

NEXUS

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Where Success Starts... And Continues

Fall 2005

EDUCATION BEYOND THE CLASSROOM NCC WORKS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BUSINESS

It certainly is a department with a long name: Marketing, Retailing, Fashion Buying and Merchandising, Apparel Design and Interior Design. It's also a department whose faculty realizes the importance of providing students with as much hands on, real-world experience as possible—especially for marketing and design majors, who, after all, will be involved with a variety of companies for the duration of their working lives. Over the years, the department has made great strides in reaching out to the business and non-profit community, both locally and nationally. Among the companies that the department has established partnerships with are JC Penney, Fortunoff's, Disney and Fendi. These partnerships take the form of everything from students having internships and volunteering at conferences and industry functions to business people being on the advisory boards that look at curriculum and attending department events. These partnerships foster the development of new programs that benefit the industry and the community as well as the students themselves.

One example of the way in which this department has been able to work with the community is the partnership between its interior design area and the Nassau County Museum of Art. The students benefit on many fronts—they are able to have their work displayed in an outside venue prior to graduation and they get hands-on experience in event

planning. "This partnership between our two institutions will lead to unique new courses and challenging internships and will provide our College with an ongoing



Prof. Barbara Blumberg works with a student on her Apparel Design project.

opportunity to serve the community," said Prof. Marguerite Ehlen, Chair of the Department.

In another area, Profs. Nancy Bloom and Pat Lupino and Nassau marketing students joined Diana O'Neil and others to create a "Prom Boutique" that provided prom dresses, shoes and accessories to girls who might otherwise not have been able to obtain these items. Under their professors' supervision, the students approached local businesses for donations of dresses and other items, publicized the event to targeted high schools and ran the boutique in the College Center Building on the NCC campus. Ultimately, Estee Lauder donated gift bags, Del Laboratories gave cosmetics, an executive at UPS drove a truck to each of the donation sites to collect the gowns and over 350 young ladies received dresses and accessories.

Apparel Design students also work with the Americana Mall in Manhasset during its Americana Fashion shows—working backstage with models and top designers' representatives—and stage their own fashion show on campus. Contacts made during these events prove very helpful to students as they pursue their careers.

In addition, the faculty in the department brings in such major players as George Ross, Executive Vice President at The Trump Organization and co-star of *The Apprentice* on NBC and Rebecca Hollander, Director of Marketing at The Americana Mall, to

Photo by William Baker

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Staying Ahead of the Future

by Dr. Sean A. Fanelli



One of the most persistent challenges of any college is to stay ahead of the future when it comes to maintaining its facilities and grounds. With more than 70 buildings on a campus of 227-acres, over a million square-feet of walkways, intricate plumbing, fountains, parking lots, roads and acres of lawn, Nassau Community College must constantly work to make sure that its students, faculty and staff have the best environment in which to learn, teach and work. Of course, when adequate maintenance is absent, our academic, social and physical surroundings are adversely effected. Ongoing maintenance and repairs may not be as exciting as erecting new buildings, but the result is just as important. The future has a way of catching up with us when present rehabilitation needs are neglected.

Sometimes visible and sometimes hidden behind walls or underneath concrete, repairs of and improvements to the campus are among the top priorities of the administration.

Currently, Nassau Community College is designing the first phase of repairs to the existing campus plaza. Built in the 1970s, more than 30 years of climate changes—from summer's heat and rain to winter's cold and ice—have come and gone. Over the years, water has infiltrated the surface of the plaza deck and corroded the steel reinforcing it, resulting in the deterioration of the concrete. Evidence of the need for repairs is clearly visible. Funding from Nassau County and New York State will enable the College to begin the first phase of this construction in the summer of 2006. The College has engaged the engineering firm Vollmer Associates to investigate current conditions and design the necessary repairs. Vollmer has completed its preliminary design and will soon be developing plans for new paving and landscape. This first phase of work will include replacement of the broken walking surface, replacement of waterproofing and structural repairs to damaged concrete and steel in the area in front of the Tower and the Library. A subsequent phase will repair areas to the west of the Tower entrance. Plaza repairs will prevent future damage to the structure and will fix uneven pathways. The total estimated cost for this initial phase of work is projected to be four million dollars.

Later on, new lighting will be installed

and additional seating and plantings on the plaza level will enhance the beauty and safety of the area.

These new projects join two others in our recent endeavors to stay ahead of the future. Our new Social Sciences and Visual Arts Building, known as Building G, opened in January 1997. Approximately 9,000 to 10,000 students attend classes there daily. The departments of Art, Criminal Justice, Economics, History, Geography, Political Science, Psychology and Sociology and the English as a Second Language (ESL) Center hold classes in the Social Sciences and Visual Arts Building. Building G has 37 classrooms and two state-of-the-art lecture halls.

In September 1997, the new 85,000-square-foot College Center Building (CCB) opened. The CCB accommodates student activities, student government, the Faculty-Student Association, various student clubs and conference facilities. The central meeting area in the building is a multi-purpose room designed to accommodate banquets, theatre productions, film and video, dances and large meetings. Several study lounges and two conference rooms are located on its second and third floor, along with a darkroom and computer area for the student newspaper.

Trying to stay ahead of the future in terms of building maintenance will be critical in managing our budget for years to come. Money spent now will save money down the road, and we can all enjoy a safe and beautiful campus immediately. Prudent maintenance and repair also shows how proud we are of our superb faculty, the working professionals at Nassau Community College and the hard work involved in efforts to promote systematic improvements and maintenance of our facilities.

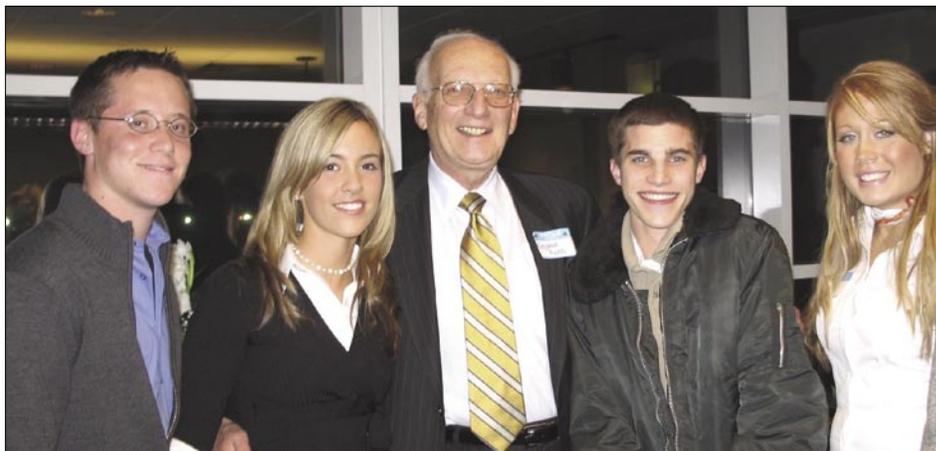
EDUCATION BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

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discuss their experiences with students.

According to Janet Caruso, Dean for Business and Professional Education, "All of these programs are made possible by our outstanding faculty. They are a dynamic group of individuals who are tremendously creative and energetic, and they are dedicated to giving our students the benefit of their expertise and as much industry exposure as possible."

The Marketing, Retailing, Fashion Buying and Merchandising, Apparel Design and Interior Design Department's partnerships with business and the community will likely continue to expand for a long time to come.



George H. Ross (center), Executive Vice President and Senior Counsel with the Trump Organization and co-star of NBC's *The Apprentice*, with students from the Nassau Community College Marketing Club and Career Center.

SPORTS UTOPIA

Long Island is known for its beautiful beaches and parks. But there is also another hidden gem on the Island—the sports utopia that is Nassau Community College.

NCC is known for its excellent academics and outstanding faculty, with accomplishments by students in many areas of concentration. This College has a lot to offer, from great academics to a variety of clubs and activities. NCC athletics is also very successful. Our teams are part of the NJCAA, the National Junior College Athletic Association. The NJCAA is very similar to the NCAA, the National College Athletic Association, but it only involves two-year colleges. There are several regions in the NJCAA. Nassau is in region XV, with other colleges such as Bronx Community College, Dutchess Community College and Orange County Community College.

NCC has sports for every season. Fall sports include women's and men's soccer, women's volleyball, men's and women's cross country track, women's tennis, men's and women's bowling, men's football and men's ice hockey. Ice hockey games take place at Iceworks Arena in Syosset. Outdoor sports are played at Mitchel Field Athletic Complex, Eisenhower Park and sometimes on the campus' quad field. The NCC bowling team bowls at Garden City Bowl, while other indoor sports take place at the George B. Costigan Physical Education Complex on campus. In winter, all sports, such as men's and women's basketball and wrestling, move indoors. There are many sports in the spring as well: softball, men's



Photo by William Baker

Members of the NCC Women's Soccer team practice at Mitchel Field.

tennis, golf, men's and women's track and field, men's and women's lacrosse and baseball.

To show support for the teams and to entertain the fans, cheerleaders and those in the kickline are athletes as well, as they perform before and at halftime of games. They also compete against other schools.

Many athletes from various Nassau teams have moved on to NCAA Division 1, 2 and 3, as well as professional sports. Some of them play multiple sports. Academics, of course, come first for all student athletes. Coaches from respective teams work closely with professors to ensure that the students are attending classes and progressing in their studies as well as on the field or the court.

Several of the athletic teams at Nassau compete in post-season play and are highly successful. Student athletes play a major roll in this, obviously, but another factor is the longevity and cohesiveness of the coaching staffs at the College. In addition, on a few of the teams, former players come back as assistant coaches and act as mentors to current players.

The days may begin very early, as students attend classes, and last into the night as students participate in clubs, activities and athletics. But with so much to experience and such wonderful student athletes, coaches and professors, NCC truly is a sports utopia in the middle of Nassau County.

By Michael Fenrich

FACULTY / STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. William Feigelman and Dr. Yih-jin Young, both of Sociology, recently published a new textbook entitled *Hands On Sociology*, third edition. The book won first prize in a competition held at the University of Michigan, where it was judged "Best Instructional Module or Instructional Innovation in the Social Sciences and Social Science History."

Dr. Murray Fullman, Psychology, presented a seminar entitled "Understanding Psychopathology in Client Behavior" at the National Guild for Hypnotists meeting in Marlborough, Mass.

Prof. Grace Gilner, Allied Health Sciences, co presented a poster entitled "Collaboration Between Physical Therapists and Physical Therapist Assistants: Fostering the Preferred Relationship in a Classroom Setting" at the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) 2005 national conference. The project is the result of a collaboration with the faculties at SUNY Stony Brook and George Washington

University and is currently under review for publication in *Physical Therapy*, the research journal of the APTA.

Prof. Kathy O'Loughlin, Psychology, along with Shurla Perry, NCC student and research assistant, present the work of the NCC Future Teachers Learning Community at the 2005 annual conference of the National Association of Community College Teacher Education Programs held at the Marriott Marquis hotel in New York City. The presentation, "A Life Worth Living: Teachers and Positive Psychology," explored the satisfactions and difficulties that are associated with a teaching career.

Prof. Michael Raab, Office Technology, was elected president of the Freeport School Board. This is his fifth year on the board.

Dr. Anne T. Romano, Sociology, was the recipient of the "Queens Woman of Distinction Award" for 2005. Created in 1998 by Senator Serphin Maltese, the Woman of Distinction

program honors exemplary women across New York State for professional or personal achievement, commitment to excellence and accomplishments. Dr. Romano received her award at the Paolucci Conference Center in Queens.

Prof. Donna C. Sparberg, Center for Students with Disabilities, was the keynote speaker at a West Babylon High School evening devoted to transition to college for students with learning disabilities and attention deficit disorder. High school students and their families from Nassau and Suffolk counties were invited to attend the evening's events, which included representatives from over 20 colleges and universities.

Note: All members of the College community are invited to send articles pertaining to their professional and community activities to Nexus for inclusion on a space availability basis. For more information, call Gail Ignacio Mattimore or Alicia Sieger, Editor, in the College Relations Office at 572-9634 or 572-7249.

NCC CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Fall Events at Nassau Community College

LESSONS FROM
HURRICANE KATRINA: RICH LOWRY



**November 9, 12:30 p.m.,
College Center Building**

Rich Lowry is editor and weekly columnist for the *National Review* speaks his mind. For more information, call 516-572-7153

RACE BEYOND

BLACK & WHITE: ERIC LIU,
**December 1, 10:00 a.m.
College Center Building**

Author of *The Accidental Asian*, corporate exec., politician & values educator, Eric Liu will speak on leadership, democracy, ethnic identity and political reform. For more information, call 516-572-7153



BEGGARS AND
CHOOSERS:
MOTHERHOOD IS
NOT A CLASS PRIVILEGE
**November 21-December 22,
Firehouse Plaza Art Gallery**

The photos displayed are about becoming and being a mother. For more information, call 516-572-0619



Mary and Mika by Anne Hamersky



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