

NORWALK COMMUNITY COLLEGE
NORWALK COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION
ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017



#NCCPROUD



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

What makes a college successful? A high graduation rate? Deep connections with the community? Professors who transform the lives of their students? I believe all these factors are important, along with college pride.

We recently launched a new campus theme of #NCCproud. These words reflect how students and faculty value learning and working at the college.

The theme took on special meaning this year when the college faced more budget cuts and proposed sweeping changes to the Connecticut community college system. Faculty and staff demonstrated their pride in the institution when they mobilized to work together, do more with fewer resources, and ensure that students come first.

There are many reasons to take pride in NCC. The college has a national reputation for excellence. NCC was honored at The White House in January as a winner of the nationwide Healthy Campus Challenge. I had the pleasure of meeting First Lady Michelle Obama and accepting an award for NCC's role in promoting healthcare enrollment. Also this year, WalletHub.com's "Best Community Colleges" study ranked NCC second nationwide for Lowest Student Default Rate and third for Best Career Outcomes.

NCC is proud to be a welcoming and inclusive community. Our students hail from 87 countries and speak 54 languages. The student body is multicultural and diverse in terms of age, gender, religious beliefs, backgrounds and aspirations.

NCC's faculty are outstanding. They are scholars and workforce experts who relish teaching in small classes and getting to know their students. Many have doctorates from elite institutions including Yale, MIT, Columbia and Georgetown.

NCC takes pride in its campus resources. We have superbly equipped science and language laboratories and smart classrooms. Students learn in unique facilities like NCC's Hospital Simulation Unit, Child Development Laboratory School, Culinary Arts complex and Maker Space for entrepreneurship and innovation. Next year, construction begins on a new Learning Commons.

Thanks to the NCC Foundation, NCC has the largest endowment of the Connecticut community colleges. The Foundation raises money for scholarships, professional development and student enrichment programs and this year awarded the college over \$3 million in support.

NCC takes pride in its partnerships with area employers. Many jobs today like Smartphone App Developer and Genomic Medicine Technician simply didn't exist a



decade ago. NCC identifies current and future workforce shortages and develops new degree and certificate programs to educate workers.

I am proud to lead this fine institution, which succeeds through the enduring support of alumni, constituents, donors and community partners, like you. Together, we are #NCCproud.

David L. Levinson, Ph.D.
President, Norwalk Community College,
and Vice President, Connecticut State
Colleges and Universities

Norwalk Community

College aspires to create a

culture of inclusion and

excellence through intellec-

tual inquiry, open dialogue,

multicultural awareness,

and lifelong learning. By

embracing the diverse needs

of our students, faculty,

staff and community, the

college strives to provide

an environment in which

individuals are empowered

to achieve their highest

potential.

NCC Vision Statement

“I am proud to work at NCC where we have the most dedicated faculty and staff who routinely go above and beyond to serve our students. The students have proven to be extremely committed to learning and continue to strive for excellence in spite of the many challenges they face ... They work hard to reach their own full potential and assist their classmates who need support.”

Althea E. Seaborn, J.D.
Professor and Program Coordinator
Criminal Justice Program



NCC IN THE NEWS

NCC Awarded Federal Grant

The U.S. Department of Education's Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions Title V Program has presented a \$2.3 million grant to NCC for new student success initiatives.

Title V is designed to expand and enhance the academic offerings and program quality of colleges and universities educating Hispanic and low-income students.

NCC's Hispanic population has grown steadily from 20% of the student body in Fall 2006 to 37% in Fall 2017.

Funding from the five-year grant will be used to boost the completion rate of students through enriched services, instruction and academic support.

NCC will develop a comprehensive Student Orientation, Advising and Retention system from admission through degree completion, including onsite and online orientation, a three-stage academic advising program, and an Early Alert system for struggling students.

Plans are underway to create a Learning Commons, which will provide learning spaces and meeting rooms and serve as a hub for tutoring, advising, transfer support and career services.

The college will build curriculum pathways around seven critical skills – learning



strategies, financial strategies, information literacy, interpersonal abilities, and academic, career and transfer planning.

NCC Honored at The White House

In January, NCC President David L. Levinson, Ph.D. accepted an award at The White House.

NCC was among 60 colleges nationwide honored for completing The White House Healthy Campus Challenge, an initiative to inform college students about Affordable Care Act open enrollment.

President Levinson attended the award ceremony with Paul Gallo, Ph.D., NCC Director of Exercise Science and Wellness, and Kimberly Bryant-Smith, NCC Human Resources Assistant and a member of NCC's Wellness Committee.

While in Washington, the NCC delegation toured select areas of The White House complex including the Eisenhower Executive



(left to right) Kristie Canegallo, Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff for Implementation; NCC President David L. Levinson, Ph.D.; Kimberly Bryant-Smith and Paul Gallo, Ph.D.



Michelle Obama (center) posed for a group photo in The White House's East Room on the first floor of the residence. President Levinson is shown directly behind the former First Lady. photo: courtesy of The White House

Office Building and the famous front portico. They attended panel discussions on health-care and posed for a portrait with former First Lady Michelle Obama.

“I was lucky enough to stand directly behind Michelle Obama in the portrait,” President Levinson said. “She has incredible charisma and thanked us all for the work we are doing.”

Helping Immigrants Succeed

The home care industry is one of the fastest-growing sectors of the American economy.

This year, NCC launched a series of Home Health Aide training programs for recent immigrants in collaboration with Building One Community (B1C), a Stamford-

based nonprofit agency formerly known as Neighbors Link.

Participants receive English as a Second Language instruction from B1C, and learn marketable job skills in non-credit certificate programs at NCC. Certificate offerings include First Aid/CPR, Homemaker Companion and Home Health Aide. These training programs certify participants to provide home care for the elderly and disabled.

“Allied health workers are all high-need positions at the Associate or Certificate level because of the aging population,” said Kathleen Fries, Ph.D., R.N., NCC Director of Nursing and Allied Health. “People are living longer, people are staying in their homes longer, and people don't have extended families nearby to do these jobs.”

Recent graduates of the program come from 11 countries including Haiti, Morocco, Ukraine, Guatemala and the Philippines.



Graduates of the new Home Health Care training program are in high demand in the job market.

Vet Tech Program Accredited

NCC's Veterinary Technology Degree program has received accreditation from the American Veterinary Medical Association's Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (AVMA-CVTEA).

Veterinary Technology students must graduate from an AVMA-accredited program to be eligible for credentialing in the U.S. The AVMA did a comprehensive evaluation and site visit at NCC in fall 2016 and granted full accreditation.

"The Vet Tech program was launched in 2015 to meet the demand in Fairfield County for trained and credentialed Veterinary Technicians to work in a variety of veterinary practices – small and large animals, exotics,

specialty practice, general practice and emergency and referral practice," said Anne C. Hermans, D.V.M., Program Coordinator and Assistant Professor.

During the 2016-2017 academic year, Vet Tech students received onsite training at area veterinary hospitals and practices. The program graduated its first class in May 2017. Even before graduation, every student had received a job offer in the field.



Veterinary Technology instructor Valerie Ramos (center) demonstrates care of small animals.



In 2017, the Vet Tech program graduated its first class with 14 students.

Honors Program Returns to NCC

It is a misconception that community colleges do not attract high achieving students. Many students who attend NCC were accepted to top-tier schools, but could not afford the tuition.

This year, NCC reintroduced an Honors Program of interdisciplinary studies for exceptional students. The program provides small classes, academic rigor and opportunities for growth and exploration.

The original NCC Honors Program was launched in 2001, but has been inactive since 2009, said Honors Program Coordinator Jonathan McMenamin-Balano, an NCC Professor of Biology.

"In 2016, a group of faculty began to re-imagine the Honors Program based on a national cohort model to identify highly motivated students and have them complete our requirements of Liberal Arts Honors course work," he said.

NECA Welcomes New Class

The newest class of students entering Norwalk Early College Academy (NECA) attended an IBM Welcome Day at NCC in June, to learn about the program and meet their IBM Mentors and NECA teachers.

NECA is Connecticut's first Pathways to Technology School. Students in this grades 9-14 dual enrollment program earn a high



Ninth graders entering NECA attend an IBM Orientation Day at NCC.

school diploma from Norwalk High School while simultaneously completing a tuition-free Associate degree from NCC. Founded in 2014, the academy is a partnership among NCC, IBM and Norwalk Public Schools.

More than 100 ninth graders will enter NECA in Fall 2017. They are the academy's largest cohort ever. NECA will graduate its first class in May 2018.

Chinese Educators Visit NCC

A delegation of educators from Quandong Province in China visited NCC in October to tour the Architectural Engineering Technology department and to learn about developing a construction technology curriculum in their own country.

In addition to observing in an Architectural Design class, the group enjoyed a demonstration of the college's Simulation Center in the Nursing and Allied Health Department. They also visited the Berkeley



Chinese educators, shown here with several NCC staff members, are using the college's Construction Technology program as a model for a future program in China.

construction site on West Avenue in Norwalk, the future site of a shopping mall.

President Levinson held an information session during a luncheon prepared and served by NCC's Culinary Arts students. China native and current NCC student Jason Ang shared his own college experiences with the delegation and answered questions.

The delegation's visit to the U.S. was sponsored by the University of New Haven. Allen Chi from the University of New Haven served as the group's translator.

NCC has hosted several foreign delegations in recent years. Educators have come from France, Vietnam, Nicaragua, Haiti and West Africa to observe the college's best practices and implement these educational initiatives in their own countries.



The group observed in Professor Jacek Bigosinski's Architectural Design class during their visit.

Multicultural Center Opens

NCC held a ribbon-cutting ceremony in September to open the new Center for Multicultural Affairs. Located in the heart of the East Campus building, the center provides a large and comfortable space for a variety of events celebrating diversity, cultural heritage and inclusion.

The center was launched to enrich the educational experiences of NCC students by helping them gain deep knowledge of, and appreciation for, different races, religions, ages, gender identities or expressions, ethnic and cultural backgrounds, and national origins and disabilities.

With support from the NCC Committee for Diversity and Inclusion, the center has become a popular venue for lectures and discussions about current events, social justice, culture, politics and relationships.



NCC President David L. Levinson, Ph.D. (left) officially opens the Multicultural Center along with Curtis Antrum, Associate Director of Admissions (center) and Financial Aid Counselor Al Thomas (right).



NCC President David L. Levinson, Ph.D. (left) signs the President's Entrepreneurship Pledge as NCC Foundation Board President Stuart Weismiller (right) looks on.

President Levinson Signs Entrepreneurship Pledge

In April, David L. Levinson, Ph.D. signed the President's Entrepreneurship Pledge with the National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship (NACCE), an organization of more than 300 community colleges.

Through this pledge, President Levinson has committed to the NACCE's "Five Action Steps for Creating Economic Vitality Through Entrepreneurship," thus encouraging and advancing entrepreneurship in the NCC community.

The NCC Foundation supports campus entrepreneurship initiatives such as an annual Idea Pitch, a Summer Institute based on Kauffman FastTrac® and a new certificate course also based on Kauffman curriculum and scholarships.

“As chair of NCC’s Committee for Active and Responsible Environmental Sustainability (NCC CARES), it gives me great pride and satisfaction to know that concerns about global climate change and sustainability are not just relegated to a few of us ‘tree huggers.’ Many of my colleagues have integrated concepts of environmental sustainability into their courses as they apply to their discipline. NCC really does CARE!”

Robert Emigh
Professor of English as a Second Language and Chair of the NCC Committee for Active and Responsible Environmental Sustainability



AWARDS + ACHIEVEMENTS

President Levinson Honored

NCC President David L. Levinson, Ph.D. received the Friend of CONNTAC Award at the Connecticut Talent Assistance Cooperative (CONNTAC) Inc.’s 2016 Annual Meeting for championing students who pursue a college degree despite educational and financial obstacles.

CONNTAC is a federally funded non-profit organization that provides support to students from low-income, first-generation educational backgrounds.



(left to right) Cecilia Nugent, Executive Director of CONNTAC, Inc., NCC President David Levinson and Kenneth G. Armstrong, President of CONNTAC, Inc.

A Healthy Workplace

For the third consecutive year, NCC was named a Platinum Healthy Workplace by the Business Council of Fairfield County.

The council’s Healthy Workplace Employer Recognition program honors employers who have implemented a diverse range of programs to promote a healthy



President Levinson (second from left) accepts award on behalf of the college’s Wellness Committee.

work environment and help their employees lead healthier lives.

Throughout the year, NCC’s Wellness Committee engages the campus community in good-for-you events including Wellness Walks, Health Fairs, exercise boot camps, lectures and an annual competition urging employees to “Sit Less, Stand More.”

Top Rankings in U.S. and CT

The “2016 Best and Worst Community Colleges” study released by WalletHub.com ranked NCC second nationwide in Lowest Student Default Rate and third nationwide in Student Career Outcomes. The report analyzed 821 community colleges across 12 key metrics, ranging from tuition costs to student-faculty ratio to return on educational investment.

NCC’s exceptional Career Outcomes ranking is a result of workforce preparedness initiatives, partnerships with area employers,

and an expanded Center for Career Development. Contributors to NCC’s Lowest Student Default ranking are the college’s affordable tuition and a generous scholarship program funded by the NCC Foundation.

NCC also gets high marks closer to home. A 2016 review of “Best Online Institutions” by OnlineColleges.com ranked NCC second in Connecticut and in the top 15th percentile of colleges nationwide. The study reviewed 2,868 accredited two- and four-year institutions offering online instruction.

College is a Green Partner

In October, the Connecticut Department of Transportation named NCC the CTrides Partner of the Month for its commitment to earth-friendly transportation.

The college was honored for collaborating with CTrides to encourage the use of public transportation, alleviate traffic



(left to right) Marsha Aarons, CTrides Outreach Coordinator, and Robert Emigh, Professor of English as a Second Language, and Chair of the NCC Committee for Active and Responsible Environmental Sustainability

congestion, and educate the public about lowering carbon emissions.

“Every month we choose a business or organization that is constantly pushing for sustainability,” said Marsha Aarons, CTrides Outreach Coordinator. “NCC is exemplary.”

Paul Gallo Named Fellow of ACSM



Paul Gallo, Ph.D.

Paul Gallo, Ph.D., NCC Director of Exercise Science and Wellness, has been awarded Fellow status by the American College of Sports Medicine’s (ACSM) Credentialing Committee

and Board of Trustees. This prestigious achievement is for long-term ACSM members who have demonstrated exceptional service, high standards of professional development and commitment to the goals of the organization.

Kristina Testa-Buzzee Honored

Kristina Testa-Buzzee, Ed.D., NCC Associate Dean of Extended Studies and Workforce Development, was honored with a Workplace Advocacy Award in June for “tirelessly promoting lifelong learning, training and recruitment of candidates and quality of providers.”



Kristina Testa-Buzzee, Ed.D.

STUDENT + ALUMNI NEWS

Meet NCC's Rocket Scientists

Three NCC students were over the moon this spring when NASA selected them for its coveted Community College Aerospace Scholars Program, a STEM training program for community college students majoring in science, technology, engineering and math.

Lydia Gjuraj, Eric Bissell and Michael Koutoumbas participated in NASA's five-week online course on aeronautical engineering and the agency's space missions.

NCC's talented trio also were among a select group of students invited to take part in a four-day onsite experience at a regional NASA Center. Bissell attended NASA's Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, Gjuraj attended the Johnson Space Center in Houston, and Koutoumbas went to the Langley Research



(left to right) NCC students Lydia Gjuraj, Eric Bissell and Michael Koutoumbas

Center in Hampton, Virginia. The students engaged in a rich STEM learning experience through interactions with NASA scientists and engineers, web-based activities and hands-on experiences.

NCC Students Bound for Mount Holyoke and Smith

Two members of the Class of 2017 have been accepted to Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts, each with a scholarship package worth more than \$110,000.

Sheena Stapleton and Teri Lombardi will start classes this fall. Each has been awarded a Frances Perkins Scholarship for non-traditional college women (women over 24 whose higher education has been postponed or interrupted).

In addition, NCC student Ketty Munyenembe has been accepted to Smith College in nearby Northampton, Massachusetts, with a merit-based Ada Comstock Scholarship.

Mount Holyoke and Smith have a long tradition of accepting NCC graduates. NCC's newest group of accepted students will join four other NCC graduates currently attending Smith and Mount Holyoke.

Sheena Stapleton is a native of Scotland who dreamed of finishing her college degree once her three children graduated college. She plans to major in history. "I am looking



Sheena Stapleton



Ketty Munyenembe



Teri Lombardi

forward to being at Mount Holyoke," she said. "It will be an absolute privilege. I am very aware of the opportunity I've been given."

Ketty Munyenembe, a native of Zambia, is a former Youth Ambassador for the YMCA Youth Alliance. She has traveled throughout Africa, Asia and Europe "empowering young people in countries where they don't feel empowered to speak up." She plans a career in international relations and government.

Teri Lombardi will major in dance and psychology at Mount Holyoke, in preparation for a career as a Dance Movement Therapist. She credits NCC professor Susan Gebhardt-Burns with encouraging her to apply. "The possibility of me, at this stage of my life, having a full college experience (okay, minus the keg parties), and of being a student at such a selective school, was something I never imagined for myself," she said.

NCC Alumnus is Advocate for Immigrant Youth

Lucas Codognolla (Class of 2011) understands the needs and fears of undocumented students, because he is one.

A native of Brazil who emigrated to the U.S. with his parents as a child, Codognolla is Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of United We Dream, the largest undocumented youth-led network in the U.S. He also is Executive Director of Connecticut Students for a Dream, a coalition fighting for the rights of undocumented youth and their families.

For his achievements as a national leader in the Immigrant Youth movement, Codognolla received the NCC Distinguished Alumni Award at our 2017 Commencement.

His goal is to empower undocumented students to achieve their fullest potential. Many undocumented students attempt to

earn a college degree only to find obstacles in their way, he explains. They are ineligible for federal financial aid and in most states are not entitled to receive state or institutional financial aid – even if they have lived and attended public schools in that state since kindergarten.

Codognolla found the courage to reveal his own undocumented status while attending NCC, where he studied sociology and social justice. Since completing a B.A. at the University of Connecticut, he has campaigned for passage of the federal Dream Act and lobbied legislators for the successful passage of the In-State Tuition Bill.

Earlier this year, he was invited to address faculty and staff at NCC's Spring Convocation program. "I'm undocumented and unafraid," he said. "It's been a really long journey for me and I give a lot of credit to NCC."



Alumnus Lucas Codognolla speaking at NCC's 2017 Commencement



Students protested in the rain in front of the West Campus building to save shuttle bus service. President David L. Levinson, Ph.D., Interim Dean of Academic Affairs Mike Butcaris, Ph.D. and Dean of Students Calvin McFadden, Ph.D. supported their efforts.

Students Save Shuttle

When Norwalk Transit District announced plans in October to eliminate shuttle bus service between the NCC campus and the South Norwalk train station, students rallied to save it.

They wrote letters to legislators and transit officials, signed petitions and staged a protest outside the West Campus building. The students argued that the shuttle's arrivals and departures were aligned with the train schedule and that many students would be unable to attend NCC if the wheels stopped rolling.

Their activism paid off. Despite some route cuts, Norwalk Transit agreed to keep

two of the NCC shuttle buses previously scheduled for elimination.

"I am proud that our students, faculty and staff rallied together," said President David Levinson. "It's a testament to the power of 'NCC Strong.'"

NCC students take action when they care about a cause. This year, students organized Voter Registration Drives, raised awareness of health insurance options, promoted sustainability and green transportation, and held food and clothing drives for the needy. They also wrote letters to legislators protesting tuition increases and the possible consolidation of the state's community colleges.

"One of the things I love about NCC is that we have students from all over the world, from teenagers to senior citizens. Student diversity creates opportunities for engagement and learning beyond the textbook. I find that when students share their experiences and ideas, opportunities for learning grow and the classroom experience is better for everyone. I am proud that I learn from my students all the time."

Susan Steiz
Professor of Marketing

“NCC students are kind and compassionate. They balance school, work and family obligations and have a deep understanding that many of their peers do the same. They have such energy and passion, as they look to the future and appreciate present opportunities.”

Christine Mangone, Ph.D.
Instructor of Music and Theater



CAMPUS EVENTS



Joe Connolly (left) on stage with NCC panelists

CBS NewsRadio

In September, Joe Connolly, CBS NewsRadio 880 Bloomberg Business Anchor, visited NCC to moderate a panel discussion for job seekers on “How to Transform Your Life in One Year or Less.”

Connolly, whose weekday business reports reach three million listeners, led the discussion with NCC graduates who have completed short-term certificate programs in graphic design, culinary arts, health care, exercise science and real estate. The event, which was funded by the NCC Foundation, drew over 250 job seekers and employers.

Connolly later featured event excerpts on his radio reports, praising NCC for being a tri-state leader in workforce education.

Senators Take Stand on Guns

NCC hosted a public forum on Gun Violence in April with Connecticut Senators Chris Murphy (D) and Richard Blumenthal (D),

who talked about their ongoing efforts to prevent gun violence.

They were joined by Joshua Koskoff, the lead attorney representing families of Sandy Hook victims in a case against the Remington company. Remington manufactures the M16 rifle, a military assault weapon that was used by Adam Lanza in 2012 to kill 20 children and six educators at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut.



(left to right) Senator Chris Murphy, Senator Richard Blumenthal and Joshua Koskoff

Live from NCC, It's Saturday Night!

It was standing room only in the PepsiCo Theater when writers and cast members of the iconic “Saturday Night Live” television show appeared at the annual NCC Talks series in February.

NCC played host to SNL actors Bobby Moynihan and Mikey Day, and writers Sarah Schneider, Sudi Green and Streeter Seidell.

The SNL panelists took questions from students and discussed the grueling pace



(left to right) Bobby Moynihan and Mikey Day

of writing and producing a live show each week in just a matter of days. “We stay up all night cramming for deadlines, just like you do,” Streeter Seidell told students.

The discussion was moderated by Marketing and PR Director Madeline Barillo and Humanities Professor John Shields and was funded by the NCC Foundation.

Remembering Our Vets

Veterans Day 2016 was celebrated with a visit by U.S. Congressman Jim Himes (CT-4th District) to NCC's Oasis Veterans Lounge.



Congressman Jim Himes (right) talks to veterans.

Himes recognized student vets for their service and led a discussion on military service, the transition to civilian life, and his work with the House of Representatives' Intelligence Committee in Washington, DC.

Later that day, NCC alumna Eunice Ramirez delivered a keynote address on her military experience serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

MSNBC's Joy-Ann Reid Visits NCC

Joy-Ann Reid, MSNBC political commentator and award-winning journalist, came to NCC in May to discuss the intersection of politics and race. The event was sponsored by the NCC Foundation.



Joy-Ann Reid

Reid is the host of MSNBC's weekend-morning talk show “AM Joy,” and a frequent contributor on MSNBC programs. She gave a well-attended talk on the history of equality and race relations in the U.S. since the Civil War, with analysis on how voter support among changing demographics since the 2012 presidential election helped shape the outcome of the 2016 presidential election.

A graduate of Harvard University, Reid is author of the 2015 book *Fracture: Barack Obama, the Clintons, and the Racial Divide*.

Academic Festival

NCC celebrated its 20th Academic Festival in April with free public events held at venues throughout the college. This year's theme of "Identity, Intersectionality, and Justice" was interpreted in more than 20 events, including music and theater performances, lectures, panel discussions on Racial Profiling and Gender and Identity, multi-media mash-ups, and meet-the-author events. The festival was funded by the NCC Foundation.

Festival highlights included talks by four keynote speakers. Temple University Professor Sara Goldrick-Rab, Ph.D. presented a lecture on "Intersectional Identities of Community College Students," focusing on the growing problems of college loan debt and food insecurity among students across the country.

A talk by Nabil Valencia, President of Latinos Unidos of Connecticut, provided insights into the lives of Latin American immigrants living in Connecticut.

Journalist and filmmaker Raquel Cepeda chronicled her year-long journey to discover her Dominican roots using ancestral DNA, and signed copies of her book, *Bird of Paradise: How I Became Latina*.

Stony Brook University Professor Crystal Fleming, Ph.D. gave a lecture on how people respond to racial oppression. Dr. Fleming has done extensive research in France on racism and white supremacy.



Crystal Fleming, Ph.D.

In addition, Kashif Abdul-Karim, Imam of the Muhammed Islamic Center of Greater Hartford, led a discussion on "Critical Immigration Issues in a Trumpian Era." Panelists included NCC Professors Steve Berizzi and Althea Seaborn, and Cheryl DeVonish, NCC Chief Diversity Officer and Special Advisor to the President.

Past Meets Present

NCC's 13th annual History Symposium in October explored the theme of "Latin America, the U.S. and the Challenges of Recent History." NCC professors led talks focused on Cuba, Puerto Rico, Brazil, Ecuador and Argentina.

Hannelore Moeckel-Rieke, Ph.D., Chair of the English as a Second Language Department, discussed "Magic Realism and Its Impact on Post-Colonial Literature." Dr. Moeckel-Rieke is a peace activist who does field work in Rwanda on conflict resolution.

Philosophy Professor Edward Grippe, Ph.D. talked about "Liberation Theology: A Revolution Based on Human Dignity." Latin American Studies Professor Andres Aluma-Cazorla discussed "Untold Histories of the Queer Puerto Rican Diaspora" and also led a discussion of the "Neoliberal South in Ecuador and Argentina."

Harlem Renaissance Revisited

NCC celebrated Black History Month in February with nearly a dozen public events with a Harlem Renaissance theme. The month kicked off with poet Frank Brady reading from the works of Nikki Giovanni, an American poet and activist. University of Connecticut Professor Dr. Jeffrey O.G. Ogbar gave a lecture on the Harlem Renaissance, and concerts were held celebrating writer James Baldwin and African-American poets.

Events also included a discussion of slave artifacts, a one-woman show



Frank Brady

exploring the struggles of seven notable women in history, a panel discussion on "Bridging the Divide" and a Soul Food Competition.

Funding for Black History Month events was provided by the NCC Foundation.



Cast of the NCC Spring Musical Production *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*

Annual Theater Performance

NCC Music and Theater students charmed audiences in April when they presented their Spring Musical production of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*.

The Tony and Drama Desk award-winning comedy featured NCC actors playing 'tween' students who are competing in the championship of a lifetime.

The production was directed by Music and Theater Instructor Christine Mangone, Ph.D. and funded by the NCC Foundation.

NCC FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Funding Sources

Norwalk Community College received funding through six major sources: the General Fund, tuition and fees, auxiliary services, the Educational Extension Fund, and private and federal funds.

The General Fund appropriations are authorized by the State of Connecticut Legislature. Tuition and fees are established by the Board of Regents for Higher Education.

Auxiliary services and the Educational Extension Fund are self-supporting. The revenue from auxiliary services is primarily generated by Child Development Laboratory School fees and bookstore commissions. The Educational Extension Fund revenue is composed of non-credit program fees and summer session fees.

Private and federal funds consist mainly of grants and student financial aid. The Norwalk Community College Foundation actively seeks private grant funding for scholarships, student success initiatives, faculty development and program support.

Tuition

The Board of Regents sets tuition and fees at reasonable levels to promote access to education. In the 2016-2017 academic year, Connecticut residents paid \$555 for a three-credit course, and full-time Connecticut students paid \$2,084 for 12 credits or more. Annual tuition was approximately \$4,168.

The Board of Regents has waived tuition for qualified veterans and seniors aged 62 and older. Federal, state and private scholarships and financial aid packages are available to help students.

FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 (ENDED 6/30/17)



Instructional Programs, Library and Academic Support	\$ 23,070,736
Scholarships, Financial Aid	\$ 12,002,070
Institutional Operations	\$ 5,455,266
Student Services	\$ 5,150,729
Campus Facilities Operations	\$ 3,664,586
Auxiliary Operations	\$ 2,726,295
Grand Total:	\$ 52,069,682

"I am proud to teach at NCC because this is the place where social change takes place and where students can rise and lift up their families and communities regardless of where they come from. Education, critical thinking and compassion, values that NCC embodies, are needed more than ever in our time."

Hannelore Moeckel-Rieke, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair of English as a Second Language



FROM THE FOUNDATION

Dear Friends,

The past academic year has been one of triumph and uncertainty for Norwalk Community College and the Norwalk Community College Foundation. On the positive side, NCC continued its 55th year of academic excellence on May 18 when 686 students earned a total of 736 Associate Degrees and Academic Certificates. And, as has been the case for over 50 years, the Foundation's support of NCC's faculty, students and programs was instrumental in that transformational outcome.

Tens of thousands of students have benefitted from NCC's exceptional faculty. A strong faculty produces strong student engagement, resulting in educational excellence, which empowers and enables NCC students to succeed. And, as our students succeed and thrive, our local communities and the State of Connecticut directly benefit. We are honored to be a part of this success.

To our more than 10,000 donors and nearly 200 Board Directors over the past half century, we offer our heartfelt thanks for your leadership, vision and financial support, which has enabled us to continue our mission of student success. We met our 50th Anniversary \$5 million goal thanks to the generosity of our donors and the leadership of our Board, but we cannot rest on our laurels.

It is no secret that the State of Connecticut faces major fiscal challenges. Our state

leaders in Hartford are working to find sustainable solutions, but we fear that the community college system will be disproportionately impacted. Under the banner of "Students First," The Board of Regents for Higher Education has recommended two strategies for the restructuring of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) in an effort to save some \$41 million: (1) the administrative consolidation of college "back office" functions and (2) the operational consolidation of all 12 community colleges into one centrally managed organization.

As of this writing, we do not know the final outcome or implementation plan. However, we do know this. First, CSCU President Mark Ojakian has assured Foundation presidents that all monies privately raised by the foundations will remain in their respective communities. Second, the NCC Foundation is legally separate from the College; we will remain a standalone, self-supporting 501(c)(3) regardless of any CSCU consolidation. This independence ensures that we will be able to continue our support of the students through scholarships and student success programs, the faculty through College Advancement initiatives, and to remain transparent as we honor our donors' wishes, free from outside interference. Clearly, we cannot do so without your help.



We are proud of our Fairfield County neighbors who choose to take an active role in educating our community. For those who want to provide help and hope – to make a difference – we can think of no better way than by fostering successful student outcomes through supporting the NCC Foundation. In this time of declining state funding, your continuing financial support is more important than ever. With your personal commitment, the Foundation will continue to be a beacon of hope for NCC students, the college and our community.

Stuart C. Weismiller

Stuart C. Weismiller
President

Ann P. Rogers

Ann P. Rogers
Executive Director

Foundation scholarships have a profound impact on students. Nationally, most community college students finance their education through Federal Pell grants and loans. At NCC, our best students can graduate debt-free and receive transfer scholarships post graduation. The Foundation also transforms lives through academic coaching, access to jobs and internships, career mentoring, support for excellence in STEM and so much more.

Norwalk Community College
Foundation Board

FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP

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Marketing Tactics, LLC

Vice President

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Adjunct Professor,
Columbia (SIPA)

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J. Howard Stecker
Stecker Consulting

Treasurer

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Executive Leadership Coach

Vasso Gyftopoulos Kelly, RN
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ProCeritas Consulting LLC

Theodore J. Nussbaum
Mercer

Martha Poulter
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Hunt Street Associates

Lesley I.B. Schless
Shipman & Goodwin LLP

Susan G. Weinberger, Ed.D.
Mentor Consulting Group

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Greenwich

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David L. Levinson, Ph.D.
*President, Norwalk
Community College*

Ann P. Rogers
*Executive Director,
Norwalk Community College
Foundation*

Jeffrey L. Kenausis
NCC Faculty Representative

Andrea Santos
NCC Student Representative

Emeritus Directors

Joan Barksdale
Darien

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Staff Members

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Executive Director

Ann Marie Winsch
Director of Finance

Terri L. Nackid
*Director of Annual and
Planned Giving*

Agnes Weber
Events and Office Manager

Rose Pierre
Scholarship Manager

Catherine Lucia
Grants Manager



Pictured Board of Directors: Front row (left to right): Lesley Schless, Jacqueline Labatt-Simon, Erin Catapano, Ellen Petrino, Lea Mintz, Martha Poulter, Eleanor Riemer, Vince Murphy, Ann Rogers, Andrea Santos, Joan Barksdale, Julie Johnson. Back row (left to right): Joseph Donaldson, George Reilly, Jon Gold, Stuart Weismiller, David Levinson, Jeff Kenausis.

MISSION SUPPORT OF NCC

In preparation for our strategic planning process this year, we revised our mission and created the first ever vision statement for the NCC Foundation. Both statements reflect our focus on reaching a broader student population and aligning more closely with the community we serve.

Vision

Expand access to affordable, quality higher education, support the development of a productive workforce, and contribute to the knowledge and well-being of our community.

Mission

The mission of the NCC Foundation is three-fold:

- Raise funds for Norwalk Community College programs and scholarships
- Invest, administer and distribute funds so that students of all ages continue to benefit from challenging opportunities for self-improvement and intellectual growth
- Inspire and engage our community to share talents and resources

Strategic Plan

The following five goals will serve as the platform to take the Foundation to the next level of effectiveness and impact in support-

ing the students, programs, faculty and staff of NCC:

1. Increase annual scholarship funding in both dollars awarded and number of recipients to better fulfill the unmet needs of qualified NCC students.
2. Define and expand community partnerships to increase awareness and maximize impact.
3. Enhance Board Director engagement with NCC students and faculty to promote fundraising and Board satisfaction.
4. Increase communication with College faculty/staff to educate them on the rationale for funding decisions and the diverse ways the Foundation can provide non-monetary support.
5. Increase flexible funding to meet immediate and/or incremental needs allowing the Foundation to be a nimble funding resource.

It is our intent to continue our focused dedication to overall student success.

For the third year, we supported NCC's Summer Bridge program which is focused on math remediation for students entering NCC each Fall that are not yet able to enroll in college level math classes. At the end of one month, 60% of these students are ready for college level math and another 20%

move into a higher level of remedial math, saving both time and money.

Our impact on the Center for Science Health and Wellness continues as we are actively supporting the staffing and equipment required to support NCC's newly accredited Vet Tech program.

The Foundation will also focus our efforts on building significant community partnerships to enhance academic and professional opportunities for NCC students in both for-credit and workforce development certificate programs.

In conjunction with Fairfield County's Community Foundation, students are thriving in the Career Connections program at NCC which assists unemployed or underemployed high school graduates, 18-25 years old, who are not currently attending school. Students can receive full scholarships for eligible allied health certificates, and benefit from workforce readiness classes, career coaching, internship and job placement support.

Building One Community, a non-profit helping the immigrant population in our community, is partnering with NCC and the Foundation to offer home health aide certificates to their clients. Two classes have already graduated from this collaborative effort.

We are also working with General Growth Partners on a new Customer Service and Sales certificate; the cost is \$25 with a scholarship value of \$199! Students who

complete NCC certificate requirements will sit for the National Professional Certification in Customer Services exam offered by the National Retail Federation.

Finally, we will continue focused funding and leadership support for Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Career Services.

The spring Idea Pitch Competition and Summer Entrepreneur's Institute, which utilizes the Kauffman FastTrac® and NewVenture™ curriculum, are two key campus initiatives. A new scholarship provides funding and coaching for students interested in owning or starting a business, and we continue to fund major components of NCC's new Maker Space. We have formed a Career Services Advisory Board and support NCC's new job posting platform.

More Fairfield County students attend NCC than any other post-secondary institution. In these uncertain times, the NCC Foundation has redoubled its efforts to support students and best practice programs that have given hope and a path to self-sufficiency for so many of our neighbors.

The Norwalk Community College Foundation was established in 1965 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Legally separate from the college, and with Net Assets of \$25.6 million, the Foundation provides more than \$3 million annually to support student success at NCC.

NCCF FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

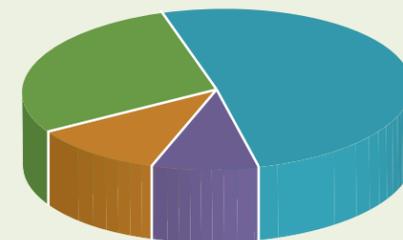
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 3,369,588
Investments	23,265,919
Other Assets	610,439
Total Assets	\$27,245,946
Liabilities	
Grants Payable	\$ 1,441,118
Other Liabilities	211,136
Total Liabilities	\$ 1,652,254
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	\$ 860,942
Temporarily Restricted	8,379,828
Endowed Funds	16,352,922
Total Net Assets	\$ 25,593,692
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$27,245,946

FISCAL YEAR 2016 (ENDED 12/31/2016)

The Foundation's financial statements were audited by Dylewsky, Goldberg & Brenner, LLC. The complete audited financial statements are available on our website; highlights are shown below.

\$3.1 Million in Support for Norwalk Community College in 2016

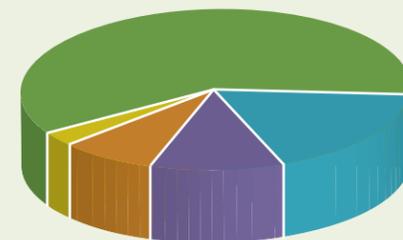


Scholarships	\$ 906,944
College Advancement	1,590,093
Stewardship	279,101
Development	338,405
Total	\$3,114,543

Investment Policy and Asset Mix

Our investment policy states: The primary emphasis of the investment policy is to safeguard and preserve the principal of the endowment after inflation and a payout to be approved annually by the Finance Committee and the Board. Additionally, a real return on the portfolio is desired. These investment objectives must be achieved within acceptable risk parameters.

The endowment investment return was 7.8% in 2016 and the five year average annual investment return was 6.9%.



US Equities	60%
Fixed Income	18%
International Equities	11%
Alternatives	8%
Cash	3%

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

NCC Foundation scholarships are unique because only NCC students can apply. Awarded for academic merit and financial need, our scholarships assist current students and high-achieving NCC graduates who transfer to four-year institutions. This support can be truly life-changing.

Based on eligibility requirements, students attending NCC directly from high school can apply for the Charles Royce Merit Scholarship or the David and Eunice Bigelow Foundation Scholarship.

Once NCC students have earned at least 12 credits, they may be eligible to apply for our Spring or the Full-Year Scholarship Program which includes nearly 100 named scholarship funds. Recipients are awarded as much as \$3,800 for the academic year, with an additional \$550 to take a Winter Session class, and up to \$1,100 for Summer Semester classes. During the 2016-2017 academic year, the Foundation awarded \$980K in scholarships to 454 students.

Exceptional NCC graduates who pursue a bachelor's degree at a four-year institution may apply for one of three transfer scholarships: LEAP Transfer Scholarship (see listing), Dream Transfer Scholarship for childhood immigrants who graduate from a U.S. high school but are not yet U.S. citizens or permanent residents, or RN to BSN Transfer Scholarship for students who earn an RN at NCC and pursue a BSN.

Levinson LEAP Challenge Grant

As part of the NCC Foundation's 50th anniversary celebration, the Windmill Foundation pledged \$250,000 as a matching grant to create the President David Levinson LEAP Scholarship. Thanks to generous support from donors, in just over 12 months we have matched this gift with \$250,000 in new contributions. We appreciate everyone who chose to recognize all that President Levinson has accomplished in the past decade to impact our students—focusing on LEAP has been a special way to honor him.

Our LEAP transfer scholarship supports US citizens or permanent residents who have achieved a cumulative 3.5 GPA at NCC and are continuing their education full-time at a four-year institution. Since 2008, we have provided 147 students with a total of \$1.1 million in scholarships, and 97% have received or are still pursuing their bachelor's degree.

LEAP students have attended the following 47 colleges and universities:

American University
Bard College
Baruch College, CUNY
Boston University
Central Connecticut State University
Charter Oak State College
Columbia University
Cornell University
Fairfield University
Fashion Institute of Technology

Fordham University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Howard University
John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY
Manhattanville College
Mercy College
Monroe College
New York Institute of Technology
New York School of Interior Design
The Ohio State University
Pace University
The Pennsylvania State University
Post University
Pratt Institute
Quinnipiac University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Sacred Heart University
Sarah Lawrence College
Smith College
Southern Connecticut State University
St. John's University
Stony Brook University, SUNY
Purchase College, SUNY
Trinity College
University of Bridgeport
University of Connecticut – Stamford
University of Connecticut – Storrs
University of Hartford
University of New Haven
University of North Carolina – Asheville
University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill
University of Pennsylvania
University of Southern California
University of Virginia
Wesleyan University
Western Connecticut State University
Yale University

Path 2.0

Building on the success of the first Path program, and with generous donor support, the Foundation is pleased to announce that 19 students have been selected to participate in Path 2.0 beginning in the Fall 2017 semester. Like the original Path program which began in 2012, Path 2.0 focuses on student success by providing promising NCC students with a full-tuition scholarship, a stipend to cover books and ancillary expenses each semester, and regular access to a Student Success Coach. For students graduating from NCC with a 3.0 GPA or above, a transfer scholarship to a four-year institution of \$5,000 per year for two years may also be available. Students selected for the program are at least 20 years old, have completed between 12 and 24 credits, have a cumulative 2.8 to 3.4 GPA, and did not attend NCC directly after high school.

Of the students in the original Path Program, 93% completed, or are in the process of completing, a bachelor's degree.

For information on any program, visit ncc-foundation.org or call Rose Pierre at (203) 857-7261.



Rose Pierre, a previous Path Scholarship recipient at NCC, was recently named Scholarship Manager. She graduated from NYU in May 2017 with a Master's in Higher Education Administration.

SCHOLARSHIP + PROGRAM FUNDS

We are grateful to our donors for establishing and supporting the following endowment and temporarily-restricted funds.

The 460 Foundation Scholarship
 Access to Education Scholarship
 Anonymous Scholarship Fund
 Elizabeth Raymond Ambler Trust Scholarship
 The America 911 Scholarship
 Lois and Harlan Anderson Scholarship
 Robert and Jeannie Kay Armstrong Scholarship
 Everett Baker Library Development Fund
 John A. Ball Scholarship
 Joan and Ed Barksdale Scholarship
 Mary Bauer Nursing Scholarship
 Rose S. Becker Memorial Scholarship
 Bigelow Foundation/Briggs Scholarship
 James Bissell Memorial Scholarship
 John Fiske Boorum Memorial Scholarship
 Dr. Mary W. Brackett Scholarship
 Katherine Hall Browne Memorial Scholarship
 Doris Bucky Scholarship
 Building One Community – Allied Health Skills Development Program
 Ilene and Irving G. Calish, Sr. Scholarship
 Mickey and Brooke Callanen Scholarship
 Career Connections Program
 Frank and Anne Cary Fund for Student Success
 Charlotte Chen, Esq. Scholarship
 Ann Chernow Art Scholarship
 Carle C. Conway Scholarship
 Center for Career Development
 Jane Corbo Scholarship
 Charlotte Cowie Human Services Memorial Fund
 Crane Scholarship
 Virginia and Malcolm Crawford Scholarship
 Croaning/Van Dyke Scholarship for Child Development Lab Students

James E. Deaver Memorial Scholarship
 Katy and Professor John Dolhun Scholarship
 Nancy Doyle Scholarship
 Dream Transfer Scholarship Program
 Dugan Family Scholarship
 Jamie Earle Memorial Scholarship
 Early Childhood Education Program
 The Grove Ely Single Parent Fund
 English as a Second Language (ESL) Program
 Enterprise Scholarship
 Entrepreneurship Scholarship
 Fernandez Family Scholarship
 Family Economic Security Program (FE\$P)
 Dr. John K. Fisher Scholarship
 Robert Garland Memorial Scholarship
 GE Capital Scholarship
 General Growth Partners – Customer Service and Sales Certificate Program
 Josephine Lindenmeyer Gierer Scholarship
 Marion and Justin Glickson Scholarship
 Maurice Godin Scholarship
 Goodnow Scholarship
 Darlene Ryan Goodwin Scholarship
 GOPIO-CT Scholarship
 Albert L. Hadley Scholarship
 Hammant Memorial Art Scholarship
 Richard T. Hansen Memorial Scholarship
 Harrington Family Scholarship
 Mark Hattenbach Memorial Scholarship
 Harry H. Hefferan, Jr. and Catherine Hefferan Scholarship
 John H. Heher Memorial Scholarship
 Claire L. Helsing Scholarship
 Eileen Heckart Respiratory Therapy Scholarship
 Hiranandani Scholarship
 Leon and Fanny Hirsch Scholarship
 Anne Ireland Memorial Scholarship
 Stacy M. Israel Scholarship

Joseph Karpowich Memorial Scholarship
 Blanche Kent Archaeology Fund
 Jules Lang Scholarship
 Toni Anne Laufer Scholarship
 Le Bal d’Ecole Scholarship
 McLean-Kearney Family Scholarship
 Frank C. Lee Memorial Scholarship
 Marcia Jane Le Moulst Memorial Scholarship
 LEAP Transfer Scholarship Program
 Leonhardt Scholarship
 Max R. & George J. Lepofsky Scholarship
 Sachiko S. Liebergesell Scholarship
 Lifetime Learners Institute Scholarship
 President David Levinson LEAP Scholarship
 Matthew LoRusso Scholarship
 Calvin Loss Scholarship
 Lumina String Quartet
 Mandel Family Scholarship
 Margaret Jane McAuliffe Scholarship
 James R. McCormack Memorial Scholarship
 Carolyn and Gerry McGrath Scholarship
 Benson Meth Scholarship
 Donald and Virginia Miller Scholarship
 Lewis R. Mintz Scholarship
 Molly Scholarship
 William M. Mommaerts Memorial Scholarship
 Dr. Lia Mondo Scholarship
 NCC Exercise Science Club Scholarship
 Near & Far Aid Scholarship
 Thomas G. Norko Memorial Scholarship
 Nursing/Allied Health
 O’Hara Family Scholarship
 Geneva Walsh Scholarship
 Michael G. Weyer Scholarship
 Helen C. Whitten Scholarship
 Michael Wilens and Carolyn Longacre Scholarship
 Women in Management Scholarship
 Various Academic Departments at NCC
 Hobart P. and Alice B. Pardee Scholarship

Pasculano Transfer Scholarship
 Path Scholarship Program
 Raindancer Foundation Scholarship
 John & Patricia Rayner Scholarship
 RN to BSN Transfer Scholarship Program
 Charles Royce Merit Scholarship
 John E. Schmeltzer IV Memorial Scholarship
 REAL (Reaching Excellent Academic Levels)
 Judy Rivas Scholarship
 Sylvia Schudy Scholarship
 Dr. William H. Schwab Chair in Technology
 Charles M. and Jessica B. Shaeffer Nursing Fund
 Professor Michael Shub Developmental Mathematics Transfer Scholarship
 Joseph I. Shulman Memorial Scholarship
 Student Emergency Fund
 John and Charlotte Suhler Scholarship
 Summer Bridge Math Intensive Program
 Jean Svalgard Memorial Women’s Scholarship
 J. Tierney College Advancement Fund
 Pauline A. Toner Nursing Scholarship
 Dr. Harry L. Trambert Memorial Scholarship
 Charles J. Trantanella, Jr. Memorial Scholarship
 Nicholas Trivisonno Scholarship
 George C. Turner Memorial Scholarship
 UBS Scholarship
 Karen L. Veitch Memorial Scholarship
 Veterinary Technology Program
 John and Catherine Vigilante Scholarship
 Olivia Vlahos Scholarship
 Morrise Wagner Memorial Scholarship
 Geneva Walsh Scholarship
 Michael G. Weyer Scholarship
 Helen C. Whitten Scholarship
 Michael Wilens and Carolyn Longacre Scholarship
 Women in Management Scholarship
 Various Academic Departments at NCC

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Leena Adeel
 Senan Agblonon
 Victoria Agyei-Kyem
 Giannina Alimame
 Barovier Allybose
 Rafael Almeida
 Jier An
 Juliana Anderson
 Milton Andrade
 Ashley Antoine
 Anggie Arbelaez
 Eliana Arboleda
 Johanna Arias
 Aylin Aristizabal
 Feligina Arrivant
 Claudia Arrunategui Affon
 Joseph Aydemirkan
 Madina Bagova
 Vlada Baldanova
 Rosa Balderrama
 Noel Baldwin
 Katelyn Barber
 Courtney Barreira
 Jessica Barrett
 Youssef Batate
 Natalia Bates
 Khalid Belhabib
 Violeta Berisha
 Michael Betancourt
 Camieka Bethea
 Chaz Blanks
 Svenja Bolten
 Pattaraporn Boonyarattaphan
 Cynthia Borda
 Christine Bottone
 Mounir Bouferdou
 Reda Bouhaddada
 LaKia Brayboy
 Jakoyia Brown

Ajda Bukovac
 Victoria Burgess
 Andrea Butler
 Anabel Cabrera
 Melissa Calderon
 Fabio Calderon
 Audrey Camino-Jara
 Jennifer Campbell
 Jhan Campos
 Juliana Cano Angel
 Sheylla Contreras Rodriguez
 Jason Carbino
 Luke Cardamone
 Cintya Castillo
 Christian Chaparro
 Cindie Charles
 Katherin Chaverra
 Carmen Chavez
 Zoila Chele
 Michael Chesonis
 Mary Chiappetta
 Kenny Clyburn
 Courtney Coke
 Christina Colon
 Jack Corrigan
 Lauren Cotton
 Sean Crocker
 Carolinne Dacosta
 Victor Dai
 Pavli Dallta
 Shorabh Das
 David DaSilva
 Adrian Dattolo
 Jasmine Dautruche
 Karen Davey
 Olga Davila
 Kelicia Davis
 Kiaya Davis
 Andrea De Leon

Sariah Diabene
 Luisa Diaz
 Stephanie Diaz
 Jesus Diaz La Torre
 Frank Donaldson
 Vsevolod Dookh
 Brittany Duffin
 Nadia Ema
 Olguyne Ermilus
 Helen Fahey
 Leigh Ferreira
 Maria Flores
 Leonardo Florez Duque
 Ariane Francois
 Kaisha Fulton
 Mylene Garcia
 Gloria Gavidia
 Lovens Gjed
 Lydia Gjuraj
 Ronan Goncalves
 Brian Gonsalves
 Julian Gordon
 Alejandra Grisales
 Allyson Guamantaqui
 Jeffrey Guance
 Simu Halim
 Ramoi Hammond
 Qinge Han
 Rachel Hara
 Martiecita Harding
 Zeniel Hazelwood
 Adriana Heredia
 Mette Hermans
 Ardison Hernandez
 Giselle Herrera
 Luz Hidalgo
 Natalia Holovyn
 Anna Horoszczak
 Loretta Horton

Jessica Hunter
 Kim Huynh
 Stephanie Hyppolite
 Hermione Illaire
 Lawrence Jackson
 Marya Jackson
 Teya James
 Hans Jean
 Pego Jean-Paul
 Virginia Jespersen
 Remanee Jones
 Sarah Joseph
 Charntell Joubert
 Aaron Karch
 Kevin King
 Oleksandr Kasil
 Alexis Koch
 Chester Kocot
 Tetiana Kokorska
 Zhanna Kotliar
 Kinga Kotono
 Michael Koutoumbas
 Stephanie Lagos
 Kin Yat Lam
 Bal Lamichhane
 Holly Larsen
 Deborah Laurentino
 Mackenzie Lea
 Jade Presley Lewis
 Anne-Marie Lezeau
 Jennifer Linn
 Toni Livingston
 Santiago Logrono
 Daniel Lopez-Granada
 Tomasa Lopez Ortiz
 Kimberly Louisgene
 Lindsey Lozyniak
 Ludmila Lungu
 Wendy Marroquin



Donna Martinek
 Nicole Martinez
 Monique Mason
 Tshifhiwa Mathoni
 Kelly McCaskill
 Iryna Melnyk
 Janeth Mendiola Gordillo
 Katerin Mendoza
 Sonny Mendoza
 Selena Menjivar-Delgado
 Marlene Merino
 Odette Merisme
 Marlene Millington
 Hardik Mistry
 Sydney Moerler
 Erica Monteleone
 Jessica Moran
 Ana Moran Arevalo
 Tudean Marrant
 Chareeya Muangmanee
 Ketty Munyenyembe
 Ana Murcia
 Carlos Murcia
 Charles Murphy

Kathleen Muto
 Tetiana Nadkernychna
 Magdalena Nagorska
 Saw Naing
 Nancy Nava
 Nafras Nawas
 Steven Nelson
 Scott Neumann
 Melanie Numa
 Ayeshia Nurse
 Kimberly Ojedis
 Babatunde Olaniba
 Daniel Olivas
 Anggela Olivas Castillo
 Anthony Orellana
 Robin Orellana
 Claudia Otoshi
 Camila Pacheco
 Delmy Palencia
 Oyuki Palomino-Rios
 Ana Luisa Pastor dos Santos
 Ruhi Patel
 Kayla Patricelli
 Choralie Paurice

SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHT



Bronislava Slagle
Renee Smith
Tamzyn Smith
Sean Stennett
Rebecca Steward
Matthew Stromberg
Jesmar Suarez Sanchez
Konstantin Suvorov
Silma Sweeney
Kristine Swingle
Molly Szot
Ashley Tarantino
Tyler Telesco

Nia Walcott-Ruffin
Amy Warchick
Jacob Waring
Cameyo Weir
Ashley Weiss
Sheila Williams
Kristal Woods
Candace Wright
Chelsea Wright
Yu Wu
Fatima Younous
Janet Zove

LEAP Transfer Scholarship Recipients

Kimberly Tello
Juliana Tessaro
Maria Thierman
Lais Timoteo
Keltoum Timsouani
Mariem Tolba
Jenny Trejo
Erica Twardy
Cheyene Twining
Ellen Twum
Sirin Vahora
Frankely Valdez
Nicole Vado
George Van Bortel
Bryan Vartuli
Steven Vasquez
Patricia Fernanda Vaz
Emely Velasquez
Andres Velastegui
Hugo Vera
Amariz Videz
Alicia Villalobos
Krystele Villavicencio
Sinsois Vincent
Madeline Vose
Lidiya Voyko

Karen Alcaraz
Alejandra Aldana
John Aldana
Samantha Baczynski
Alison Baker
Eric Barrero
Cathleen Carnes
Rachel Carriera
Lillian Chavez
Sarah Emigh
Nicholas Evans
Nicole Evans
Marissa Fama
Charles Gamer
Anthony Garcia
Valeria Granada-Gomez
Jacob Henny
Jacob Hilton
Tyler Housey
Josh Kleinwaks
Shannon Lally
Michael Lambton
Ana Carolina Lasalandra

Maria Laughlin
Matthew Lesner
Toni Livingston
Rachel Mascitelli
Christopher McLaughlin
Jimmy Mendoza
Olga Mistry
Lucia Mittelhamova
Brittany Monte
Tiffany Montoya
Helen Nieves
Nathanael Paulemon
Catalina Ricaurte-Vanegas
Daniel Rosenthal
Noemi Salas
Dennise Salazar-Ospina
John Salzbrunn
Pawel Samelko
Jonathan Smith
Ronald Telemarque
Daniela Vanegas
Herfaly Williams
Alvaro Zapata

Path Transfer Scholarship Recipients

Arlene Blum
Dana Chamale
Julia Chambers
Thomas Donohoe
Brittany McIntyre
Andre Meythaler
Daniel Monahan
Roya Moore
Favzija Music
Rose Pierre
Anny Polanco
Kimberly Rabita
Yazmin Ramos
Samantha Razzaia
Myesha Williams

Dream Transfer Scholarship Recipients

Estaphania Aguilar
Renata De Melo
Mireu Jeong
Nicolas Mancheno
Isabel Melean
Milgian Moreno-Villatoro
Isadora Patrizi
Michael Perea
Agnes Weber

RN to BSN Transfer Scholarship Recipients

Jon Barbarula
Melissa Donohoe
Renee Fontaine
Kathryn Ford
Peter Galazka
Agata Gawron
Audry Peterson
Jill Siladi
Alexandra Sloane

Other Transfer Scholarship Recipients

Yenyfer Betancourt

A walk through the NCC campus readily reveals the wonderful diversity of our student body. But what is not obvious on the surface is the range of challenges and obstacles many of our students have overcome to succeed. Our featured scholars are a testament to the power of the human spirit and the transformational impact of NCC and the Foundation.

Christian Chaparro



Chris Chaparro's early years would test the most determined individual. A child of drug- and alcohol-addicted parents, his was a life of foster care and, later, homelessness. He struggled with balancing life, work and academics, ultimately failing at the University of Scranton, and then at NCC. As he put it, "working 50 hours per week to put food on the table, it was difficult to find time for school."

The turning point, he says, was when he was denied a promotion he deserved because he did not have a college degree. Chris returned to NCC under the Fresh Start program, with a clean academic slate and determined to transcend earlier failures. He became an academic and social leader on campus, maintaining a 4.0 GPA in business

administration throughout while serving as a vice president of Phi Theta Kappa and the dynamic president of the Business Club.

Chris received a full scholarship from the NCC Foundation for the 2016-2017 academic year. "Before returning to NCC, I would have said my future was pretty bleak. All of that changed when I discovered what NCC and the Foundation could do for me. They believed in me and gave me the tools I needed to succeed... even recommending me for my current job... and that made all the difference."

Chris plans to pursue his bachelor's degree at UCONN Stamford in the fall and will be receiving a LEAP transfer scholarship from the Foundation.

Marilyn Santos Reyes

Marilyn received her Nursing degree in May as NCC's youngest Nursing graduate. From an early age, she knew she wanted a career in medicine. She started volunteering at Stamford Hospital while she was a student at Stamford's Academy of Information Technology and Engineering (AITE). During this time, she started taking classes at NCC, earning 17 credits before her high school graduation. After graduating from AITE, she was accepted directly into NCC's very competitive nursing program.

At this point, her relative youth betrayed her and she failed to pass her first nursing



course. "At first I was devastated. I felt like a failure," she says. However, where others might have given up, Marilyn kept pursuing her dream, taking online courses and continuing to volunteer at Stamford Hospital. "If anything, I was even more motivated," she says. Marilyn re-applied to NCC's nursing program and never looked back.

She credits the faculty at NCC, which she calls an "amazing place to get an education," for helping her discover her true potential. And she credits the Foundation for helping her "achieve my dream of being a nurse." Marilyn received scholarship support from the Foundation for her entire time at NCC. She has not yet decided what her next step will be, but is sure that, "whatever medical field I pursue, NCC and the Foundation have prepared me to succeed."

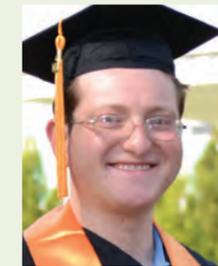
Matthew Stromberg

After working a variety of unsatisfying jobs, Matt decided to register for a single environmental science class at NCC to see how college would suit him. When the professor discussed biomimicry and aquaculture, Matt was hooked. "The more classes I took, the

more I could see myself studying environmental science and engineering," he says.

Matt excelled at NCC, earned a scholarship from the NCC Foundation, and became a leader in the Science and Engineering Club, Phi Theta Kappa and Women in STEM Club. As highlighted in *The New Yorker*, Matt was selected for Community College Abroad in France, a 10-day summer bootcamp offered by the French Embassy for students majoring in environmental science or engineering.

This fall, with the support of a LEAP Transfer Scholarship, Matt will pursue a bachelor's degree at the University of Virginia. In the not too distant future, he hopes to install systems across the world to produce fish for local populations. "Imagine having a warehouse-sized facility in the middle of Colorado that could feed a good portion of Denver with fresh salmon. No harvesting wild fish, no nets producing bycatch, no reefs



destroyed, almost no transport cost or fuel consumption. I have vivid dreams of building these facilities across the globe to feed the world and protect the oceans," he says.

OUR DONORS ARE #NCCPROUD

“ My experience at NCC set the course for my future and without

it I would not have been able to achieve the

successes I have had to date. I am forever grate-

ful. The thank you notes that I have received

from scholarship recipients have been touch-

ing. It is clear that the students are bright,

motivated and most importantly excited about

their future, which we all know, will have an

impact for generations to come. It is clear that

without the Foundation they simply would not

be able to continue with their education. NCC

and the Foundation are changing lives and I am

thrilled to be part of it. – Matthew LoRusso

NCC offers learning opportunities for students who might otherwise not be able to further their educations. Many are non-traditional students dedicated to improving their lives who, while attending school, are working and caring for children or parents or both. Scholarships allow them to pursue their dreams. We continue to be impressed by the professionals running the Foundation who are continually looking for innovative ways to help students succeed. In addition to providing scholarships, we are particularly proud of the work we have done with the Foundation to provide incentives for students to graduate and further their educations. – The Carle C. Conway Scholarship Foundation, Inc.

Community colleges play a vital role as an alternative to the rising cost of post-secondary schooling in America. We are most excited about the growth of NCC's entrepreneurship program and the related introduction of the Summer Institute. By placing emphasis on these programs, we strongly believe the College will be responsible for the active growth of viable small businesses in southwestern Connecticut. We have happily employed three capable NCC alums and have found each to be valuable members of our office. We steadfastly believe that an untapped talent pool exists on campus and would encourage employers from all sectors to provide opportunities to these very deserving students. – The Heidenreich Family Foundation

One of the most rewarding ways we have supported the Foundation's work is through the Dream Transfer Scholarship. For the past two years, this program has provided much-needed scholarship aid and mentors to undocumented NCC graduates, allowing them to continue their educations at four-year institutions and providing personal guidance along the way. This spring, the first Dream scholars began receiving their Bachelor degrees: high-achieving young people prepared to build productive lives and give back to their communities. We are especially thrilled that graduate Agnieszka Weber (UConn-Stamford, 2017), has joined the Foundation staff, helping current NCC students achieve their dreams. – Eleanor Riemer and Lawrence Cavanagh

We are proud to support NCC as a means to help our students realize their aspirations. These students will make a meaningful contribution to the quality of life in our own community. A contribution to NCC makes a real difference in people's lives. We are so excited to see our students living and progressing their dreams. – Debby McLean and Keith Kearney

I am so excited to be a supporter of NCC. I believe a college education changes lives. I see that happening every day at NCC. The energy, focus and enthusiasm of the students is palpable. It is a joy to see. I admire the thoughtfulness and attention that goes into the support programs for the students, as well as the fact that all of the programs are monitored and measured to determine their success. If one is not working, it is changed. As a result, contributions have real and ongoing impact. – Joe Zimmer

By supporting NCCF Scholarship Programs, we assist deserving students in attaining their academic goals in a timely manner. There is no better way to turn dreams into diplomas. – Joan and Ed Barksdale

The Claire Helsing Foundation administers funds left for charitable purposes by a woman who worked for 60 years as a legal secretary and legal assistant, never having had the opportunity to attend college herself. As trustees, we have determined that one of the finest purposes for those funds is to provide deserving students with the opportunities for advanced education and career growth that Claire Helsing never had. We are impressed by the progress of the students who have received Foundation support thus far, and we remain confident that the goals of NCC and of the Claire Helsing Foundation are closely aligned. – David M. Cohen and Daniel M. Young, Trustees

NCC continues to proactively invest in itself, its students and the diverse programs it offers, which matches the diversity of NCC's student body – it is not one stop shopping... Our Corporate investment has supported unique and cutting-edge programs, such as the construction of the Center for Science Health and Wellness, and subsequent programs that tie directly to our role in the insurance industry and providing opportunity to Fairfield County students. NCC does a great job of pairing its faculty and programs to the needs of its students and the community, and has created many success stories. It is the perfect school to begin a second chance at higher education and pursuing dreams. – Richard Manz, Vice President, General Re Corporation

As Connecticut's budget problems continue to negatively impact support for public institutions of higher learning, including our vital community colleges, frequently the first critical step in breaking the cycle of poverty for a student and his/her descendants, private donations become ever more critical. Norwalk Community College is a valuable resource for Fairfield County residents. Supporting the Foundation allows its Board to fund a number of facility and faculty enhancements, but its primary impact is felt in the awarding of a menu of different scholarships designed to empower students at various stages of their educational journey. It is difficult to imagine an investment which has a greater potential return to our society than a donation to the Foundation. – Hazel and Mike Hobbs

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We join with the Goodwin Family in thanking the following donors for their gifts in memory of our former Board President and Executive Director, James K. Goodwin. Jim was a longtime friend of the Norwalk Community College Foundation, serving in many roles as a talented leader and enthusiastic advocate for NCC. Gifts in Jim's memory support the Darlene Ryan Goodwin Scholarship for Stamford public school students currently attending NCC along with high achieving NCC graduates pursuing their bachelor's degree. When the Goodwins established this endowment in 2001, they prioritized the importance of education, realized the significant role NCC plays in developing local talent and understood what the college means to the broader Fairfield County community.



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“For me, NCC’s mission to provide education for students from all walks of life is the most exciting aspect of my job. Resources and opportunities that are available to students and faculty at NCC, especially through the NCC Foundation, are unique and exceptional and help us face the challenges and improve every day.”

Mobin Rastgar Agah, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Engineering

THE LEGACY SOCIETY

Leaving a Lasting Impact on Student Success

The Legacy Society has been established to honor and recognize those who have made a commitment to the Foundation through their estate plan. Participation is through a variety of vehicles including bequests in wills or designation of the NCC Foundation as a beneficiary of an insurance policy, retirement fund or charitable trust. Our Legacy Society members' vision and generosity exemplifies a dedication to student success.

If you have already included the NCC Foundation in your estate plans, we sincerely thank you. Please consider notifying us so that we can acknowledge your generosity as a Legacy Society Member (if desired, your anonymity will be preserved).

How Can You Participate?

There are a variety of ways you can make a planned gift to the NCC Foundation:

Bequest in Your Will – Bequests are the most common type of planned gift. They can take many forms. You might designate a fixed dollar amount in cash, appreciated securities, or a percentage of your total estate. You retain the benefit of your assets during your lifetime.

Retirement Fund Beneficiary – You can designate the NCC Foundation as a beneficiary of an IRA or other retirement plan.

Many professional advisors recommend doing so since these funds pass to the non-profit organization tax free.

Life Insurance Policy Beneficiary – You can designate the NCC Foundation as a beneficiary of a new or existing policy.

Charitable Trust Beneficiary – Two of the most common trust options are the Charitable Remainder Trust and the Charitable Lead Trust. Consult with your tax or financial advisor about the optimal trust to meet your specific needs.

Other Deferred Gift – A home or other property is donated to the Foundation with an income tax deduction at the time the gift is made; however the donor can continue to live in the residence or use the property during his/her lifetime.

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Find out more by visiting our website at www.NCC-Foundation.org, or contact Terri Nackid, Director of Annual and Planned Giving, at TNackid1@norwalk.edu or (203) 857-7139.



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