The Class of 2002

Spirits were soaring as the Nassau Community College Class of 2002 graduated in a ceremony held at Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum on May 19. Over 13,000 graduates, family, friends, faculty, staff and honored guests attended the event. With over 3,100 graduates, the commencement was the largest graduating class on Long Island, the largest for a community college in New York State, and the fourth largest community college graduating class in the nation. In fact, the Class of 2002 brings the total number of NCC graduates to over 100,000 in its 43-year history.

During that time, almost one million students have taken classes at Nassau.

Included in the Class of 2002 were 607 graduates with honors—281 cum laude, with a GPA of 3.5 to 3.69, 218 magna cum laude, averaging between 3.7 and 3.89, and 108 summa cum laude, with a 3.9 or perfect 4.0 GPA. Graduates ranged in age from 18 to 70, with an average age of 27.

On a beautiful Sunday, the assembled guests offered cheers to the Class of 2002, and wished them continued success in the future.
Amidst their joy and feelings of accomplishment, the Nassau Community College Class of 2002 is faced with a unique challenge. On September 11, 2001 they were greeted with fully-fueled airplanes crashing into the twin towers of the World Trade Center, leaving them—and everyone else—traumatized and dazed, wondering how this tragedy could happen. And like so many others, members of this year’s graduating class lost loved ones or someone they knew on that fateful day. September 11 will be etched forever into their memories. Yet in the face of all this collective and individual pain and loss, with one voice the Class of 2002 affirmed their hopes, dreams, and aspirations for a brighter tomorrow. The events of September 11 may have destroyed thousands of lives and caused billions of dollars in property damage. It may have caused the recession to deepen and created massive deficits in New York State. But it did not obliterate the indomitable spirit of decent human beings to bring a higher standard of reconciliation and justice into the world. In fact, the graduates of 2002 at Nassau Community College will be even more determined to make a positive difference in the world because of what happened on September 11, 2001.

Speakers at this year’s graduation ceremony echoed these sentiments. In his commencement address to the Class of 2002, for instance, Dr. Sean A. Fanelli, President of NCC, cited many individual stories of graduates who illustrated courage and determination. He talked about the dedication of the graduates. He outlined the obstacles some of the students faced to earn their degree. Indeed, Dr. Fanelli had high praise for this graduating class.

United States Senator Charles Schumer also addressed the graduates. He told them, “You are graduating from one of the best community colleges, not just in New York State, but in our entire country.”

In his remarks, New York State Governor George Pataki quoted Winston Churchill, saying, “Never give up. Never, never give up. Never, never, never give up.” He spoke about the affect of September 11 on the College, with over forty members of the community being personally impacted by this tragic event. “You are walking in the shadows and footsteps of heroes and giants,” said Governor Pataki.

Nassau County Executive Tom Suozzi reflected on his own experiences in college, and recalled how he was labeled an idealist and warned about how the real world operates. Suozzi continued to say that despite current events he still believes in optimism. “The real world is something we as men and women must actively create,” Suozzi maintained.

In closing, Dr. Fanelli told the class about his confidence in their ability to succeed despite the special challenges of a post 9/11 world. “Tomorrow, the cheers of today will have died away and they will be but a happy memory. Tomorrow you begin a new race, you face a new challenge,” he said. “Knowing of your successes at Nassau makes me and your faculty confident that you will conquer life’s challenges using what you have learned at Nassau.”

“Go forth and capture your own prize,” continued Dr. Fanelli, “but don’t forget your responsibility to help others capture theirs as well. In your quests, we wish you Godspeed.”
On May 20th, the Cradle of Aviation Museum at Mitchel Field opened its doors to the public and paid permanent tribute to the region’s rich and innovative aviation heritage. The Cradle of Aviation Museum is adjacent to Nassau Community College.

The museum’s collection of 70 legendary aircraft is housed in two historic hangars that were part of Mitchel Field air base when it was crucial to America’s air defense. In addition, the museum offers New York’s State’s largest IMAX Dome experience in a theater that overwhelms the senses and celebrates the world around us.

“The Cradle of Aviation Museum,” said Dr. Sean Fanelli, President of Nassau Community College and Chairman of the Board of Nassau Heritage, “is more than just a tourist attraction. It tells the rich aviation history of Long Island and our nation. Our region has always been in the forefront of aeronautics and space exploration. Humans have always wanted to fly. The Cradle of Aviation documents how well we have accomplished this feat.”

New York State Governor George Pataki paid homage to those volunteers from throughout the region who assisted in creating its exhibits. “Through these displays the Cradle becomes a powerful mirror that reflects our own skills, intellect and ability to connect time and space and pays tribute to American innovation and pioneering spirit. In a post September 11th world, these messages are more compelling than ever. What a wonderful place to present this unique and dynamic Long Island story,” he stated.

Nassau County Executive Thomas Suozzi stated, “Nassau County is a proud partner of this new institution because we recognize that it has a bold and important mission worthy of support. Through its displays, exhibits and artifacts, we are able to keep alive the heritage of Nassau County when it served as an incubator for advances in aviation and aerospace. But the Cradle of Aviation Museum also provides a roadmap for further exploration and innovation by those who will follow us far into the future.”

Visitors to the museum will be able to go from inspecting Lindbergh’s actual “Jenny” biplane and aircraft from the Golden Age of Aviation to visiting a flight-ready lunar module sitting on the surface of the moon. Yet regardless of what intrigues the visitor, virtually every exhibit at the Cradle of Aviation will salute Long Island’s spirit of discovery, innovation, leadership and vision in the field of aviation and aerospace.
Elaine Giambruno Named Valedictorian

Levittown resident Elaine Giambruno was not happy when she realized that she would be going to Nassau Community College in September of 2000. The MacArthur High School graduate had fully absorbed all the false stereotypes about NCC. Two years later, she graduated as valedictorian—and as a person with a completely changed perception of NCC.

“I was chosen to be a freshman orientation leader, and that experience changed my perception of the school entirely,” she remembers. Once her classes began, Elaine was pleasantly surprised at how challenging they were, and by the fact that her professors knew her name and took the time to personally help their students. Despite the difficulty of her coursework, she managed to maintain a 4.0 index while simultaneously working 24 hours a week.

Elaine’s efforts led to many positive things, including such awards and scholarships as Who’s Who, Student Activities and the Joseph Carlino Memorial Scholarship. It led to her being asked to go to local high schools to talk to students about her experiences at NCC. It also led to her being chosen as the valedictorian of her graduating class. “I grew up a lot during my time here. I fell in love with the school and will miss the feeling of comfort I find at Nassau. It’s been so valuable to me,” she says.

Elaine, who graduated with a liberal arts degree, will continue on to C.W. Post University this fall. She intends to major in secondary English education, pursue a masters degree in childhood literacy and then become an English teacher.

Christopher Roth Elected New Student Trustee

Christopher Roth, who graduated from Lindenhurst High School and currently lives in Long Beach, is the 2002 Nassau Community College student trustee. He will serve a one-year term in the position.

Prior to coming to NCC, Christopher spent two-and-a-half years in the United States Air Force. Once at the College, he majored in business administration and served as the recording secretary of the executive board of the Student Government Association. He also took part in SUNY Day—a day of lobbying designed for State University of New York college representatives to meet legislators and speak with them on behalf of their schools.

One of the things that 22-year-old Christopher likes best about the College is the diversity of the student body. “Being at Nassau has been an enlightening experience,” he maintains. “I appreciate how dedicated the members of the various student organizations and clubs are,” Christopher says of the students at Nassau. “I want to be just as committed and active in representing Nassau’s thousands of students.”

As Student Trustee, Christopher looks forward to focusing on quality of campus life issues, thereby making the Nassau Community College experience a positive one for all who attend the school. “I take representing over 20,000 students on the Board of Trustees very seriously,” he explains.

After he graduates from NCC, Christopher plans to attend either the University of San Diego or the University of California at San Diego. Interested in seeing other parts of the world, he then intends to pursue a career in international business.

Angela Bae Elected SGA President

Angela Bae, NCC’s Student Government Association president-elect, graduated from Mineola High School. In 2001, she came to the College, and quickly became involved in campus life—Angela was a freshman student senator in the NCC Academic Senate, as well as an active member of the Concrete Canoe Club and the Asian-American Club. “I’m very proud to be a student at Nassau, where there’s so much opportunity for growth,” she says. “I think Nassau is great. I have been very fortunate to have so many excellent professors and advisors. Being in the SGA has provided me with the opportunity to meet many good people and make friends. The educational opportunities are amazing.”

During her tenure as president of the SGA, Angela hopes to involve other students in the full experience of campus life. “Even though we are a commuter school, I hope to see more students take advantage of what Nassau Community College has to offer,” she maintains. As an advocate for all who attend the College, Angela intends to listen to what other students have to say and work hard to improve the quality of the College experience for everyone.

Academically, Angela, who is now 19, is a liberal arts major. She is also a recent recipient of a Student Activities Award and an honor student who is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa society. After graduating from NCC, she plans to continue her education at a four-year university, and then possibly go into law or medicine. “I love Nassau Community College. I’ve only had positive experiences here, both academically and socially.”
Hon. John LeBoutillier Appointed Trustee at Nassau Community College

John LeBoutillier of Westbury has been appointed by Governor George Pataki to a nine-year term as a member of the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees. Mr. LeBoutillier, a NewsMax.com columnist, former U.S. Congressman and nationally known political commentator, is the latest person to join the governing body of the College. “We are very fortunate to have someone of Mr. LeBoutillier’s credentials and commitment to higher education,” said Dr. Sean Fanelli, President of the College. “This institution and our students will be well served by his contributions,” he continued.

Mr. LeBoutillier’s family roots on Long Island are deep and historically significant. His grandmother was engaged to Quentin Roosevelt, a son of President Theodore Roosevelt. Quentin was shot down over Germany during World War I with letters from Mr. LeBoutillier’s grandmother in his pockets. His father had the distinction of being the longest tenured test pilot for Grumman Aerospace Corporation, and his cousin, Oliver, was the wingman of the plane that shot down the infamous Red Baron during World War I.

Presently, Mr. LeBoutillier is a syndicated columnist on the internet, where he writes prolifically on national and international political and economic events. He contributes regularly to many major newspapers and magazines, including The New York Times, The New York Post, and The Wall Street Journal, among others. He came to literary prominence in 1978 with his best-selling book Harvard Hates America. In 1980, Mr. LeBoutillier was elected to represent New York’s 6th Congressional District. His hobbies include playing baseball in a league for men over 30. The league has some ex-pros and some former minor league players. LeBoutillier is a pitcher.

“I am excited about being asked to serve on the Board of Trustees at Nassau and I have a lot to learn,” said LeBoutillier. “This is a wonderful institution and I want to do all that I can to smooth relations between the administration and county officials.”

Chuck Cutolo Named Director of Governmental Affairs at Nassau Community College

Chuck Cutolo was named Director of Governmental Affairs at Nassau Community College earlier this year. His responsibilities include assisting in the coordination and supervision of activities designed to represent and advocate on behalf of the College’s rights and needs at the federal, state and local levels of government.

NCC President Dr. Sean A. Fanelli is delighted to have someone with Cutolo’s credentials working at the College. “We count ourselves fortunate to have someone at Nassau Community College with Mr. Cutolo’s integrity and experience in government. The growing complexities of education as it relates to local, state and federal issues and the increasing demands of addressing these concerns adequately makes his coming to Nassau all the more significant,” he said.

Most recently, Cutolo served as the majority counsel to the Nassau County Legislature, after being the minority counsel to the Democrats on the legislature up until the 1999 election. He also worked in the Office of Public Policy for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, where he monitored legislation and made presentations regarding policy issues on the federal, state and local level. Prior to that, Cutolo spent 17 years working on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., including almost 12 years as legislative director for Senator Carl Levin of Michigan and a stint as a legislative assistant for Congressmen Lester Wolff and Joseph L. Fisher. Upon leaving Senator Levin’s staff in 1994, the Senator said of Chuck, “The reason democratic government succeeds is that there are enough Chuck Cutolos who bring supreme integrity to their work and who honor the people of this nation by serving them.” In addition, Cutolo is the author of Notes From the Hidden Years: Reflections on Spirituality, Politics and Other Stuff and LEGISLATING: A Study Guide and Working Manual.

Cutolo is excited to be working at Nassau Community College. “I am grateful for this opportunity, and I am enthusiastic about taking on the challenge of helping to increase the resources coming from the federal and state governments for the benefit of the College and its students,” he said.

Cutolo is a graduate of Hamilton College and Columbia Law School. He grew up in Alberton and East Williston, and currently lives in Westbury with his wife Denise. Both Chuck and Denise are active in the Youth Ministry of St. Brigid’s Catholic Church in Westbury.
NCC Cultural Program Attracts the Best

by Professor Phyllis Kurland

Each year, the Nassau Community College Cultural program strives to educate and enlighten the College and the community by bringing experts, newsmakers and opinion leaders to the campus to discuss current issues. This year, in the aftermath of September 11, it did just that. The “America After Attack” series focused on the impact of these tragic events.

In the fall 2001 semester, Stephen Kuhr of the New York City Office of Emergency Preparedness began the series with a talk about Biological and Chemical Terrorism, explaining the risks involved in the many types of possible toxic substances. Exploring what went wrong in Afghanistan was retired CIA agent Milt Bearden, who had “run” the United States operation in Pakistan in the 1980s and known Osama Bin Laden. The Ambassador from the League of Arab States to the United Nations, Hussein Hassouna, gave a diplomatic perspective on how to achieve peace and security in the region. Neamat Nojumi (currently working as an analyst for the USAID) spoke about his days as an Afghan freedom fighter against the Soviets in the 1980s, and his flight from the country in the 1990s. We learned how to fight terrorism from Larry Johnson, former Director of Security for El Al Israel Airlines, offered recommendations for improving security at airports and on airlines around the country.

For the spring, 2002 semester, the Cultural Program looked to the future—how can America recover from 9/11? Ralph Nader analyzed the challenges facing our country, and Long Island Association Chief Economist Dr. Pearl Kamer looked at the impact of September 11 on the Long Island economy. Talk show host Ambassador Alan Keyes spoke about what will be necessary to win the long fight against terrorism, and the Director of the Executive Session on Domestic Preparedness Juliette Kayyem presented the governmental, civil liberties and business issues involved with homeland security. Reviewing United States foreign policy was the “dean” of Cold War historians, Yale University Professor John Lewis Gaddis. The retired Dean of the Columbia School of Journalism, Joan Konner, looked at the relationship of the mass media and our government. Finally, Msgr. Tom Hartman and Rabbi Marc Gellman, aka “The God Squad,” offered a compassionate spiritual response to the events of 9/11.

The Cultural Program has fostered dialogue about terrorism since 1977, when Senator Jacob Javits addressed the issue in a campus-wide lecture, followed by a 1985 talk by Secret Service agent Jerry Paar (who saved President Reagan’s life during an assassination attempt). In 1986, Barry Rosen, once held hostage in Iran, addressed the issue, and in 1991 Laurie Mylroie (expert on Iraq and Saddam Hussein) explored what Iraq was up to in and after the Gulf War. In 1999, United Nations arms inspector Scott Ritter analyzed why Saddam Hussein threw weapons inspectors out of Iraq, and what needed to be done to get them back in.

Over the years, the Cultural Program has brought many United States and world leaders in a variety of fields to the College. Some of the more famous people who have spoken at NCC have been Haitian President Jean Bertrand Aristide, attorney Johnny Cochran, former New York City Mayor Ed Koch, Kadiatou Diallo (mother of Amadou Diallo), actress Lillian Gish, author Joseph Heller, Congressperson Bella Abzug, actress Marlo Thomas, fashion designer Gloria Vanderbilt, sports caster Marv Albert, scientist Rosalyn Yalow, attorney Barry Scheck and journalist Carl Bernstein.

In addition to these events, the Cultural Program also offers “Classics for Kids,” a Sunday afternoon concert series for young children and their families. Over the years, the children have seen ballet, opera, international music and dance, storytelling, Gilbert and Sullivan, American folk and jazz, modern dance, mime, chamber music and more. Not only do student parents attend with their children, but the public is invited as well. We are building the concert-going audience of the future!

If you want to find out who will be speaking at Nassau Community College in the future, call 516-572-7148 and ask to be put on the Cultural Program mailing list.
Nassau Community College Partnership Program in Mathematics: A Success Story in Progress

In 1997, NCC Mathematics Professor Phil Cheifetz embarked upon an ambitious program. The NCC Partnership Program in Mathematics began that year as a pilot community outreach program to bring college-level mathematics courses to high school students in Nassau County, and to bring higher-level mathematics students to the College. During the 1997 school year, less than fifty students were enrolled in the classes. By the 2001-2002 academic year, that number had risen to almost 350. “We expect the number to grow to over 450 by September 2002,” maintains Dr. Cheifetz.

The goal of the NCC—High School Partnership Program, according to Dr. Cheifetz, is to provide a rich mathematical experience for students studying calculus and precalculus. Each summer, NCC professors train high school teachers to teach their students these subjects and then work in tandem with them and the students during the academic year. For their part, motivated students receive the opportunity for college-level training and credits while still in high school. “The program was initiated because of the Harvard curriculum in calculus and precalculus that NCC has been teaching since 1993. Because NCC captures over 25% of all high school students graduated in Nassau County, we wanted to be sure that these students were prepared for this ‘deep-understanding, student-centered’ approach,” remembers Dr. Cheifetz.

Here’s how the program works: once a local high school administration approves of the partnership, the Dean of Instruction or a representative and a mathematics faculty member from the College meets with the high school math department chair, his or her instructors and prospective participating students and their parents to explain the rigor of the program. If the required number of students are interested and eligible, the first-time high school teacher attends a summer workshop. Then the NCC faculty member teaches the class 36 times per year. The NCC professor also constructs and grades three quarterly exams, a final exam and assigns the final NCC grade. The final exam is held at NCC. Students also get College ID cards so they can use the library and computer labs, as well as attend math help classes.

In addition to a more intense and vigorous course content, the math classes are designed to reflect the college experience, that is, they are more student-centered than teacher-centered. The credits earned by those who successfully complete the course are transferable to most colleges and universities.

Another byproduct of the NCC—High School Partnership Program is that the local high school students, teachers and administrators who participate get early and positive exposure to the College, its instructors and the high quality academic education it provides.

Dr. Cheifetz is justly proud about the success the NCC—High School Partnership Program has had so far. In fact, in 2000, this unique program won the Annenberg/CPB Foundation-AMATYC INPUT Award for innovative curriculum and pedagogy. He and his colleague, Professor Ellen Schmierer, who is the Assistant Director of the program, continue to see the interest and enrollment in the program grow. “The program seems to be growing exponentially. Next year we will be joined by the Syosset and Hicksville school districts, and in the 2003 academic year we expect two or three more districts to participate,” says Prof. Schmierer.
Nassau Debate Team Wins National Honors

The NCC Debate Society, led by advisor Professor Trent Webb of the Communications Department, recently took a bronze medal in a debate contest against 100 other community colleges from across the nation. The theme of the debate was “The War on Terrorism.”

The Debate Society traveled to the Phi Rho Pi National Speech Tournament and Conference in Fort Worth, Texas in April. Phi Rho Pi is the organization that governs all community college speech and debate teams. Its tournament is considered the “Olympics” of all speech and debate championships for these schools.

NCC’s Debate Society has been in existence for over forty years. Professor Webb, although he is new to NCC, is not new to debating. He has been an award winning debate coach at other academic institutions for the past several years. He and his students worked hard to do well at Phi Rho Pi. The five members of the College’s Debate Society who participated in this year’s tournament were: John Gilman of Howard Beach, Nick Amante of Franklin Square, Jessica Klein of Valley Stream, Kenny Hellberg of Oceanside and Rachel Freni of Locust Valley.

According to Dr. Linda Sussman, Chairperson of the Communications Department, “The department is enormously proud of Professor Webb and the students who competed. They have added distinction to the department and to NCC, and we are confident of their continued success.”

The debate team’s trip was sponsored by the NCC Communications Department, the Student Activities Department and the Faculty Student Association.

Grants To NCC Highest Ever: $2.1 Million

During the 2001-2002 academic year, federal, state and foundation grants to the College totaled $2,157,881, which represents the highest amount ever awarded to Nassau. There were twenty-six faculty and staff members involved in obtaining these thirty-three grants, which ranged in size from $1,500 to $562,018.

Grants were awarded for a variety of projects—including improving database development for vocational program outcomes assessment, recruitment of women in Engineering, providing admissions and financial aid information at the local one-stop center, technological upgrading of Allied Health Science Programs, upgrading digital technology in the Art Department, continuing the Long Island Writing Project, a technology grant for the Nursing Learning Center to upgrade and improve patient care simulations, upgrading the quality of Apparel Design student projects, maintaining Accreditation Board of Engineering Technologies (ABET) standards, establishing an Elder Abuse Resource Center, creating multiple workplace initiative programs, providing equal communication access for deaf and hard of hearing students within classrooms, research on Hamlet, hosting conferences, developing career awareness and preparation opportunities for future teachers and faculty development in Office Technology Department.

The following members received grants during the 2001-02 academic year: Bill Atkins, Acting Dean of Instruction; Susan Bello, Office of Institutional Research; Judith Bennett-Murray, Nursing; Toby Bird, English; Rona Casiola, Marketing/Retailing/Fashion/Interior Design; Bob Costello, Criminal Justice; Anne Emmerson, Associate Dean of Instruction; Kathleen Gallagher, Engineering/Physics/Technology; Sharon Grossman, Center for Students with Disabilities; Catherine Kelly, Biology; Bernice W. Kliman, English; Gary Klinger, Allied Health; Susan Kravitz, Art; Marilyn Monroe, Admissions; Patricia Nugent, Nursing; Patricia Petrocelli, Allied Health; Jeff Rosenfeld, Sociology; Louise Rotchford, Special Programs for Business; Janis Schimsky, Center for Students with Disabilities; Roberta Schroeder, Economics; Paula Setteducati, Special Programs for Business; David Sher, Math; Carol Stewart-Mueller, Marketing/Retailing/Fashion/Interior Design; Timothy Tweedy, Engineering/Physics/
Harold Bellinger, Assistant to the President for Affirmative Action and Diversity/ADA-504 Coordinator, and Dr. Judith Bennett-Murray, Associate Professor of Nursing, attended the Oxford Round Table, Lincoln College, Oxford, England in March. The mission of the Round Table is to discuss and further civil and human rights internationally. Harold Bellinger delivered the paper “Affirmative Action, Diversity and Protected Class Status in American Higher Education.”

Dr. Paula Wheeler-Carlo, History, Political Science and Geography, published the essay “Anglican Conformity and Nonconformity Among the Huguenots of Colonial New York,” in From Strangers to Citizens: The Integration of Immigrant Communities in Britain, Ireland, and Colonial America, 1550-1750, a collection of scholarly essays.

Dr. Phil Cheifetz, Mathematics, Statistics and Computers, and Ted Pyne, a professor of physics and astrophysics at Harvard University, recently had a paper entitled “The Mathematics of Supply and Demand” published as the lead article in the AMATYC Review, the two-year college mathematics journal.


Dr. Lorraine Findlay and Prof. Robert Pollack, Allied Health Sciences, have published a laboratory manual, Laboratory Exercises in Microbiology. The manual, which was published by John Wiley and Sons, is available nationwide.

Prof. Debra Grodenchik, Reading and Basic Education, is now Dr. Grodenchik, thanks to recently earning her Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from the City University of New York Graduate Center. Her area of specialization was quantitative methods in educational and psychological research.

Dr. Beverly Harrison, Associate Vice President for Human Resources and Labor Relations, was co-chairperson of the annual spring conference of the Long Island Chapter of the Industrial Relations Research Association in May. She also moderated a round table discussion about civil rights, the workplace, and 9-11. In addition, Dr. Harrison was named to the Board of Directors of the Girl Scouts of Nassau County, Inc.


Prof. Ed Mack, Health, Physical Education and Recreation, recently spoke to a group of parents in Locust Valley on the topic of “Kids and Sports.” Included in the presentation were the physiological, psychological and emotional considerations of sports participation from a parent’s perspective, reasons kids play, opportunities for participation in schools and scholarship information.

Dr. Tom O’Brien, Biology, had four articles featured in a recent publication of the New York Teachers Association, Adaptation.

Dr. Kumkum Prabhakar, Biology, attended and conducted the poster presentation entitled “Enhancing Student Learning with Investigative Approach in Plant Science” at the National Science Teachers Association conference in San Diego earlier this year.

Dr. Neela Saxena, English, co-chaired the conference committee of SALA (South Asian Literary Association), an allied organization of the MLA (Modern Language Association) and helped organize the SALA conference in New Orleans last winter. Dr. Saxena guest edited the conference abstract section of the journal South Asian Review and presented a paper entitled “Desire and Dissolution of Identity in Tagore’s Gora: A Critique of Nationalism.”

Paul Schmidt, Head Wrestling Coach, has been named 2002 New York State Collegiate Coach of the Year by the New York State Collegiate Wrestling Coaches Association. Coach Schmidt guided his squad to a fifth place finish out of 23 programs at the 33rd Annual New York State Championships earlier this year. Nassau also placed second (Division III) at the National Junior College Championships, with four individual place winners, including a national champion.

Prof. Bill Shillalees, Art, has displayed his work in three shows: “Expressions in Clay” (group show at Suffolk Community College), “Clay and Carbon” (two person show at Bryant Library in Roslyn), and “Sculpture Biennial 2002” (outdoor sculpture show at Adelphi University). He also curated the “Sculpture Biennial” show.

Prof. Mario Susko, English, has had his integral edition/translation of Walt Whitman’s Leaves of Grass published in Croatia (Meander, Zagreb). The same publisher released his book of poems (published in the U.S. last year) The Life After in May.

Prof. Zhanshu Liu, English, recently delivered a paper entitled “Representation of the Poor in the Work of Charles Dickens and Henry Mayhew” at the spring conference of the New York College English Association at Utica College, Syracuse University.

Prof. Jack Mandel, Marketing and Retailing, was a keynote speaker at the New York City Courier Convention, held at the La Guardia Crowne Plaza Hotel in March. His address was titled “It’s Your Future—Marketing Strategies for 2002.” Prof. Mandel was also interviewed about consumer issues facing Long Islanders on News 12 Long Island.

Dr. Maria Mann, Foreign Languages, presented a paper entitled “Gioseffa Cornoldi Caminer and La donna galante e erudite, giornale dedicato al bel sesso” at the annual meeting of the South Eastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies in Chapel Hill, North Carolina in March.

Alicetean Taylor, Professor Emeritus, Accounting, was elected president of the International Mentoring Association at its 15th annual conference in Fort Worth in April. This mission of the IMA is to promote research and practices in mentoring. Prof. Taylor first designed and implemented a mentoring program at NCC for freshmen.
Congratulations Class of 2002

Graduating Student Leaders (clockwise from top left): Daniel Kahn, Michael Fonteboa, Mustafa Gokdemir, April Hicks and Melanie Corriero.