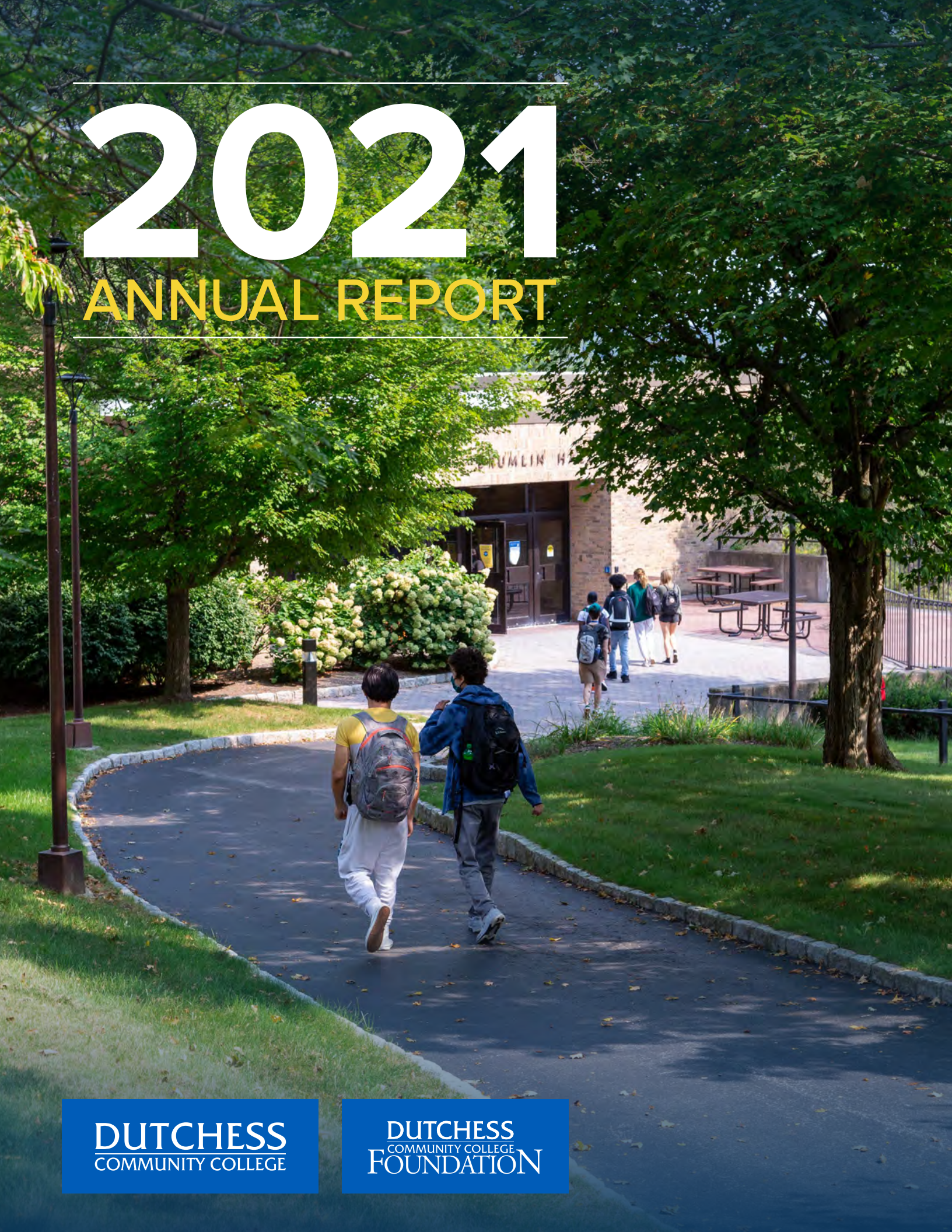


2021

ANNUAL REPORT



DUTCHESS
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DUTCHESS
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
FOUNDATION

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DEAR FRIENDS,



Peter Grant Jordan, Ed.D.

Little did I realize when I joined the DCC community in August how quickly this semester would fly by. As I look back over the past several months, I am moved by – and very grateful for – the support and friendship that has been extended to me.

I've enjoyed numerous conversations with faculty, staff, students and alumni. I'm pleased to have met various elected officials, as well as school district and community leaders. I'm thankful, too, to have connected with many corporate CEOs and not-for-profit leaders. From all of these interactions, I am inspired by the dedication of our campus community, friends and supporters across Dutchess County – and beyond – who continue to generously

give of their time, creativity and personal support as we all navigate new dimensions of the crucial work we do in higher education.

It has been almost two years since the first cases of COVID-19 were confirmed in the United States. Today, we live in a very different world. I'm proud of how DCC's faculty, staff, students and Board of Trustees have risen to meet the challenges of this moment. They have shown the tenacity and resiliency that makes DCC a formidable force, and I'm excited about where the College goes from here.

As president, let me tell you that the opportunities available to us as a college are equal to the challenges we face. Together with students, faculty and staff, we are working to formulate a shared vision and aspirations for the College. In the coming months, you will learn more about these efforts and the vision to reinforce and grow DCC's reputation as the county's foremost hub of learning across generations.

In the highlights that follow, you will find stories of students, faculty, staff and alumni doing extraordinary things and the impact these efforts are having on DCC students and our surrounding communities. You will read about initiatives in aviation instruction. You will learn more about our return to in-person instruction and our efforts to revitalize the sense of community on campus. And you'll read about the broad array of initiatives and activities in which our faculty, staff and students are engaged to improve and scale-up student success.

These stories make me proud to be part of the DCC community – and I know they will make you proud too.

Thank you for your continued support of our students, our faculty, our staff – and your Dutchess Community College.

Peter Grant Jordan, Ed.D.
President

DCCC AT-A-GLANCE

7,239 STUDENTS*

1,032 SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDED BY THE DCC FOUNDATION SINCE 2016

60+
**DEGREE,
CERTIFICATE,
& MICROCREDENTIAL PROGRAMS**

67%
GRADUATED WITH
**NO STUDENT
LOAN DEBT**

\$3.5 MILLION
DCC FOUNDATION SUPPORT
TO THE COLLEGE SINCE 2016

705 CONKLIN SCHOLARS
FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN 18 YEARS

49,385 ALUMNI



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DEAR ALUMNI & FRIENDS,

As we end one truly unprecedented year, it is encouraging to see we are moving forward to more normal activities and gratifying to see students on campus once again. The DCC Foundation is pleased to have been able to continue its support for our students and the College's many programs and educational initiatives.

A short time ago you received our impact statement along with a letter from our president, Dr. Peter Grant Jordan. These documents provided you with details on how your support led to direct student assistance – a reason to be proud! We look forward to working with Dr. Jordan to continue expanding offerings for our students, faculty, staff and the whole community.

The DCC Foundation is grateful for the positive impact you have provided. Your gifts enable us to continue to meet the objectives of our mission, which is, "...to raise funds to provide scholarships and support the College's initiatives that will have a significant and direct impact on the students, faculty and staff of Dutchess Community College."

Equally important is this chance to express our sincere gratitude for your generosity in partnering with us to create and maintain opportunities for our students to continue to achieve their educational and personal goals. As you will read in this annual report, the DCC Foundation casts a broad net over the diverse services, initiatives and activities we provide to benefit our students, faculty and staff, all of which contribute to the quality experience here at the College.

Despite the significant challenges brought on by the pandemic, the DCC Foundation has been able to continue to grow and even move into new areas in support of the College community. This was possible because of your loyal generosity and encouragement. Through your contributions, you help to create the positive change we seek to bring to our dynamic community. Every gift affects the student experience at DCC in significant ways. Know, too, that your participation inspires the Foundation Board and staff to continue their work to celebrate your part in guaranteeing a robust future, one that holds the promise of continued growth and innovation.

There are a variety of ways you can work with and through the DCC Foundation, whether supporting scholarships, faculty/staff development initiatives, a lecture series or through your giving. In this new year, we look forward to continuing our collaboration with you.

On behalf of the Board and staff of the DCC Foundation, we say THANK YOU!



Carl L. Denti
 Carl L. Denti
 Board Chair



Diana L. Pollard
 Diana L. Pollard
 Executive Director
 Class of 1997

DCC STRONG

CAMPUS LEADERS SHARE THE LESSONS LEARNED – AND SILVER LININGS SEWN – FOLLOWING THEIR NAVIGATION OF THE PANDEMIC.

IN MARCH 2020, EVERYONE’S LIVES CHANGED IN WAYS no one ever imagined, no less experienced. At DCC, less than 75 miles from what came to be known as “ground zero” of the COVID-19 pandemic in New Rochelle, N.Y., the reaction time and decision-making had to be swift and decisive. While nobody knew for certain what the future had in store during those surreal first days, it was undeniably clear that the choices made would literally have life-or-death consequences.

The crisis struck in the midst of Spring Break, giving administrators the smallest of good fortunes in that most students were already not on campus. Extending Spring Break gave them a bit more time to plan – and tread water – as they were bombarded daily, if not hourly, by new regulations, procedures and mandates coming from federal, state and system levels.



Students walk to class during the first week of fall semester.

Putting Students First

“Everything in the academic enterprise needed to be addressed,” recalls Maria Boada, dean of academic affairs. “We had to transition from in-person to remote instruction, which meant giving faculty time to develop content and pedagogical strategies for remote delivery – and in many cases learn how to use tools and technology that allowed for delivery of an online learning experience.”

In addition to teaching, numerous support services also critical to student success had to be reinvented, including tutoring, financial aid, counseling and more. All of them had to be provided remotely.

“We had to do a very quick pivot,” says Colleen Trogisch, dean of student services, who had the challenge of finding solutions for students living in DCC’s residence hall, many of whom were a great distance from home. “We had to get students off the grounds and back home to their families or alternate housing quickly,” Trogisch explains, “but do so safely and with as much empathy as possible.”

This became even more difficult – and urgent – after the county commandeered the residence hall for its emergency management use, which ramped up the

stakes for Bridgette Anderson, associate vice president of administration, facilities.

“Suddenly our team was in the thick of it,” Anderson explains. “We all went through extensive training with NuVance Health’s Infectious Disease Control Group, along with the health department, teaching us how to wear masks, Tyvek suits and other forms of PPE (personal protective equipment).”

Although Trogisch had held her current

“IN THE END, EVERYONE CAME IN AND DID THEIR JOBS. WE MAINTAINED OUR FACILITIES. WE KEPT EVERYONE SAFE. WE DID WHAT WE HAD TO DO.”

—BRIDGETTE ANDERSON, ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATION, FACILITIES

position for a mere seven months, she’d worked at DCC since 2007 – and she’s an alumna – so her campus and regional knowledge gave her an advantage. She quickly established a partnership with a neighboring college, which agreed to house the students for the rest of the semester. That partnership would soon evolve, expanding to five area colleges whose members met weekly to share information, best practices and new ideas.

The remote transitions weren’t perfect. Some areas of instruction had greater

obstacles than others. Nursing students lost their clinics. Performing arts majors lost their audiences. Most students had never learned remotely, so they had to quickly figure it out. It was harder for those in courses they found challenging, producing extra anxiety at a dreadful time.

However, before long most students began embracing online learning, because they realized they wanted that modality and could

continue their career paths efficiently.

“They could now consider taking some courses they previously could not, due to their availability,” Boada says. “They could also take those classes at times that better suited them, which boosted student performance as well.”

Caring for Colleagues

Of course, students were only half of the equation, as DCC’s employees had their own host of trials.

“We had to invest in new technology, training and Zoom licenses,” Boada details, “all while more and more of our co-workers began feeling the pandemic’s impact in their personal lives.”

Anderson, a 26-year campus veteran, also acknowledges the challenges her facilities management team faced, along with the personal reservations and uncertainty they had to overcome.

“Our people were here every day, from the beginning,” she points out. “Most people were sent home and worked remotely, but our team had to be here.”

It was tough at first, Anderson admits, since everyone had some issues they were dealing with at home, but she is very proud of how her team performed in the face of such adversity.

“Once we connected the dots and were informed, we were able to follow all of the protocols,” she says. “In the end, everyone came in and did their jobs. We maintained our facilities. We kept everyone safe. We did what we had to do.”

Indeed, despite all of the stressors,



interruptions and roadblocks, DCC’s leaders remained unflappable and even energized by the resourcefulness of their colleagues.

“I was amazed at what people came up with across campus,” Trogisch attests. “It forced us to be creative and really improved our efficiency.”

For instance, DCC staff discovered early on that they could use Zoom to create virtual waiting rooms.

This allowed several departments to triage students’ requests, manage their wait times, and get people to the right folks more quickly.

People also stepped up to help one another in inspiring ways. Peer-to-peer support reached new highs, as those experienced in online teaching and virtual meetings helped ramp up DCC’s skills across disciplines and departments. It resulted in a true paradigm shift across campus: the ability to move and change quickly – which is rare in academia.

Addressing Inequities

The pandemic also uncovered substantial issues that may have taken longer to surface, if at all.

“It shed the light on various equity gaps,” Boada explains. “It revealed the lack of technology available not only in parts of our campus, but also in many of our students’ day-to-day lives.”

Access to important assets like laptops and reliable internet service varied widely, so DCC helped its scholars fill those gaps, including financial assistance and training. IT staff even created a map, so that students could come to campus and park in areas with strong WIFI access.

Similar solutions popped up across campus. Academic coaches created Zoom rooms for advising. The library provided remote services. Faculty held office hours online – which were actually better attended than when in-person meetings were the sole option.

“We had to communicate all the time because it was so important to us that our students stayed on track toward graduation,” Boada adds. “It really promoted cross-unit collaboration at a whole new level.”

“IT’S IMPORTANT TO OFFER FACE-TO-FACE AS WELL AS REMOTE INTERACTION. THAT BALANCE IS GIVING US OPPORTUNITIES WE NEVER THOUGHT WE’D HAVE.”

—COLLEEN TROGISCH
DEAN OF STUDENT SERVICES

The Decision to Re-open

As the spring 2021 semester came to a close and vaccinations began decreasing infection rates, it became clear that a return to campus was both possible and preferred. Once again campus leaders, under the guidance of Provost and Vice President of Instruction and Learning Ellen Gambino, who was serving as acting president,

worked to create safe environments for effective learning and social experiences, all while following a host of CDC guidelines, SUNY protocols and government mandates.

From classroom and hybrid course designs to plexiglass barriers and mask dispensers, solutions were developed which protected people and increased comfort

levels. Anderson and her team also devised and managed a check-in system that was followed stringently.

“We made sure students were on course rosters to attend a class,” she says. “They also went through health screenings and had

to wear masks, and we staffed those areas with added personnel.”

In the end, the fall 2021 semester was a huge success, creating a campus-wide satisfaction among those who led the way.

Looking Forward – Without Forgetting

Boada has watched DCC’s faculty go through tremendous growth and change – even new pedagogical approaches – and this work has been extremely beneficial for everyone.

“We came out of the pandemic learning so much,” she says. “We designed classes to be delivered via remote modalities, and we’ve demonstrated their ability to produce the required learning outcomes.”

DCC has continued many of the remote services it launched during the pandemic since they provide so many efficiencies to students and staff alike. This has opened the door more to nontraditional students as well, which DCC can now serve better thanks to its new knowledge.

Trogisch also points to a recent conversation with a tutor who noticed students seem to prefer remote tutoring. They like the freedom of it and the lower time commitment – and their no-show rates have plummeted.

“The most important takeaway is how



Conklin Hall welcomed students back to on-campus housing for the fall 2021 semester.

much we've learned and can now do well," she concludes. "It's important to offer face-to-face as well as remote interaction. That balance is giving us opportunities we never thought we'd have."

As the campus prepares for spring 2022 and beyond, new President Peter Grant Jordan gives the DCC team, led by Provost Ellen Gambino, endless kudos for the herculean work they did. He also sees many positives which have come out of an otherwise negative situation, including the perspectives gained from the inability to interact in person for so long.

"We've learned a lot from having to go through the pandemic – the shutdown lifestyle," he explains. "While we don't want to throw all of that out, we also don't want that to make us a totally virtual society. We know, instinctively, that's not the best way to go."

Dr. Jordan is thrilled to see the many advancements and efficiencies which online instruction and virtual meetings have afforded students and staff alike, but he sees the need for balance, too.

"Interacting with people, face-to-face, makes a big difference," he counsels. "We tend to be less hostile or forceful than when hiding behind a camera, cell phone or keyboard."

As President Jordan begins his tenure, he's working with colleagues to ensure that DCC is not leaning too much in one direction or another.

"We need to adapt and adopt what we've learned with a great deal of care, to serve students who are alone – and who could also be lonely," he instructs. "This is a chance to help them by exercising their emotional intelligence."

Boada agrees fully.

"Most students still want to come to campus for certain experiences and classes," she says. "They see that they need – and took for granted – in-person instruction," she adds. "But maybe they just need to do that once or twice a week now instead of three. Balancing the desire for efficiency with the benefits of in-person interactions and relationship building is the key." ●



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THE SKY'S THE LIMIT

President Peter Grant Jordan shares his aspirations and beliefs for what Dutchess Community College will become – and the broad community continuum it will serve.

They say everything happens in life for a reason – and when talking to Dr. Peter Grant Jordan, one can't help but believe it to be true. The new president's path to Dutchess Community College appears to be the perfect blend of fate and fortune, resulting in a homecoming of sorts whose timing could not have been more perfect.

"I'm a New Yorker – not born, but bred," explains the Caribbean Island native from Barbados who was raised in Harlem and attended New York City Public Schools through high school.

He left the state to earn his bachelor's degree in English and History at Maine's Colby College – where in 1980 he unwittingly began a lifelong career in academic administration after receiving an offer to work at his alma mater immediately upon graduation. He established a new Office for Intercultural Activities, designed to help international students and people of color feel more welcome and engaged on campus.

It was not long, though, until he felt a call to return home, sparked largely by his now wife of 39 years, Diana, who lived in New York City. He joined the admissions team at Adelphi University in 1981, a step that would lead him to several other campuses in and around the New York metro area, including enrollment leadership positions at the Polytechnic Institute of New York University (during which he also received his master's degree), Eugene Lang College, New York Institute of Technology, and Vaughn College of Aeronautics.

In 2002, he joined the City University of New York (CUNY)'s LaGuardia Community College, where he quickly ascended to vice president of enrollment management and student development – a role he held for seven years. Concurrently, he earned a doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania in Higher Education Management. Soon after

he was named interim vice chancellor of student affairs with CUNY's system administration, where he served for two years, before returning to LaGuardia as vice president for institutional effectiveness for another year.

A NEW CHALLENGE. A NEW HOME.

During this path, Dr. Jordan developed a passion for the mission of community colleges, as well as such concepts as academic quality, access, innovation and student success. He worked hard to ensure these topics were valued wherever he served, and as his mentors began encouraging him to take the next step and find a college presidency, he explored the extent to which they were present in those campus communities.

He found exactly such a place in Tarrant County College's South Campus, of which many of his colleagues and peers spoke very highly.

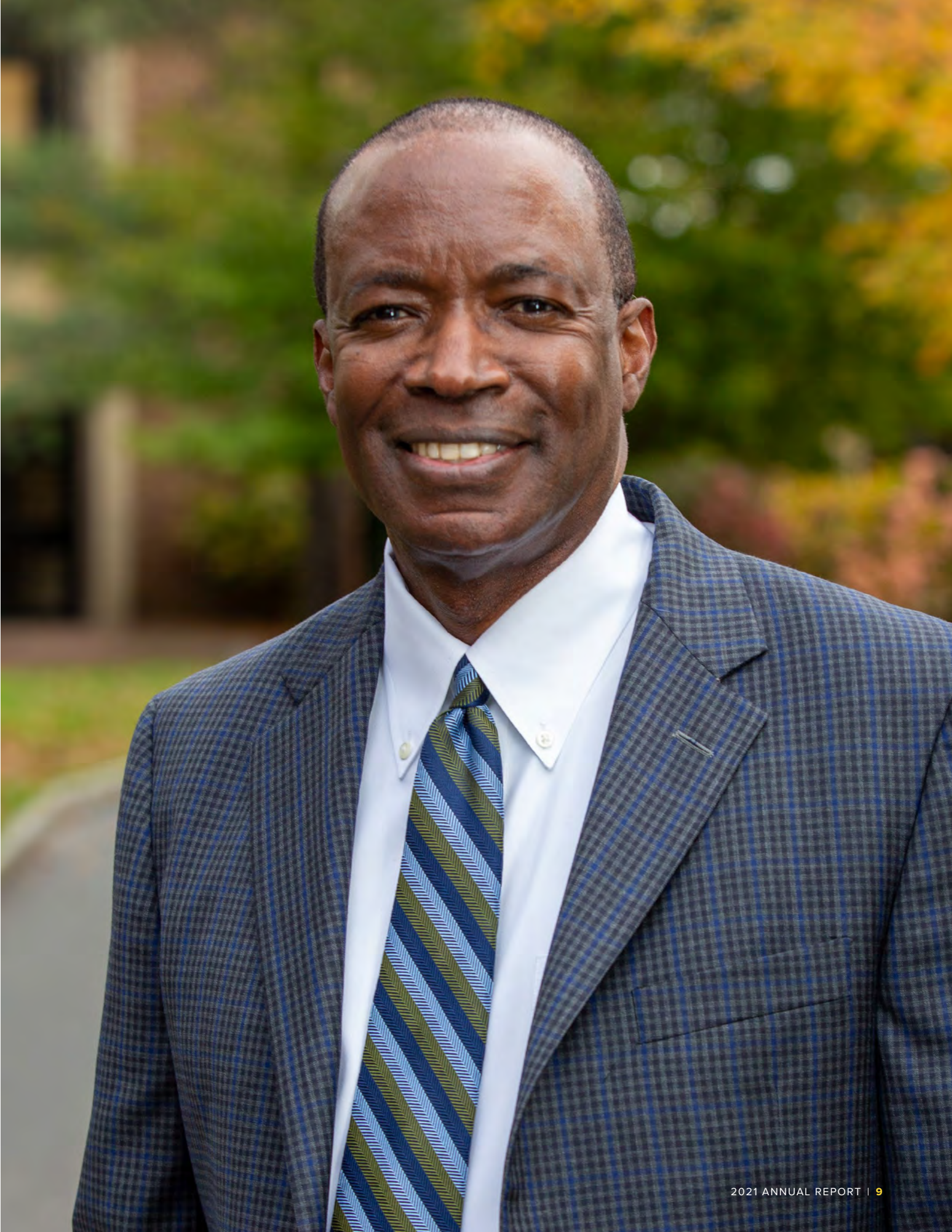
"For me, it was important to be part of a community that I felt I could fit into," President Jordan says. "I was searching for a sense of warmth and welcome by the community, and I immediately felt at home in Tarrant County."

So, this New Yorker packed up and headed south to Fort Worth, Texas, leading the institution for nine years. There he became known for his ability to listen to a wide swathe of campus and community constituencies in formulating a shared vision that benefitted numerous sectors in the region.

"Community colleges, in my estimation, need to support the community – not just the students and faculty, but the businesses, not-for-profit organizations and broader industries," he states.

As much as he enjoyed Fort Worth, as the pandemic began, Dr. Jordan found himself needing to return home for family reasons, but wanting to find a place where he could continue the work he had begun in Tarrant County. His timing dovetailed perfectly with DCC's own search, and he was quickly drawn to the opportunity.

"DCC surfaced because of what I felt in terms of the innovation that was taking place here," he recalls. "They were looking at Guided Pathways. They had created this advising enterprise called the Academic, Career and Transfer Center."



He was especially impressed by the campus' Aviation Science programs, including its new \$16 million teaching hangar at Hudson Valley Regional Airport, as well as its new DCC @ Fishkill facility expansion, for which he credits Provost and Vice President of Instruction and Learning Ellen Gambino for leading during an incredibly challenging time.

"Faculty were doing innovative things with the curriculum," he notes. "This suggested there was strong program development, which I knew I would enjoy. These rich opportunities showed the kind of shift in instruction and learning that would allow the College to strengthen its approach to liberal learning and become a real force in terms of economic development, and a strong partner for the county."

A HUB OF LEARNING – FROM CRADLE TO CANE

One of the first things President Jordan raises when speaking of DCC's future is the importance of diversity – which he defines at the broadest levels, including economies, age groups and industries, in addition to oft-mentioned ethnic and gender considerations. He harkens back to his childhood time in Barbados for examples and inspiration.

"Sugar cane and tourism comprised virtually our whole economy – and one good storm can bring both to a halt," he warns.

"My vision, from a service perspective, is that we become a hub for learning within the Hudson Valley and beyond. I would like as many of our existing programs as possible to become signature – destination programs – because the learning experiences are second-to-none or not available where they are.

—President Peter Grant Jordan



President Jordan's aspirations for DCC are very high, and a wide spectrum of product and service offerings are chief among his concerns, to guard against that economic volatility.

"We must not only see ourselves as a college that supports 18-24-year-olds – but as an institution who serves students from cradle to cane," he conceives. "My vision, from a service perspective, is that we become a hub for learning within the Hudson Valley and beyond. I would like as many of our existing programs as possible to become signature – destination programs – because the learning experiences are second-to-none or not available where they are."

His vision is detailed, focused on meeting generational needs. He describes a DCC where students not only work toward their degrees, but also serve as tutors and mentors to tweens and teens, helping them to avoid distractions and pitfalls while improving their literacy, mathematics and other skills.

"Imagine connecting a 'latch-key kid' to a DCC student – who now becomes his faculty member!" he envisions. "Think about how that mentor student's learning is deepening as he helps his younger neighbor succeed."

That first connection then might help students consider college, even

though no one else in their family ever has. He foresees arranging summer visits, and on-ramping more of them with college credits while in high school to help them get ahead and lessen their college debt.

Next there is the post-college market, where working adults can go for certificates, badges and microcredentials to help them enhance their skills and portfolios. DCC offers Basic Bookkeeping and Small Business Management microcredentials, as well as a Paralegal certificate. Those in technology fields can earn Computer Networking and Web Administration certificates along with three cloud-related microcredentials, while healthcare professionals can earn Paramedic and Phlebotomist certificates.

"We can be a force to be reckoned with, in that regard," he asserts.

Then there's the seniors, ages 50 and up, who want to learn something new like estate planning, reverse mortgages, social media skills and other technologies. Seniors are increasingly demonstrating the desire to remain active and engaged, and Dr. Jordan is confident DCC can help them lead fulfilling lives.

"We have the opportunity to serve students across that life continuum," he summarizes, "and all of this allows us to create ambassadors and influencers who will serve the College well in terms of growth and brand marketing."

THE EXPERIENCE IS THE DIFFERENCE

Still, the traditional student market will always be a primary target audience, and as important as it is to focus on the kinds of people DCC serves, it's just as important to President Jordan that DCC focuses on the methods through which that learning is experienced.

"We have an opportunity to help transform the way that liberal education is delivered," he recognizes. "Not a nineteenth-century or even twentieth-century experience, but one where they can receive valuable learning outcomes and we connect them to the businesses and professions that need them when they graduate."

Those connections run deep, including the systems and solutions that businesses, not-for-profits, communities, government and industries need. He also wants to ensure that students realize the path DCC has put them on can lead to some of the most honored professions – physicians, lawyers, teachers – but also connect them to newer enterprises entering the community, like start-ups and spin-offs with disruptive technologies.

BUILDING THE PLAN

Even though his tenure has just begun, President Jordan is working to create a Strategic Plan that will help DCC become everything he articulates.

"The vision, from my end, is there. It's coming together," he assures. "More importantly, though, is that the vision has to be shared. Whatever I bring to the table, I need to make sure it is shared by the community: students, faculty, elected officials, business and industry. So, at this point, I'm testing that vision with our various stakeholders and partners across the Hudson Valley."

Hearing him speak, you can visualize everything he describes, and there's no reason to doubt the possibilities. After all, he's a New Yorker – and he's determined to build on DCC's rich legacy as a gem of the county. ●



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NOTE: LIFETIME GIVING TOTALS AS OF 8/31/2021.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

High-Energy Alums Bring Affordable Solar to Hudson Valley

Anthony Sicari '08 and Bianca Cauchi '08 have known what they've wanted out of life for some time. Once they make a decision, they're "all-in," as they say in poker – and the bets they've made have hit the jackpot.

Their first bet was on each other. They began planning their lives two decades ago at Our Lady of Lourdes High School in Poughkeepsie. The high school sweethearts knew they wanted to have careers in business; they didn't want to incur a lot of college debt; and they didn't want to stray far from home.

DCC checked all of the boxes.

They didn't know they would become pioneers in Hudson Valley's clean energy industry, or that they would do so before the age of 30 – but they always knew they'd make a great team.

Anthony and Bianca are co-owners of SunPower® by New York State Solar Farm, a solar electric system designer and integrator in Modena, N.Y. – just 15 minutes from where they grew up and the college they attended.

"We have so many friends and family here, I never really wanted to leave," says Bianca. "Plus, the DCC campus is so beautiful. You're switching buildings, walking across 130 acres... you feel like you're at a much bigger school."

For Anthony, the flexibility of staying close to home made a lot of sense, too. He wanted to enter the workforce while at DCC and earn his degree quickly. He followed his plan meticulously, creating a schedule that limited his in-class time to Tuesdays and Thursdays. That allowed him to begin working in a field that had fascinated him since his mid-teens: renewable energy.

"What appealed to me was helping communities add solar (energy),"

Anthony recalls. "I was seeing what was being done in Germany and Italy, with these large-scale solar farms. In high school, I took my first class at BOCES — 'Intro to Photo Voltaics' — and I was hooked."

Anthony earned an associate degree in business administration from DCC, while Bianca followed the Business Administration Transfer (BAT) path to Marist College to complete her bachelor's degree in business with a human resource concentration. They continued learning as much as they could about the solar industry, and in 2008 took the leap of starting their own company, upon the retirement of Anthony's employer.

Yet, for all their planning, they hadn't yet realized what their business would truly look like – or how it could evolve.

"Community farming wasn't really a thing yet," Anthony explains. "I thought we would own a farm and have 25 acres of solar fields that would power the community."

Things really sharpened into focus in 2010 during a trip they made to California, widely considered the nation's leader in renewable energy.

"We decided to fly out and meet with a financing company which was looking to get into leasing," Bianca recalls. "Our goal was to leave with one of those leases."

As you might imagine, they did exactly that. The new partnership allowed them to bring a much better financing model to New York State, and gave the



Anthony Sicari and Bianca Cauchi, co-owners of SunPower® by New York Solar Farm, are helping communities take control of their energy future.

California company a pilot program to gauge New York's broader viability.

"We made it possible for people to add solar energy to their personal residences without having to pay that big-ticket price," Anthony says. "We've helped them take control of their energy future."

How many people? To date, they've installed systems in roughly 2,000 homes across the Hudson Valley, which translates to huge savings for their community — and the environment.

"It's the equivalent of planting 15,281 acres of trees and avoiding 28,877 barrels of oil consumption," Bianca confirms. "Plus, every month I hear from customers who send me a utility bill that reads, 'zero dollars,' and they're amazed."

They also credit DCC for helping prepare them. Beyond DCC's affordability and convenience, both recall courses and professors who helped build their skills and shape the leaders they have become.

"I took business, marketing and communications classes, and you're getting crash courses while you're working in the business," Anthony attests. "I'll never forget the marketing class I took there. I'm still using it today."

"For me, it was the writing and communication skills I gained that helped build our company," reflects Bianca. "I also took a public speaking class that really helped. It taught me how to think on my feet."

Now married with a team of 30 employees, the 35-year-olds are able to step back and appreciate what they've created, both in terms of the company's size and its impact on their community.

"Sometimes you get stuck in the 'day-to-day,' but when you stop and look at the big picture, it's a huge carbon offset we've facilitated — along with a lot of financial savings for those customers," Bianca admits. "It's pretty amazing." ●



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\$16 Million Education Center, New Maintenance Technician Major, Take Aviation Program to New Heights

IN 2000, JOHN TROSIE HAD A chance conversation with then-DCC President D. David Conklin. Trosie, an air conditioning and refrigeration maintenance instructor at the time, was also a licensed airplane pilot who thought the College could create an effective aviation program.

“There really wasn’t anything like that around us for quite a distance, and demand was growing in the industry,” Trosie says.

Dr. Conklin had come to DCC from Farmingdale State College, which offered aviation, so he knew what that could mean for the campus.

“He told me to go ahead and put a program together,” Trosie recalls, “but I don’t think either of us really dreamed that it could become what it is today.”

What it is today is a thriving program of distinction that draws students from every corner of New York and beyond.

DCC now offers associate degrees in piloting and aviation management, as well as the new aviation maintenance technician degree launched this fall under the leadership of Provost and Vice President of Instruction and Learning Ellen Gambino, while she served as acting president. She also ushered in DCC’s new \$16 million hangar and education center at the Hudson Valley Regional Airport — one of the hottest topics of conversation across campus, the county and beyond.

“It’s one of the most exciting things in which I’ve been involved,” says Dean of Academic Affairs Maria Boada. “This program requires a lot of innovation and thinking outside of the box, but it’s allowing our students to enter a very hot market with well-paying careers.”

How right she is. Starting salaries for many aviation jobs begin at \$50,000 and can climb to well over \$200,000 throughout a career — figures that are only



Daniel Spera Jr., manager of the Teterboro Flight Standards District Office of the FAA presents Provost and Vice President of Instruction & Learning Ellen Gambino with the FAA Certification for the new DCC @ HVR airport facility. Aviation Science Program Chair and Assistant Professor John Trosie at left. Aviation Program Coordinator Genna Suraci at right.

climbing, thanks to talent scarcity in the industry.

“The pilot and support worker shortage is real,” confirms Trosie, now DCC’s chair and assistant professor of Aviation Science. “It used to be that you had to pay your dues and even work for free for a few years until a (pilot or promotion) spot opened up.”

But that all changed a few years ago, as more commercial airlines began operating, along with an increase in demand for private/charter service pilots and support teams.

“Our graduates are flying for major airlines, charters, even the military,” Trosie beams, “and for every pilot, there are another 10 people on the ground, supporting that operation in a service capacity.”

That’s why DCC chose to invest in the new education center. Those on-the-ground jobs are in equally high demand, and students aren’t just getting jobs as soon as they graduate – they’re getting signing bonuses – inspiring the College to add the maintenance technician degree, which welcomed its first cohort in August 2021.

“We were getting calls to hire mechanics before we had a shovel in the ground,” says Bridgette Anderson, DCC’s associate vice president of administration for campus facilities and safety, who served as project shepherd for the new building.

However, DCC wanted to be sure this new program would be taught at the highest level, like its other aviation degrees, with expert faculty, hands-on experience, and top-of-line equipment, including simulators and an array of aircraft to create a broad spectrum of learning scenarios.

Boada addressed the faculty part of the equation masterfully with the selection of Genna Suraci as program coordinator. A long-time maintenance technician for Trans World Airlines (TWA) and Tower Airlines, she earned her Airframe and Powerplant (A&P) license while still in high school. She’s always had a passion for educating the next generation, having taught at the very high school she

she admits.

Suraci is being modest. She was able to get three planes donated from individuals and knew how to navigate the federal government procurement system, from which DCC acquired several other general, corporate and military aircraft at deep discounts. Chief among them is “Falcon One,” a Gulfstream G3-C20 jet previously used by presidents Ronald

Reagan and George H.W. Bush – back when it went by the name “Air Force One” – and later by Operation: Desert Storm General Norman Schwarzkopf.

“It’s pretty remarkable for our students to be learning on a piece of U.S. history,” Trosie says. “It’s another thing that sets us apart.”

The fleet also includes a Gulf Stream G3; a Beechcraft T34; a Piper P26; a Robinson 22 helicopter; a Mooney MC20, and several Cessna aircraft. Students also train in advanced aircraft system simulators, including a Redbird Full-Motion, Three-Axis Simulator.

The 31,800-square-foot facility is comprised of a 15,000-square-foot teaching laboratory and an 11,000-square-foot experiential hangar. There are turbine and piston engines for students to overhaul, a modern welding and sheet metal shop, five classrooms specifically configured for aviation courses, a technical library and testing room, and a specialized tool and equipment room.

“This is definitely the most modern facility in the state – likely the East Coast, we’ve been told,” adds Anderson of the project funded by New York State, Dutchess County and Empire State Development.

“We already have the reputation for being one of New York’s leading aviation education providers,” said Gambino at the grand opening ceremony this past



DCC welcomed its first cohort of Aviation Maintenance Technician students to the new Aviation Education Center at Hudson Valley Regional Airport in August.

attended, and serving as principal with Ulster BOCES for 22 years. But in 2018, after a career that had spanned portions of five decades, she found herself inspired for one more challenge.

“DCC called me and shared their vision. It was a perfect way to blend my passions for aviation and teaching, and I knew I had to hop onboard,” Suraci says.

She joined the team while they were still in the planning stages, designing the hangar, preparing for FAA certification, and developing the curriculum. Her decades of experience were invaluable – but her connections may have been even more.

“I knew a lot of the right people in the business, which helped a lot when it came time to acquire the aircraft and equipment for our students to practice and learn on,”

June. “Our pilot and aviation management programs are second to none, and with the addition of our new aviation maintenance technician programs and this outstanding education center, we are even more strategically positioned to meet the workforce needs of the aviation industry, now and in the years to come.”

Suraci is thrilled with the center’s best-in-class equipment and capabilities, and grateful that she was entrusted to join this endeavor. However, she doesn’t want people to get mesmerized

by all of that and lose sight of what’s most important: developing students’ troubleshooting skills.

“You can’t ask the airplane, ‘How are you feeling today?’ You have to be able to diagnose the problem and figure out a logical way to fix it,” she advises.

To be certain, Trosie and Suraci make sure their curriculum is thorough, from engines and brakes to regulations and procedures.

“Everything that is on an airplane, they need to know about,” Trosie says.

They do this because it is imperative that their students understand – from Day One – how much responsibility this profession entails.

“I stress to them, if you were a doctor and you make a mistake, that person could die. But that’s just one life. If we make a mistake, it could be hundreds of lives,” she warns. “The stakes are very high, and they need to recognize that right away.”

A longtime member of the Westchester Aviation Mechanics Association, Suraci also gives DCC the experience of a trailblazer – a woman in an industry that was almost entirely male when she began. Even today, only 8 to 10 percent of the workforce is female, including pilots, she says.

“I’ve always been an advocate for nontraditional careers, whether it was

encouraging more men into nursing, or women into automotive,” she attests, especially during her time leading Ulster BOCES. “It’s important, so we’ll definitely look to continue that here.”

Boada couldn’t be happier with the new program’s progress to date. DCC

welcomed its second cohort in December, with a third set to begin in April. It’s receiving steady praise from its accreditation contacts with the Federal Aviation Association (FAA), and in roughly a year, DCC will send its first graduates into the field – one seeing more workers retire from

it than enter it, further fueling demand.

“We’re hoping this will be a destination program,” Boada states. “We’re the only one in the region that provides a pathway to an associate degree – which makes them even more marketable, while making DCC more attractive to students across the state and beyond.”

But DCC is attracting more than students. Commercial and charter airlines have been quick to partner with the program as well. They’re serving as guest speakers, donating supplies and recruiting onsite, because with the competitive market, they want to be sure they remain on students’ “radar.”

Boada also sees the program as a model that DCC can replicate to serve other needs in the business community – even those that may not yet exist, but that can be developed and scaled relatively quickly.

“This program demonstrated that our college is willing and ready to meet the needs of the workforce,” she affirms. “Our goals are to provide access and education to students, but to also support the local economy. This program has generated a lot of money for the region; the construction alone was a \$16 million boost. We intend to lead more initiatives like this for employers and their workforces.” ●



With plenty of classroom and working hangar spaces, DCC’s 31,800 square-foot Aviation Education Center is one of the most modern learning facilities in New York state.

TOP-FLIGHT

Each year, the DCC Foundation awards scholarships to continuing DCC aviation students who demonstrate academic excellence and a passion for aviation.

Recipients of this year’s aviation scholarships share their gratitude.



“My family and I are enormously grateful for the Thomas Cawley Memorial Aviation Scholarship that will help me succeed and achieve my goals in aviation to become a professional aviator.”

ICHIRO SANTOS ARIAS
THOMAS CAWLEY MEMORIAL AVIATION SCHOLARSHIP



“I would like to thank the DCC Foundation for selecting me as the recipient for the Tim McCormack Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship is an investment in my flight training and my future aviation career.”

SHANE HART
TIM MCCORMACK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

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The DCC @ HVR Airport facility would not be possible without the support of our donors. Your generosity has transformed the lives of our aviation students. Thank you.

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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Aviation Grad Enjoying Quick Ascent to Career

Terrance Sheehan '14, already a JetBlue pilot, prepares to begin his captaincy training.

GROWING UP IN HIGHLAND, N.Y., Terrance Sheehan '14 was fairly sure he was going to be an architect. He had this attraction to blueprints, plans and anything that looked like it could be designed and built.

His father, however, saw something else in him that seemed more like Terrance's "speed."

"Dad used to joke and say, 'You're going to be a pilot – and fly me wherever I want,'" he recalls.

It seems now he wasn't joking.

As he neared the end of high school, Terrance realized he didn't want an office job. He was interested in something that would have him out and about, meeting new people and seeing new places – which is tough to do from behind a desk.

So with the help (and blessings) of his mother, he scheduled an introductory flight lesson – and he was hooked.

"You got to go up with a pilot and even fly the plane a little... and I thought, 'I could get paid to do this?'" he laughs.

Today Sheehan is not only a Pilot-First Officer for JetBlue Airways, he's been approved to begin training for a captaincy with the

Long Island-headquartered airline in August 2022. The 2014 graduate with Aviation Science and Aviation Management degrees has plotted an impressive early trajectory for his career, which has included positions as a cargo pilot and two commercial airline roles – all before the age 30.

As he reflects on how he's enjoyed such early success, he credits his decision to enroll at DCC. After considering a few other well-known aviation programs, the best choice for him turned out to be just 10 miles from home.

"I looked at some bigger programs that were a lot further away, but the added cost and distance just didn't make sense," he explains. "Plus, at DCC, you're not just a number. They professors know you by name."

Chief among them was John Trosie, chair of DCC's Aviation Science department, whom Terrance views as a true mentor and role model.

"He's extremely generous," Sheehan says of Trosie. "He went out of his way to give me the resources I needed to succeed and put me in a position to be hireable right away."

And hireable he was. In addition to becoming a flight instructor, Terrance landed a job flying

cargo planes in Ohio shortly after graduating. He held this role for nearly three years, gaining valuable flight hours and experience.

Then an opportunity arose with Republic Airways, one of the largest regional airlines in the U.S. Republic partners with American Airlines, Delta Air Lines and United Airlines with flights to major cities in the U.S., Canada, the Caribbean and Central America – and Terrance has flown to and seen them all.

Better still, he was based in Newark, N.J., a United Airlines hub, allowing him to return closer to home and family. He also reconnected with former DCC classmates Alex Heule and Brian Pitera, who worked at Republic as well and alerted him to the opening. He worked at Republic for two-and-a-half years before moving to JetBlue in 2019.

For those unfamiliar with the industry, as Pilot-First Officer, Terrance sits in the "right seat" (as you look into the cockpit from the cabin). However, he was recently approved to begin training for a captain's position, which would move him to the more senior "left seat."

"The first officer does essentially everything the captain does in terms of flight duties, knowledge and abilities, but his primary role is to be a second set of eyes and ears," he explains.

He refers to his DCC coursework and lessons learned often. Some, like aviation safety, are obvious, while others, like statistics – which explain why airlines consistently oversell the number of available seats on a flight – are less so. (As unbelievable as it may sound, on average, three to five people don't show up per flight!)

"Each class offered something different that stuck with me," he says. "The core material includes many major incidents and accidents, and our faculty did a great job identifying what happened, why it happened, and how the industry learned from it to ensure it doesn't happen again."

Although he doesn't give it a lot of thought, Terrance is proud of his accomplishments to date and appreciative of where he stands just seven years removed from his days on campus. He credits DCC's affordability for his success too, as it allowed him to choose jobs that offered more experience vs. higher salaries in his early days, since he didn't have huge looming student loans to pay.

"I feel very fortunate, for sure," he assures. "There's been a lot of hard work – and a little luck – but to be at this point in my career now... that certainly doesn't happen for everybody, so it's not lost on me."

He's also excited to be working for JetBlue, which is still considered young in terms of airlines, having begun in 1998.

"There's still a lot of growth and potential for this company and they offer a very good product," he says. "They've also got a history of innovation, as they were the first to offer in-flight TV, and more recently, free WIFI."

Terrance has also allowed himself the luxury of looking down the road at his career prospects.

"The industry's mandatory retirement age is 65, so if I were to stay with JetBlue for the rest of my career, I would project to be the sixth-most-tenured person here at that time," he laughs.

If that should happen, it might just merit another feature story from his alma mater. •



TWO-PART CELEBRATION

Dutchess Community College’s 2021 commencement ceremonies were different from previous years, but no less celebratory, as graduates from the classes of 2020 and 2021 crossed the stage at Dutchess Stadium.



2020 and 2021 General Studies graduates gather for a photo at the 2021 Commencement ceremony.

RETURNING TO AN IN-PERSON CELEBRATION, DCC took several measures to ensure the safety of all in attendance. Two ceremonies were held instead of the traditional single event, and for the first time in several years, commencement was held outdoors. Additionally, only the graduating students, faculty, staff and speakers were permitted in the stadium during each ceremony.

In her remarks, Provost and Vice President of Instruction and Learning Ellen Gambino recognized the strength and tenacity of the two classes during such an unimaginable time. “Your academic journeys were turned upside down and you had to adjust,” said Gambino. “And you did – with the resilience and grit that is an integral part of who DCC is as a community, and who we are as individuals.

“What you’ve been through this past year and how you’ve adapted will remain with you as a measurement of courage for the rest of your lives. You should feel a great sense of accomplishment today as we come together to celebrate your triumph.”

Highlights of the graduation ceremonies:

- The ceremonies began with the singing of the national anthem as performed by Cheyenne See '15.
- Between the two classes, DCC awarded close to 2,000 degrees:
Class of 2020 = 934 degrees
Class of 2021 = 1,020 degrees
- Graduates ranged in age from 17 to 71.
- Graduates included 142 who began in one of DCC's programs designed to strengthen academic preparation. These include the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP); the Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP); and the Federal TRiO program.
- One third of the students graduated with honors.
- Over 40% of graduates earned a cumulative average of at least 3.2.
- Thirty-one students graduated with a perfect 4.0.
- The first cohort of the College's Public Health program graduated as part of the Class of 2021.



Graduates represent 48 different academic programs, including:

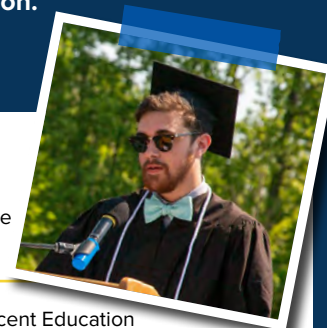
- 205 from the Business Administration Transfer program.
- 229 from Humanities and Social Sciences.
- 133 from Human Services.
- 102 from the Criminal Justice Transfer program.
- 96 from the Nursing program.
- 47 from DCC's jointly registered education program with SUNY New Paltz.

During the morning ceremonies, students in the College's 2020 and 2021 Think Ahead program were recognized. Think Ahead is a unique partnership between Dutchess Community College, Dutchess County, Abilities First, the Arc of Hudson Valley, the Maplebrook School and Taconic Resources for Independence. Young adults who graduate from Think Ahead spend two years on the DCC campus as college students, learning life and job skills.

During the ceremony, Provost Gambino also recognized the support of the DCC Foundation, which over the past two years has awarded over \$300,000 to close to 350 continuing and graduating students. •

Meet DCC's 2021 Student Commencement Speakers

Kyle Troia and Kaitlyn Cohn offered their congratulations and reflections during DCC's 62nd Commencement ceremonies held on May 21. Troia spoke at the morning ceremony and Cohn offered remarks in the afternoon.



Kyle Troia

President, Dutchess Community College Student Government Association

Degree: Associate in Science, Adolescent Education

High School: Arlington High School

Clubs, Activities, Leadership: Student Government president and participated in esports this past semester as a student athlete.

Awards, Scholarships: Dean's List, Nine Partners Lions Club Scholarship, and the Dr. D. David Conklin Scholarship for Student Leadership.

Next step: Transferring to SUNY New Paltz in the fall to earn a four-year degree in Chemistry Adolescent Education.



Kaitlyn Cohn

Student Trustee, DCC Board of Trustees

Degree: Associate in Science, General Studies

High School: Valley Central High School

Clubs, Activities, Leadership: Executive Board Member of the Student Government Association, student trustee on the DCC Board of Trustees, previous president of the DCC Visual Arts Club, published poet and artist ("The Community" Literary Magazine).

Awards, Scholarships: Earned President's List Honors three semesters in a row; selected for the DCC-Vassar Exchange Program to take a course at Vassar on a scholarship; nominated for a SUNY Chancellor's Award for Overcoming the Odds.

Next step: Transfer to Vassar College to pursue a bachelor's degree in Psychology with a minor in Linguistics. She hopes to then earn a master's degree in Social Work from Columbia University. Eventually she plans to pursue a doctorate, and potentially a second master's degree in education.

2021 Scholarship Recipients

Each year, the DCC Foundation awards over 225 scholarships collectively valued at over \$300,000. We thank our donors for their generous support of our students and congratulate the 2021 scholarship recipients.

Continuing Student Scholarships

Allied Health and Biological Sciences

Michael J. Cassetta Memorial Scholarship: Jacob Moyer

Dutchess County Home Bureau Scholarship: Crystal Lemmon, Olivia Helms

Dr. Alfredo Fonts Memorial Scholarship: Mary Saquicela Cardenas

Dr. Lloyd D. Harris Memorial Scholarship: Damoya Stephenson

William E. Holland Scholarship: Mary Boyce

Ariel E. Ingoglia Memorial Scholarship: Veronica Martinez

Dennis Kipp Memorial Scholarship: Atticus Lanigan

Margaret Fondren Koniz Memorial Scholarship: Miguel Dominguez

Mazzetti Family Scholarship: Aniyah Williams

McCann Foundation Scholarship: Francis McClue

Millbrook Tribute Garden Scholarship: Julisa Rodrigues

Richard L. Skimin Memorial Scholarship: Sydney Towne

Tara Sweet-Flagler Scholarship: Quentin Chapman

Pat Zerbe Scholarship: Bridgytt Varner

Behavioral Sciences

Sheriff Butch Anderson Scholarship: Nickolas Cruz

CAYSA Region IV Criminal Justice Scholarship: Lisa Garrity

Diversity and Social Justice Scholarship: Claire O'Reilly

John J. Durkin Scholarship: Annmarie Balzano

Dutchess County Correctional Officers Benevolent Association Scholarship: Joshua Lambos

Dutchess County Deputy Sheriffs PBA Scholarship: Erick Molina

Dutchess County Police Chiefs Association Scholarship: Sandra Ksar

Dutchess County and NYS Southeastern Zone

Retired Teachers Association Scholarship: Anjana Olahannan

Sally D. Klein Memorial Scholarship: Thomas Cummings

Patricia Krause Memorial Scholarship: Amanda Storm

McCann Foundation Scholarship: Gabriella Wertz

Vernell Charles "Fuzzy" McClinton Jr. Memorial Scholarship: Bobbie Anderson

Cathie Tarpey Rodriguez Memorial Scholarship: Melanie Sanchez

Sheriff Fred Scoralick Family Scholarship: Jonathan Figueroa

Zaida Swan Memorial Scholarship: Joseph Usher

Business, Aviation & Construction Professions

Business Administration Career Scholarship: Wasfi Marji

Business Community College Partnership Scholarship: Tyler Cross

Betty J. Canfield Memorial Scholarship: Claudette Squire

Thomas Cawley Memorial Aviation Scholarship: Ichiro Santos Arias

Dutchess County Association of Realtors Scholarship: Serena Urena

George N. Freedman Memorial Scholarship: Desarae Pesola

Louis Greenspan Memorial Scholarship: Katherine Spurgin

Hudson Valley Credit Union Scholarship: Brandon Latchman

Tony and Faith Krzywicki Business Scholarship: Meagan Reilly

Liscum McCormack VanVoorhis, Architects Scholarship: Trishan Smith

Ginger Mancuso Memorial Scholarship: Michael Scarpelli

McCann Foundation Scholarship: Peter Fernandez

Timothy J. McCormack Memorial Scholarship: Shane Hart

Meyer Family Scholarship: Garrett Oles

Millbrook Tribute Garden Scholarship: Cristian Aragon Leon

Joe Roberto Alpha Beta Gamma Memorial Scholarship: Yasmin Fells

TEG Federal Credit Union Scholarship: Patricia Pedersen

UHY LLP Certified Public Accountants Scholarship: Ewa Grzanko

Ulster Savings Bank Scholarship: John Menconeri

Westage Companies Scholarship: Jennifer Hodges

English & Humanities

Russell S. Cleverley Memorial Scholarship: Micaela Negri

Sylvia L. Jones Scholarship: Bryant Caizachana-Pilataxi

Jerry A. Lee Memorial Scholarship: Ava O'Farrell

Seth W. Lessinger Scholarship in Philosophy: Jessica Pillco

McCann Foundation Scholarship: Cymphony Griffin

McNish-Goffe Scholarship: Jeremy Gouraige

Michael O'Dell Scholarship: Alicia-Marie Aiello

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Society of Wappingers Falls Scholarship: Stephanie Koller

Edmund Webb Memorial Scholarship: Adriana Sulca

History, Government & Economics

Eric W. Deyo Scholarship: Jason Santoli

Joseph H. and Miriam B. Gellert Memorial Scholarship: Somaya Prevot

Louis Greenspan Memorial Scholarship: Thomas Fitzmaurice, Lyndah Ouma, Rita Ruggerone

McCann Foundation Scholarship: Akiera O'Brien

Vincent J. Tedone Memorial Scholarship: Annika Gazzoli

Mathematics & Computer Science

McCann Foundation Scholarship: Luciano Attie

Daniel P. White Memorial Scholarship: Amir Marji

Nursing

Dutchess County 40/8 Voiture #502 Nursing Scholarship: Kaylee Beringer

Dutchess County Home Bureau Scholarship: Brianna Akins

Sonny Frasier Memorial Scholarship: Kimberly Fortunato

Blanche Knapp Hart Memorial Scholarship: Sarah Durant

Hudson River State Hospital Nurses Alumni Scholarship: Deborah Torres

Mary Lyman Memorial Scholarship: Yazmi Gerard

Leslie D. Maserjian Memorial Nursing Scholarship: Kelly Vinson

McCann Foundation Scholarship: Alexis Acerra

Millbrook Tribute Garden Scholarship: Annmarie Eades

Martha Reifler Myers Memorial Nursing Scholarship: Kristal Leon-Whalen



CLAIRE O'REILLY
Diversity & Social
Justice Scholarship

Thank you very much for the **Diversity & Social Justice Scholarship**. With the help of this scholarship, I can continue my studies at DCC as well as continue working toward a degree in psychology.



I wanted to express my gratitude for being selected as the scholarship award winner for the Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship. **This scholarship will allow me to further continue my studies at SUNY Binghamton and I am very grateful for this award.**



AXEL GARCIA
Alumni Association Legacy
Scholarship



I am honored and humbled that the DCC Foundation awarded me the **Ann D. Whalen Memorial Scholarship** for nursing. **This accolade has not only validated my decision to change careers and the sacrifices that have come with it, it has also afforded me the financial freedom to take additional courses that will transfer to my bachelor's program after graduation from DCC.**

CHRISTINA EVANS
Ann D. Whalen
Memorial
Scholarship
for Nursing



Thank you so much for choosing me to be the recipient of the **McCann Foundation Scholarship** for physical sciences. **I have always enjoyed chemistry and am looking forward to completing my degree in this field. With the rising cost of college tuition, this scholarship will aid me in accomplishing my goal.**

ALICIA-MARIE AIELLO
Michael O'Dell
Scholarship



I am honored and grateful to have been awarded the **Michael O'Dell scholarship**. I am optimistic for the future and eager to complete my degree.

I cannot wait to put my knowledge and skills to use as I continue to strive to make the world, and life, better for others. This scholarship illuminates and cements the path forward in the most motivating way.

BRADEN PETTIGREW
McCann
Foundation
Scholarship



Jean D. Rock Memorial Scholarship: Alyssa Salfelder

Jackie Warner Memorial Nursing Scholarship: Marcello Castelli

Ann D. Whalen Memorial Scholarship: Christina Evans

Performing, Visual Arts & Communications

George Bernstein Memorial Scholarship: Melanie Lawson

Jacques Cohen '89 Memorial Scholarship: Matthew Hoffman

Dutchess Heritage Quilters Scholarship: Gabrielle Donahue, Maya Keating

Clarence J. "Woody" Ferrier Theatre Scholarship: Emily Rivas

Stuart Griffin Photography Scholarship: Meghan Perch

Harold and Dorothy Hayward Memorial Scholarship: Sam Trager

Hudson Valley Saxophone Orchestra Scholarship: Timothy John Weigand

Agostino, Lidia and Mary V. Imperatori Memorial Scholarship: Brianna Samouel

JTN Scholarship: Cali Juanis

Peter Klose Memorial Scholarship: Mikaila Sapp

Karen Lee Knapp Memorial Scholarship: Josette Rosado

Russell and Gloria Kraft Memorial Scholarship: Alyssa Murphy

McCann Foundation Scholarship: Joseph Della Vecchia

Lynette McKinney Memorial Scholarship: Jessica Whitbeck

Dr. Holly Molella Dance Scholarship: Terrell Brown

Laura Lucille Staats Memorial Scholarship: Kim Marra Choffo

Physical Sciences, Engineering & Technology

Charles E. Conklin Entrepreneurial Scholarship in Technology: Miguel Dias Da Silva

Melanie A. Kotes Memorial Science Scholarship: Nicodea Simms

Gary J. Lindstrom Scholarship: Demetrius Gordon

Seth B. Lyon Memorial Scholarship: Matthew Zeno

McCann Foundation Scholarship: Braden Pettigrew, Christian Quintana

Michael J. Morris Scholarship: Ryan O'Rourke

Tompkins Mahopac Bank Scholarship: Ziare Suddith

Daniel P. White Memorial Scholarship: Glenda Giordani

Special Scholarships

Academic Achievement Scholarship: Tyler Emmett

Association of Women at DCC Scholarship: Leticia Carrion, Paula O'Dell-Jackson

Bridge to the Future Scholarship: Reynaldo Mendoza

Trudy Hankinson Briggs AAUW Scholarship: Melissa Finnigan

William J. Buckner Exempt Fireman's Scholarship: Tyler Kosakowski

Phyllis L. Cady Memorial Scholarship: Hannah Matias

Peter J. Clark and Timmian C. Massie LGBTQ Scholarship: Lyla Rivera

Carmine Curcio Scholarship: Jessica Quick

Alexander Cutonilli Memorial Scholarship: Daviyon Lawrence

Dutchess County Youth Board and Coordinating Council Scholarship: Ann Jessica Hudson

William Jeff Edwards Memorial Scholarship: Edelyn Sena

Sadie and William Effron Scholarship: James Griffin

Nan Gingher Memorial Scholarship: Pamela Seay

Gladys Glick '75 Memorial Scholarship: Jose Romero

Bernard Handel Community Leadership Scholarship: Jack Koenitzer

Helen and Henry Katula Memorial Scholarship: Chandni Shah

Mid-Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union Community Service Scholarship: Jose Valeriano

Mid-Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union Scholarship: Jose Rosas-Quiroz

Moody Family Scholarship: Dominika Berent-Kowalczyk

Jean and Dr. Carl Needy Scholarship: Salimata Traore

Nine Partners Lions Club Scholarship: Kathleen Fitzmaurice

Sgt. Mark C. Palmateer Memorial Scholarship: Anthony Lascelles

Allan E. Rappleyea and Julia M. Rappleyea Scholarship: Hamilton Holt

Rhinebeck Bank Scholarship: Kamara McLarty, Adam Tartasky

Senator Stephen M. Saland Bi-Annual Scholarship: Angiolina Goldsmith

Senator Stephen M. Saland Legacy Scholarship: Sparkle Kenner

Catherine Reeck Shanks Scholarship: Jason Gravino

Tiger Family Scholarship to Support the Deaf and Hard of Hearing: O'Maya Brown, Ariel Suter

Usman Zia and Moez-UL Hassan Memorial Scholarship: Timothy Smith

Setting up a scholarship fund is a meaningful way to give back to your community or to honor a loved one, friend or group.

For information about how to create a scholarship, contact Foundation Executive Director Diana Pollard at (845) 431-8403 or pollard@sunydutches.edu.

Graduating Student Scholarships

Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship: Charles Ackerman, Axel Garcia, Alexandria Ziegler

American Association of University Women Scholarship: Jessica Gleason, Renee Niles

Milton Chazen Scholarship: Jannate Sekatawa

Jim Curley Graduate Scholarship: Cameron Bower

DUE Scholarship in Honor of Allan E. Rappleyea: Carline Brown

William J. and Pauline Egan Memorial Scholarship: Brigit Caizachana

Cynthia R. Feldman Scholarship: Kerry Moustakas

Drs. Florence H. and Elvin E. Gottdiener Memorial Graduate Scholarship: Moyinoluwa Daramola, Brianna Gilman

James and Betty Hall Founding President's Scholarship: Julianna Merendino

Henry McDermott Scholarship: Hector Vasquez

Richard Reitano Scholarship: Sonia Maaieh

Robert B. Sayegh Memorial Scholarship: Liberty Kischuk

Maximillian Schneider Memorial Scholarship: Camila Turini

Richard Steffen Engineering Alumni Scholarship: Vinh Nguyen

Rochel Stein and Richard O'Connor Memorial Scholarship: Ryan Holman, Suzanne Nesheiwat

Transfer 101 Scholarship: Bradford Corrado

Allyn J. Washington Scholarship: Callum Frank, Mark Venuto

Mildred I. Washington Memorial Graduate Scholarship: Ashley Thompson

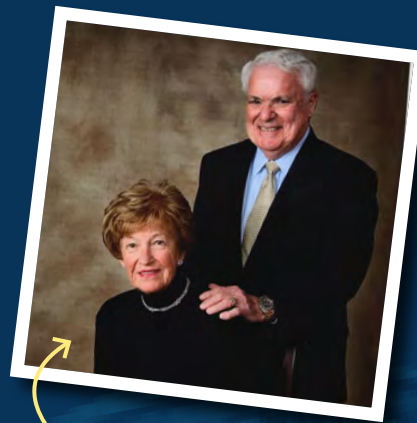
Young Engineers Scholarship: Clara Rodriguez

The Charles E. and Mabel E. Conklin Scholarship for Academic Excellence

THE CHARLES E. AND MABEL E. CONKLIN SCHOLARSHIP for Academic Excellence was created to provide a full-tuition scholarship for Dutchess County high school students who graduate in the top 10 percent of their class.

This extraordinary scholarship offers outstanding students the opportunity to earn their two-year degree tuition-free. This fall, a total of 34 first-year students from high schools throughout the county have been awarded the prestigious scholarship, bringing the number of Conklin Scholars at Dutchess Community College to 55.

This scholarship is made possible through a generous gift from the late Mr. & Mrs. Charles Conklin and the Dutchess Community College Foundation.



Charlie and Betty have created a legacy that will last many lifetimes with their \$2M gift. Their endowment will continue to grow to support more and more students through the generations.



“I am eternally grateful for the opportunity that the Conklin Scholarship has provided for me and my career. I would not have reached where I am today without it, nor would I have the chance to advance in my studies.”

ANDIALISA VELASQUEZ-CHACLAN



“I could not be more grateful for the Conklin family. Due to their generosity I’ve been given an opportunity to pursue my higher education without financial stress – something I only dreamed was possible.”

KADYL MULLINGS

First-Year Conklin Scholars

- Aidan Alvarado
- Dasia Bailey
- Charlotte Bartush
- Tytiana Britt
- Wesley Brooks
- Logan Cooper
- Michael DiLoreto
- Jashmin Gill
- Giovanna Grosvenor
- Jasmine Gunn
- Emily Hanscom
- Tamian Holness
- Nicholas Jorge
- Natalie Khalil
- Karlie Klingner
- Alexa Liguori
- Evelyn Lopez
- Nicholas Luiso
- Dayaneri Martinez Ruiz
- Grace McCormack
- Kadyl Mullings
- Rebecca Neville
- Deeanna Powers
- Christian Prosper
- Ryan Rabenda
- Adam Renth
- Julia Roberts
- Alana Shoureck
- Arleen Smack
- Jamison Soden
- Jessica Strauss
- Neyman Tapia Ortega
- Andialisa Velasquez-Chaclan
- Sean Wilk

Second-Year Conklin Scholars

- Kyle Broner
- Rishanne Burt
- Kyran Cournoyer
- Brianna Cruz-Cortez
- Misael Cruz Hernandez
- Marianne Fultz
- Emma Gabor
- Jhenielle Giff
- Caleb Grey
- Jessica Ho
- Dylan Johnson
- Patrick Lewis
- Andrew Maguire
- Luke Morris
- Zoe Naselow
- Y Nhi Ngo
- Isabella Nocerino
- Meghan Odell
- Dylan Parks
- Marianna Pillsbury
- Selena Virtuoso

Built for the Future

DCC Holds Opening Ceremony for New DCC @ Fishkill Facility

The ceremony, officiated by Provost and Vice President of Instruction and Learning Ellen Gambino, was attended by a select group of local politicians, business representatives, school administrators, stakeholders and DCC staff and faculty.

“DCC @ Fishkill has been built with the purpose and intention of becoming an incubator of tomorrow’s leaders,” said Gambino, who was serving as acting president at the time. “It is my sincere hope that this facility, with its superb classrooms and labs, easily accessible location, and welcoming and open learning spaces, will provide our students - the next generation of pioneers - the space and support they are going to need as they marshal the resources of education, technology and human ingenuity to forge new solutions for the market challenges they will face.”

After speeches and the formal ribbon-cutting, guests were taken on a tour of the 47,000-square-foot facility, which included visits to the computational multi-purpose learning spaces, and biology and physical sciences labs.

Serving both traditional students and those starting or returning to college, DCC @ Fishkill will offer a range of programs for personal, professional and career development. With an enhanced focus on the academic areas of business, hospitality, criminal justice and information technology, the facility also provides a host of student support services including tutoring, advising and workforce development resources.

The DCC @ Fishkill facility features:

- A computer classroom with an internal network that allows courses in cyber security and other related classes to work on an independent network.
- Twenty digitally equipped “smart” classrooms fitted with mobile tables to allow for alternate seating arrangements.
- An oversized lecture/classroom that can accommodate 66 people in a table setup or 90 in theater-style.
- Three computer labs with pop-up desks that can accommodate space-saving monitor and keyboard storage.
- Two flexible collaborative workrooms designed for focused study, group learning and everything in between.
- A library with computer workstations and soft seating areas.
- Multiple faculty office areas that offer a combination of quiet workspaces and conversation corners.
- Student lounge areas with seating arrangements that can be reconfigured for individuals or group gatherings.
- Classroom space to accommodate high school equivalency (HSE) and English as a second language (ESL) learning and teaching.

For a full list of classes in DCC @ Fishkill, visit www.sunydutchess.edu/fishkill. ●



Provost and Vice President of Instruction & Learning Ellen Gambino was joined by Michael Dupree, chair of the DCC Board of Trustees, and Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro, a DCC graduate, at the June 10 ribbon-cutting ceremony, which marked the formal opening of DCC @ Fishkill.

**“DCC @ Fishkill
has been built
with the purpose
and intention
of becoming
an incubator of
tomorrow’s leaders.”**

ELLEN GAMBINO, ED.D.

Provost and Vice President of Instruction and Learning



NEW PROGRAM

Hospitality & Tourism

As the travel industry moves toward recovery, Dutchess Community College is supporting the region's growing demand for trained personnel through a new associate degree in hospitality and tourism. Launched this fall at DCC @ Fishkill, the new program will equip students with a strong business foundation, giving graduates great versatility in the job market.

Designated as a top travel destination by Lonely Planet and the National Geographic Traveler, the Hudson Valley is the fastest growing area in New York state, offering one of America's most



vibrant business environments. In 2019, visitor spending in the Hudson Valley region was \$4.4 billion. And projections by local business leaders indicate that the tourism and hospitality industry is poised for growth.

According to Dutchess Tourism, Inc. President & CEO Melaine Rottkamp, "No industry has been harder hit by the pandemic than travel and tourism, but with more and more people getting vaccinated, travel is going to come roaring back. When it does, it will be crucial that we have qualified employees at our hotels, restaurants and attractions to welcome them and provide excellent experiences." Rottkamp added, "We are thrilled to work with Dutchess Community College to connect students and graduates with our tourism-related business partners who will need the key skill sets these participants will gain through this new program."

Designed to prepare students for career paths in restaurant, catering, hotel, travel and tourism management, the curriculum features specialized courses in hospitality and tourism management, hospitality marketing, customer service, and event management. In addition, students will learn marketing, management, business law, and financial accounting and have opportunities for hands-on internship and interactive real-world experiences.

To learn more, visit the program website at www.sunydutchess.edu/hospitality.

Microcredentials

For students not ready to enroll in a degree program, DCC offers a flexible and affordable pathway to new capabilities and skills: microcredentials. Delivered as short, focused programs of study, microcredentials can help students build specific skills in a chosen field. Students earn digital badges and, at a later point, can take the next step by "stacking" their qualifications into future certificates or degrees. Offerings, taught mainly at DCC @ Fishkill, are clustered under five headings: business, computing, fitness, criminal justice and construction tech management. They range from basic bookkeeping to networking for the Cloud. For more, visit www.sunydutchess.edu/microcredentials.

Around Campus

Two New Trustees Appointed

Earlier this year, President Peter Grant Jordan announced two new appointments to the Dutchess Community College Board of Trustees. Both are alumni: William R. Steinhaus '69, and Ibis Guzman '00.



William R. Steinhaus '69 was sworn in as a new trustee by Michael Dupree, chair of the DCC Board of Trustees.

William R. Steinhaus '69

William R. Steinhaus began his elected public service career in 1979, serving as Dutchess County clerk and commissioner of motor vehicles. He was re-elected in 1981, 1984 and 1987 and served in that position through 1991. Elected county executive in November 1991, Steinhaus took office as the youngest county executive in Dutchess County's history. He was re-elected four more times - 1995, 1999, 2003 and 2007 - becoming the longest-serving county executive in county history.

As county executive, Steinhaus led funding and planning support for a range of DCC facilities' capital expansion, including construction of the Allyn J. Washington Center for Science and Art, and major renovations and upgrades to Taconic Hall, Falcon Hall and Bowne Hall.

Steinhaus is also a former president of the DCC Foundation, serving in this leadership role for 15 years. He and his wife, Susie, are long-time donors and supporters of the College. He is the charter inductee of the DCC Foundation's Alumni Wall of Fame.

After earning an associate degree in Liberal Arts and Social Sciences from DCC, Steinhaus transferred to SUNY Brockport, where he earned a bachelor's degree in Political Science. Steinhaus continued his education through graduate studies at Bridgeport University and SUNY New Paltz.

Steinhaus filled the vacancy created with the resignation of trustee Betsy Seaman Brown. His term will expire on June 30, 2026.



Ibis Guzman '00 was also sworn in by Michael Dupree, chair of the DCC Board of Trustees.

Ibis Guzman '00

Ibis Guzman '00 began his career at City/Scape Cultural Resource Consultants, serving as site supervisor of crews of archaeologists on commercial dig sites. In 2002, he joined Stissing National Bank as senior teller, supervising operational activities including customer service and cash reconciliations. Guzman then moved to Dallas where he served as branch manager for First National Bank Texas.

He returned to New York in 2006, assuming a leadership role as assistant vice president and branch manager for Stissing National Bank/Bank of Millbrook. Guzman's community involvement includes serving as town justice for the Town of Pine Plains, N.Y., and president of the Pine Plains Lions Club. Other service roles include vice president for the Dutchess County Magistrates Association; vice president of the Stanford Business Association; and president of the Pine Plains Business Association. Guzman is a certified interior firefighter and serves as vice president of the Pine Plains Hose Company.

Guzman earned an associate degree in Liberal Arts from DCC, regularly earning recognition on the President's and Dean's lists. He continued his education at Binghamton University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in History, with double minors in Archaeology and Sociology.

Guzman replaced Trustee Tim Massie, whose term expired in June. Guzman's term will expire on June 30, 2028.

FORWARD MOMENTUM

DCC Wins Prestigious \$2.2M U.S. Department of Education Grant

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION HAS AWARDED DCC a \$2.2 million Title III grant to further strengthen efforts in areas such as advising; teaching and learning; diversity, equity and inclusion; and career pathways. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand made the announcement on September 27, 2021.

The five-year grant was awarded through the Department of Education's Title III Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP), which provides grants to institutions to help them expand their capacity to serve low-income students. It is also the largest competitive grant DCC has ever been awarded.

DCC will use the funding to support the College's Guided Pathways initiative, which focuses on increasing student access and success.

The grant will support four major areas, including:

- » Clarifying the academic and career paths of students by improving student course and program selection through the integration of accelerated English, math and gateway courses.
- » Helping students find and pursue their academic and career paths by enhancing academic advising in areas such as career services and prior learning assessments.
- » Ensuring students remain on their academic and career paths by supporting faculty-led improvements to teaching practices and innovations that promote diversity, equity and inclusion.
- » Improving work-based and applied learning opportunities for students by integrating curriculum with new technology to enhance student interactions with employers. The grant will also support employment placement and tracking, and pilot the integration of electronic portfolios with the curriculum.

In implementing these strategies, DCC hopes to increase enrollment for non-traditional students and improve course success in introductory math and English for first-time college students.

The grant is also expected to improve retention rates of first-time college students and increase the percentage of degree-seeking first-time college students looking to complete a degree or certificate. Additionally, the grant is expected to increase the transfer rate for first-time and low-income students to four-year colleges and universities.



Reaccreditation Process Underway

After launching the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) reaccreditation process in fall 2020, the College continues to develop a detailed self-study design for assessing how DCC's priorities meet accreditation standards and federal regulation compliance.

Throughout fall 2020 and spring 2021, DCC's reaccreditation steering committee worked to ensure that the College was well-prepared for the next step: to present the draft of its self-study design to MSCHE and host a visit by Dr. Terence Peavy, the MSCHE liaison assigned to DCC.

Over three weeks in October, Dr. Peavy met virtually with various campus community members and, after reviewing the draft, approved it with only minor edits.

With the approval of the self-design draft, the work of eight working groups – comprised of more than 60 individuals from across campus – has kicked into high gear. Each group is tackling a different strategic goal or priority area, and over the next year, will examine and report upon how each meets MSCHE accreditation standards. The groups will verify the College's compliance with accreditation-relevant federal regulations.

The process will continue into 2022 to ensure that the MSCHE review team's visit to campus in spring 2023 is successful and results in DCC's accreditation being reaffirmed.



From left: Lacie Reilly, chair of the Human Services program and manager of DCC's Pantry operations, Tina Cianciulli, Nifty Thrifty's treasurer, Provost and Vice President of Instruction & Learning Ellen Gambino, Luann Brown, who runs Nifty Thrifty, and her daughter, Jamie Brown '21.

Local Thrift Store Gift Helps Fill Shelves at DCC Pantry

Jamie Brown '21 knew she wanted to find a way to give back to her alma mater. She just wasn't sure how. But then a chance conversation with her mom, Luann Brown, who runs the **Nifty Thrifty Shop** in Fishkill, gave her an idea. The store regularly donates a portion of its profits to local organizations, so how about applying those dollars to an organization that Jamie knew could use the support – the DCC Pantry?

And so, over the summer the Browns, accompanied by Tina Cianciulli, Nifty Thrifty's treasurer, stopped at the Pantry and presented a \$7,000 check to Lacie Reilly, chair of the Human Services program and manager of DCC's Pantry operations. For the Browns, the gift was particularly personal. During the early months of the pandemic, the family income had taken such a severe hit that Jamie felt compelled to utilize Pantry services. Now, months later, the family wanted to return the favor, and the check became their way of giving back.

"I am so grateful to Nifty Thrifty for this generous gift," said Reilly. "It is a real full circle, paying-it-forward story, and a great example of how this program supports students and families. It usually costs around \$6,000 per semester to ensure that the Pantry is fully stocked. This check will ensure that the 2021-22 year gets off to a great start."

The DCC Pantry started in fall 2017 and is open year-round: Monday and Thursday from noon to 5 p.m. and noon to 4 p.m. on Fridays during the fall and spring semesters, and by appointment during the summer. Stocking items such as shelf-stable food, including canned vegetables, assorted pastas and rice, and fresh and frozen vegetables and meats, the Pantry also offers toiletries and baby items, and supports a weekend food backpack program for children at the Louis Greenspan Day Care Center.

"We saw a significant uptick in the number of requests coming into the Pantry this past year," said Reilly. "And with the generous support of our friends and supporters, we were able to distribute close to 10,000 items, almost 7,000 lbs. of food, and 800 lbs. of produce, not to mention putting together 12-15 backpacks every week for 28 weeks. I predict that we are going to see similar need – possibly greater – this year."

Supported through the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley and planned giving and fundraising activities through the DCC Foundation, Reilly expects to bolster those efforts by holding even more drives this year. The Pantry accepts drop-off donations in Dutchess Hall 114 during open hours. Curbside pick-up can be arranged by appointment. Support for The Pantry can also be made at www.sunydutchess.edu/pantrygift.

DCC, SUNY Upstate Med Establish New Health Profession Transfer Pathway

In early fall, DCC signed a new articulation agreement with SUNY Upstate Medical University. It allows students interested in careers in medical technology, radiography, imaging, biotechnology, radiation and respiratory to start their academic journey at DCC and complete their bachelor's degree from SUNY Upstate Med. The agreement is expected to not only create an affordable and seamless transfer experience, but also address a critical need in the local and state healthcare workforce.

Under the new articulation agreement, qualified DCC students will be able to easily transition to the upper-division programs in the College of Health Professions at SUNY Upstate. These include bachelor of science programs in Medical Imaging Radiography (X-ray), Medical Imaging Sciences/Ultrasound, Medical Technology, Medical Biotechnology, Radiation Therapy and Respiratory Therapy.

DCC students who are accepted by SUNY Upstate will be guaranteed full junior status as long as they complete all prerequisite courses for their intended program of study. The new agreement also offers high school seniors interested in the health professions an early admissions pathway.

Students can apply to the program in their senior year of high school. To be eligible, students must have completed at least three years of Regents- or honors-level courses in math and science. If accepted, students will be guaranteed admission into one of the upper-division programs at SUNY Upstate. While at DCC, students must complete a minimum of 20 hours of volunteer, observational or research experience related to their intended field of study.

DCC Staff, Student Earn Think Ahead Accolades

Three members of the DCC community were honored by County Executive Marc Molinaro for their efforts in supporting those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Linda Bertolozzi, director of accommodative services, and **Laraine Kautz**, workforce development liaison, received Think Jobs Partner Awards, while Kristen Avignone, a DCC Think Ahead student, was

celebrated with a Think Ahead Individual Award.

The Think Jobs Partner Award honors the commitment of community partners who embrace the values of inclusion through education. The award also acknowledges the recipient's efforts to actively support the promotion of the ThinkDIFFERENTLY

initiative, which encourages communities to foster an inclusive and supportive work environment for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Bertolozzi and Kautz were cited for their contributions to Think Jobs and their support of efforts to develop career paths for students of all abilities.

The Think Ahead Individual Award celebrates the success of residents with disabilities. The award was presented to **Kristen Avignone**, a current Think Ahead student who has been employed at Hannaford in Wappingers Falls for over six years.

The awards are a collaborative effort, drawing together the Department of Community and Family Services, the Dutchess County Workforce Investment Board (WIB), and the Dutchess One Stop Career Center.



From left: Linda Berolozzi, Kristen Avignone and Laraine Kautz.

DCC and GLOBALFOUNDRIES Launch New Education Partnership

Employees at GLOBALFOUNDRIES (GF), the world's leading specialty foundry, will soon be able to further their education at Dutchess Community College thanks to a new education partnership.

The program, which was launched in May, allows GF employees the opportunity to pursue undergraduate or certificate programs at DCC through the company's tuition reimbursement program. GF is particularly interested in tapping DCC's strengths in programs such as electrical technology, engineering science, computer information systems and computer science. GF's longstanding relationship with DCC includes offering a range of internship opportunities, job-shadowing, field trips, classroom visits and speaking engagements. GF is also a regular participant at DCC job fairs and other recruitment activities. As part of the new partnership, a representative from GF will serve on DCC's Electrical Technology Advisory Board.

GF's relationship with DCC has been particularly productive with more than 100 DCC graduates on GF teams from as far back as the class of 1975, several of whom hold management positions.

Faculty & Staff Achievements



DCC Professor named Dutchess County Poet Laureate

Lucia Cherciu, professor of English, was named the 2021 Dutchess County Poet Laureate by County Executive Marc Molinaro. Cherciu will serve a one-year term in the role and bring poetry to the community through a series of poetry learning and appreciation events.

Cherciu writes both in English and Romanian and is the author of five books of poetry, including “Train Ride to Bucharest” (Sheep Meadow Press, 2017), for which she received the Eugene Paul Nassar Poetry Prize; “Edible Flowers” (Main Street Rag, 2016); “Lalele din Paradis/Tulips in Paradise” (Editura Eikon, 2017); “Altoiul Râsului/Grafted Laughter” (Editura Brumar, 2010); and “Lepădarea de Limbă/The Abandonment of Language” (Editura Vinea, 2009).

Her poetry was nominated three times for a Pushcart Prize: Best of the Small Presses award, which is one of the most honored literary projects in America, and twice for Best of the Net, an awards-based anthology created by Sundress Publications to recognize and celebrate exceptional digital publishing.

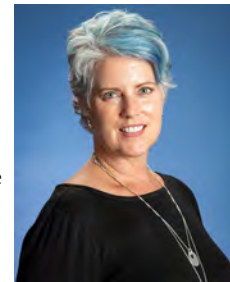
Exemplary Online Educators

DCC faculty members **Maureen Gittelman** and **Jean-Michel Campagne** were selected as SUNY Online Teaching Ambassadors for 2021.

Ambassadors are “exemplary online SUNY educators, who are enthusiastic and effective in online teaching, and who can be positive and strong advocates for online teaching in our SUNY community,” according to the program’s website.

Gittelman, an instructor in the Department of Business, Aviation and Construction Professions, and Campagne, associate professor of chemistry, were nominated for this honor by Maria Boada, dean of academic affairs, and Chrisie Mitchell, director of instructional technology and e-learning. In the nomination documents, Boada and Mitchell applauded Gittelman and Campagne for “stepping up” and not only adapting to the transition to a remote modality but for going above and beyond in the classroom and in helping colleagues.

Gittelman and Campagne were recognized during a ceremony held in conjunction with the SUNY Online Summit, which took place virtually February 22-26. They each received a certificate of recognition and a digital badge, and are featured on the SUNY Online Teaching Ambassadors webpage. Gittelman and Campagne will have the opportunity to be online teaching advocates and to share their thoughts with the SUNY communities of practice in various ways over the coming year. They join a small group of DCC faculty and staff honored in recent years as Online Ambassadors, including: Johanna Halsey, Michael Hall, Shinelle Espailat, Joan McFadden, Teresa Burke, Irene Hughes, Seemi Ahmad and Kathleen Hanlon O’Connell .



Maureen Gittelman



DCC Professor Receives Nursing Education Award

Treesa Scaria, assistant professor, department head and program chair of nursing, has earned a prestigious nursing education faculty award by the National League for Nursing (NLN). One of only 13 recipients chosen from this year’s large and highly selective pool of applicants, Scaria received an \$8,000 scholarship allowing her to complete her doctoral studies in nursing.

Scaria, who is a Ph.D. candidate at Pace University, received her award on Friday, September 24, during the NLN Education Summit in Washington, D.C.

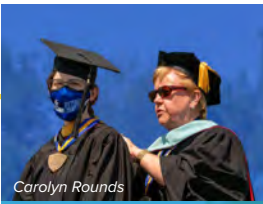


DCC Foundation Executive Receives Fundraising Accolades

Diana Pollard '97, executive director of the Dutchess Community College Foundation, was recognized by the Association of Fundraising Professionals Mid-Hudson Valley Chapter as the 2020 Outstanding Fundraising Professional.

The award honors an outstanding individual fundraising professional who works for a nonprofit, charitable organization. Pollard was recognized for her extensive years of fundraising experience in higher education, social services and animal welfare.

She was cited for her leadership efforts in growing the assets of the DCC Foundation from \$9.6 million to \$14.2 million in 2020. Additionally, Pollard’s initiatives have resulted in the Foundation’s ranking in the top 10 among SUNY community colleges.



Carolyn Rounds



Mary Jane McFarland



Angela Romano



Stephen Doland

DCC Faculty and Staff Receive SUNY Chancellor's Awards

Presented annually, the Chancellor's Awards recognize efforts of SUNY employees from across all 64 campuses for consistently superior professional achievement and encourage the ongoing pursuit of excellence. Awards are given in seven categories: Faculty Service, Librarianship, Professional Service, Scholarship and Creative Activities, Teaching, Adjunct Teaching, and Classified Service. Four members of the DCC community were recognized by the SUNY Board of Trustees with the 2021 Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in their respective areas of work.

Carolyn Rounds, assistant professor in the Allied Health and Biological Sciences Department, received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Full-time Teaching. Rounds joined the DCC community in 2011 and teaches a broad range of biology courses to both science and non-science majors.

Mary Jane McFarland, adjunct instructor in the Allied Health and Biological Sciences Department, received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Adjunct Teaching. McFarland has worked at DCC since 2008 and teaches a variety of sciences courses on campus, remotely and in the College's concurrent program.

Angela Romano, registrar, was honored with the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Professional Service. Romano began at DCC in 2015 and since then, has transformed the Registrar's Office into a cohesive and collaborative environment.

Stephen Doland, teaching lab supervisor in the Allied Health and Biological Sciences Department, received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Classified Services. Doland has been part of the DCC community for over 19 years.



DCC Provost Earns Athena Honors

Ellen Gambino, provost and vice president of instruction and learning, was named a recipient of a 2020 ATHENA Award by the Chamber Foundation of the Dutchess County Chamber of Commerce.

Bestowed annually, ATHENA awards recognize those who strive toward the highest levels of professional accomplishment by excelling in their chosen profession, devoting time and energy to their community in meaningful ways, and actively guiding or mentoring women to become great leaders.



Visual Arts Professor Reflects on Summer Artist-in-Residence Experience

This summer, **Lindsey Guile**, assistant professor of visual arts and director of the Mildred I. Washington Art Gallery, applied for and was accepted to fill one of only 12 visual artist slots available through the highly selective Blue Mountain Center's artist-in-residence program.

During the summer and early fall, the center, located in the heart of the Adirondacks, offers month-long residency sessions that are open to fiction and non-fiction writers, activists, and artists of all disciplines — including composers, filmmakers and visual artists. Applications are reviewed by a panel of authors and artists who are particularly interested in artists able to reflect social and ecological concerns through their work.

DCC Instructional Tech Director Wins SUNY FACT2 Award



Chrisie Mitchell, director of instructional technology and eLearning, was honored with a FACT2 Excellence in Instructional Support Award.

The SUNY system-level award recognizes excellence in supporting innovative uses of educational technologies to meaningfully improve teaching and learning by working individually or in collaboration with teaching faculty in the strategic application of curriculum within SUNY.

In her nomination letter, Maria Boada, dean of academic affairs, cited Mitchell's tireless efforts to ensure the rapid transition to remote delivery and her support of faculty as they devised strategies and pedagogy for the different delivery modalities. Dean Boada wrote: "Chrisie Mitchell has consistently demonstrated excellence in her work to support the use

of technology in teaching and learning. She is knowledgeable, hardworking, committed to student success and to supporting professional development for faculty and staff."

Faculty, staff and students collaborate each year to offer events that highlight diverse cultures. Members of the College community and the public enjoyed a variety of educational and fun activities and presentations in 2021.



Hispanic Heritage Month

DCC marked Hispanic Heritage Month with dance and art workshops, book exhibits, poetry conversations, lectures and a musical performance.

The festivities kicked off on September 21 with a talk by oral historian and cultural anthropologist Andrew Viñales. The discussion focused on the Afro-Puerto Rican musical genre of Bomba. Viñales is a recent initiate in the Lukumí Afro-Cuban Orisha tradition and an oral historian and cultural worker passionate about highlighting the experiences of queer Afro-Latinx politics, culture and spirituality.

In other events, teaching artist Aurelio Del Muro offered a workshop that drew inspiration from José Guadalupe Posada, initiator of the modernist art movement in twentieth-century Mexico and the creator of Day of the Dead iconography. Participants had the opportunity to make a drawing, which was followed by a discussion of the social and political message of their artwork.

Another highlight was an evening of music and conversation with Supermambo, a group of musicians who have collectively played with some of the greatest Latin musicians – Eddie Palmieri, Willie Colon, and the late Tito Puente.

The celebration concluded with an opportunity for students to learn to Bomba with Dr. Drum, a cultural ambassador of Afro-Puerto Rican Bomba and co-founder/musical director of BombaYo Afro-Puerto Rican Arts' Project (www.bombayo.org). His Bomba dance workshop provided an interactive experience of union and awareness through song, drum, and dance.

Women's History Month

Through a series of virtual programs, DCC celebrated Women's History Month by honoring the accomplishments and contributions of women throughout history. The celebration kicked off on March 19 with a virtual brown bag lunch facilitated by the DCC Professional Staff Development Committee and co-hosted by the Women's Activities Committee and the Association of Women at Dutchess Community College. The conversation focused on how diversity, equity, inclusion and antiracism impact women.

A Women in STEM panel discussion featured several female professionals who talked about how they began their careers and the challenges and rewards they encountered on their path to success. The event was hosted by Laraine Kautz, DCC's workforce development liaison.

Poetry and prose closed out this year's celebration with a "Women Reading Women: Valiant Women of the Vote" event. Women from the DCC community read poetry and prose reflecting the National Women's History Month theme, "Valiant Women of the Vote: Refusing to be Silenced."



MISSION ACCOMPLISHED:

DCC Alumna Lands Stellar First Job

Danielle Holzberger's career has taken off like a rocket – which is appropriate, since her work travels through our solar system.

At just 25, this 2016 DCC dual-degree graduate works for the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in California as a software engineer. Her work is used in spacecraft navigation, including such high-profile projects as the Perseverance Rover which landed on Mars in 2020, and the Double Asteroid Redirect Test (DART) project, designed to save the Earth from potentially catastrophic asteroid collisions.

So how did a kid from Lagrangeville, New York, wind up working with NASA engineers – and shoulder-to-shoulder with peers from MIT and Stanford?

“By being really good at Minecraft,” she jokes.

She's only half-kidding. It was her love of video games and the online community she joined that piqued her interest in software design, along with some great advice from her parents.

“When I was in high school, I was constantly reminded – especially by my father – that I needed to figure out what I wanted to do, and I'd better enjoy doing it,” she recalls.

While she did enjoy video games, she broadened her focus to software

development. She'd also made a lot of online gaming friends who were enrolled at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (Cal Poly Pomona), which had a strong software design program, so she began crafting a plan that would lead her clear across the country. She soon discovered that DCC could help get her there effectively and affordably.

“Dutchess has a great Computer Science program, but I also wound up really liking that first calculus course that I took, which led me to add Mathematics as a second major,” she says.

She earned an A.S. in Computer Science and an A.A. in Mathematics from

DCC, and she's convinced that was key to getting her where she is today.

“If it hadn't been for the additional math I picked up at Dutchess, I'm not sure I would have thrived enough to end up doing what I'm doing,” she attests.

Soon after transferring to Cal Poly Pomona, she attended an on-campus information session with NASA-JPL and connected with one of the engineers, who also happened to be from New York. He asked her what she thought she might want to do when she graduates.

“I pointed to the ceiling and said, ‘I want to work on the stuff that goes up there!’” she laughs.

He must have been impressed, because soon she was an intern, working on flight software for the NISAR mission, studying global environmental change. She continued working part time with JPL her senior year and secured a full-time role upon graduating in 2018 with a bachelor's in Computer Science. She's since added a master's in Computer Science with a specialization in Machine Learning from Georgia Tech University, which she completed in 2020, also while working at NASA-JPL.

The distance between Poughkeepsie and the Los Angeles suburb of Pomona

seems minuscule now compared to the vast expanses which her projects travel. She's part of a team that uses a programming language called Python. She's almost giddy as she shares her team's full name (the Mission analysis, Operations, and Navigation Toolkit Environment), whose acronym spells “MONTE” – a joke so perfect for a group of self-proclaimed science geeks that it seems like it must have been swiped from a “Big Bang Theory” episode.

Yet, Danielle is quick to point out that none of it would have happened without the amazing experiences she had back home at DCC.

“I attribute a large majority of my academic and professional success to the foundation I built at DCC,” she insists. “I was able to be a tutor and complete all the courses needed to transfer to my top school choice. Plus, I had more math than most Computer Science majors do at that point – a key factor that gave me the background necessary to join the MONTE Python team.”

And now for something completely different...



Danielle Holzberger '16

“IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR THE ADDITIONAL MATH I PICKED UP AT DUTCHESS, I'M NOT SURE I WOULD HAVE THRIVED ENOUGH TO END UP DOING WHAT I'M DOING.”

– DANIELLE HOLZBERGER '16



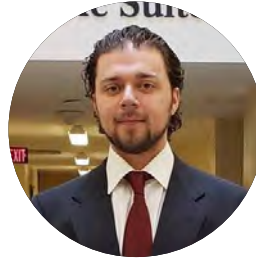
Student Achievements

High Honors

Three DCC students receive SUNY Chancellor's Awards

Three Dutchess Community College students were named recipients of the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. Christopher Herrera, Randy Liao and Vanessa Phillips were honored by Chancellor Jim Malatras at a virtual ceremony April 14.

The SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence honors students who have integrated academic excellence with other aspects of their lives, including leadership, campus involvement, community service or the arts. The award is the highest honor which can be bestowed upon a SUNY student.



CHRISTOPHER HERRERA

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION TRANSFER
Herrera, a non-traditional DCC graduate, led a number of events to support local nonprofits, including Angels of Light Giving Tree and Blankets For Pets. Herrera is continuing his studies at SUNY Albany and is committed to pursuing concentrations in Entrepreneurship and Marketing.



RANDY LIAO

GENERAL STUDIES
Liao is a Conklin Scholar, Student Government Association senator and member of the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society. He is headed to Binghamton University and plans on pursuing a Business degree, which he hopes will lead to a career as a financial analyst or statistician.



VANESSA PHILLIPS

CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRANSFER
Phillips earned the Applewood Leadership Scholarship and is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society and the Eleanor Roosevelt Community College Emerging Leaders Program (ECCEL). She is heading to the University at Albany to pursue a degree in Psychology.



First Cohort Graduates from DCC's Public Health Program

DCC graduated its inaugural cohort of students enrolled in its public health program. **Alyce Bilello, Anduena Driza, Michaela Tozzi, Ariana Ball, Lori Morris** and **Ryan Santangelo** each received associate degrees in public health through a program specifically designed to assist students in transferring to an upper-level college or university where they can complete a bachelor's degree in Public Health or a related field of study.

From left: Teresa Burke, biology instructor and public health faculty lead, and members of the inaugural cohort, Alyce Bilello, Michaela Tozzi and Anduena Driza.

HGE Students Honored

Students Recognized for Achievement and Outstanding Scholarship

Each year, the History, Government and Economics (HGE) Department distributes a number of scholarships and awards to DCC students in recognition of their achievement and outstanding scholarship. This year's award ceremony, held virtually on April 22, honored five students.

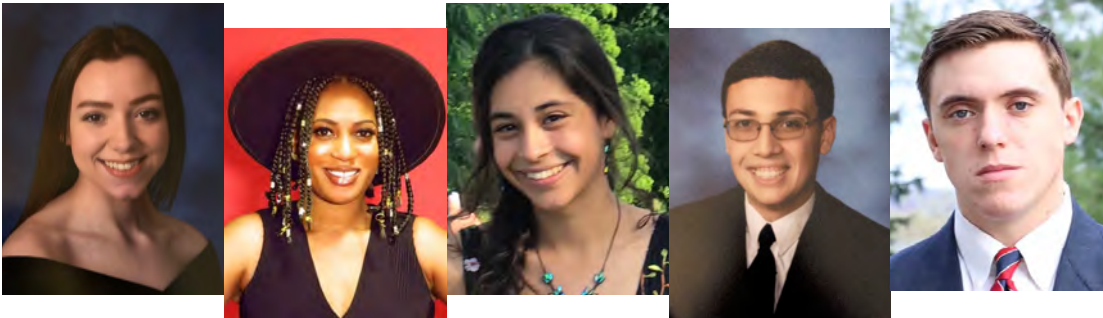
Emily K. Lehan received the Eugene Sheridan Award, presented in memory of Eugene A. Sheridan, Jr. The Sheridan Award is the HGE Department's highest and most distinguished award. Lehan, who graduated this year, planned on transferring to Bard College to pursue studies in Anthropology.

Carline Brown received the Ann and Dan Zodikoff Memorial Scholarship, awarded in memory of Rita Alterman and her parents. Alterman was a strong advocate for education and a former adjunct faculty member of the HGE Department. Brown hoped to transfer to SUNY Oswego to pursue a bachelor's degree in broadcasting and mass communication. Brown is also the recipient of the New York State Transfer and Articulation Association Scholarship and DCC Foundation Graduating Student - DUE Scholarship in honor of Allan E. Rappleyea.

Anisa N. Alzate and **Jason T. Santoli** were presented with HGE Departmental Awards for Outstanding Achievement in the Social Sciences.

Alzate planned on transferring to New Paltz, and then on to a career as an elementary teacher specializing in Special Education. Santoli, who also received an HGE department award, returned to DCC in the fall. He plans on transferring to SUNY Potsdam in spring 2022 after which he hopes to pursue a master's and doctorate in the field of paleontology. Santoli hopes to improve society's understanding of ancient life by working as a professor of Paleontology.

Blaine McCollum received the Xavier H. Verbeck Memorial Award, which is presented in honor of Xavier H. Verbeck, who taught in the HGE Department from 1963-1992. Verbeck also served as the department's chair. McCollum will be transferring to Cornell University's SC Johnson School of Business to complete his bachelor's degree in finance.



From left to right: Emily K. Lehan, Carline Brown, Anisa N. Alzate, Jason T. Santoli, Blaine McCollum.

We Gon' Be Alright

A poster presentation by **Omar Graves '21** was one of only a handful showcased at the 2021 Beacon Conference held in early June. Launched in 1993 thanks to a two-year grant from the American Association of Community Colleges and the Kellogg Foundation, the conference is an annual celebration aimed at recognizing academic achievement of outstanding students at community colleges in the mid-Atlantic region. Graves, a Psychology major, was encouraged to submit his application by Jordan Bell, instructor of English. Titled, "We Gon' Be Alright," Graves' poster focused on how music builds awareness of racial injustice in America. Graves' essay and presentation on the same topic were also recognized at the 2021 Humanities and Education Research Association (HERA) Conference.



Getting Down to Business

Blaine McCollum, working under the guidance of Scott Willmen, assistant professor of business, took second place at the Mid-Hudson Regional Business Plan competition held at Marist College in late April. McCollum beat out students from a number of area colleges and universities, including Marist, West Point and Vassar. McCollum's win earned him the opportunity to compete at the New York State Regional Business Plan level and, while he didn't place at the state-wide competition, the experience was invaluable, according to McCollum. It allowed him to build skills in market research, preparing and presenting a business pitch, and navigating the presentation process.

Leading the Way

Students Named to All-NY Phi Theta Kappa Academic Team



From left: Abigail Daramalo, Sydney McKay, Clara Rodriguez and Nicole Schubert.

Four DCC students were recently named to the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) ALL-NY Academic Team. Abigail Daramalo, Sydney McKay, Clara Rodriguez and Nicole Schubert were recognized in a virtual ceremony on April 22 by SUNY Chancellor Jim Malatras. PTK is the largest honor society in higher education, serving nearly 1,300 colleges in all 50 states and nine countries. Members of the All-New York Academic Team are recognized for their academic achievements, leadership accomplishments and engagement in community service.

Abigail Daramalo is graduating this spring. During

the 2020-21 academic year, she served as vice president of DCC's chapter of PTK. Daramalo has hopes of becoming a physician.

Sydney McKay is a Liberal Arts and Humanities major. She is also graduating this spring and will be transferring to Pace University to pursue an English and Communications major. After completing her education, McKay's goal is to join the publishing industry as a book editor.

Clara Rodriguez is the first in her family to go to college and is on track to graduate this spring with an associate degree in Engineering Science. She is looking forward to continuing

her studies in Biomedical Engineering at Binghamton University. Rodriguez is a recipient of the Charles E. and Mabel E. Conklin Scholarship and has been on the Dean's List since her first semester in fall 2019.

Nicole Schubert is graduating this spring with her associate degree in Early Childhood Education. She will be continuing her studies at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. Her goal is to become a kindergarten teacher and work toward helping special needs children.



GAME ON

A Dutchess Falcons' esports team advanced to the National Junior College Athletic Association Esports (NJCAA) national championship.

The Falcons team, which included **Nathaniel Bogart**, **Nicholas Gritlow**, **Paul Lettieri** and **John McLain**, took on Irvine Valley College in the championship match but lost in the fifth and final game of the series. Spring 2021 was the Falcons' first season of NJCAA eSports competition and according to Matt Paquet, director of athletics, proved to be a memorable one. Dutchess will continue to offer esports to its student-athletes in future semesters.

Foundation Gala Set to Return

As of this writing, the DCC Foundation Gala is scheduled for Saturday, March 26, 2022, at the Grandview, after having been canceled last March due to Covid-19.

Hall of Fame inductees will be Shirley Roberts Brereton '88, Anthony DiMaso '65, Joan DiMaso '68 and Ellen Gambino '74. The Bernard Handel Community Leadership Award recipient will be Martin Charwat and the Lifetime Achievement Recognition will be given to Bernard Handel. The Bridge to the Future Award will be shared by five organizations – Dutchess County Government, Abilities First, Inc., The Arc of Dutchess, Maplebrook School and Taconic Resources for Independence – that partner with DCC in providing the Think Ahead program.

2022 Gala Honorees



**Shirley Roberts
Brereton '88**
Hall of Fame Inductee



**Anthony
DiMaso '65**
Hall of Fame Inductee



**Joan
DiMaso '68**
Hall of Fame Inductee



**Ellen
Gambino '74**
Hall of Fame Inductee



Martin Charwat
*Bernard Handel
Community Leadership
Award*



Bernard Handel
*Lifetime
Achievement
Recognition*



**Dutchess County Government · Abilities First, Inc.
The Arc of Dutchess · Maplebrook School
Taconic Resources for Independence**
Bridge to the Future Award

FOR UPDATES ON THE 2022 GALA, VISIT

www.sunydutchess.edu/gala



The winning foursome of the DCC Foundation's 31st Annual Golf Tournament. From left: Bill Vittorini III, Dave Vittorini, Bill Vittorini and Timothy Kuzio.

Hitting the Green

The DCC Foundation's Annual Golf Tournament & Dinner support educational initiatives.

Dozens hit the links for the Foundation's 31st Annual Golf Tournament and Dinner in May at The Links at Union Vale.

The event is held in memory of Jack Orcutt, who was DCC's first director of student activities and a founding member of the College staff. Funds raised support educational initiatives.

The winning foursome was **William Vittorini, David Vittorini, Bill Vittorini III** and **Tim Kuzio**. The Event sponsor was Llelanie Orcutt, the media sponsor was iHeartMedia, the Giveaway sponsor was The Chazen Companies, the Hole-in-One Sponsor was Andersen, the Double Eagle sponsors were Baroni Scrap Metal LLC, Marshall & Sterling Insurance, Pepsi-Cola of the Hudson Valley, Real Property Abstract & Title Services, LLC and VIVO Creative. The Eagle sponsors were Shirley Brereton '88, Ernst & Young, McCabe & Mack LLP, Meyer Contracting Corporation and Royal Carting Service Company.

For more information on DCC Foundation events and sponsorship opportunities, contact Burnelle Roser at (845) 431-8402 or burnelle.roser@sunydutchess.edu.

DCC ALUMNI

We'd love to hear from you!

The Dutchess Community College Foundation would love to hear from as many of DCC's 48,000 graduates as possible. We also are looking for notable alumni to highlight, so if you would like to share your story or know a distinguished alum that we should recognize, please give us a call at (845) 431-8400. You can connect with the over 17,000 alumni on DCC's LinkedIn page and share your story via our other social media:

#DCCFAlumni



[linkedin.com/school/40448](https://www.linkedin.com/school/40448)



[DCCFAlumni](https://www.facebook.com/DCCFAlumni)



twitter.com/DCCFAlumni



[dccfalumni/](https://www.instagram.com/dccfalumni/)



www.flickr.com/photos/dccfalumni/albums

Alumni Benefits

Did you know that alumni of DCC are entitled to many services and programs that can help with employment, personal and professional enrichment, and savings on travel and events? Visit www.sunydutchess.edu/alumni for more information.

Support DCC While Shopping on Amazon

A percentage of money spent on eligible purchases at Amazon.com will go to support the DCC Foundation through the AmazonSmile program. Log in to Amazon through smile.amazon.com and choose Dutchess Community College Foundation as your charitable organization.

SHOW YOUR DCC PRIDE!

Visit www.bkstr.com/dutchessccstore to order apparel and gifts, including our new plush mini-mascot!



CLASS Notes



Jeanne Cotroneo Darrow '91 received her associate degree in Liberal Arts and Humanities from DCC and then worked in publishing and editorial and communications roles at Standard & Poor's, NYSE and Morgan Stanley. She used her profound corporate storytelling skills and passion

for business writing to found Working with Words, LLC in 2001. She also launched a hometown magazine, East Fishkill Living, in 2017.



Jason Fisch '06 founded Fisch Solutions at the young age of 15 as he designed the first website for the City of Beacon, N.Y. After graduating from DCC with an associate degree in Computer Information Systems, he has steadily grown his IT / web design company over the course of two decades, combining it with his passion for public safety. Today, Fisch Solutions ranks at 4,458

among the "Inc. 5,000," a list of the fastest-growing private companies in America as ranked by Inc. magazine. It's also #244 in New York state and #3 in the greater Poughkeepsie metro region.



Jasmin Vazquez '10 completed her liberal arts and science degree at DCC while participating as a member of the Student Government Association Executive Board, a member of Phi Theta Kappa, contributing to the school paper, and playing basketball and softball. She

continued her education at SUNY New Paltz with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and International Relations. In 2019 she became assistant director at Heroic Food, a 501(c)3 organization that provides farmer training to military veterans in transition to a civilian life in New York State. Leading Heroic Food is her way of honoring the veterans in her family; her grandfather and uncle fought in Korea and Vietnam, and both of her siblings are members of the armed forces.



John Sprague '16 received his associate degree in Engineering from Dutchess Community College in 2016, his bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from SUNY Binghamton in 2018 and is currently pursuing an MBA from Strayer University. After graduation, he started his career with Verizon and is a senior outside plant engineer who

designs and maintains fiberoptic plans for homes, businesses and schools in Putnam County, Northern Westchester and Greenwich, Conn. John credits the technical communication skills that he learned at DCC with his success. He also liked that his small class sizes created relationships with fellow students and faculty that continue today. He shares his love of engineering with middle schoolers through a Verizon program called Junior Achievement and recently participated in DCC's Tech Day, speaking to middle and high school students about a career in technology. John's brother, Jason, started his college education at DCC this fall.



After graduating from DCC with a degree in Business Administration, **Yoshi Tsuji '14** continued his education and received a bachelor's degree in Finance and Economics from Indiana University's Kelley School of Business in 2016. He founded Win-Kel Storage, a company that made self-storage accessible and affordable for all and

operated across 13 states. In August 2021, Yoshi started a position as account manager at Google in the Shibuya office in Tokyo.

Calling all DCC Alumni

Where did DCC take you?

We love hearing from our Alumni! Contact Burnelle Roser at burnelle.roser@sunydutchess.edu to share your DCC story.

Change Lives with a Gift to DCC

Whether you want to inspire a DCC student, honor or remember a loved one or support an academic or extracurricular program, the DCC Foundation is here to help make your giving experience meaningful and rewarding.



Establish an Endowment

Donated funds are invested in perpetuity. Principal-generated earnings fund a scholarship, academic program or campus needs based on your wishes. If you are eager to have your gift impact lives now and in the future, establishing an endowment is a wise choice.

Make an Annual Gift or Attend an Event

Your gift to the Fund for Dutchess supports DCC's highest priorities and areas of most urgent need. These include merit-, need-based and daycare scholarships, student emergency support, student technology and programming, faculty development, campus facility improvements and esteemed lectures. Additionally, an event sponsorship offers a wide range of giving opportunities to highlight you, your business or your organization in fun, exciting ways, all while supporting the Fund for Dutchess.

Legacy Planning

Integrate philanthropy into your overall personal estate planning. We will work with you to achieve your personal philanthropic goals through a bequest from a will, retirement assets such as an IRA or 401k, life insurance benefit, charitable gift annuity or personal property. Our goal is to ensure that your legacy is preserved.

Naming Opportunities

Leave your mark on DCC. The Foundation offers many opportunities for you to name a building, room or other space. The naming of campus space will recognize your generosity publicly. Your name will be displayed in a place of honor for all to appreciate for generations to come.

Honor or Memorial Commemoration

Mark exceptional events or remember that special person by making a gift to the DCC Foundation on behalf of a loved one. Bricks can be purchased for placement in the Petrovits Pine Grove Patio, and engraved leaves are available for the "Remembering Community Tree."

Gift of Time

Come back to campus – your time is a gift as well. Maybe you have professional experiences worth sharing with our students in class or a career expo. If you are an alum, your story could inspire potential or current students. We also are looking for volunteers to help the DCC Foundation by joining its Board of Directors or a committee, and/or volunteering at an event.

Get Started

To make a gift or pledge, contact Diana Pollard, executive director, at (845) 431-8403 or pollard@sunydutchess.edu. To use a credit card, visit www.sunydutchess.edu/giving. Checks should be made payable to the DCC Foundation and mailed to 53 Pendell Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601.

LASTING

HALL LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS

Ellen L. Baker
Rosemarie I. Becchetti-Rice '83
Karen T. Blonder & Jerry L.* Toepfer
Shirley Brereton '88
Charles E.* & Mabel E.* Conklin
Linda L. Connors '71
Jim Curley '64 and Ceme Curley
Eric W. Deyo '71
Vincent J. DiMaso '66 & Joan DiMaso '68
Jack and Donna Dworak
Kathleen Eagan '67
Toni M. Emery '66 & Joseph A. Lucas '87
Dorothy J. Fitchett '81

James V. Forster III*
Raymond J. Freda '88
Gail Ganter-Toback & Arnold Toback
Patricia Ansari Gee
Gladys L. Glick*
Dr. James F. Hall*
Bernard & Shirley Handel
Mary V. Imperatori*
Vernon D. Jones
Gary J. Lindstrom '60
Kathleen M. Marinn* '63
F. Kennon Moody*
Michael J. O'Dell '69

June S. Pierson
Barbara Jean Planck
Diana L. Pollard '97
Vincent F. Post, Jr. '73
Michael J. Quackenbush '78
Francis U.* & Mary F. Ritz
Carol A. Roper*
Werner H. Schmidt*
Edna K. Silber*
William R. Steinhaus '69
Mary Louise Van Winkle*
Allyn J.* & Mildred I.* Washington
Carole J. Wolf

**deceased*

IMPACT

The James F. Hall Legacy Society was established to recognize benefactors who have pledged generous gifts to the Dutchess Community College Foundation through their estate plans.

Members understand the importance of a successful community college and seek to keep the spirit of educational excellence alive for future generations. The individuals listed to the left have notified the Foundation that they have made a planned gift to Dutchess Community College. Planned gifts may include a bequest, charitable trust, personal residence, life insurance policy, IRA or any appreciated items such as artwork.

Some members are former students who connected in a meaningful way with faculty and staff and, as alumni, appreciate how the support and dedication of their teachers positively impacted their lives. Others are faculty and staff who have dedicated their lives to teaching and learning, and community members, who recognize the impact that DCC has had on their neighbors. The College is fortunate to have so many friends and supporters who believe in its mission. The chance to help students enhance their lives through higher education inspires so many wonderful people from varying backgrounds to partner with DCC.

By becoming a member of the Hall Legacy Society, you are showing your commitment to the College and demonstrating a belief in future students.

Visit sunydutchess.giftlegacy.com to explore ways you can leave a lasting legacy.

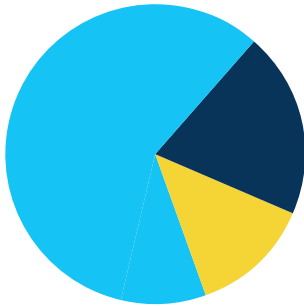


The Foundation has created a **new estate planning guide** to help you with your planning to ensure you are supporting your family and causes you care about. It's our pleasure to assist you in this journey as you move forward in creating a plan for your future and securing an impactful legacy.

FINANCIALS

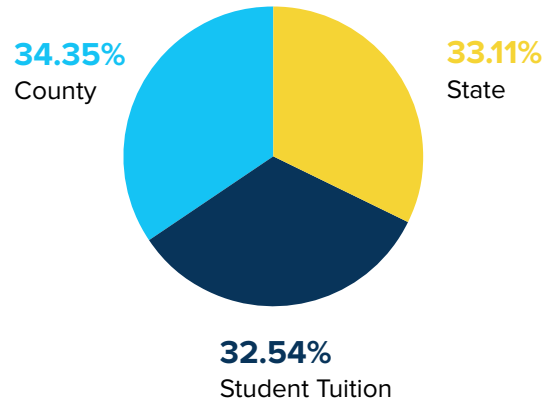
Dutchess Community College

Budget Allocation*



■ Instruction, Academic Support, Student Services & Library	\$38,780,167
■ Institutional Operations	\$13,409,601
■ Facilities Maintenance & Operations	\$6,264,811
Total	\$58,454,579

Funding Sources



DCC Foundation

Statement of Financial Condition*

ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$393,631
Investments	\$16,769,907
Other Assets	\$147,356
Total Assets	\$17,310,894

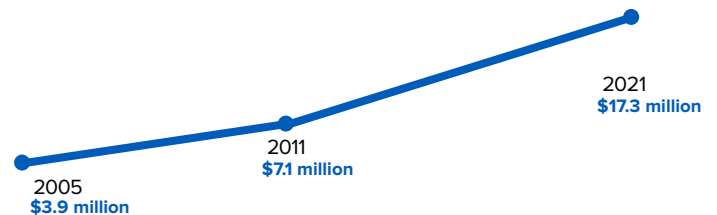
LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	\$68,353
Other Liabilities	\$183,424
Total Liabilities	\$251,777

NET ASSETS

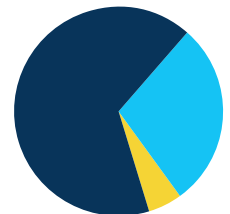
Unrestricted	\$1,681,741
Temporarily Restricted	\$5,374,864
Permanently Restricted	\$10,002,512
Total Net Assets	\$17,059,117

Growth in Assets



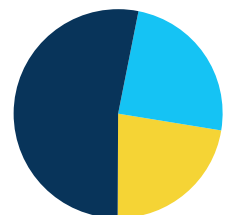
Investment

■ Equity Mutual Funds	\$11,633,989
■ Fixed Income Mutual Funds	\$4,743,939
■ Cash	\$391,979
Total	\$16,769,907



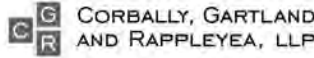
Support

■ Scholarships	\$501,994
■ Program Support	\$232,621
■ Development & Stewardship	\$210,143
Total	\$944,758



*Fiscal year ended 8/31/21

Thank you to our 2021 MAJOR SPONSORS



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 Dr. Mary Louise VanWinkle* • Williams Lumber & Home Centers

Thank You, Volunteers!

The Foundation extends a warm thank you
to all who helped plan our events.

Bridgette Anderson • AnneMarie Andrews • Pat Bordonaro • Neomi Brereton '19 • Shirley Brereton '88
 Michael Campagna '11 • Scott & Tammy Chenevert • Toni Ciarfella • Paul Conrad '12 • Tim Decker
 Joan DiMaso '68 • Barbara Dolansky '90 • Ryan Fohl • Raymond Freda '88 • Maureen Gittelman
 Michael Hall • Matt Hanlon • David King • Stacey Langenthal • Sarah Lee • Karen Lynch • Peter Mahoney
 Melissa McCoy • Nancy McManus • Rita McPeck '88 • Kate Monroe • Susan Moore '66 • Lisa Morris '85
 Vincent Nunziato • Harro Penk • Virginia Poznack '77 • Rain Schwinger • Jennifer Scully • Yvonne Sewell '69
 Karen Slizewski • Marilyn Vetrano • Sally Weglinski '77 • Sarah Weikel



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