

MIDDLESEX
COUNTY COLLEGE

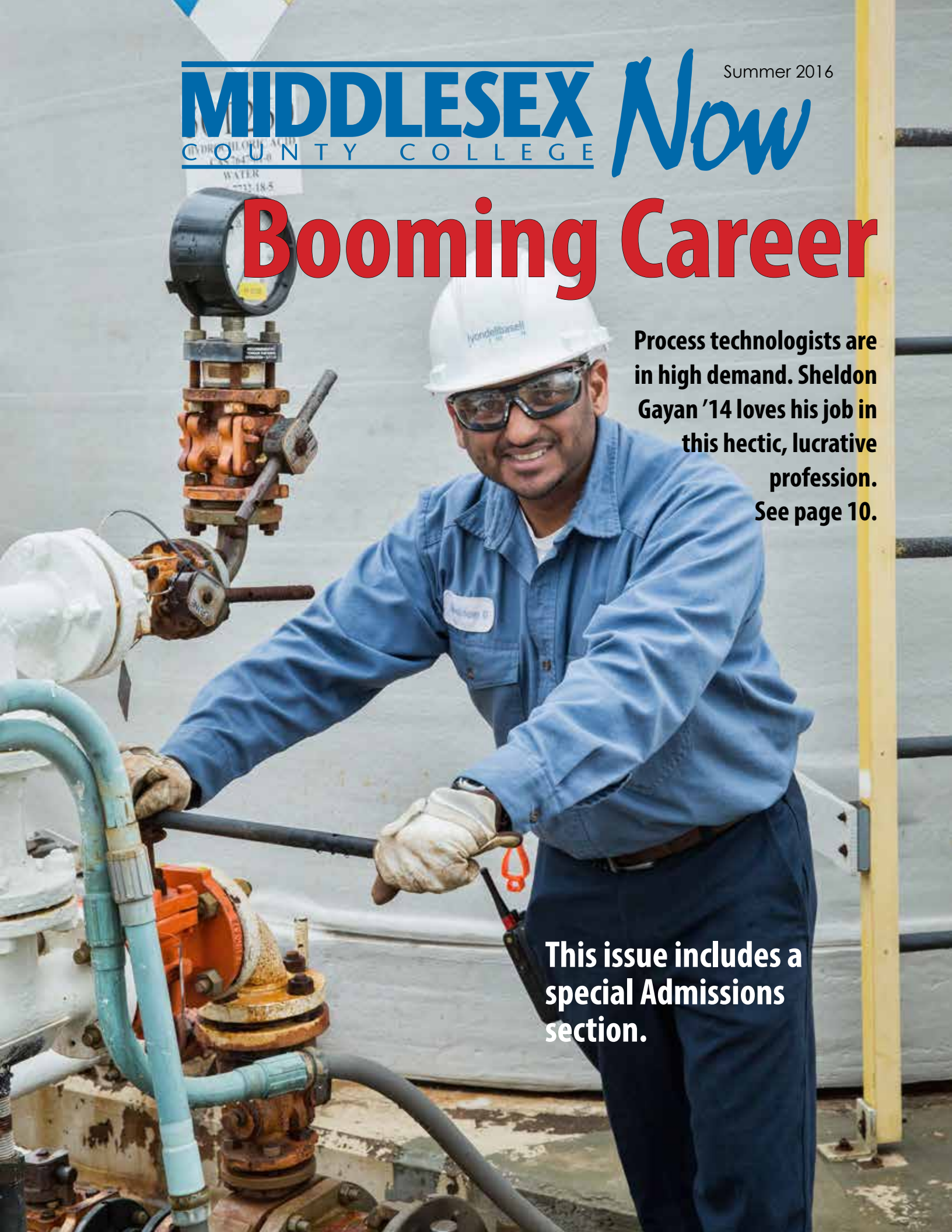
Summer 2016

Now

Booming Career

Process technologists are in high demand. Sheldon Gayan '14 loves his job in this hectic, lucrative profession. See page 10.

This issue includes a special Admissions section.



CAMPUS NEWS



Above, Ben Werb gives a child a lesson on fossils while at right, Professor Claire Condie helps kids dig for shark's teeth, which they were able to keep.



You're Never Too Young to Go to College!

MCC hosted every public second grade class in Edison during the spring semester. The kids had lunch at the College and then were treated to a tour of the campus and a special activity, including music and dance, art, getting involved in the community, career planning, and a science program. "Rocks, Dinosaurs, Fossils and Fun" was organized by the MCC Earth Science Club and allowed the second graders to dig for fossils, make Stegosaurus hats, and learn about life millions of years ago when dinosaurs roamed the earth.

MIDDLESEX *Now* COUNTY COLLEGE

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6 Students Receive NASA Grants to Conduct Research

A trip into space may not be in their immediate plans, but six Middlesex County College students are still in NASA's orbit. They are benefiting from NASA scholarships designed to increase their research abilities.

Each are receiving \$5,000 stipends from the New Jersey Space Grant Consortium to conduct research with professors at MCC. Four started their research in the fall and finished this spring. The other two began in January and will conclude at the end of the summer.

"The students are working on various topics," said Parag Muley, chair of the Natural Sciences Department. "They are all excellent students; we are very proud of their accomplishments."

Sarah Schneider was one of the participants.

"My project was on coordination compounds, which are metals with multiple ligands attached to them," she said. "I'm working specifically with Cobalt 3 compounds and studying the rates of certain reactions. Research in this area can potentially help cure disease."

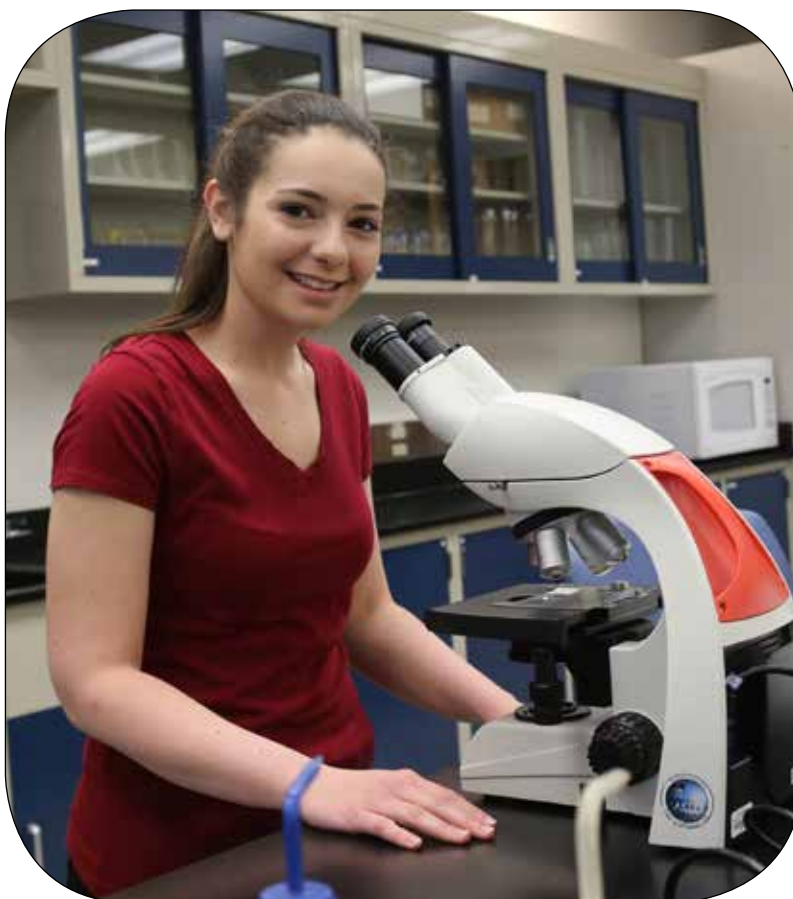
Phalguni Ghosh, assistant chair of the Natural Sciences Department, said Ms. Schneider was one of the students who presented their work at a conference this spring.

"She did some molecular-level analysis," he said. "She has done an excellent piece of work."

Dr. Ghosh said the research class has allowed students to improve their critical thinking skills in interpreting scientific data; integrate lab skills into the project; develop scientific literature skills; and help improve public speaking abilities.

Another student, Danielle Caruso, is working at JFK Hospital in its neuroscience lab, studying how cancer cells grow.

Samuel Wiczerzak is working on examining the life of medication in the bloodstream. Once you take a



medication, the liver starts rejecting it.

"How do you hide this drug long enough before your liver destroys it?" Dr. Muley asked.

Other projects include Denna Lessing using petrographic analysis to investigate climate change and natural resources in the state; Amy Walczak is looking at the effects of variables on respiratory cycles; and Joseph Cruz is examining blood pressure and caffeine research.

"These are top-notch students doing original research," Dr. Muley said. "Many of their projects have real-world implications."

Danielle Caruso (above) and Sarah Schneider are two of the students receiving NASA grants.





From left: Christine Harrington, Teaching Excellence award winner; Mark McCormick, vice president for academic and student affairs; Susan Altman, Scholar award winner; College President Joann La Perla-Morales; Patricia Kiernan '05, Adjunct award winner; and Ronald Goldfarb, special assistant to the president and member of the Council for Adjunct Faculty Development.

Outstanding Profs Receive Awards for Teaching, Scholarship

Three outstanding professors at Middlesex County College were honored this spring: Susan Altman, professor of fine art, was selected as the 2016 Faculty Scholar; Christine Harrington, of the History and Social Sciences Department, received the Excellence in Teaching Award; and Patricia Kiernan '05, of the Mathematics Department, received the Excellence in Teaching Part Time Award.

Professor Altman has done extensive research on digital technologies in studio art.

“What was most impressive was her implementation of Adobe Creative Suite and her studio research on a pioneering new technique using electricity in the etching process instead of traditional chemicals that had a negative impact on the environment,” said Mat Spano, a member of the selection committee. “She also cites her familiarity with the SOTL (Scholarship of Teaching and Learning) research in her discipline as well as her contributions to shaping that research by way of critical reviews and papers and presentations of her own. Professor Altman has also found ways to apply this scholarship to her classroom and studio teaching. This is demonstrated by her use of writing for critical thinking in the classroom by way of teaching students to write critiques of artworks, a strategy that she researched and developed further resulting in the publication of an article in *Issues of Education at Community Colleges*.”

Dr. Harrington “is truly a master teacher among master teachers,” Dr. Spano said. “She effectively channels all

of her research and publications in pedagogy and the psychology of learning into her lectures, lesson plans, activities and assignments. The effortless way in which she seems to have integrated her years of research into her teaching philosophy is quite impressive. She makes it look easy, but those of us who know the breadth and depth of her research as well as the many challenges involved in reaching our student population appreciate her achievement in classroom teaching. In particular, we applaud her skillful implementation of scaffolding, writing-to-learn activities, collaborative learning (the way it should be done), motivational techniques, support systems, and formative assessment. A master teacher has the ability, the experience, and the versatility to reach multiple audiences and guide them to the learning outcomes. Professor Harrington does all of this, and more.”

Patricia Kiernan is a proponent of the “flipped classroom” approach, in which the students watch video lectures on their own time via the internet, and then come to class to work with their professor on assignments.

“She seems to understand the purpose of the flipped approach as evidenced by her clear, concise video lectures, embedded with quizzes, and active-learning in-class activities rooted in practical and creative problem-solving,” Dr. Spano said. “She also has students demonstrate core concepts for their peers. She strives to understand the students’ perspective and challenges and uses this as the starting point for her lesson plans.”

School Spirit Day allowed students to blow off some steam as the spring semester came to a close. The program featured carnival games, tug of war and good food. At right, students won prizes by sinking baskets; below, the men's basketball team was one of the participants in tug-of-war; and below right, Ode Hoppie, assistant director of student activities, rang the bell in the strongman competition.



Transfer Agreement Signed with Pontifical Catholic of Puerto Rico

Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico (PUCPR) and Middlesex County College signed an agreement that allows students to obtain a Bachelor's Degree at PUCPR.

The agreement establishes that graduates of MCC with an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts have the opportunity to transfer to PUCPR and take the required courses in a corresponding program and receive a PUCPR University Bachelor's Degree. It also establishes a structure that streamlines the process of recognition of credits for students transferring from MCC to PUCPR.

To ensure the transfer from MCC to PUCPR, the student must have graduated with an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts, and PUCPR validates the 66 credits. The participant chooses a baccalaureate program and continues as a third-year student.

"Pontifical is an excellent university with a wide range

of quality academic programs in a beautiful location," said Joann La Perla-Morales, president of MCC. "In addition, it provides students with a valuable cultural experience."

Both PUCPR and Middlesex share a mission and vision that are student-focused.

Notables

Nancy Berger, director of the joint MCC/Raritan Bay Medical Center Nursing Program, was selected for induction into the Organization for Associate Degree Nursing (OADN) Academy for Associate Degree Nursing. The Academy was established to recognize contributions as a role model for students, faculty colleagues. It also advocates for Associate Degree nursing programs.

MCC Student Receives Award Named for Late Professor

Halimat Oshun '16 was presented the first Patrick Donohue Outstanding Service and Civic Engagement Student Award at MCC. The award recognizes a student who has demonstrated a substantive and positive impact through community involvement. It was presented at a reception attended by the College community, alumni, and Professor Donohue's family.

Ms. Oshun is a two-year member of Democracy House, MCC's service-learning program. She has participated in the Habitat for Humanity build several times, a camp cleanup, and numerous blood drives. She has visited the Menlo Park Home for Veterans on multiple occasions and works extensively with the Center for Empowerment. Ms. Oshun has also done both Martin Luther King and 9/11 days of service. She is also a Dean's List student, and an officer with the Student Government Association.

The award is named for Patrick Donohue, a former professor at MCC, who passed away in July of 2015. Beyond his inspirational teachings on American politics, civic society and the democratic process, Professor Donohue was a tireless supporter of student involvement in the local community. Soon after becoming an instructor, he created Democracy House at Middlesex, which paired the needs of the local community with the opportunity for students to enhance their academic and personal development through community service. He left MCC in June of 2008 to pursue leadership of the Bonner Center at The College of New Jersey.

Jennifer Altman, sociology professor at MCC and the chair of the selection committee, spoke at the reception.



Professor Pat Donohue

"Pat was the epitome of the perfect community college professor," she said "He was whip smart, but not condescending. He was theoretical and practical. He was a doer, not just a talker, and he was always moving, always dreaming, always planning, always connecting people. I could see it in the way faculty colleagues came up and brainstormed ideas with Pat; how the administrative staff glowed over the impact of the projects; how Democracy House staff thrived off Pat's mentorship and commitment; how community members hugged and thanked Pat for truly caring, making a difference and making the time to connect to their worlds, their constraints, and their needs, and most of all, I saw it in the alumni and students. How they told me over and over again how Pat has changed their lives, how Pat believed in them before they believed in themselves. How Pat taught them to question, think critically and set higher expectations in the classroom than they had ever set for themselves."

Through partnerships with the Bonner Foundation, Professor Donohue was instrumental in bringing AmeriCorps and Bonner Scholarships to numerous students throughout his tenure at MCC. The Center's partnerships with local nonprofits have focused on several areas of need in the greater Middlesex County area including hunger, homelessness, urban education, the environment, youth and family services, youth development, and immigrant services. For many years the Center has been on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.



From left: College President Joann La Perla-Morales, Halimat Oshun, Pattiann McMahon, faculty advisor to Democracy House, and Jennifer Altman, former faculty advisor and chair of the award selection committee.

Kimberlee Hooper Named to National “40 Under 40” List

Kimberlee Hooper was named to the American Association for Women in Community Colleges’ list of “40 Under 40,” at the organization’s national conference in Chicago in April. The list consists of 40 women faculty, counselors, administrators and staff under the age of 40 from all over the nation who are leaders on their campuses. Ms. Hooper is MCC’s director of school relations, which is the link between MCC and the kindergarten to 12th grade community in the county and beyond.

“I can’t say enough about Kim’s ability and work ethic,” said MCC President Joann La Perla-Morales, who nominated Ms. Hooper for the award. “She is an excellent team player and leader, is committed to the College mission and works tirelessly to create new pathways for students.”

Ms. Hooper started at MCC in 2010 part time, as the coordinator of the CARE program (Center for Adults Returning to Education), which enabled adult students who were 21 years of age or older to return to MCC to complete their Associate Degree. She assisted those students during the enrollment process and collaborated with campus departments to provide financial aid, advisement and tutoring workshops. She became director of School Relations in 2012.

“Kim has done a tremendous job in this role,” Dr. La Perla-Morales said.

Since 2012, Ms. Hooper has added five high schools and almost 500 students to MCC’s High School Scholars Program, in which high school students can take college courses. In addition, she has hosted several large scale events, including the state finals of the NJ Science Olympiad.



Kimberlee Hooper

“The programs offered through School Relations show the K-12 community what MCC has to offer by way of faculty, facilities and campus resources,” Dr. La Perla-Morales said. “Bringing middle school students on campus for the Algebra Summer Institute exposes them to the campus, facilities and faculty. Bringing elementary school students on campus for a tour and a day filled with activities allows them to begin considering MCC as an option for them down the road.”

School Relations also organizes professional development programs for teachers, as well as mid-career professionals who aspire to become teachers.

Ms. Hooper also developed workshops on dyslexia, autism, and how to use an iPad effectively in the classroom.

She also oversees three college summer bridge programs – Johnson and Johnson Scholars, College Readiness, and the Bridges to Baccalaureate Program. These provide high school students with college readiness remediation prior to graduation, which allows them to begin taking credit-bearing courses upon entering MCC.

Ms. Hooper said she was honored to receive the award.

“The work I do at MCC is very important to me because of the impact it has on others,” she said. “I am thrilled to be among this distinguished group and I hope it will inspire other young women.”

Ms. Hooper is a member of the College Assembly, the MCC Scholarship Committee, a state representative to the American Council on Education, and she is a former member of the Board of Directors of the Arc of Middlesex County.



Eight MCC students were honored for their induction into Alpha Mu Gamma, the national honor society for foreign language study. Seated, left to right, Rose Almasi (inducted last year), Kaitlyn McSpedon, Rosaura Figueroa, Adriana Blanco. Standing: Gary Abbott, chairperson of ESL/Languages and Cultures, Professor Juan Saborido, Chapter advisor, Timothy Francis, Pedro Escarate, Adam Piepoli and Jihyun Park.

Beautiful Memories



Smiles were everywhere as MCC graduated its 49th class.

A total of 1596 degrees and certificates were awarded to 1558 students by Middlesex County College in May at the 49th annual Commencement exercises witnessed by approximately 3500 guests in the Expo Center in the Raritan Center.

Valedictorian Sridivya Raghavan delivered the class welcome, sharing her experiences and aspirations. Ms.



Valedictorian Sridivya Raghavan

Raghavan is a Liberal Arts/Business major.

“I did my early schooling in India and moved to the United States when my dad’s job brought him here,” she said. “I became a bookworm, thanks to J.K. Rowling. Harry Potter taught me the joy of reading and believing in magic.

Middlesex County College became my Hogwarts. The

professors here played a huge role in mentoring me, much like Harry Potter’s.

“Now, if there is one thing I would like for you to remember, is that failure is inevitable. What is more important is learning from failure, and getting back up on your feet again. You may have heard about how J.K. Rowling, herself, bounced back from a failed marriage, loss of jobs, and abysmal poverty. She went back to doing

what she does best, which is writing novels.

“The fact that we are here today means that we are successful. We do not need to fear failure. Live your life. Go on the next adventure! As Harry Potter taught me, anything is possible with belief and magic. Believe in yourselves and the world will be yours to conquer.”

Approximately 675 members of the Class of 2016 participated in the exercises, representing the 364 graduates of August 2015, 435 of January 2016 and 797 of May 2016. Participants included several students who fulfilled the requirements for more than one degree or certificate during this academic year.

Mark McCormick, vice president for academic and student affairs, presided. Greetings were delivered by Joann La Perla-Morales, College president; Dorothy K. Power, chairman of the Board of Trustees; and Ronald G. Rios, Freeholder director.

Professor Saul Kelton, of the History and Social Sciences Department, led the academic procession as grand marshal.

Dr. La Perla-Morales, sixth president of the College, conferred degrees and certificates to the graduates. Dr. McCormick presented the candidates for graduation.

Earlier in May, the College held an honors convocation for students with the highest academic achievement in each program. MCC also presented the Chambers Awards to graduates with a 4.0 grade point average, and the seven individuals were recognized during Commencement. They include Ms. Raghavan, the salutatorian, Erica L. Bergen, and Reginald Dizon, John J. Losito, Diana L. Bhagat, Christopher Gately and Jennifer M. Hanley.



**For more on Commencement,
visit [www.middlesexcc.edu/
commencement](http://www.middlesexcc.edu/commencement)**



Booming Field

By Chuck O'Donnell '91

The clomp of Sheldon Gayan's boots stepping across the pavement echoes off the walls of the warehouse and into the grey sky. On this spring morning, however, there's more in the air at the Lyondellbasell facility in Edison than a hint of rain.

There's a buzz here. Two trucks have recently arrived, and Mr. Gayan '14 and his co-workers have sprung into action. It's hard hats and thinking caps. Hoses are hooked and valves are opened. Test samples are collected into 16-ounce bottles and dutifully delivered to the lab for testing.

Mr. Gayan is a logistics and production operator at this plant that offloads raw materials from trucks 24/7/365, turns them into catalysts and ships them off to other companies. Down the line, what is created here will help make things the rest of the world uses every day. Yogurt containers, syringes, battery casings – he's played a role in making them all.

Before he ever played a part in the creation of even one lawn chair, Mr. Gayan graduated from Middlesex County College's Process Technology program.

A process technician, as defined by the school, is a worker who "monitors and controls mechanical, physical and/or chemical changes through many processes to produce a final product made from raw materials." They will often know how to start up and shut down complex equipment; control, monitor and troubleshoot equipment; and analyze, evaluate and communicate about data.

In class and on the job, one of the key tools is called a P&ID, a



Site manager David Schrutka with Sheldon Gayan.

pipng and instrumentation diagram/drawing, which is a diagram in the process industry that shows the piping of the process flow together with the installed equipment and instrumentation.

Mr. Gayan sat there in class with many P&IDs stretched before him, so you know he's speaking from the heart when he says the lessons learned from his instructors who had decades of experience in the field helped prepare him and his classmates whether they were going to work for Lyondellbasell, Merck or DuPont, whether they entered the manufacturing, oil refining, pharmaceutical, power generation, water treatment or food and beverage fields. "All the stories they used to tell us, stuff that happened, safety stuff, stuff that just happened out of the blue – that's real-world experience right there," Mr. Gayan said. "You can't get that out of a textbook. They didn't just read it in book and come in here and spout it off. These people have been in the field and they're giving you their real-life experiences."

Instructors such as Gail Becker, who worked for many years at Merck. She says the Process Technology program is perfect for the person who likes hands-on work and doesn't mind being outside in any season. That person, however, also has a great capacity for problem solving and is highly reliable.

The rewards of a two-year degree in Process Technology, or P-Tech as it is sometimes shortened, are so large and the demand for process technicians is so great, she's surprised the program isn't more popular.

"These are careers, not just jobs and that's the sad part people just don't know about this," she said. "I read that Phillips 66 has the best 401K in the country. The starting salaries – we're talking maybe \$50,000 and with overtime, they could be making \$80,000 going toward \$100,000.

"These are careers, it's guaranteed. They have the pipelines going to the airports for jet fuel. That refinery (in Linden) isn't going anyplace."

The school and many nearby conglomerates have forged a symbiotic relationship of sorts. MCC has received funding for the Process Technology program from Lyondellbasell, Exxon Mobil, Conoco Phillips/Phillips 66, and Infernum US. In addition, ExxonMobil provided scholarship support for students in the program.

David Schrutka, site manager

at Lyondellbasell, says it's like an investment to create a well-trained operator.

"So as Sheldon mentioned, they did table-top drills and they took a P&ID and the professor would ask them questions about, 'OK, you see this, you see that. What's going on?'" Mr. Schrutka said. "If they're able to demonstrate that skill, that's a very valuable, valuable skill for people coming into the industry. For people to know what a pump is and how it operates, to know what a valve is and how it operates – I've seen the labs in the P-Tech program at Middlesex, they're phenomenal. They have real-world equipment that Sheldon deals with on a day-in, day-out basis.

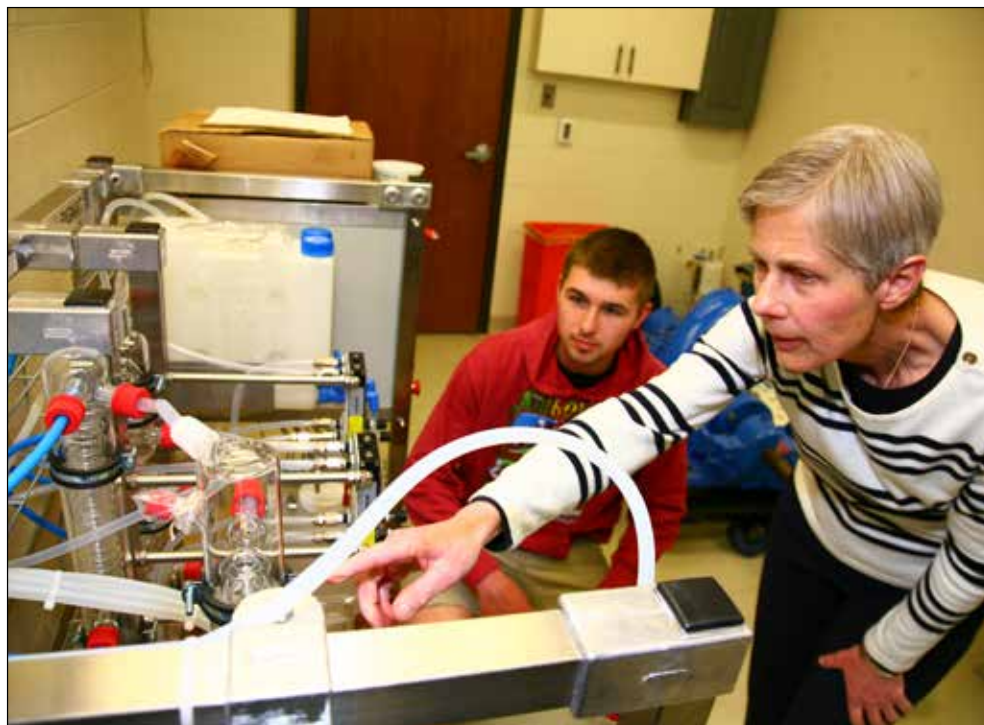
"The way we looked at it was to come to that particular plant, you either needed five years of real-world experience or a P-Tech degree. So, we said that training program was worth five years' real-world experience."

Andrea Alfaro '15 said she enrolled in the Process Technology program at MCC after talking to a softball teammate. She fixed her sights on one specific position at Phillips 66 in Linden: Unit operator.

Ms. Alfaro enjoys the mix of white- and blue-collar work. She's sometimes walking around her unit, checking the PH or ammonia levels in water. Other times, she's at her desk, monitoring things from her computer screens.

"When you fix something, it's just gratifying," she said. "It's just nice when you can fix problems. You think with your brain, you find out what the problem is and then you make the problem go away."

Gail Becker: Process technology is a growing field offering great jobs.





Students from MCC joined volunteers from all over the area to clean the beach by the Old Bridge Waterfront Park. The program was organized by Clean Ocean Action, a nonprofit dedicated to improving the quality of marine waters off the New Jersey and New York coasts. The student volunteers included several from student clubs as well as geology and oceanography classes taught by Professor Claire Condie. From left, Gabrielle Garcia, Shayna A. Szaranowski, Allyson Mazzarella, Brianna Pastrick.

Jacqueline Murekatete, a genocide survivor and human rights activist, spoke at MCC as part of Arts and Sciences Month. Born in Rwanda, Ms. Murekatete was 9 years old when she lost her parents, all six siblings and most of her extended family to the 1994 genocide. She spoke about her life, and she discussed the crime of genocide and other forms of mass atrocities in the world today. The lecture was sponsored by MCC's Center for the Study of Genocide, Prejudice and the Holocaust. She is second from left, and she spoke with, from left, Professor Terrence Corrigan, of the History and Social Sciences Department and director of the Holocaust Center; MCC students Rebecca Shaferman and Priya Singh; and Rob Giorgi '16, now attending Columbia University, who is the alumni representative on the Holocaust Center Advisory Committee.



This spring, MCC students participated in Light the Night, a fundraiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Organized by the student club Adelante, walkers traveled the campus, stopping for entertainment by the Gospel Choir, a spoken word performance by student Devon Jefferson, and a presentation by Adelante President Brandon Rodriguez, who told the story of his mother's fight with Lymphoma.



MAKE THE SMART CHOICE

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Admissions Information

SUCCESS STARTS HERE

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More Job Opportunities & Higher Pay

Middlesex offers more than 700 courses in 100 degree and certificate programs. Associate Degrees can be earned in fields such as education, business, dental hygiene, criminal justice, paralegal studies, computer science, engineering, health programs, science and

mathematics, and more! We also offer noncredit certificate programs and courses to support career and professional development in fields such as allied health, web design, human resources and construction management.

57%

Very soon, 57% percent of U.S. job openings will require some college education.

24:1

A student-to-teacher ratio of 24:1 allows students to develop personal relationships with their professors.

\$7,900

is the annual amount an Associate Degree holder earns over those with only a high school diploma.

27%

Licensees and certificate holders earn 27% more than those with a Bachelor's Degree alone.

Support Services: *Everything You Need to Succeed!*

Academic Advising: Provides information about degree requirements, courses, and career/educational goals.

Career Services: Job search resources, co-op & internship help and more!

Counseling Services: Professional counselors are available to help students with career choices, majors, transfers, and personal concerns.

Disability Services: Provides classroom support, adapted testing, adaptive technology, sign language interpreters and more.

Educational Opportunity Fund: Offers financial assistance, counseling, tutoring and more for minority and disadvantaged students.

Health & Safety: Provides diagnostic screenings, immunizations, health counseling, first aid, and urgent care.

Transfer Services: Advises students on course requirements so they can transfer to a Bachelor's Degree program.

Tutoring Services: Offers free academic support for a variety of subjects including tutoring for developmental classes.

Veterans Services: Helps military veterans and current service members make a smooth transition to college.

MCC offers baseball, softball, volleyball and wrestling as well as men's and women's soccer, cross country, track and basketball.

Campus Life

Fun Activities For Every Interest!

MCC offers so many fun clubs and organizations that it's easy to get involved. Our students say it feels like being at a 4-year school. Visit the **Student Activities Office** for a complete list of social, cultural and recreational activities offered at MCC.



Paying for College

You Can Afford Middlesex County College!

You can afford MCC! Let us help you find scholarships, grants, loans, work study and other types of aid to help you offset the cost of school. Over half of our full-time students receive need-based financial aid.

Since 1967, more than 15,000 students have received scholarships in excess of \$12 million from the MCC Foundation. Students can visit the Scholarships website to search for MCC scholarships and find links to other resources.

Students who graduate in the top 15% of their high school class may qualify for the NJ STARS program. These students receive free tuition to Middlesex County College.

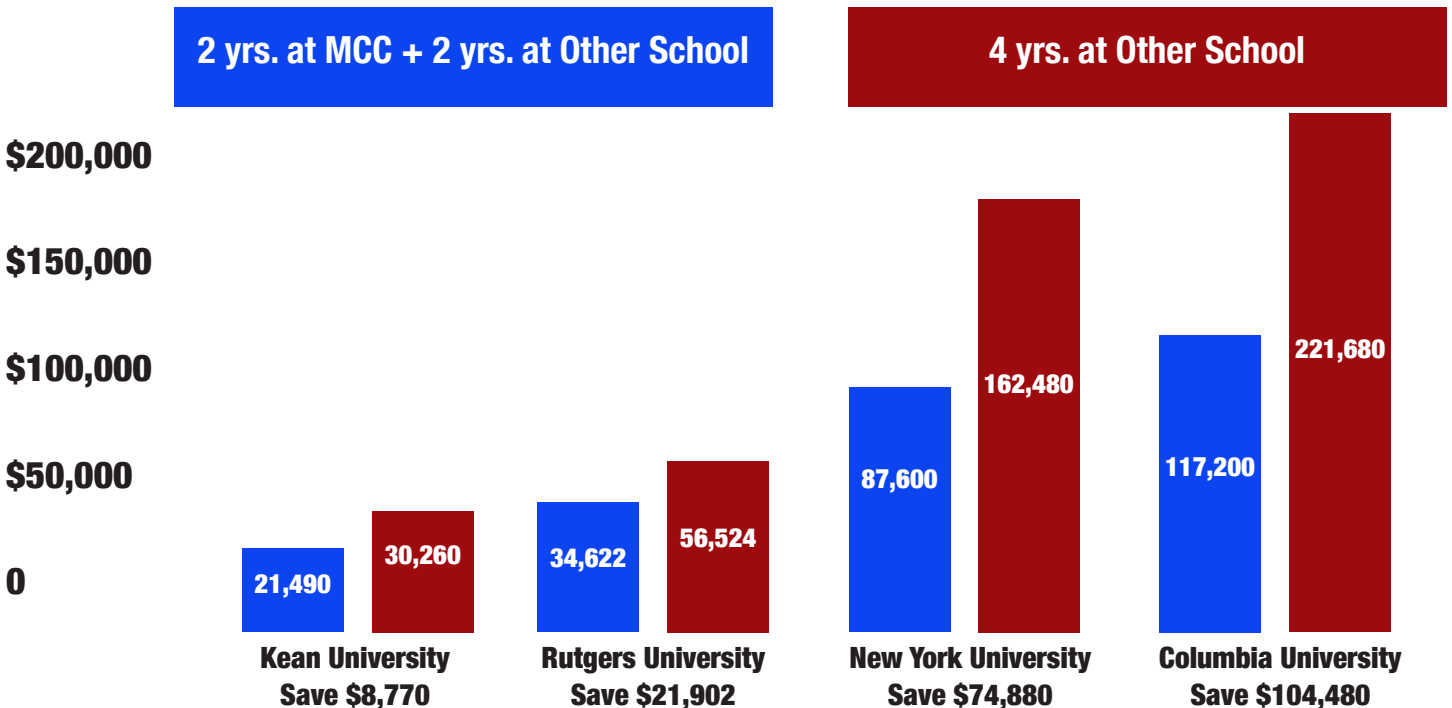
A Payment Option Plan is also available if you are registering for six or more credits in the same semester.



How Much Will You Save?

Our graduates start at Middlesex and transfer to prestigious colleges and universities such as Kean, Rutgers, NYU, Columbia and more. They get the same degree, but SAVE THOUSANDS off the cost of tuition! The blue

column shows the cost of tuition for four years of college if you attend MCC for two years and then transfer to another school for two years. The red column shows the cost of tuition if you spend all four years at another school. Look how much you can save!



Savings based on a 15-credit semester for a Middlesex County resident during the Fall 2015 school year. The rates shown above were collected from each school's website and may be subject to change.



Do you want a college education but need to work? Now, you do not have to choose between work, family and advancing your education. MCC offers evening programs that begin after 5 p.m.

Taking classes while you work is challenging, but you can do it! MCC offers low tuition and an array of support services. Six of our programs can be completed in the evening: Business Administration, Police Science, Paralegal Studies, and Liberal Arts General, Business, and Social Sciences. More will be added soon.

For more information, contact our evening degree advisor, John Kruszewski at 732.548.6000, x3130 or enroll@middlesexcc.edu.

Admissions Process: Enroll in 5 Easy Steps

1

Apply
Online

Complete your application online with a \$25 application fee at www.middlesexcc.edu/application. Submit your high school transcript and/or college transcript to receive credit for prerequisites and/or transfer credit, if applicable.

If you are an international student seeking an I-20 or you are applying to our selective programs, you are required to submit official high school or college transcripts and must apply within application deadlines; see the MCC website for more information. For details visit www.middlesexcc.edu/admissions.

2

File Your
FAFSA!

Priority deadline to file is May 1.

MCC Financial Aid Code is 002615

3

Take the
College
Placement Test

We offer free workshops and online study guides to help you prepare.

SAT scores of 540 in Critical Reading, and 530 in Math, and prior college credit may exempt you.

4

Register
for Classes

NEW STUDENTS:
Sign up for group advising and orientation.

TRANSFER STUDENTS: Meet with an academic advisor.

5

Pay
Your Bill

You can pay your bill online.

Who Knew Leadership Training Could Be This Much Fun?

About 40 students engaged in the first of a series of leadership workshops offered this spring in a collaborative effort by Student Activities, Career Services, Democracy House and Admissions. First on the agenda were ice breakers.



Professor Wins Excellence Award from McGraw-Hill

Christine Harrington, professor of History and Social Sciences and the director of the College's Center for the Enrichment of Learning and Teaching (CELT), received the 2016 Excellence in Teaching First-Year Seminars by the publishing company McGraw-Hill.

She accepted the award at the annual conference of the National Resource Center for the First Year Experience and Students in Orlando, FL in February. She received a plaque, \$1,000, plus travel and conference expenses.

Dr. Harrington is the coordinator of the Student Success course at MCC, which introduces new students to college life and helps them become successful. The class covers time management, using college resources, motivation, studying, and many other facets of going to college. It focuses on getting to know the College, as well as personal and academic success factors.

"Christine is an excellent professor – she is very deserving of this recognition," said David Edwards, dean of Arts and Sciences, who nominated Dr. Harrington for the award. "She has become a real leader in the pedagogy of helping students transition. She's done wonderful work in adapting our Student Success program to mirror new advancements in the field. She's outstanding. She never stops thinking about how to better serve our students."

Dr. Harrington is the author of "Student Success in College: Doing What Works!" and she uses some of the royalties from the book to fund a scholarship for students. Each year, she invites those taking Student Success 101 classes to create posters summarizing research findings from a peer-reviewed journal article. Three are chosen each December and are honored at a ceremony.

Dr. Harrington said she was thrilled to be selected as the recipient of the award.

"The first-year seminar is such an important course that is offered at almost every institution," she said. "I am honored to have the opportunity to work with students at the beginning of their college journey. Watching students gain knowledge, skills and confidence is incredibly rewarding. When you teach this course, you are a part of a national effort to help students make successful transitions. Being a part of the FYE community is really something special."



The President's Office at MCC will be a little more aesthetically pleasing this year after four students loaned artwork they created in a ceramics class. The work will be in place for at least a year; some objects are on permanent loan. From left: Giovanni Cambria, holding his untitled bowl; Eva Chang with her sculpture, "Face"; Susan Altman, professor of fine art and the assistant chair of the Visual, Performing and Media Arts Department; Katie Gomez, with her piece, "Spirit Wolf"; and Priya Karthik, with "Temple Tower."



Hector Martinez' high school grades were so poor, he wasn't allowed to march at graduation. But a stint in the National Guard changed his outlook. This May, he graduated from MCC with highest honors.

When Hector Martinez '16 was a kid, he played a game with his friends called Ding Dong Ditch. They would run up to a house, ring the doorbell and flee. Another game was called Pick a Shirt, in which someone would select a color; if they spied a kid wearing that color shirt, they would go bother him.

"We basically were bored," he said. "We were always trying to find something to do. Sometimes we'd get into trouble, but it was nothing serious."

In high school, he discovered video games and was on his PlayStation nonstop. He had no time for academics.

It showed. Mr. Martinez failed math and English and was ineligible to march at his high school graduation. He needed to take summer classes before he received his diploma.

That summer, he got serious and discovered he had the aptitude for school, if not the desire. He started an apprenticeship program in diesel mechanics, but left after four months.

It was back to New Brunswick, hanging out and playing video games.

Finally, he said, this has to change.

He joined the National Guard and trained as an aircraft mechanic. He was on active duty for six months and is now in the reserves.

"They turned my life around," Mr. Martinez said. "The National Guard made me see life from a different perspective. You are there to achieve. You're there to complete the mission. If you can apply that to life, you're in good shape; you're in perfect shape. They motivate you; I didn't have that before I started there."

After completing active duty, Mr. Mar-

tinez started at MCC. He graduated this May with a 3.9 grade point average and is transferring to New Jersey City University's Homeland Security program, which holds its classes at MCC.

"Middlesex County College is a great school," he said. "Great people. Great professors. I was able to interact with different people from all walks of life. The number one thing that inspired me was the professors."

He cited Professors Fred Hertrich and Brian Sicilia as especially influential.

Mr. Martinez also praised the Veterans Services Center for assisting him before he started at MCC and during his tenure.

Mr. Martinez is one of 24 veterans who graduated this year; they have a combined grade point average of 3.4. They are transferring to four-year schools such as Columbia University, Rutgers, New York University, and Montclair State. An additional five graduates who are military dependents were also served by the center.

Mr. Martinez hopes to go into law enforcement as a career and plans to go on for a Master's Degree and perhaps a Doctorate. He is starting an internship with the New Jersey Transit Police Department.

"Middlesex County College is a great place to start, especially for veterans," he said.

"They know what it means to start the mission and finish the mission. Here at Middlesex County College, you won't have difficulty with that. They have everything you need to complete that mission."

If only the kids playing Ding Dong Ditch 10 years ago could see him now.

College President Joann La Perla-Morales congratulates Hector Martinez at his first Commencement.



Thirty-four MCC students were inducted into MCC's chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, the international honor society in education designed to foster excellence and promote fellowship among those dedicated to teaching. The Middlesex Chapter, Alpha Theta Zeta, also received its charter as this is its inaugural year. Martha Viator (left), the co-advisor for Rowan University's chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, served as the installing officer for both the installation of the Alpha Theta Zeta chapter and for the initiation of its members. Here she is presenting the charter to Melissa Luis, education professor and Chapter advisor, and Timothy Hack '97, chair of the History and Social Sciences Department. Below, a proud parent enjoys the moment.



From left: MCC student Halimat Oshun; Lori Hayes, Center for Empowerment; Pattiann McMahon, faculty advisor of Democracy House; Carol B. Bellante, Freeholder deputy director; Arianna Illa, Democracy House coordinator; Jennifer Kurdyla of the Center for Empowerment; and MCC student Miranda Brenton.

Democracy House Honored by Middlesex County Freeholders

Democracy House, MCC's service-learning program, and the County's Center for Empowerment were honored by the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders for their work in educating the College community about domestic violence, human trafficking and other forms of sexual abuse. They sponsored a film showing of "The Hunting Ground," in which rape survivors fight

back using legal strategy, and a luncheon program where survivors shared their stories. The organizations also sponsored the Clothesline Project, in which students wrote messages on t-shirts, which were then hung in the College Center; and April 25 was Denim Day, in which students were encouraged to wear denim in an effort to raise awareness of and protest against stereotypes surrounding the issue of sexual assault.

FOUNDATION REPORT

Janet and Russell Baker continue their generous support with a gift of \$7,000 to the **Baker Family Scholarship Fund**. Established in 2009, the scholarship benefits a female student, raising children as a single mother, with financial need and taking a minimum of six credits.

The **SPC Michael L. Gonzalez Memorial Endowed Scholarship** has been established by Ida and Pedro Gonzalez honoring the memory and service of their son, Michael L. Gonzalez, a former MCC student, who died August 28, 2008 in Baghdad, Iraq, while serving during Operation Iraqi Freedom. The scholarship is funded by a contribution of \$25,000 from Butterfly Circle of Friends, established by the family. The scholarship will be awarded to U.S. military veterans or current armed forces members, with preference given to current members of the Army Reserve forces. Special preference will also be given to those who have served in a war zone. In July 2015, Ida and

Pedro Gonzalez established The SPC Michael L. Gonzalez Memorial Annual Scholarship and the first awards were made during the 2015-16 academic year.

Johnson & Johnson Family of Companies has provided \$201,000 to support the **Johnson and Johnson Health Technologies Scholarships** and the **J&J Summer Scholars Program**. The scholarships help nursing and dental hygiene students achieve their educational goals and become part of the regional workforce. The J&J Summer Scholars Program makes it possible for recent New Brunswick High School graduates to complete their remedial coursework, earn college credits and gain vital information on managing their college career.

Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc. again provided the **Professional Excellence in Chairside Education Award** for a senior Dental Hygiene student who exhibits



Bristol-Myers Squibb is renewing its support of the Research in Science Initiative with a contribution of \$20,000 for 2016-17. The grant will enable 20 second-year students to enroll in biology and chemistry research courses where they will gain valuable experience through independent studies, training on responsible conduct of research, laboratory safety, scientific documentation, as well as presentation of research findings at re-

gional and national conferences and scientific gatherings. Above, Research in Science students at the Spring 2016 Science Symposium. The initiative is made possible by support from Bristol-Myers Squibb in combination with funding received through the NASA Space Grant Student Research Fellowship.



Trustees of the Margaret and Peter Chang Foundation renewed their support with a gift of \$12,000 to the Margaret Chang Scholarship to provide three awards of full tuition and fees to students who are graduates of New Brunswick High School. The scholarship has been awarded to seven students since it was established in 2014. At the 2015 Annual Scholarship Reception, seated from left, scholarship recipient Moya McPherson and Gwyneth McNabola, trustee of the Margaret and Peter Chang Foundation. Standing, scholarship recipients Diana Diaz-Tapia and Eunice Daza.

the best in understanding, care and educating patients in home care. The recipient was recognized with a plaque at the department's pinning ceremony.

The New Brunswick Rotary Club Foundation has renewed its commitment to the **Rotary Club of New Brunswick Scholarship** with a gift of \$1,000. The scholarship is 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.

Trustees of the **Walter & Louise Sutcliffe Foundation**, managed by Wells Fargo Wealth Management, provided a gift of \$10,000 for nursing scholarships for 2016-17. Since 2014 the scholarship has provided financial support to 10 students and enabled them to pursue their educational and career goals.

The Marion and Norman Tanzman Charitable Foundation completed its generous commitment to add \$150,000 to the **Marion and Norman Tanzman Memorial Endowed Scholarship Fund**. The endowed scholarship fund is a tribute to the memory of Norman Tanzman and his wife, Marion, and will contribute to the financial needs of MCC students in perpetuity.

Contributions from members and former members of the campus community included: Robert Fishco supported the Debbie and John Bakum Endowed Scholarship Fund; Janet Peleg, Neil Storm, Sudipta Biswas, Mary Lynch,

Marianne Santelli and Stephanie Serrano-Vera contributed to the Dr. Eileen Hansen Award for Academic Excellence Fund; David Lipton added to the Rosemary Esteves Memorial Annual Scholarship. Denise Krisza renewed her support for the Julia B. Krisza Memorial Scholarship. David Fricke renewed his commitment to the Freeholder David B. Crabiell Memorial Endowed Scholarship and Veronica Clinton renewed her support to the annual fund.

Yashmin Nagujja '15 made a gift to the Damien Nuccio Memorial Nursing Award, established by Professor Susan McColley in memory of her grandson, Damien Nuccio. Ms. Nagujja was a recipient of the award in 2014.

This past year, 109 annual and endowed scholarships were available to a wide variety of students. A total of 646 students received support and \$777,303 was allocated in scholarships and grants.



Edison attorney Zhiyu 'Jimmy' Hu (second left) presents a vase from Jingdezhen, China, to MCC to mark 50 years of excellence in community education. Mr. Hu is joined by, from left, Patrick Madama, vice president for Institutional Advancement; Veronica Clinton, executive director, MCC Foundation; and Peter Cerrato '69 of Charles Stamp Shop, Edison.

Former Executive Director Leaves Legacy Gift

Michael David-Wilson, former executive director of the MCC Foundation, passed away April 12, 2016. He generously provided a gift of \$5,000 through a TIAA-CREF charitable giving benefit provision. The gift is allocated to The Master Sergeant Franklin T. Wilson Memorial Annual Veteran's Scholarship Fund established by Mr. David-Wilson and his wife, Dottie, during his tenure at the Foundation. The scholarship honors the memory and service of his brother who passed away in 2009.

Foundation Mission Partners

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.

They are:

Johnson & Johnson

The Provident Bank Foundation

Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital

Stewart Business Systems



Loyal donors Keith and Karen Mullane have contributed \$20,000 to renew their support of the Mary Braun Endowed Scholarship and Mary Braun Annual Scholarship, established in memory of Keith's grandmother. Mrs. Braun was a hard working Hungarian immigrant who made her home in South Amboy. The scholarship provides a lasting tribute to Mrs. Braun and establishes a legacy of assisting students who endeavor to improve their lives through education. The Mary Braun Memorial Scholarship recipients will be selected with preference given to students who are the first generation in their immediate family to attempt higher education and have financial need. Keith Mullane (left) and Karen Mullane (far right) with Mary Braun Scholarship recipients at the Annual Scholarship Reception last fall.



Alumni Association Scholarships Awarded

From left: Dorothy Bitetto, president of the Alumni Association, with Courtney Henrich, mathematics major, recipient of the Alumni Academic Excellence Award of \$750, and Taylor Harvey, nursing major, recipient of the \$500 Alumni Association Scholarship for a dependent of an MCC alumnus.

Legacy Society

Middlesex County College, the Middlesex County College Foundation and the Middlesex County College Alumni Association gratefully acknowledge those forward-thinking benefactors who have planned a deferred or estate gift to benefit MCC students. Their generosity will assist future generations of students in achieving their academic goals. For information on establishing a legacy gift, please contact Veronica Clinton, executive director, MCC Foundation, at 732-906-4661, vcClinton@middlesexcc.edu.

Kathleen and
Edmund O. Andich
Russell and Janet Baker
Dorothy A. Bitetto '69
Albina J. Chismar
Elaine L. and Robert J.
Ciatto
Lynn Davis
Deborah Duchai
Joseph P. Gemmell
Ronald Goldfarb, JD
Paul Hilf
Joan Hochbaum
Jerome F. and Estelle
Katcher

Linda Donato Kennedy '72
and Edward Kennedy
William C. Kleinelp, Jr.
Charles and Ruth Larsson
Patrick Madama
James J. Mikusi, Sr.
Gerald and Jo Aimee
Ostrov
Nancy Y. and Guilford B.
Peters
Sheryl Riddlestorffer
Jean Salerno
Betty Whalen '87

ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

Kevin Kutcher '75 has joined Salem Community College as chief financial officer. After earning an Associate Degree in Accounting at MCC, Kevin earned a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting/Management from Kean University and an MBA in Finance from LaSalle University. He also attended the BAI Graduate School of Banking at the University of Wisconsin. Kevin has nearly 30 years of executive leadership experience in the banking industry, including 12 years as president of Liberty Bell Bank in Marlton. He serves on the boards of the United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey and the Virtua Health Foundation. In 2013, he was named the Lawrence D. Epstein Volunteer of the Year with the United Way of Burlington County.



Patricia Robba
Nugent

Patricia Robba Nugent '82 is a senior project coordinator at Bristol-Myers Squibb Company.

Douglas B. Wilson '93 is currently working for Rutgers University Dining Services. He was recently appointed food pantry director at Christ Church in New Brunswick. The pantry serves more than 200 families and neighbors in need on a monthly basis.

Roelof (Ralf) Baay '00 was recently married to Ann (Adams) Baay. Roelof is financial accounting coordinator at MCC.

Mark Ampofo '03 attained a B.A. in History and Education from Kean University. After teaching for a while, he joined U.S. Customs Border Protection. Mark is now planning on completing his Master of Arts Degree.

Danielle (Drost) Roach '05 is a full-time English teacher at Mother Seton Regional High School in Clark. She has been married for eight years to MCC alumnus and retired police officer James Roach '01. They have two daughters, Kayleigh (6) and Deanna (4). Danielle also enjoys coaching softball and traveling during her summers off.

Gina Drost '10 is working as a marketing coordinator at Dispersion Specialists in South Plainfield. She enjoys playing recreational sports and spending time with family.

Suryanty Sie '12 continued her studies and earned her Bachelor's Degree from Rutgers University.

Donna Kwaitkowski '12 graduated from Thomas Edison State University with a BA in Business Administration/Marketing. Her hobbies include bird watching and reading. She loves to travel and is a Jets fan!

Muhammad Arif '16 plans to continue his studies at Rutgers University. Muhammad's

interests include computer science, physics, astro physics and astronomy.

Ryan Murray '16 graduated with an Associate of Arts/Liberal Arts General Degree. Ryan is a respiratory therapist, enjoys basketball, and has traveled to Trinidad and Tobago.

Julia Peysakhova '16 is a foster mom to her 3-year-old niece. She is studying early childhood education. Julia loves to cook, bake and travel and hopes to open her own child care facility.

In Memoriam

Thomas Andraesen '72

Helen Hong '77

Lynn Quattrocchi '81

Raymond Davis '86

James Travers '93

We want to hear from you!

New job? New baby? What have you been up to?

Please email alumni@middlesexcc.edu with your news!

Staying Connected: '72 Alum Returns to Say Thanks

Mark Dzuban was last a student at MCC in 1972, but he hasn't lost his enthusiasm for the place. He came to MCC in 1968 and majored in engineering technology.

He returned recently to visit with members of the department, including Jack Waintraub, who, as a young instructor in 1970, taught Mr. Dzuban. They were actually around the same age. Professor Waintraub was beginning his career, while Mr. Dzuban was just out of the U.S. Army, after serving in Korea.

"Jack cared," he said. "He is not just a professor – he was really engaged."

Mr. Dzuban went to Edison High School and then joined the Army, coming to MCC directly after leaving the service. He really enjoyed himself at MCC.

"I graduated with a lot more credits than I needed because I was having a great time and learning so much," he said.

Professor Waintraub said he remembered Mr. Dzuban as a student 40 years later.

"He was an excellent student – a star student," he said.

Currently the president and CEO of the Society of Cable Telecommunications Engineers (SCTE), Mr. Dzuban has been a design engineer for Vikoa, and advanced to leadership positions in such organizations as AT&T, Clear Cable and Cross Country Cable. With AT&T, he drove deployment of more than 500,000 cable telephony lines after being promoted to senior vice president of AT&T Broadband Telephony Operations and Engineering. Prior to joining SCTE, he had served as vice chair of Cedar Point Communications, a developer and



Professor Jack Waintraub (left) with Mark Dzuban

manufacturer of innovative VoIP switching equipment. Mr. Dzuban also has served in advisory positions to a variety of vendors in the cable industry, including ARRIS, Net2Phone/IDT and Broadcom.

"You've got a great program," he said of the Engineering Technologies Department. "The integrity of the program is first-rate."



From left: Dorothy Bitetto '69, MCC Alumni Association president, Jonathan Finnerty '15, and College President Joann La Perla-Morales.

Jonathan Finnerty was named Recent Alumnus of the Year at MCC. The award, presented by the College's Alumni Association at its annual meeting in June, is given to an outstanding alumnus of the past 10 years. Mr. Finnerty graduated from MCC in 2015, with an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts/Philosophy, and transferred to Rutgers University. While at MCC, he was a member of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, managing editor of the award-winning student newspaper *Quo Vadis*, a member of the Political Debate Club, and he started the Faculty/Student Debate Series. He was also a recipient of the Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship, which is the most prestigious transfer scholarship award given to community college students. It covers up to \$40,000 per year in tuition and expenses at their four-year college or university. He has also been a volunteer firefighter with the Metuchen Fire Department.

"Jon has distinguished himself as a community leader, academic scholar, and volunteer for fundraising events," said Alumni President Dorothy Bitetto, as she presented the award. "He has immense respect for MCC, and is grateful for the opportunities offered through the College. He maintains relationships with former professors, administrators and friends by visiting the campus, and takes great pride in being an alumnus."



From left: Veronica Clinton, director of development and alumni relations; Jessica Cortese; and College President Joann La Perla-Morales.

Jessica Cortese '08 Named MCC's Alumna of the Year

Jessica Cortese, a 2008 graduate, was named the 2016 Alumna of the Year for Contributions to the College, its Alumni Association or its Foundation. The award was presented during Celebration Day, an annual event that also honors College employees reaching milestone service anniversaries, and two Outstanding Service to the College award winners.

Ms. Cortese was a student in Project Connections, a program that provides college-able students with learning disabilities with a variety of academic and other supports so they can succeed.

“My gratitude and involvement with MCC never faltered,” she said as she accepted the award. “It is because of the people here, in this room, and the students outside these walls that I am standing here today. I would like to thank Middlesex County College for shaping the person that I am today: academically, personally and socially. I would like to specifically thank Project Connections for helping me find my autonomy.”

After graduating from MCC, Ms. Cortese transferred to The College of New Jersey where she earned a dual Bachelor's Degree in English and Women and Gender Studies. She earned her Master's Degree from TCNJ, graduating with a 3.95 grade point average.

Ms. Cortese is very active in the community. She is the treasurer of the Human Relations Council of Plainsboro, which addresses the social needs of the community and plans events that celebrate Plainsboro's diversity. A trustee of MCC's Alumni Association Board, she participated in the Association's Habitat for Humanity building project last summer, volunteered at MCC's 50th Anniversary Community Day Celebration, and, for the past two years, has entertained guests as “Lady Luck” at the MCC Foundation's Casino Night events.

Awards were also presented to two individuals for Outstanding Service to the College. Judy Robinson, assistant in the History and Social Sciences Department, was presented the award for staff and Patricia Cardinale, director of grant accounting, for administrators.



Foodies Delight!

About 100 foodies crowded into the College Center to enjoy offerings from local restaurants at the Alumni Association's restaurant tasting in April. A fundraiser for alumni scholarships and programs, the taste allowed restaurants to promote their menus and the public to enjoy a variety of food. Here, Wai Chan is served by Chris Phan of Villa Borghese. Proceeds from the event totaled \$2,860 and benefit the Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship and Alumni programs.

SPORTS UPDATE



Brittany Clayton

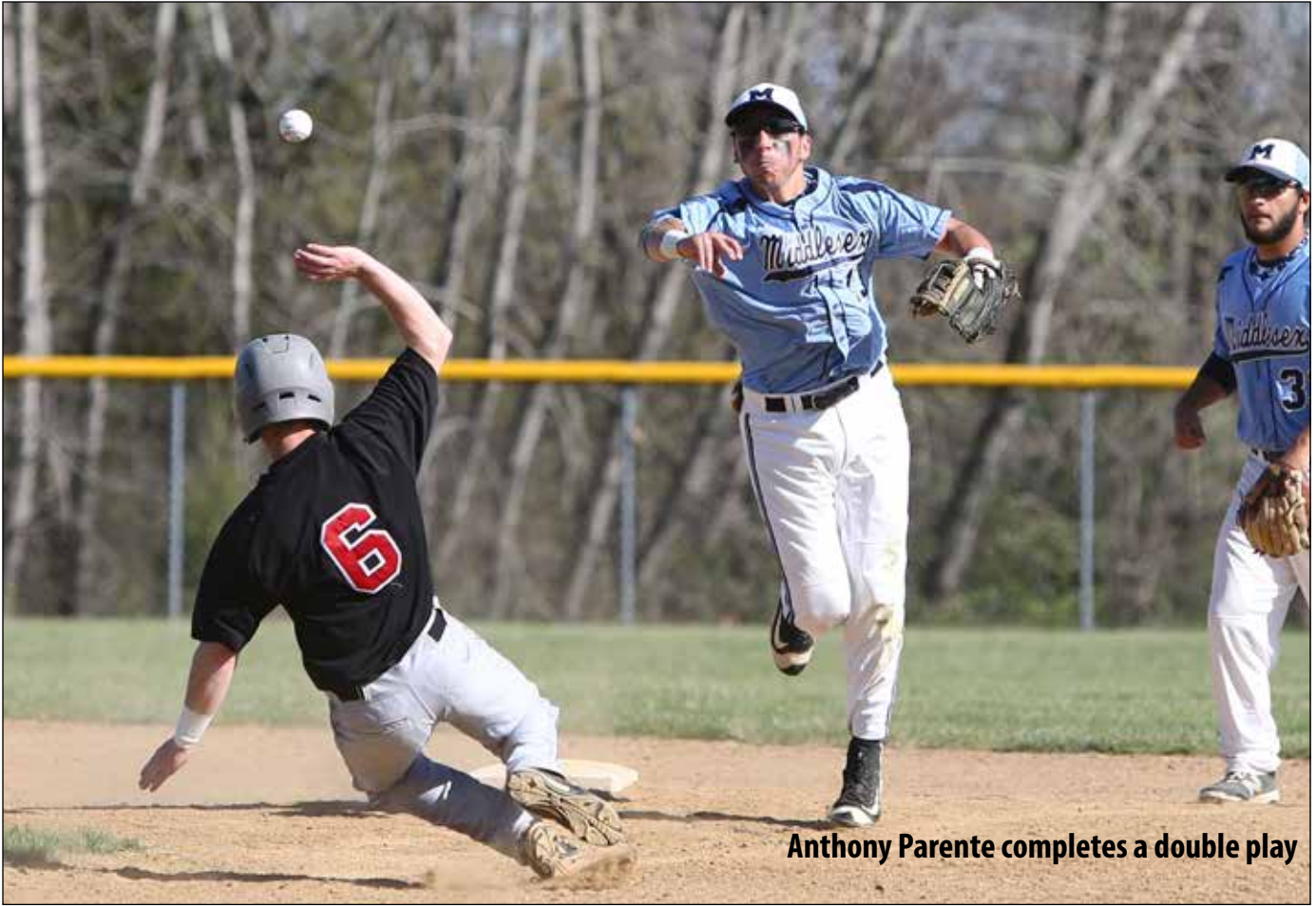


Amanda Redman

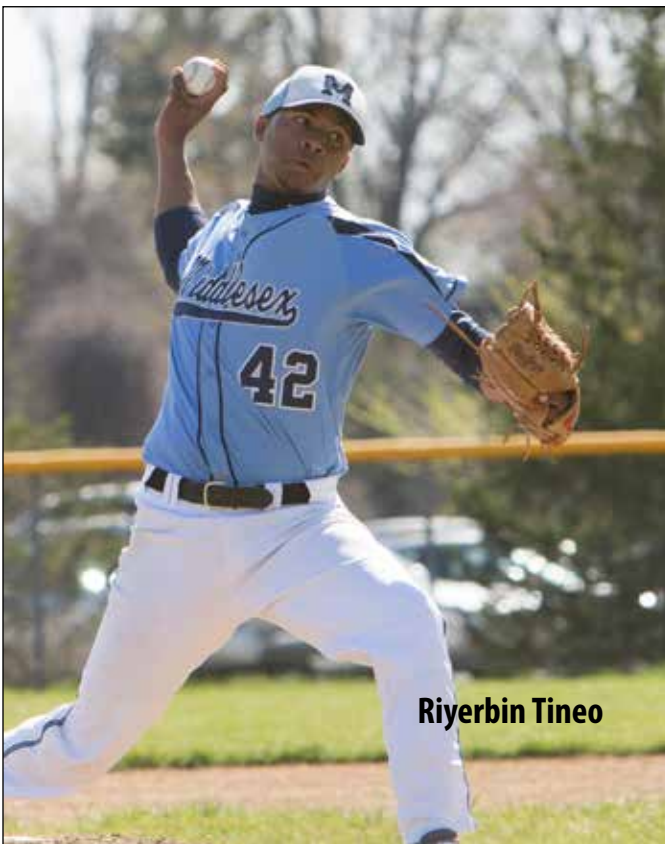


Coach of the Year²

Women's basketball coach Michel Powell and baseball coach Chris Mooney were named Coaches of the Year. Ms. Powell, who led the team to a 25-4 record and first place in the Garden State Athletic Conference, was named Conference Coach of the Year, while Mr. Mooney won similar honors from the National Junior College Athletic Association Region 19. They are shown with Athletic Director Robert Wisniewski (left).



Anthony Parente completes a double play



Riyerbin Tineo

Spring Sports Wrap-Up

The **baseball** team finished 29-16, one of the best records in school history. They qualified for both the Region 19 and Garden State Athletic Conference Tournaments. Anthony Parente was named second team Region 19 and second team all Garden State Athletic Conference, and Bobby Gramer was named third team all Region.

The **softball** team finished 15-13 and went to the semifinal round of the Region Tournament. Erin Stvan was named second team all Conference and third team all Region; Brittany Clayton is second team all Conference and all Region; and Kelly Widener is third team all Conference.

Track and Field had 12 athletes qualify for the National Tournament. It took place in Holyoke, MA. Brielle Fennell finished fourth in the Discus.

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MCC students weren't the only graduates this year. Kids in the Child Care Center also had a Commencement while performing skits and songs for parents and friends. This child's class led the pledge of allegiance.