wang, Chairman and Founder of Computer Associates, “Professor for a Day” at NCC

It was standing-room-only when Charles B. Wang, Chairman and Founder of Computer Associates International, Inc. (CA) visited with students, faculty and administrators at Nassau Community College on November 14. Invited by NCC Marketing Professor Jack Mandel, Wang spoke to an audience of over 200 about his personal and entrepreneurship experiences. The “Professor for a Day” series at Nassau Community College was instituted in 1980 by Professor Mandel. The program is an opportunity for prominent business leaders to share their experience and expertise with NCC students.

Mr. Wang was born in Shanghai, China, in August 1944 and came to the United States with his family in 1952. During his talk, he recalled his early years as a student at Queens College who held down a full-time job and graduated with a degree in mathematics. After beginning as a computer programming trainee at Columbia University’s Riverside Research Institute over 25 years ago, Wang later served as Vice President of Sales for Standard Data Corporation. In 1976, he founded CA, which is now headquartered in Islandia and is considered the world leader in eBusiness software.

Calling his management style very informal, Wang shared with the students his philosophy on creating a healthy work environment: that “all employees, no matter what position, should feel that they have value.” He also emphasized his belief in how important it is for employees to be happy and comfortable enough to be themselves in their professional surroundings. To help foster that, CA provides many amenities for its employees, from free breakfast and dinner for those who work early and/or late, to a day-care center complete with a Montessori school for the children of people who work at the company, to an on-site physical fitness center. Such features contributed to CAs being cited as one of the “100 Best Places to Work in IT” by Computerworld magazine in its annual survey of leading information technology companies for the sixth consecutive year. Fortune magazine has called CA a “Best Company to Work for in America.”

Wang also filled his audience in on some of his other endeavors – he is co-owner of the New York Islanders hockey team and was instrumental in bringing the arena football team the New York Dragons to Nassau Coliseum (the team’s first season will be in the spring of 2001).

Mr. Wang told the audience that he believes a key to success is enjoying what you do. Audience members found Mr. Wang charming, humorous, insightful and extremely personable. During the Q & A, one student complimented him on his success and thanked him for investing so much in Long Island.
A Message From The President

Business Programs Excel at NCC

by Dr. Sean A. Fanelli

N assau Community College is often cited for its affordable yet strong academic program, its exceptional faculty and the professionalism of its staff. These are among the reasons that nearly 22,000 students attend Nassau. We are equally proud of the College’s Special Programs for Business, the Corporate Credit Programs and the Continuing Education Program.

Numerous businesses have taken advantage of the Special Programs for Business program by sending their employees to Nassau Community College for skills enhancement and effective training. Some of the areas of training expertise include Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, Visual Basic and others. Further, this program provides a full range of practical, supervisory, communications and motivational courses in such subjects as ESL, business math and effective writing. Some of the businesses for which the College has provided these services include United Airlines, Long Island Federation of Labor, Time-Warner Cable, King Kullen, United Parcel Service, Sustemax, the Town of Hempstead, Winthrop-University Hospital, the Nassau Bar Association, Chase Bank and dozens of others.

An excerpt from a letter written by a manager from United Airlines reads, “Nassau Community College’s Special Programs for Business tailors the training for my company’s particular needs. Their expertise in developing different types of programs: management skills, computer, foreign language, have been particularly helpful.” The office manager for King Kullen Grocery Co., Inc. wrote, “…King Kullen is very happy with your business programs and how you customize the classes to meet our company’s needs.”

Our Corporate Credit Program is dedicated to providing corporations and businesses with credit- and degree-bearing programs for their employees. Nassau Community College has over 70 degree programs and 14 certificate programs. An increasing number of businesses have concluded that to compete successfully in the global marketplace they must have a better educated and trained workforce who can cope with the demands of an ever changing technological environment.

Nassau’s Continuing Education Program, the largest of these community-focused programs, offers a variety of credit-free courses for personal pleasure, profit and growth. For modest fees, one can take advantage of more than 250 classes, including: computers, health and wellness, personal investment, personal growth and enrichment, word processing, language and scores of others.

More than 14,000 students participate in these three programs. “It gives people who don’t ordinarily participate in the College’s resources an opportunity to benefit from the wide range of services these programs offer,” said Dr. James F. Polo, Dean of the Program.

Reflections Back . . . Moving Forward

By Harold Bellinger

Assistant to the President For Affirmative Action and Diversity

Since 1998, Nassau Community College has participated in “One America in the 21st Century: Forging a New Future.” “One America in the 21st Century” is a result of President Bill Clinton’s Initiative on Race.

America’s greatest promise in the 21st century lies in our ability to harness the strength of our racial diversity. The greatest challenge facing Americans is to accept and take pride in defining ourselves as a multi-racial democracy. America has emerged as the worldwide symbol of opportunity and freedom through leadership that constantly strives to give meaning to democracy’s fundamental principles. These principles—justice, opportunity, equality, and racial inclusion—must continue to guide the planning for our future.

Throughout the years, Nassau Community College has shared experiences that reinforced its belief that we are a county and a country whose citizens are more united than divided. All too often, however, racial differences and discrimination obstruct our ability to move beyond race and color to recognize our common values and goals. Common values include the thirst for freedom, the desire for equal opportunity, and a belief in fairness and justice.

Our efforts in meeting our commitment to the concept of One America continues in our Black History Month Programs. The theme of this year’s Black History Month Program, “Reflections Back…Moving Forward” reiterates the principles of justice, opportunity, equality and racial inclusion.

Members of the Tuskegee Airmen will speak on February 6. Ice T will lecture on February 8. Ice T has become an influential spokesman for America’s youth, regardless of color. Closing out the Black History Month Program will be Dr. Derrick Bell, who will be the premiere speaker in the February 27, 2001, Dr. John Hope Franklin Lecture Series. Dr. Bell’s scholarly writings have placed him in the forefront of critical race theory, a new jurisprudence. Other programs include African Doll Making; a presentation on Jimmy Hendricks and coming in April, Faces of America will perform at Nassau Community College. The 6th annual Multicultural Fair, sponsored by the Academic Senate Affirmative Action Committee, will be held on April 6.

Nassau Community College remains in the forefront of examining, from an academic perspective, the complexities, challenges and opportunities that arise from our growing diversity on campus and within our nation.
The science fiction television program Star Trek and the real life deployment of a permanent orbital space station have generated renewed interest in space exploration. Students at Nassau Community College can explore the stars, sun, moon and other significant astronomical events within our galaxy. Opened in 1978, the College’s Planetarium is one of only three on college campuses in the region.

The Planetarium is mainly used by astronomy students, but other students pursuing a multidisciplinary approach to studies such as physics, math and meteorology use the facilities and special computers in this department.

On November 3, 2000 the Physical Sciences Department held an Astronomy Night, during which the Planetarium was opened to the public. Participants were also invited to see the skies from the College’s 14-inch domed Celestron telescope. The reaction from the general public has been tremendous. The Planetarium is popular with public school teachers who come to Nassau to gain additional course credit leading to certification in Earth Sciences. The public is invited free of charge on designated Astronomy Nights. For more information, call 572-7278.

The Planetarium has a state-of-the-art computerized Spitz planetarium projector, which can be set to any date in history.

When aided by the newly installed sound system, simulated skies light up the imagination and the eye. Located on top of the roof is the dome, with its powerful 14-inch telescope, one can see rings around Saturn, moons orbiting Jupiter, sunspots, comets, an eclipse, and hundreds of other significant events.

Adjacent to the Planetarium is a weather room. Weather systems across the United States as well as the Long Island region can be tracked on a 24-hour basis. Finally, a computer lab houses 14 new computers for use by astronomy and meteorology students.

If one is interested in looking at the stars, come to Nassau for the best view.
In 1996, I had to make my college decision—and Nassau Community College was it. I remember looking at an array of senior caricatures hanging on the wall of Hewlett High School with the names of all of the students’ prospective colleges. A teacher was beside me shaking his head. “What’s wrong?” I asked. “Half of the students on this wall are going to Nassau,” he sighed. When I told him I was one of those students, the conversation went downhill from there. The teacher believed that Nassau was a terrible school academically and did nothing for personal growth. I admit I didn’t think much more of NCC at the time either. I believed that I worked too hard to go to “Turnpike Tech” and this teacher’s opinions were not helping me to be confident in my decision. But my mind would soon be changed.

I began Nassau Community College not as a student, but as an Orientation Leader. When I was a senior in high school, my guidance counselor received a brochure asking incoming NCC freshmen to be Orientation Leaders. The idea was to train freshmen the summer before they began classes to help other NCC freshmen familiarize themselves with the campus. I thought this would be a good way to put a positive spin on what I thought would be a negative college experience. Little did I know that it would be one of the best things I would do. Immediately getting involved in the college allowed me to make friends before I even began classes, and to learn the campus like the back of my hand. Maybe this was not going to be such a bad college after all.

Nassau had proven to be an excellent experience and I hadn’t even begun yet! Since I enjoyed the Orientation program so much, I quickly became involved in as many student activities as I could. I became a member of the Programming Board, the Vignette, and Nassau Concerts. Over the next two years, these three organizations would have a major impact on my college career and my life.

Although it seemed as if I was spending a lot of time on extracurricular activities, my first semester at Nassau (which I was), classes were also a very big part of the mix. I was shocked that anybody had ever nicknamed NCC “thirteenth grade.” My classes were a far cry from a high school environment. In high school, there weren’t many subjects from which to choose. Further, the professors wanted feedback in the classroom and were there if extra help was needed. I recall one instance when I needed some extra help in calculus and my professor stayed well beyond his office hours to help me. This is just one of many examples when a professor went beyond his or her call of duty.

About one month after I began at NCC, the Executive Board position of Publicity Chairperson became available in Nassau Concerts. I thought the position would be fun, so I decided to give it a try. Fun it was, and a whole lot more. Once my advisor noticed I had a strong interest in the position, she taught me everything she knew about it. When I took the job I thought that I’d be creating and distributing flyers. The next thing I knew, I was writing press releases and working with local radio stations. I knew that what I was doing was a lot more than just an extracurricular activity, but I wasn’t sure if it actually had a name. I soon found out that what I was doing was the work of a publicist.

I continued to pursue public relations. I kept my Publicity Chairperson position throughout my entire two-year stay at Nassau, along with my positions as President of the Programming Board, Arts Editor of the Vignette and Publicity Chairperson of the NCC Folk Festival. All these roles taught me about leadership and responsibility in addition to Public Relations. I also took on a student-aide job in the College Relations office. As if all this weren’t enough, I also enrolled in an internship with the Marketing Director and Publicist at Westbury Music Fair. All of these activities, jobs and internships convinced me that publicity was my career goal.

After graduating from Nassau, I went on to New York University, where I majored in Communication Studies and continued to intern/work in the publicity field. I worked at Stanton-Crenshaw Communications (a Public Relations firm), DelsenerSlater (a concert promoter) and the Sally Jessy Raphael show. I also got just as involved at NYU as I did at Nassau. But I never would have gotten that involved, let alone even been at NYU, without Nassau Community College.

After NYU, my interest in public relations in the entertainment industry was still there. So here I am back where I started, at my very first internship. Only this time I’m not an intern. I am now the Publicist at Westbury Music Fair.

I thank all of the advisors, professors and mentors who helped me along my way at Nassau and still help me to this day. You have made a remarkable difference in my life and I would not be where I am today without you.

Editors Note: Laura Nuzzolo graduated from Nassau Community College Magna Cum Laude with an Associate in Arts Degree. She received numerous awards and honors from NCC. She graduated NYU with a Bachelor of Science in Communication Studies, Summa Cum Laude (GPA 3.96). During her time at NYU, Laura was the President of the Communications Club, Public Relations Chairperson and a member of the Board of Trustees of the NYU Public Relations Student Society of America. Today she is the Publicist for Westbury Music Fair, an SFX theater. Nassau Community College is very proud of Laura’s accomplishments.
NCC Apparel Design Students Participate in International Design Competition in Paris

Apparel Design majors Voravit Lapnarongchai and Irene Ayestas represented Nassau Community College at the 18th annual Air France Designers’ Competition at the Louvre in Paris on December 14.

Each year, in an effort to promote new talent, this international design competition draws entries from fashion schools worldwide. This year, there are eleven countries, with a total of 110 students participating: they include Canada, China, Korea, the United States, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Philippines, Russia and Taiwan.

The theme of the contest changes from year to year. This year, students were asked to design a garment with the theme of fashion and fabric. This theme allows the students an opportunity to showcase their talent and creativity and to draw on their unique national identities and cultural backgrounds.

Voravit and Irene are two of the ten students that will represent the United States at the competition. Other participating schools are Drexel, Marymount, Houston, and Miami Fine Arts.

The professionally staged, live fashion show was held at the Louvre on December 14. In this competition one winner from each country and a grand prizewinner were selected. The grand prizewinner is awarded a year’s tuition at the Chambre Syndicale de Couture in Paris. Judges included Pierre Cardin, Paco Rabanne and editors and writers for Elle, Marie Claire and Vogue.

This is the only international design competition of its kind. It gives design students worldwide a chance to meet and view how different students approach the design process.

Nassau Community College ESL Institute a Success

English as a Second Language (ESL) programs have long been helping international and immigrant students, both here at Nassau and on college campuses all over the country. Now Nassau Community College has taken the concept one step further with the new ESL Institute. Begun as a pilot program this summer, the ESL Institute has grown seven-fold, enriching the lives of its students and the diversity of Nassau’s campus in the process.

The main purpose of the ESL Institute is to help students from diverse backgrounds excel at college-level courses, says ESL Coordinator Leonard Durso. These students may require additional training in writing, reading and speaking/listening in English. Towards that end, the ESL Program works with the Reading and Basic Education Program and the English and Communications Departments in operating appropriate day, evening and weekend classes, as well as free supervised tutoring, counseling and a college orientation program.

According to Durso, about 40 students began taking Institute classes in the pilot program this summer. As of fall 2000, close to 300 students were enrolled. “The concept of this Institute was initiated by Dr. Jack Ostling, Vice President of Academic Affairs. We are appreciative of the support that the College community has given to this program that has enabled the Institute to grow so rapidly and smoothly,” Durso said. Currently, the ESL Institute offers 18 class sections. That number might be expanded to 30 in the spring. Durso says that the orientation program will also be expanded this spring, to focus more on individual college departments and services.

Overall, approximately 1000 students participate in Nassau’s ESL program, representing 60 countries and speaking 38 languages. The College’s ESL program is one of the largest in the area. Since 1973, it has offered a comprehensive curriculum for students who want to study all aspects of the language. Most ESL students graduate from NCC and transfer to four-year institutions. Now, with the expansion of the ESL Institute, even more will have the opportunity to further their education and contribute to the quality of life on Long Island.
The Nassau Community College Firehouse Art Gallery will sponsor a photographic exhibition of the work of Arthur Leipzig in January and February. The exhibit, entitled *Arthur Leipzig: A Tribute to Influence*, will feature works from Leipzig’s photography career, which spans over 50 years, as well as the work of some of his former students. It will run from January 22 through February 27, 2001, with an artists’ reception on Saturday, January 27 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Arthur Leipzig was born in Brooklyn in 1918. After studying photography at the Photo League in 1942, he became a staff photographer for the newspaper *PM*, where he worked for the next four years. Leipzig then began his career as a freelance photojournalist. He has traveled on assignments around the world, contributing work to such periodicals as *The Sunday New York Times*, *This Week*, *Fortune*, *Look* and *Parade*. In addition to his freelance work, Leipzig taught for 28 years at Long Island University, where he is now a Professor Emeritus.

Leipzig is represented in many permanent collections, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C. and the Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris. He has also been featured in several one man and group exhibitions and published in over a dozen photo annuals in the United States and Europe. Moreover, Leipzig has received the National Urban League Photography Award, several annual Art Directors Awards and two Long Island University Trustees Awards for Scholarly Achievement.

According to *Newsday*, “For years he was a photojournalist, always with a focus on people, which is why the university prize notes that his ‘creative photography reflects both a special competence and sensitivity. His sustained contributions to his discipline have maintained the integrity of his humanistic concerns. Mr. Leipzig’s work is energizing, ongoing, and compassionate.’”

Many of Nassau Community College’s art professors, like NCC Art Department Chair Susan Kravitz, Professors’ Susan Dooley, Bernice Cutler and Marge Pillar and Technical Assistant Lynn Casey have had the opportunity to work and study with Mr. Leipzig. Professor Kravitz talked about his influence on his students. “His humanistic values have had a tremendous impact on those who have studied photography with him. We are grateful to have had the privilege to have studied with him.”

Nassau Community College’s Firehouse Art Gallery hours are Monday and Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and Saturday from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. The gallery is closed on Sunday. For further information about *Arthur Leipzig: A Tribute to Influence*, or about other exhibitions at the Gallery, call 516-572-7165.

Photos by: Arthur Leipzig
Genette Alvarez-Ortiz, Financial Aid, gave a presentation entitled “How Latinos Have Contributed to Our Society” at Friends Academy in November as part of the Academy’s Hispanic Heritage Month celebration.

Prof. Emeritus Rhoda Berenson, Physics, is the author of Lori: My Daughter, Wrongfully Imprisoned in Peru. In the book, Berenson recalls the five-year old and continuing nightmare of her daughter’s arrest and imprisonment in Peru on charges of treason and terrorism. Prof. Berenson and her husband have been on a campaign to secure the release of their daughter, who has never been tried.

Prof. Douglas Brown, Mathematics, Statistics and Computers, has been awarded a Distinguished Educators Award from the Annenberg Foundation and the American Mathematical Association in recognition of his dedication to educating youth and his outstanding service to the East Meadow community.

Dr. Phillip Cheifetz, Math, Statistics and Computers, received an award from the NCC Partnership Program in Precalculus Calculus. The recognition was one of three given nationally from the Annenberg Foundation and the American Mathematical Association of Two Year Colleges.

Prof. Douglas Cody, Chemistry, recently presented a lecture on indoor air quality at a meeting of the Long Island chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers. Prof. Cody has also been elected the President of the chapter.

Prof. Bob Costello, Criminal Justice, had the article “NYPD Blues: The Struggle for Equal Pay,” published in the spring 2000 edition of the Princeton University Law Journal. Prof. Costello was also appointed University Seminar Associate at Columbia University. In addition, he spoke this fall at the Mid-Island Y on Hate Crimes.

Dr. Bernard Gorman, Psychology, taught two seminars at the 34th annual convention for the Advancement of Behavior Therapy in New Orleans. He also completed a chapter on rigidity for the Corsini Encyclopedia of Psychology and Behavioral Science to be published in 2001. Dr. Gorman also conducted a workshop for the Nassau County Department of Senior Citizen Affairs.

Dr. Murray Fullman, Psychology, presented a paper on “Hypnosis and Organ Transplant Patients” at the National Guild of Hypnosis. He also attended the International Medical and Dental Hypnosis Association Conference and presented a lecture on how hypnosis can benefit HIV and AIDS patients at the Long Island AIDS Coalition.

Prof. Jeanne Golan, Music, was honored by her hometown of Natick, Massachusetts with her induction into the Natick High School Wall of Achievement for her outstanding work as a pianist.

Gertrude Jacobs, Information Services Center, was awarded a plaque to honor her as a mature worker at the “Mature Job Fair” held by the Nassau and Suffolk County Department of Senior Citizens.

Carlos Kuilan, Public Safety Officer, has been awarded Top Public Safety Officer of the Year Honors by the East Meadow Civic and Community Service Association in recognition of his dedication to duty.

Prof. Jack Mandel, Marketing/Re tailing/ Fashion, received a Town of Oyster Bay Citation from Supervisor John Venditto for his “noteworthy accomplishments as professor and Long Island author of The Long Island Arts, Fine Crafts, and Collectibles Directory.”

Dr. Maria Mann, Foreign Languages, presented a paper “Women Studies 101: Defining the Curriculum in Eighteenth Century Italy” and chaired the session “Women Write the Nation” at the annual meeting of the Northeast American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies in Portland, Maine.

Dr. Tom O’Brien, Biology, conducted a workshop at the national conference of the Association of Integrated Studies in Portland. He also participated in two focus groups at the National Biology Teachers Association conference. Dr. O’Brien is the New York State Representative on the Association. He was also elected to the New York Biology Teachers Association Executive Board.

Prof. Caroline Olko, Psychology, and Prof. Bob Costello, Criminal Justice, have been awarded a SUNY “The Conversations Across Disciplines” grant. A conference will be held in April that will bring together scholars from diverse backgrounds to discuss the use of psychotropic drugs in the treatment of juvenile delinquency. The journal The Justice Professional will publish a special edition based on the symposium.

Dr. Kumkum Prabhat, Biology, was elected to the New York State Biology Teachers Association Executive Board.

Prof. Michael Ritchie, Art, has won a New York City Department of Cultural Affairs Queens Community Arts Fund individual artist’s award for the year 2000.

Prof. Cheryl A. Sears, Health, Physical Education and Recreation, attended the annual American College Health Association conference, which invited educators from colleges across the country to exchange ideas on how effective HIV and AIDS programs are developed and received by campus communities. Prof. Sears represented Nassau as the HIV-AIDS Education Coordinator of programs on campus.

Prof. Bill Shillalies, Art, had works displayed in three recent shows: “Sculpture in the Park...”, Fort Tilden-Rockaway Artists Alliance; “Wood Fired Ceramics,” Central Michigan University; and “Earth-Water-Light,” at Adelphi University.

Dr. Angela Tigner, Psychology, hosts the weekly half-hour radio show All that Matters on WHPC-PM 90.3, the Nassau Community College radio station. All that Matters is a psychology-based program exploring the complexities of human behavior. The program airs Mondays 6:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Prof. Joseph A. Varacalli, Sociology, has been appointed Director of the Nassau Community College Center for Catholic Studies. He has also had two of his essays re-published: “Community and Identity in Italian-American Life” in The Italian American Review and “Catholicism, Culture, and Monsignor George A. Kelly” in Defending the Faith.
NCC Campus Calendar

Nassau Community College Theatre and African-American Studies Department presents

Before It Hits Home
A Drama by Cheryl L. West

Winner of the Helen Hayes Award for Best New Play

The story of a black bisexual musician who has AIDS, whose double life endangers both himself and his loved ones.

January 26 – 28 and January 31 – February 4
Tickets $7.00—$2.00 discount for students*, seniors and NCC employees anytime
*Students FREE – Wednesday/Thursday shows

Performances at 8:00 p.m., except Sunday at 3:00 p.m.
Box Office Hours: Monday through Friday:
(516) 572-7676
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. & 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

“CLASSICS FOR KIDS”
(and Grown-ups Too)
Begins the 2000 Season at Nassau Community College

Parents of the younger set will be pleased to hear that the popular series, “Classics for Kids” (and Grown-ups Too)”, will return for its 22nd season. Each performance, presented at the College Center Building, costs $1.50—with a season ticket to all four shows at only $4.00. All shows are at 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. This season’s programs are:

“A Tale of Peter Rabbit”
Sunday, January 21st

“Little Red Riding Hood
La Caperucita Roja”
Sunday, February 11th

“The Magic of Dance”
Sunday, March 18th

This program is sponsored by the NCC Cultural Program. Parents are urged to purchase tickets in advance and may obtain additional information by calling Phyllis Kurland at 516-572-7153.

NEXUS
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Nassau Community College
Where Success Starts... And Continues