

TRUE STRENGTH

Mike Nichols' life was upended after he shattered a vertebra during a hockey game in 2014. But with an incredible positive attitude, the MCC student has bounced back. He's studying communications and has started the Mikey Strong Foundation to fund treatment. See page 6.

CAMPUS NEWS

Terri Orosz Honored with Community College Spirit Award

The New Jersey Council of County Colleges (NJCCC) presented the 2017 Community College Spirit Award to Theresa Orosz, assistant dean in the Division of Arts and Sciences at MCC, for her exemplary support of New Jersey's community colleges.

The award was presented in June during its annual New Jersey Community College Awards Ceremony, which also honored Raritan Valley Community College Assistant Professor Kathryn Suk with a Spirit Award.

"Since its inauguration in 1993, the Community College Spirit Award has been an honor bestowed to those who embody the community college spirit – perseverance, dedication and excellence," said NJCCC Chair Helen Albright.

Dr. Orosz was recognized for working with the New Jersey Center for Student Success, specifically for helping develop the Center's two-year strategic plan and serving as a co-presenter at several national community college student success conferences.

She has 25 years of experience working with community colleges, including in Academic and Student Affairs, Academic Advising, Career Services, and Continuing Education.

Dr. Orosz joined Middlesex County College in 1992. During her time at the institution, she has taught college success courses and worked on new student orientation,

Guided Pathways and Middle States accreditation.

Dr. Orosz is a community college graduate herself. She received an A.A.S. in Accounting from MCC; a B.S. in Management Science and an M.A. in Liberal Studies from Kean University; and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Rowan University.



From left: MCC President Joann La Perla-Morales; Helen Albright, chair of the New Jersey Council of County Colleges; Student Success Executive Director Christine Harrington, who accepted the award on behalf of Kathryn Suk; Theresa Orosz; William Austin, NJ Community College Presidents' Council chair; and Lawrence Nespoli, NJCCC president.



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Three New Academic Programs Launched

The College is offering three new academic programs this fall. Homeland Security, Culinary Arts, and Hospitality Management made their debut in September.

“Homeland security is a critical field these days,” said Tim Hack, chair of the History and Social Sciences Department. “If you would like to protect this nation from natural and man-made threats, the Homeland Security Program is right for you.”

The degree is designed for students to learn about securing borders, airports, waterways and seaports; preparing for and responding to natural and man-made disasters; providing counterterrorism and law enforcement intelligence support; and employing the latest security technology. Graduates may take advantage of the dual admissions agreement with New Jersey City University’s National Security Studies Bachelor of Science program, which is offered on both the NJCU and MCC campuses. Career fields include border patrol agent, CIA analyst or officer, FBI agent, air marshal, ICE agent, Secret Service agent, TSA screener and immigration enforcement agent.

The two Hospitality, Culinary Arts, & Dietetics Department programs, Hospitality Management and Culinary Arts, lead to careers in a booming field.

“Employment opportunities are growing in a variety of work settings, including hotels, motels, resorts, restaurants, clubs, cruise ships, catering centers and health care facilities,” said Mary-Pat Maciolek, chair of the Hospitality, Culinary Arts, and Dietetics Department.

A Culinary Arts graduate may be employed as a line cook, station chef, assistant pastry chef, assistant restaurant manager, dining room manager, cafeteria production manager, sous chef or executive chef.

Hospitality Management graduates may be employed in management of restaurants, hotels and motels, dining rooms or in cafeteria production.

Graduates of both programs are eligible for certification in several course areas by the American Hotel and Lodging Association and the National Restaurant Association.

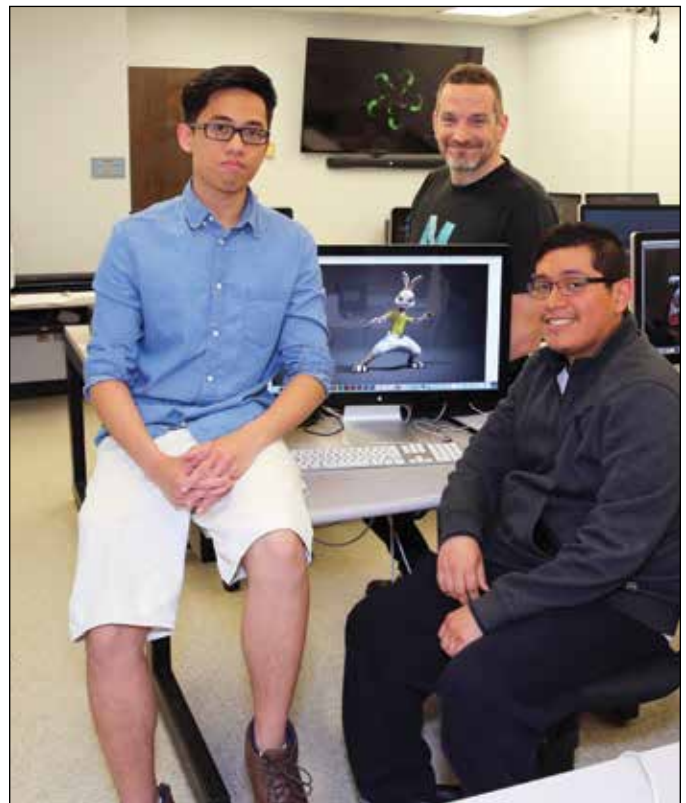
2 Students Attend Major Graphics Conference

Two MCC students were accepted as volunteers at SIGGRAPH (Special Interest Group on Computer GRAPHics and Interactive Techniques), an annual conference on computer graphics. The conference, held in Los Angeles July 30 to August 3, was attended by tens of thousands of computer professionals.

Kevin Flores and Eric Campos received access to the entire conference and worked 20 to 25 hours at various exposition stands and presentations.

“They met professionals in the field and peers from around the globe,” said Richard Thompson, who teaches gaming and animation at MCC. “SIGGRAPH is also home to the Electronic Theater, where many of the Oscar-nominated shorts first get noticed, where major motion picture companies discuss the making of various visual FX, and where new software is presented. There is 3D printing, stop-motion, claymation, as well as educational papers and presentations from gaming studios. Of particular interest is an entire hall devoted to emerging technologies. This is a terrific opportunity for our two students.”

In addition, 30 pieces of work (23 art stills and seven animations – including game art and level designs) from the animation program were accepted to the 6th Annual Faculty Submitted Student Work Exhibit at the conference.



Kevin Flores, left, and Eric Campos flank Professor Richard Thompson.



Emmanuel Ford, New Brunswick Education Foundation's executive director and founder, presented the award to Evelyn Rosa.

Director Honored by New Brunswick Education Foundation

Evelyn Rosa was presented a Community Partner Award by the New Brunswick Education Foundation at its annual awards gala in June. Ms. Rosa, the director of the MCC New Brunswick Center, was recognized for her work at the center and in the community. She is responsible for all aspects of the center's services, and she is also active on task forces, advisory boards and committees focusing on reducing food insecurity, creating employment and educational opportunities for youth, and education about healthy relationships as a tool for reducing domestic violence. She developed the E.M.P.O.W.E.R. program (Encouraging Mentoring Peers on Work and Education Readiness), a college preparation program for New Brunswick high school students. It incorporates opportunities for mentoring, financial education and community service. The program boasts a 100 percent high school graduation rate and over 80 percent college enrollment. She was presented the award by Emmanuel Ford, the New Brunswick Education Foundation's executive director and founder. The award program also honored Walter Virgil Sr., of the New Brunswick HUB Teen Center, and Kamal Khan of the Office for Diversity and Academic Success in the Sciences. The Foundation also welcomed eight new members into its Hall of Distinguished Alumni.

Student Awarded ESL Scholarship for Initiative and Professionalism

Nguyet Pham was presented a \$2,000 scholarship by the New Jersey Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages and Bilingual Educators (NJTESOL/NJBE). Richard Roy, associate chair of the English as a Second Language Department, taught Ms. Pham in two classes this spring.

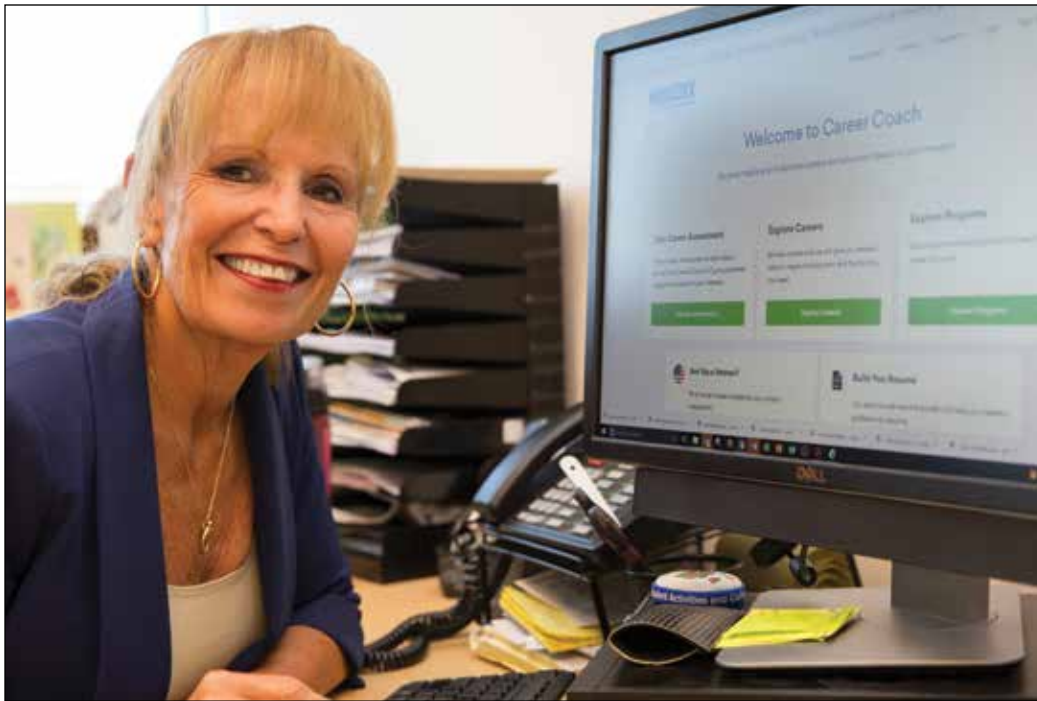
"Nguyet has impressed me greatly by her study habits and professional attitude," he said. "The courses have both involved outside-of-class group research projects, and in each of these projects, she has been a leader. Her contribution goes far beyond the project requirements, showing superior initiative, insight and critical thinking skills. She works well with her group members, modest but supportive."

Mr. Roy said the scholarship will allow Ms. Pham to cut back on her work schedule, allowing her to devote more time to her studies.

"Her maturity, work ethic and professional background are evident assets that hold the promise for a tremendously successful future, both academically and beyond," he said.



Nguyet Pham with Richard Roy.



Charlotte Quigley says that while Career Coach is aimed at MCC students, it is available to the public.

Website Now Features Career Coach for Job-Seekers

A new feature on the College website will allow users to explore careers, build a resume, and learn about in-demand fields and how much they pay. The site is available to everyone and is free.

The link is www.middlesexcc.edu/career. A link to Career Coach is on that page.

“This is an extremely easy way to find out about linking academic work with careers,” said Charlotte Quigley, manager of career services at MCC. “While we acquired it for our students, we want everyone to know they are welcome to access it. It might be useful for middle and high schools students and their parents beginning to look seriously at careers, for college students who want to know what is available, and also for seasoned workers who want to change careers. Career Coach is a great tool.”

Ms. Quigley said people can start with a broad outline of their interests, and then discover which careers fit into their criteria, or they can start with a definite career goal, and then use the site to find out how to get there.

“For example, a student might know that he or she is interested in the field of psychology,” she said. “This site will give them job titles, whether demand for workers in these jobs is growing or shrinking, the level of education they will need, and the salaries they can expect to earn for each job. Students and job-seekers can also take the opposite tact; they may say, ‘I want to be a clinical psychologist,’ and then the site will tell them what degrees they will need to get there.”

Career Coach is a valuable tool for college students, those in high school thinking about a career, and older workers who are looking for a change.

A listing of jobs currently available is also included. She said the site is updated frequently, so job information is current. It defaults to the Middlesex County area, but can be changed to any geographic area in the country.

Another feature is a resume builder.

“The site will allow you to customize a fully-functional resume,” she said. “It looks professional, is spell-checked, and can be done quickly.”

The site also has an interest assessment tool; students can answer questions about what they enjoy doing, and the site will recommend possible careers based on the answers.

“It looks at how their interests mesh with careers,” she said. “It helps them determine what jobs they may be interested in – and, equally important – what would not be a good fit for them.”

Ms. Quigley said she hopes Career Coach will assist many people in their career search.

“We know from research that students connected to careers are more likely to persist to graduation,” she said.

TRUE STRENGTH

M*ike Nichols dug in his heels on the red line, hockey's version of no man's land where a pregame skate could turn testy if someone dares to so much as dip his toe on the opponent's side.*

He was a freshman fighting for ice time on Monroe High School's varsity hockey team, and although he didn't quite tip the scales at 100 pounds, he was going to show everyone at the rink that day he was no 98-pound weakling.

So, the smallest guy on the ice stood there and glared as each opposing player passed. It's called sending a message, in hockey parlance.

And when the puck dropped, he sent a bigger message. "First shift I was on the ice," recalls Mr. Nichols, "I went and hit the biggest kid on the other team. He had the puck and he was on his butt. I didn't miss a varsity game the rest of the season."

Tough, determined, fearless – the qualities that made him a great hockey player have gotten him through the toughest of times. It was January 4, 2014, when Mr. Nichols shattered his C5 vertebrae during a game.

There have been grim diagnoses and rigorous rehabilitation programs. He battled to regain use of his right hand after a stroke. He's regained use of his left wrist – impressive for someone who had flat-lined in the weeks following the accident.

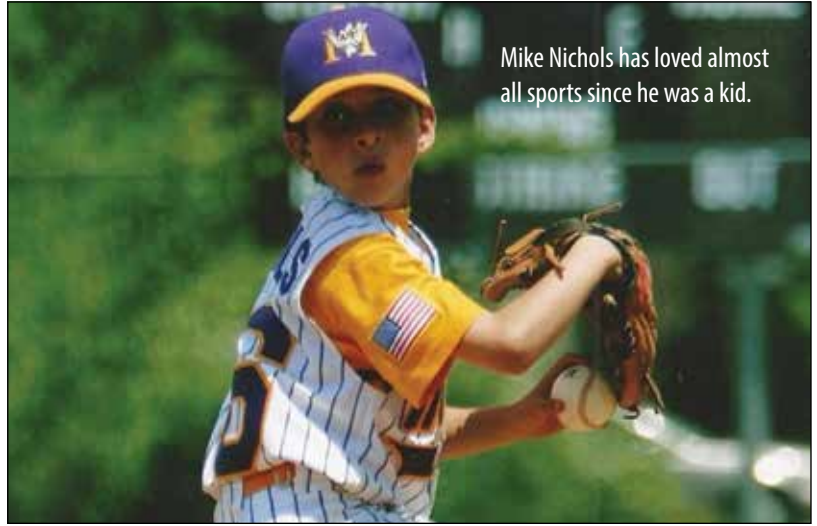
Mr. Nichols spends much of his time these days chasing a dream just as fast as his motorized wheelchair can take him. He wants to someday become a sportscaster or announcer, and it seems ideal for someone blessed with the ability to dangle with the puck but wasn't inclined to dangle a participle.

"If I can just sit on my butt and talk sports, that would be perfect," said Mr. Nichols. "It would be a natural. I want to give my opinion on sports. A dream job would be a radio guy."

Drivetime talk show host, New York Rangers commentator, whatever. Or both. These are the images he conjures



Mike Nichols doing physical therapy assisted by his friend, Peter Micciulla.



Mike Nichols has loved almost all sports since he was a kid.

up sometimes. So he arrived at the gates of MCC in fall 2015, eager to start studying communications.

Mr. Nichols says MCC has welcomed him with open arms, and that means a lot considering he had never been to school after the accident. Heck, he wasn't sure it was possible to attend school aside from some online courses.

He says the school's administration and faculty members have made him feel at home. Oh, sure, he gets some glances from classmates when he enters the room. That awkward curiosity, however, has eventually given way to a free flow of ideas and opinions. The give and take in, say, Contemporary Social Problems, has been stimulating. And the classroom has occasionally been a proper platform for him to discuss issues that affect someone who cannot move his legs.

"I love discussion. I love it," he said. "Every single one of my classes I've liked to be part of that discussion. I find that a lot of times, college versus high school, the discussion is a lot more real. That's something I kind of took to with open arms."

Away from the classroom, Mr. Nichols stays focused on trying to make this a world without wheelchairs. He helps organize an annual golf outing during the summer. In the winter, he teams with sports radio station WFAN to create the Mikey Strong 23 Benefit Hockey Game. Several former NHL greats have taken the ice for the annual event, which drew more than 3,000 fans at the Prudential Center in Newark. Former Ranger Alexei Kovalev and former New Jersey Devil Patrik Elias were among the 18 or so former NHL stars who have participated.

Mr. Nichols works closely with the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation, and is intrigued by its campaign known as The Big Idea. The big idea behind The Big Idea is to raise millions of dollars to help individuals with disabilities receive groundbreaking epidural stimulators that seem to have had stunning results on a handful of recipients.

So, Mr. Nichols is leveraging the support he's gotten from his community and the sports community to benefit others. He takes money generated by his events and gives it to the foundation. He feels obliged to do it because, as he puts it, he's been "lucky enough to have a little of the spotlight" shine on him since the accident.

He's been asked to speak to various groups and organizations about his life. He enjoys sharing his story. He speaks off the cuff and he speaks his mind. Often, his message is one of looking forward, not back.

He has a lot of friends in high places since the accident. He counts former Rutgers football player Eric LeGrand, who became paralyzed while making a tackle during a game in 2010, as a pal. Members of the Devils Alumni Association have stopped by his therapy sessions. Hockey legends Gordie Howe and Mike Eruzione sent him pictures and warm wishes. Rangers goalie Henrik Lundqvist sent an autographed jersey. NHL stars Derek Stepan and Ryan Johansen reached out to him on Twitter.

Then there was the morning he had breakfast with Jeremy Roenick, the third-highest scoring American-born player in NHL history. Mr. Roenick, who has since gone on to forge a successful career as a tell-it-like-it-is television analyst, encouraged Mr. Nichols to chase his dream of being an announcer – albeit a very opinionated one. It's a crowded field where one-year contracts are the norm and job security is often hard to find, but Mr. Nichols has his heart set on it.

"I would really love to give my opinion on things," Mr. Nichols said. "Some of them would definitely be controversial, like a Jeremy Roenick, but I'm definitely not going to be picky because I definitely would love to be the Rangers' play-by-play guy, also. I think that's the good thing about the field I'm going into is that I have a wide range of opportunities because anything with sports, I'm game. As long as it's not soccer."

Celebrating “Outer Nature” and Human Nature

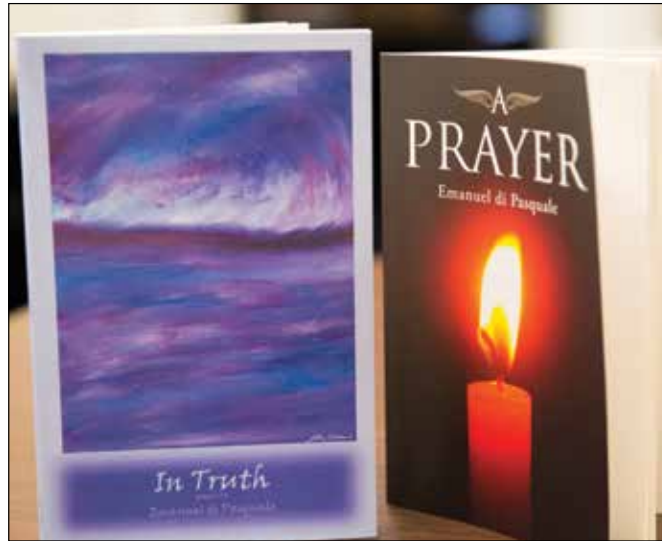
By Mat Spano '88
Professor of English and Associate Chair

It has been a busy and productive year for MCC Poet-in-Residence Emanuel di Pasquale. 2017 has seen the publication of not one but two new books of his poetry: “A Prayer” (Guernica Editions: Essential Poets Series) and “In Truth” (New York Quarterly Books). It’s no accident that “A Prayer” is included in the Essential Poets Series since it returns time and again to what Professor di Pasquale would call his peers in “the literary brotherhood.” Poems for William Butler Yeats, Ezra Pound, Li-Po, X.J. Kennedy, and others weave through this book of prayers, and these are indeed prayers – beautifully written, lyrical (occasionally mischievous) meditations honoring and evoking the poems and souls of these saints of the literary brotherhood. In some cases, Professor di Pasquale’s prayer evokes and honors the work of the poet and then enfolds that work into Professor di Pasquale’s own vision in what amounts to a literary embrace (or as Emanuel would say, “Big Hug”). The approach allows us to appreciate the influence of these literary forebears on his work while also allowing us to witness how he has transformed their influence into his own unique vision.

But Professor di Pasquale also includes prayers to many others besides his literary brethren. Musicians Bob Dylan and Rufus Payne, the great blues artist, make an appearance, as do lovers, colleagues, and even the tiny creatures that the poet also considers his kin: Raccoon Bob, Robin Redbreast, the Owl. There is a special prayer for each, and the book itself serves as a prayer for poetry – Professor di Pasquale performing his sacred office of keeping the candle of the lyrical brotherhood lit, an office captured beautifully in the cover image of a votive candle illuminating the darkness.

If “A Prayer” commemorates people, “In Truth” celebrates place. The poems here are more of what we would expect of the Sicilian-born Poet Laureate of Long Branch. Long Branch, Belmar, The Garden State Parkway, the state

of New Jersey serve as more than setting and backdrop; they are praised front and center in these lyrical gems. But



Professor di Pasquale is no regional poet, or, to put it another way, he is a regional poet in the same sense that Carl Sandburg was a regional poet for Chicago, or Walt Whitman was a regional poet for Brooklyn or Camden; that is, through the local he celebrates the country and the best of human nature. “On the Resurgence of Long Branch’s Boardwalk” shows the local community working as one to rebuild the lifeline of their city after the devastation of Superstorm Sandy:

“Women, men, hardhats, using their hands, their sturdy shoulders,
Riding machines like gods—
Unearthed broken rocks, cracked wood of ancient pylons—
Settled the earth down with powerful dirt, cement with steadying
Force of lava, supreme rocks, volcanic driven...”

As always, he drills down through the immediate experience to the universal and primal to celebrate outer nature as well as human nature. Complementing the poems of New Jersey is an equal number of poems about Sicily, and in these the poet again evokes the immediacy of the regional experience while at the same time folding it into the context of universal, natural beauty.

In some poems of Sicily, one might catch an image from, or allusion to, the Jersey shore, and in some about the Jersey shore, an occasional reference to Sicily. As “An Etruscan in New Jersey” makes clear, for Professor di Pasquale it is all of a piece – Nature becoming aware of Herself through the landscapes, living creatures and lives of everyday people in regions seemingly separated by time and space.

“A Prayer” and “In Truth” are the 15th and 16th books of original poetry by Emanuel di Pasquale, adding to an already impressive body of work and demonstrating that our Poet in Residence continues to grow as a creative force of nature, and to serve as a passionate and influential voice for the vital role of the humanities in our lives.

Of Campus & Commerce

By Nick DeMatteo



The Associated Construction Contractors of New Jersey (ACCNJ) works diligently to raise the business standards and safety practices of the construction community in New Jersey. Working together with labor, government and industry partners, the Association promotes the quality, integrity, skill and responsibility of its membership, who are responsible for billions of dollars in commercial, industrial, heavy, highway, utility and institutional construction projects annually. ACCNJ participates in labor relations and legislative affairs and facilitates the exchange of information necessary for



From left: Nick DeMatteo, Darlene Regina, the Association's chief operating officer, and Allan Mitch, who is teaching the Project Management class.

members to stay abreast of issues that directly affect construction.

Chief Operating Officer Darlene Regina emphasizes that education is an important component of the ACCNJ mission to promote individual and business improvement for its members. Educational programs, many of which are nationally endorsed by the Associated General Contractors of America, are offered routinely at the ACCNJ headquarters in Edison. These programs address industry specific topics such as safety and OSHA

compliance, insurance, business planning and a host of legal issues that affect their members' day-to-day operations.

ACCNJ recently began a partnership with Middlesex County College to broaden and strengthen educational outreach to members. Jill Schiff, executive director of operations at ACCNJ, worked with the Corporate Education and Training team at MCC and in the fall of 2016, MCC began offering a selection of Microsoft Office applications classes at ACCNJ's headquarters. That program is expanding this year to include Project Management training to prepare ACCNJ members who wish to pursue professional certification through the Project Management Institute.

The objective of the new programs delivered by MCC staff is to provide members' employees with additional educational opportunities by developing skills that are not industry-specific, enabling them to gain general skills. The intent is to provide new avenues for personal advancement while increasing employee value to the employer.

The MCC programs at ACCNJ have been very well received and the classes well attended. Feedback is overwhelmingly positive and attendees indicate they are receiving more than expected according to ACCNJ Communications Coordinator Deb Teall. She believes this program has helped improve the Association's relationship with members by creating opportunities for ACCNJ to interact with an entirely different segment of their members' workforce.

Formed by a merger of the Associated General Contractors of New Jersey and the Building Contractors Association of New Jersey in 2013, ACCNJ is the only New Jersey construction association representing commercial and public contractors in four industry segments – building, heavy, highway, and utility. Working together with MCC's Corporate Education and Training has enabled the Association to broaden the support it provides members, who are key to the success of New Jersey's construction community. This partnership provides a unique opportunity to offer more diverse educational programs while serving to strengthen the relationship between the Association and its membership.

Of Campus & Commerce is a column written by MCC's director of Corporate Education and Training, Nick DeMatteo. It addresses training issues at New Jersey's businesses and organizations. His email is NDeMatteo@middlesexcc.edu.

MCC and Georgian Court University Sign Transfer Agreement

Officials from MCC and Georgian Court University have signed a dual admissions agreement that will allow MCC graduates to transfer to GCU seamlessly and at a discounted tuition rate.

“The dual degree agreement creates pathways for MCC graduates in nearly all of our degree programs to transfer to bachelor’s degree programs at Georgian Court University,” said Joann La Perla-Morales, president of MCC. “In addition, Georgian Court will offer guaranteed tuition discounts – based on grade point average – for grads who enroll full time at its Lakewood campus. Discounts range from 20 percent for those with a GPA between 2.0 and 2.49, to 52 percent for those with a GPA of 3.75 and above. This is a wonderful opportunity for our graduates to attend a prestigious university at an affordable rate. In addition to the guaranteed discounted rate, students are eligible to receive other grants and scholarships offered by GCU.”

Justin G. Roy, dean of admissions at Georgian Court University, lauded the agreement.

“As two institutions who share similar educational missions, we’re proud and excited to partner with Middlesex County College to develop pathways for MCC graduates to seamlessly transfer to Georgian Court University,” he said. “While students can enroll in the dual degree program at any time during their tenure at MCC, both schools recommend doing it as early as possible. That way, Geor-

gian Court advisors can work with the students to ensure they are taking the correct courses and are prepared for the university.”

The new agreement signed by GCU President Joseph R. Marbach and Dr. La Perla-Morales reflects their shared commitment to providing meaningful, viable options for those pursuing higher education.

“We also know that affordability is of critical importance to all students, and especially so with adult learners looking to balance the demands of work, family and classes,” Dr. Marbach said.



From left: Dr. William J. Behre, provost, and Dr. Joseph R. Marbach, president, Georgian Court University; and Dr. Joann La Perla-Morales, president, and Dr. Mark McCormick, vice president for academic and student affairs, Middlesex County College.

Archive Seeks Donations of College Memorabilia

If you have any of the items listed below, or any other College-related material, please consider donating them to the MCC Archives. Contact information: MCC Archives, Middlesex County College Library, 2600 Woodbridge Avenue, Edison, NJ 08837; 732 906-2561; E-mail: middlesexarchives@gmail.com.

- Materials from Middlesex County Junior College (Perth Amboy or New Brunswick)
- Photographs of Raritan Arsenal from 1914 -1964
- Materials from Raritan Arsenal, i.e. maps, brochures, newspapers, etc.
- Posters or flyers of the Committee to Establish a Junior College in Middlesex County
- Film strips and slide show used by Board of Trustees to “sell” the College (1965)
- Application packet from December 1965
- “The Titanox News” circa November 1966 (containing an article on MCC)
- Freshman “beanie” from early years of the College
- “Pathfinder” caps from early years of the College
- Orientation packets
- Student diaries or accounts of MCC college life
- Materials from MCC sororities and fraternities
- Brochures from 1967 that accompanied the model of the future (1974) campus. The model was displayed in different locations throughout the county
- KCUF - underground MCC student newspaper published 1968-1969
- Sho-Nuff - MCC Afro-Boriqua Club publication of 1972
- Programs and tickets of MCC student theater, music and dance productions
- Programs and tickets of events held on campus
- Films of campus or events from 1965- 1985 (8mm, 16mm or super 8)
- First campus telephone directory
- Blue Cult – underground literary magazine first out Feb 1986 (not published under the auspices of Student Activities or any MCC group)

Empowering Leaders

*Program develops next generation
of women executives*

It was only seven days, but both Keri Murath and Barbara Roberts describe the New Leadership Program as a life-changing experience.

“It was more than I could ever have imagined,” Ms. Roberts said. “How can I phrase it best? It was infinity times infinity.”

New Leadership, held in June, is run by the Center for American Women in Politics, a unit of the Eagleton Institute at Rutgers University. It seeks to empower women to develop leadership skills and consider a career in politics and public service. The two were part of a group of 40 women who spent seven days immersed in leadership development.

Marla Brinson, dean of student affairs, said MCC has sent students to the program for four or five years.

“It is a wonderful opportunity for our women on campus,” she said. “For many of them it becomes a very transformational experience. It was a lot of work but it was very empowering.”

The group participated in workshops, visited the New Jersey State House, and acted out roles as they debated public controversies. The theme for that exercise was the pros and cons of requiring police officers to wear body cameras.

“It was a moving experience, more than I ever hoped for,” Ms. Murath said. “It was a feeling unlike any other.”

A political science major who will graduate in the spring



Keri Murath

of 2018, Ms. Murath wants to go into public service, with ambition to become a United States senator. Her focus is on energy sustainability.

She said the program was especially valuable because it brought together women leaders to interact with the students. She was particularly impressed with Meesha Poore, former member of the West Virginia House of Delegates and current president of the West Virginia State Bar; Emily Everson, deputy director of communications for the New Jersey Senate Republicans; and Loretta Weinberg, a member of the New Jersey State Senate and majority leader.

“This program was invaluable,” Ms. Murath said.

Ms. Roberts, who graduated in May from MCC and is now at Montclair State University, agreed that the program opened her eyes.

“It upped my ante on being a leader,” she said. “Nothing is impossible; that is what I learned.”

Her favorites included Sheila Oliver, member of the New Jersey Assembly; Arlene Quinones-Perez, a partner with a major law firm in Teaneck and a former aide to the governor; and Amani Al-Khatahtbeh, the founder and editor in chief of “Muslim Girl.”

“I met a lot of great people there,” Ms. Roberts said. “It was a fantastic opportunity.”

Ms. Murath said empowering women to take leadership roles is especially important.

“One of the things they kept telling us was, ‘If you don’t have a seat at the table, then you’re on the menu.’”



Barbara Roberts

A Return to Capuana

Prof again translates work of Sicilian author

Her name is Fasma, and she is a fictional character in one of Luigi Capuana's novellas. She is buying a ticket for a train trip in 19th century Italy, and is noticed by the narrator of the story. He is fascinated by her; they meet on the train and discover they are both searching for something. She is a lost soul and he hopes to be her rescuer. They end up living under the same roof in his rented country villa.

But there are complications.

"The emotions of the human heart are so complicated that when we start to untangle them the process never ends," Capuana writes.



This tale is one of six in "Profiles of Women," Capuana's first complete full-length work, published in 1877 and translated by Middlesex Professor Santi Buscemi. Each story features a woman and an unnamed male narrator.

"It consists of six different women and their relationships with what we think is six different men," Professor Buscemi said. "But it turns out it really isn't six different men, it's the same man – Capuana's persona."

Professor Buscemi said Capuana explored the inner thoughts of both men and women with clarity.

"In the preface, Capuana tells you that his stories come out of the misty region of his consciousness about women that he knows," Professor Buscemi said. "And they're very interesting stories. Capuana was a master of psychology. He inhabited the minds of both men and women."

Professor Buscemi is an expert on the life of Capuana, the father of "verismo," the literary philosophy that maintains that humans are pawns of outside influence – economic, political, social, biological – that leaves little room for free will.

This is Professor Buscemi's fourth Capuana translation. His first was "C'era una volta," a collection of fairy tales under the English title "Sicilian Tales," which was followed by "The Marquis of Roccaverdina" and "Nine Sicilian Plays by Luigi Capuana Translated from Sicilian into English."

"Profiles of Women" was the precursor to Capuana's first novel, "Giacinta," which was published two years later. The translation of that work is next on Professor Buscemi's agenda.

"I find him to be a fascinating author," he said.



MCC commemorated 9/11 with Patriot Day, which memorialized those killed on September 11, 2001, as well as honoring the military and first responders. Members of the MCC Veterans Services Center raised the flag. From left: Joel Santana, Brian Vinogradov and Matthew Kleman. Mr. Kleman read a poem called "The Eleventh of September" by Roger J. Robicheau, and student veteran Amanda Janiga read the September 11th proclamation from President Trump. Hyung Yun, a singer with the New York Metropolitan Opera, sang the National Anthem.

Student Completes Online Workshop; Scores NASA Visit

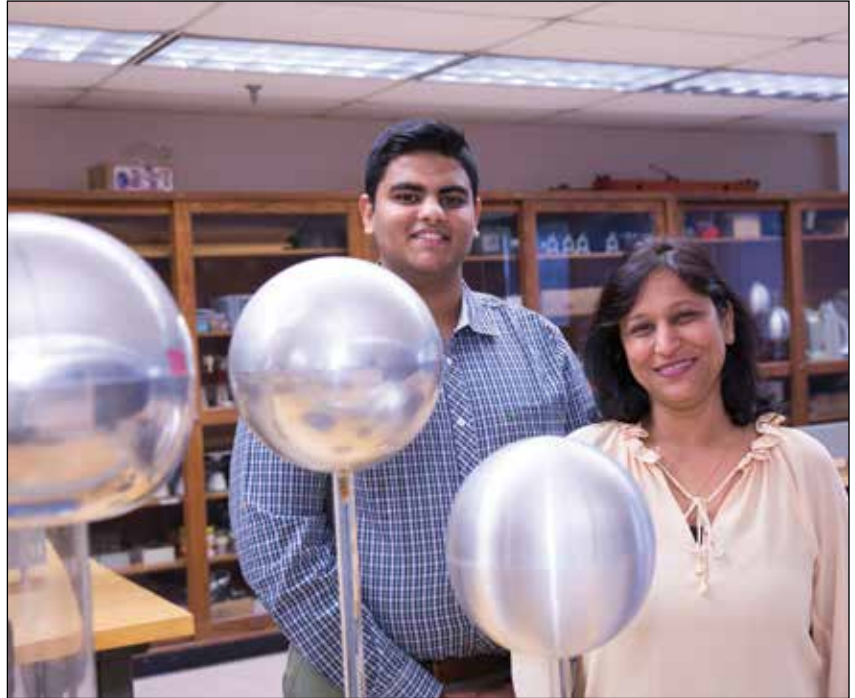
Bharg Shah '17 was a precocious 6-year-old in elementary school in India when he heard his principal over the loudspeaker with a very special opportunity. He announced a program that would send two dozen of the young students to a NASA research center in the United States.

Bharg was heartbroken when he learned he couldn't go.

But two of his friends did, and they returned with stories and photos that fueled the second grader's desire to learn as much as he could about science and visit NASA.

Twelve years later, that dream will come true this fall.

Mr. Shah, a 2017 MCC graduate in Engineering Sciences and Mathematics, was part of the NASA Community College Scholars program, conducted by the University of Oklahoma, in which he took on online course for six weeks. He scored a 96 percent in the class and was then offered the opportunity to go to the NASA Research Center in Langley, VA for a four-day workshop. The visit will reinforce what the students learned in the class, plus discuss scholarship and



Bharg Shah with Professor Meenu Jain.

internship opportunities. He will also build a robot.

"When I get to NASA, I have to program and build a robot that will work on Mars," he said. "This is a dream come true."

He is now at Rutgers and hopes to go into automobile aerodynamics.

While at MCC, Mr. Shah was vice president of the STEM club and a peer tutor in the Learning Science Center and in the Veterans Center.

"He is a very sincere student," said Professor Meenu Jain. "He was in two of my classes and is a terrific student. I am very proud of him and predict he will be very successful."

Arts Scholarship Recipient

Courtney Rohrig, a fine arts major, received the Angelo Orlando scholarship from the Edison Arts Society. Named for the society's founder, the scholarship is for \$600.

"Courtney is an exemplary student, working hard in her studio and art history classes," said Professor Susan Altman. "Her interests lie in both the studio and in art history and she is working to develop the connections between both disciplines. Her contributions to class discussion showed her intelligence and ability to think critically about issues related to art practice in the 21st Century."



From left: Courtney Rohrig; Gloria Dittman, president of the Edison Arts Society; and Annie Hogan, chair of the Department of Visual, Performing and Media Arts.

FOUNDATION REPORT

Foundation provides \$1.1 Million in Scholarship and Grant Support

The MCC Foundation thanks its loyal donors in helping provide financial opportunities to qualified students to attend Middlesex County College and fulfill their educational and career goals. In academic year 2016-17, 591 scholarships were awarded to 412 students, totaling \$740,000. In addition, \$360,000 was provided to the College for special programs and initiatives. Since 1967, the MCC Foundation has distributed more than \$13 million in scholarships, financial aid and grants to more than 15,000 deserving students. This support has been made possible by generous contributions from alumni, faculty, staff, friends and the business community in Middlesex County.

All gifts make a difference! Some are noted here.

Scholarship Support

Nayan and Bindu Dalal have established the **Dalal Family Foundation Endowed Scholarship** with a commitment of \$30,000 from the Dalal Family Foundation. The scholarship will provide financial assistance to students majoring in Liberal Arts-Business, Marketing, Management, and Fashion Merchandising & Retail Management with a minimum GPA of 3.25 and financial need.

Dottie David-Wilson and Dottie Planeta, wife and daughter, respectively, of Michael J. David-Wilson, former executive director of the MCC Foundation, have established the **Michael J. David-Wilson Memorial Scholarship**



Several members of the Zifchak family generously continued their support of Education majors through the Josephine Zifchak Memorial Annual Scholarship. Robert Zifchak (L) and Janet Riha (R) with recipient Daniela Ceballos Marulanda and Thomas Prokopiak at the 2016 Annual Scholarship Reception.



Wells Fargo Foundation renewed its support of the **Wells Fargo Regional Foundation Annual Scholarship** with a gift of \$10,000. Established in 2005, the scholarship is awarded to full-time, second-year students majoring in Business. Wells Fargo representatives Kritida Dharia (L) and Abbas Kazmi (R) with recipients Guanjie Huang and Ana Lima at the 2016 Annual Scholarship Reception. One student recipient, Jagnaudh Bhatia, wrote: "Your kind help brings me one step closer to the career of my dreams."

ship to honor his service to MCC. The scholarship will be awarded to students majoring in Nursing, with preference given to those who are parents. Special consideration will be given to current/former members of the U.S. Marine Corps and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Raritan Bay Medical Center Foundation at Hackensack Meridian Health renewed its support to the **Joseph & Dorothy Doll Annual Scholarship** for 2017-18. The scholarship is awarded to a Nursing major with a minimum 2.5 GPA and financial need. Recipient Javeria Shahid wrote: "This award came at a time when I needed it most. Because of your generosity I was able to focus more on my education."

Dr. Christine Harrington continues to support the **Student Success 101 Research Poster Contest** with a contribution of \$2,600 for 2017-18. Students enrolled in the Fall semester Student Success course may elect to compete in the extracurricular research poster contest and be eligible to receive an award.

“You have changed someone’s life for the better. Thanks for helping me and other students get closer to reaching our goals and becoming what we aspire to be one day.”

Deeana Ulyak

Recipient of the Robert Sydney Needham Foundation Scholarship

The M&T Charitable Foundation provided a gift of \$5,000 to fund the **M&T Bank Annual Scholarship**. Established in 2016, the scholarship provides assistance to five students majoring in Accounting, Business or Legal Studies with financial need and a minimum 3.0 GPA. Student recipient Nasly Romero wrote: “Because of your generosity, I could assume the challenge of growing academically, beginning my classes and continuing to study harder.”

The **Robert Sydney Needham Foundation** has provided support of \$10,000 to help alleviate one student’s financial burdens and allow the recipient to focus on his/her studies. The Robert Sydney Needham Foundation is managed by Wells Fargo Wealth Management. Student recipient Deeana Ulyak wrote: “Even though it may not seem so at first, you have changed someone’s life for the better. Thanks for helping me and other students get closer to reaching our goals and becoming what we aspire to be one day.”

The Neuwiesinger Foundation Corporation established the **Neuwiesinger Foundation Annual Scholarship** with a gift of \$9,000 to be awarded to Biology or Biotechnology majors with demonstrated financial need. Preference is given to students wishing to pursue a career in medical research.

Southpole Foundation Inc. continued its long commitment to MCC students with a gift of \$14,000 to renew the **Southpole Foundation Annual Scholarships** for 2017-18. The scholarship is awarded to full-time students with demonstrated financial need and a minimum 3.0 GPA. Student recipient Neil Doscher wrote: “Because of this generous scholarship, I’m able to work fewer hours and focus on my studies at MCC.”

The **Theivakumar Family Endowed Scholarship** has been established with a gift of \$26,368 from alumnus Thevan Theivakumar ’82. Mr. Theivakumar enrolled at MCC just days after arriving from Sri Lanka, and feels indebted to the College for providing him with an education and a stepping stone to a successful future. His career included 10 years of employment at MCC prior to joining New York Life where he is senior partner. Mr. Theivakumar and his wife, Ruby, have chosen to support MCC’s students and plan to continue to add to the endowed fund, thus strengthening the number of students who will benefit from their philanthropy.



BAPS Charities harnesses the efforts and collective spirit of volunteers around the world to serve individuals, families and communities in five key areas: Community Empowerment, Educational Services, Environmental Protection & Preservation, Health & Wellness, and Humanitarian Relief. Funding of \$2,500 – raised from the BAPS Charities Walk Green 2017 – was donated to the MCC Foundation toward establishing the **BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha Endowed Scholarship**. From left: Freeholder Shanti Narra; College President Joann La Perla-Morales, Marc Citron, Esq., JFK Foundation board; MCC Trustee Praful Raja; and J. Scott Gebhard, JFK Medical Center chief operating officer.

Provident Bank Foundation has once again generously renewed its Mission Partner support for 2017-18, which includes recognition as the presenter of the 2017 Annual Scholarship Reception and Casino Host at the 7th Annual Casino Night. In the past, The Provident Bank Foundation established the **Provident Bank Foundation Endowed Scholarship** and the **John P. Mulkerin Endowed Scholarship** and has provided Mission Partner support since 2004. Student recipient Ana Lima wrote: “By awarding me the John P. Mulkerin Endowed Scholarship, you have inspired me to thrive as a student and to continue with my education.”

Dayanna Guerrero wrote: “The Provident Bank Endowed Scholarship came at a time when I needed it most. Because of your generosity, I was able to concentrate more on my studies, reduce work hours and make my family proud.”



The New Brunswick Rotary Club Foundation made a gift of \$1,000 to the **Rotary Club of New Brunswick Scholarship Fund** to be awarded to U.S. military veterans who have been discharged under honorable conditions, active service members or current members of the National Guard or reserves. Justin Footerman of New Brunswick Rotary Club with Nada Kandil at the 2016 Annual Scholarship Reception.

Program/Grant Support

MCC Foundation Trustee Saul Fink and Tracy Fink have founded the **Saul and Tracy Fink Science Learning Center Endowed Fund** with a pledge of \$25,000. The Center will help students develop proficiency with scientific equipment, critical thinking and problem-solving skills, study strategies, and the confidence to succeed in conceptually difficult science courses.

Betty Wold Johnson and Trustees of The Willard T.C. Johnson Foundation have pledged to continue their support of the Center for Veterans Services with a three-year grant of \$450,000. The Center provides assistance to military-affiliated students with enrollment, testing, advising, tutoring and academic support, readjustment and rehabilitation counseling, and referral services. In addition, the Center has developed a specialized recruitment and



The Margaret and Peter Chang Foundation’s contribution of \$12,000 to the **Margaret Chang Scholarship Fund** will continue to provide assistance to graduates of New Brunswick High School. Established in 2014, the scholarship has enabled 10 deserving students to attend MCC. David Foltz, president and trustee, and Gloria Rahn, vice president and trustee of the Margaret and Peter Chang Foundation, with 2016-17 recipients Scott Ortega, Nafisa Ortez and Gisselle Hernandez at the 2016 Annual Scholarship Reception. Ms. Ortez wrote: “This award will serve as a reminder that hard work and dedication truly pay off. I have received an extra amount of encouragement to keep studying and finding my passion.”

marketing program to military-affiliated students, offers workshops to enhance study skills, and provides career counseling and job placement assistance. Student recipient Nada Kandil wrote: “The Veteran’s office has done everything in its power to assist me and find a way where I can get my tuition taken care of. This makes me feel proud to go to a school that cares so much about its students.”

Unrestricted Possibilities For MCC Students!

The MCC Foundation thanks the many loyal contributors to this past year’s Annual Fund. Donations to the unrestricted Annual Fund help the MCC Foundation fulfill its mission of providing scholarships for students, and raising funds for select College programs.

Consider supporting the 2017-2018 Annual Fund and help provide *Unrestricted Possibilities* for students!

Please make your gift online at www.mcc-foundation.org or call 732-906-2564 to pay by credit card. Checks made payable to the Middlesex County College Foundation may be mailed to 2600 Woodbridge Avenue, Edison, NJ 08837. Thank You!



Denise Krisza renewed her commitment for the **Julia B. Krisza Memorial Scholarship** with a pledge of \$1,200 established in memory of her mother-in-law. The scholarship is awarded to second-year students majoring in Radiography with financial need. Standing L-R, Denise Krisza, Michael Krisza, Professor James Ferrell with 2016-17 Julia B. Krisza Memorial Scholarship recipient Danielle Davis (sitting L) and Priya Patel at the 2016 Annual Scholarship Reception. Ms. Davis wrote: “I appreciate your confidence and willingness to help me achieve my goals with your financial generosity.”



The **Anjali Ghosh Memorial Endowed Scholarship** is being established with a pledge of \$25,000 from Dr. Phalguni Ghosh. It extends the assistance provided through the Anjali Ghosh Memorial Annual Scholarship to students majoring in Natural Sciences with a minimum GPA of 3.5. Dr. Ghosh with 2016-17 scholarship recipient Sindhu Murthy at the 2016 Annual Scholarship Reception. She wrote: “Your scholarship has allowed me to enroll in extra classes this semester which will enable me to complete my degree faster. It has made me more confident in approaching my educational goals and I feel more hopeful than ever in achieving the same.”

Mission Partners

Our Mission Partners enhance the MCC Foundation’s resources and help it meet the challenge of providing financial opportunities for students to fulfill their educational and career goals:

Johnson & Johnson

Investors Foundation

The Provident Bank Foundation

Robert Wood Johnson
University Hospital

Stewart Business Systems

LUCKY 7's

7th Annual
Casino Night

Friday, February 23, 2018
5:30 p.m.

\$77 ticket - starts you with \$50 in chips
(Must be 21 years of age)

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ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

“Never Give Up,” Says Nursing Grad Madonna Anya

By Kim Silva-Martinez '14

Most MCC students hold down jobs while attending school. Some even work full time. One such dedicated soul is Madonna Anya '17, who graduated with honors from MCC, and then went on to Felician University and earned a BSN.

“Juggling school and work was difficult,” Ms. Anya said. She took quite a circuitous path to these achievements, and credits MCC with giving her the confidence to accomplish her goals.

Like many high school seniors, Ms. Anya wasn't sure what she wanted to do, which is why she initially chose MCC. She said it allowed her to explore different fields.



“I finally realized I wanted to become a nurse,” she said. Students benefit from the flexibility at MCC, and Ms. Anya was able to focus on a specific area of study that interested her. Plus, the tuition was affordable since she was concerned about the cost of a traditional university education. MCC prepared Ms. Anya for transfer to a four-year college, financially and

academically. “At MCC, I honed the study skills I needed to succeed,” she said.

Ms. Anya's journey was at times tough and disheartening, but she persevered. Like many successful individuals, a true test of character is revealed when presented with daunting obstacles, like Ms. Anya's work schedule. She did not begin her shift at 9 a.m. but, instead, ended work at this time! And she didn't get to go home and sleep. After being up all night, she would rush to a 10 a.m. Pre-Calculus class.

At first, she was not accepted into MCC's competitive nursing program. That disappointment could have ended her studies, but instead she vowed to work twice as hard. Ms. Anya's determination and ambition kept her going, along with the support and encouragement she received at MCC. So despite working all night, being initially rejected, and balancing a demanding course load, Ms. Anya did not give up. When she applied a second time, she was accepted. She was also awarded a scholarship, and graduated from Felician in May 2017 in the top 10 percent of her class.

Now she had one more test to take to fulfill her dream of becoming a registered nurse. Again, Ms. Anya succeeded, recently passing the nursing exam required to earn the designation “R.N.” She plans to continue her education in the future, but wants to gain some work experience. As someone who could have easily been discouraged by her circumstances, Ms. Anya grew stronger by being challenged. Choosing MCC to begin her career proved to be an auspicious decision.



Robert Giorgi '16 received the 2017 Recent Alumnus of the Year award at the MCC Alumni Association's annual dinner meeting in June. The award honors an alumnus who has graduated from MCC within the past 10 years. Mr. Giorgi, an Army veteran who was very active in the Veterans and Servicemembers Association, Earth Science Club, Phi Theta Kappa, and Quo Vadis, is now attending Columbia University. He graduated from MCC in 2016. He is flanked by College President Joann La Perla-Morales (left) and Alumni Association President Dorothy Bitetto '69.

AlumNotes

Michael Cherson '77 (Engineering) is a blogger for "Musings by Jumpin' Jersey Mike."

Charles Seeman '85 (Accounting) continued his education at Delaware Valley University in Doylestown, PA. Upon graduating with a BA in Accounting, he passed the CPA exam and earned a Master's in Accounting and a Master of Business Administration. He is currently in the process of completing a Doctorate of Philosophy in Advanced Accounting. Charles plans to complete the defense of his dissertation later this year. He married Beverly Tesh in 1986 and has held positions in finance for several companies.

Donna Volpe '85 (Nursing) received a Bachelor's and a Master's of Science degree from Thomas Edison State University. In addition, she completed a Doctor of Nursing Practice at Penn State University. Currently she is an instructor in nursing at Penn State Worthington Scranton. In 2013, Donna joined the College of Nursing as an instructor after having been an adjunct instructor for five years. She teaches nursing fundamentals, obstetrics and mental health nursing, as well as an array of RN to BS courses. She is board-certified in perinatal nursing and is certified as a nurse educator.



Jelmin Caba '96

Jelmin Caba '96 (Advertising Graphics Design) attended the School of Visual Arts in New York. Jelmin is the newly elected city councilman of Perth Amboy. He is also the first Dominican to hold an elected position in the city. Born in La Vega Province of the Dominican Republic in 1973, he immigrated to the U.S. in 1977. Jelmin has deep, strong roots in Perth Amboy, and is striving to empower his community

through activism and volunteerism. He serves on the Perth Amboy Recreation Advisory Committee, the Perth Amboy Municipal Alliance, is a member of the Kearny Cottage and has volunteered as an instructor for several Perth Amboy recreation programs. He has also served his community as president of the Latin-American Softball League for 10 years. As a community leader with experience in different fields and currently working for the Perth Amboy Board of Education, Jelmin hopes to bring change and energy to the Perth Amboy City Council.

James Teufel '96 (Social Science) is the director of the Public Health Program and an assistant professor of Public Health at Moravian College in Bethlehem, PA. James is a leader in analyzing and reporting on the social return on investment of medical-legal partnerships. He has over 15 years of professional experience in the areas of public health, medical-legal partnerships, evaluation, healthcare, psychology and aging. He has been employed by community-based organizations, healthcare systems, research institutes, and institutions of higher education. James is also an expert in the intersection of health and civil justice in the United States.

Tara Canavera '15 (Sociology) graduated Summa Cum Laude from Kean University with a double major in Sociology and Psychology in 2017. She has now begun the Master of Social Work program and works as an academic specialist in the Admissions Office at Kean University.

Heather Ziemba '15 (Psychology) graduated from Rutgers University in 2017 with a Bachelor's degree in Psychology. She is currently enrolled in a doctoral program at Rutgers Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology, where she also works as a research assistant for the Psychology Department.

Luz Ramirez '17 (Liberal Arts) is currently pursuing a career in social work. "Middlesex opened the doors of a new life for me," she said.



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Join the MCC Alumni Group on LinkedIn. Network with Alumni who have diverse professional and personal experiences and resources.



A Harvey Hero

To most New Jerseyans, the wreckage of Hurricane Harvey is mostly sorrowful images on TV and sad stories in the newspaper.

For Maria De La Cruz '04, it is her reality.

Ms. De La Cruz is the special assistant to the director of the Houston Health Department. Not only was she a witness to the devastation there, she is also part of the response team that is helping the city recover, which will likely take three to five years.

"It was very, very massive," she said of the hurricane. "It covered all of Houston. When I went to Middlesex, I lived in Carteret, and it took me 20 minutes to get to school. In Houston it can take an hour-and-a-half to get from one side of the city to another. Houston is huge."

Ms. De La Cruz said the Health Department was prepared for the disaster but the size and intensity of the hurricane was unexpected.

"Just a month earlier, we practiced setting up a fake shelter, not thinking it would happen," she said. "We knew the week of the storm that it was brewing and we were notified to be ready. Then it hit. But no one realized how hard it was going to be."

The Red Cross established a shelter at the George R. Brown Convention Center on Saturday, August 26; she was at the shelter the next day.

The Health Department had food inspectors making sure what they were serving was safe; epidemiologists were preventing the spread of disease; officials set up hospital units, saw clients with emergency medical needs, secured wheelchairs for patients who needed them, and made sure patients who needed dialysis were able to get to their appointments.

"Two days in we knew we were going to have to be there for a while, so we set up a social service area where people could apply for FEMA aid," she said. "The city got free

Alumna helping Houston recover from massive hurricane

taxi rides for those who had a safe and dry place to go to, and FEMA offered hotel vouchers."

Moving people out of the shelter was a priority because the convention center had 5500 cots but on the first and second day saw over 10,000 people come in.

Ms. De La Cruz was the operations lead and coordinated health department personnel as they responded.

Make no mistake, it was a tragedy. But the community pulled together.

"The spirit of the people was incredible," she said. "Men would give up their cot for a pregnant woman. One group was waiting for transportation for dialysis late at night, but were told they'd have to come back the next morning. My people arranged transportation for them home. They all left together and I assumed they were all family."

Nope. One woman just offered her house to several strangers.

"It was an amazing experience," Ms. De La Cruz said almost exactly one month after Harvey hit. "I'm still trying to recover and get some sleep. But it

was incredible how everyone was working together. It was so amazing to see the health department come together. Many of them had their own problems because of Harvey, but they were all there helping other people. They were doing whatever they could to help others."

For the first five days, she worked 17-hour shifts.

"I feel like Harvey's been my life," she said. "But you'd be surprised at how able you can be," she said. "The need was so great. You just had to respond."

And there's still much to do. Trash is everywhere; some of the homes still have water in them a month later, which is a concern because of mold growth.

"Our biggest issue is housing," she said. "Our priority is senior citizens, individuals with disabilities and the medically fragile."

Ms. De La Cruz graduated from MCC, transferred to The College of New Jersey and then went to Baruch College as a National Urban Fellow. Part of her 14-month Master's program was full-time work at a nonprofit or government site around the country. She was placed in Houston.

And she fell in love with the city and remains so.

"I love the people and I love what I do," she said.



Maria De La Cruz

The Houston Health Foundation has established the Texans Take Care Now Fund.

Visit houstonhealthfoundation.org for more information and to donate.

SPORTS UPDATE



Scott Ortega # 12
Miguel Estevez #2



Karim Elshoubary
heads the ball

It's still early for fall sports, but signs are promising.

The **Men's Soccer** team is a very young team. They have played some tough competition early on, and expect a strong finish to the season.

The **Cross Country** team started the season off great with a 6th place finish at the Monmouth Cross Country open. They are getting ready for Region XIX championships that take place on October 28th in Delaware.

Women's Soccer team has had some close calls in their early part of the season. They lost in overtime to 9th ranked Brookdale 4-3 but beat Ocean in overtime. The squad is now 4-2-1. They too expect a strong finish as the season progresses.

Volleyball has won two out of the last three matches and are optimistic about a playoff appearance.

10 Student-Athletes Named to All-Academic Team

Ten MCC student-athletes were named to the National Junior College Athletic Conference All Academic Team last spring. Those named to the second team have a grade point average between 3.80 and 3.99; those on the third team between 3.60 and 3.79. MCC did not have any first team members, whose GPA is 4.0.

"We're very proud of our student-athletes who have excelled both in their sports and in the classroom," said Carey Monkowski, assistant athletic director. "In addition, our softball team and the women's track and field squad

received honorable mentions for the entire team, as their combined GPAs were 3.0 or better."

The individual athletes honored include: Aly Jouejati, men's soccer, second team; Aniko Chapman, softball, second team; Carly Kjersgaard, softball, second team; Emma Amaya, women's soccer, third team; Frances Hernandez, volleyball, third team; Joshua Guarnera, baseball, third team; Kali Snook, volleyball, second team; Lucia Cagnani, women's soccer, second team; Melissa Ciaccio, women's soccer, second team; and Michelle Gebhardt, softball, third team.

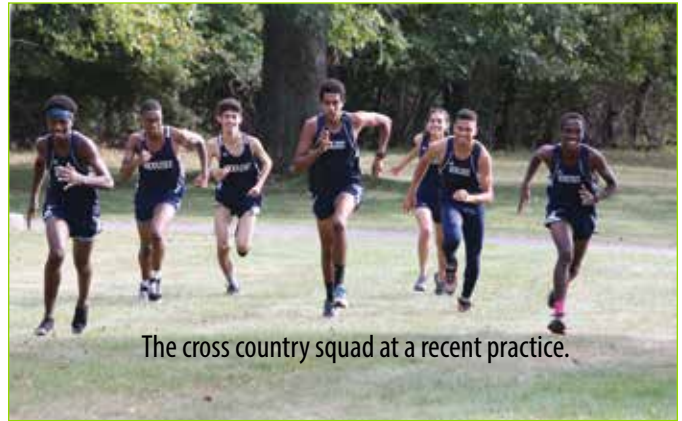
Sarah Jackson



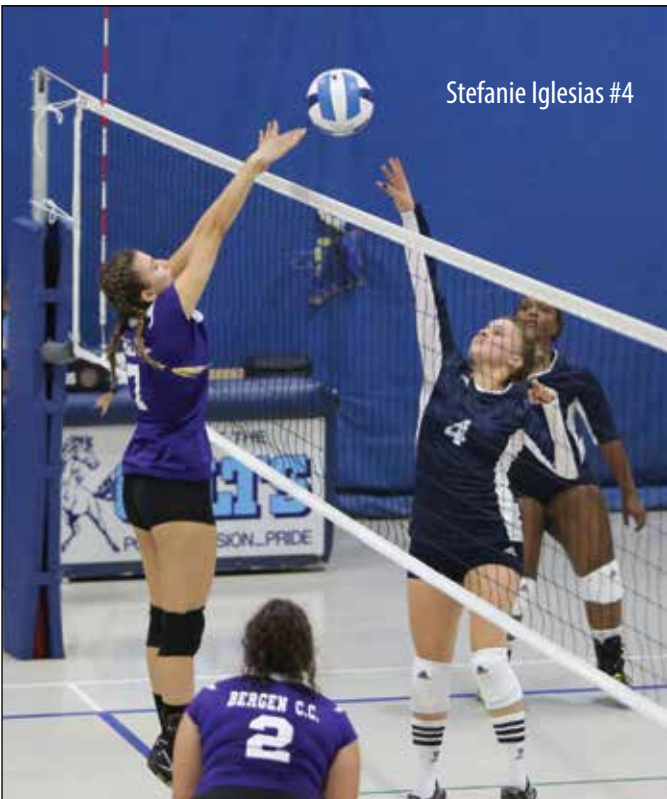
Casey Olsommer



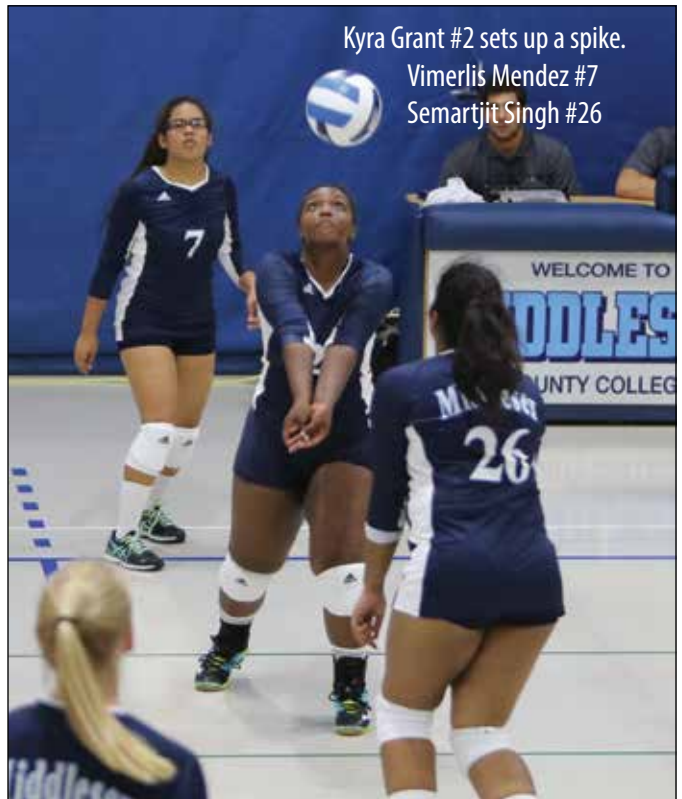
The cross country squad at a recent practice.



Stefanie Iglesias #4



Kyra Grant #2 sets up a spike.
Vimerlis Mendez #7
Semartjit Singh #26



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Change Service Requested



When recruiting students for your club, it always helps to wear a costume. Here, a member of the Geek Life Index promotes the organization at the Student Life Fair.