

TrusteeNews

PUBLICATION OF THE NEW JERSEY COUNCIL OF COUNTY COLLEGES

Bakari G. Lee, Esq. Elected ACCT Chairman



Bakari G. Lee, Esq.

On Thursday, October 6, Hudson County Community College Board of Trustees Vice Chairman and New Jersey Council of County Colleges Immediate Past Chairman Bakari G. Lee, Esq. was elected Chairman of the Association of Community College Trustees during the 2016 ACCT Leadership Congress in New Orleans.

As the Leadership Congress drew to a close Saturday, Lee said the association will "promote service to our country through the improvement of the nation's community colleges."

Lee said that his platform as ACCT Chairman would involve a focus on at-risk men of color, including African American and Latino males, and working student mothers.

Noting that this year's pre-ACCT Congress Symposium on Student Success brought to light new research on the challenges both student populations face, Lee called the statistics sobering. Lee said that he intends for ACCT to focus on bettering students' community college experiences and success rates.

"We look forward to the direction of Chairman Lee over the coming year," said ACCT President and CEO J. Noah Brown. "His strong grasp of legal and financial matters continue to inform the governance of the association and keep it on track. ACCT will continue to serve as the nation's voice of community college leaders, and to advance success for all students with an emphasis on the most disadvantaged."

Lee has served on the ACCT Board of Directors since 2011 and on the Hudson County Community College Board of Trustees since 2006, presently serving as the HCCC board's vice chair, chair of the Finance Committee, member of the Capital Project Advisory Committee, and trustee liaison for college commencement.

Lee is an attorney by occupation, serving as a member of McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC. His primary practice area is public finance, having served as bond counsel to multiple clients at the state, county and local level, as well as providing underwriter and trustee counsel services. Lee also provides special counsel services for affordable housing transactions, involving low and moderate income housing tax credits and other federal programs, including the Rental Assistance Demonstration program, for public housing agencies and private developers alike.

Lee holds a J.D. from Rutgers University School of Law and a bachelor of science from Florida A&M University. He will serve as chair of the ACCT Board of Directors through October 2017. ■



Bakari G. Lee, Esq.
Chairman of the
Association of
Community
College Trustees

NEW JERSEY COUNCIL OF
County Colleges

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From the Chair's Desk

Helen Albright
NJCCC Chair

New Jersey's 19 community colleges are the 19 open doors to opportunity for 400,000 students each year. And the New Jersey Council of County Colleges continues to work to ensure those doors remain open for future generations of students to come.

In June 2016, the New Jersey Office of the Secretary of Higher Education and the New Jersey Presidents' Council (made up of all of New Jersey's community college presidents and the four-year college and university presidents) jointly asked the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) to do a comprehensive study of higher education funding in New Jersey. NCHEMS provided two reports based on its study: *The Financing of Higher Education in New Jersey* and *Recommendations Regarding the Financing of Higher Education in New Jersey*.

NCHEMS is one of the most respected higher education research organizations in the country. Studies of this kind, where New Jersey higher education is compared to other states, have not been done in over two decades.

Two passages stood out when I read the reports that I want to share with all of you:

"The most under-resourced sector of public higher education in New Jersey is the County/Community Colleges. The combination of state appropriations, local taxes, and tuition revenue is insufficient to fund these institutions at levels commensurate with their peers in other states. Of these sources, the biggest difference in funding between New Jersey and the comparison states is in the level of support from the state. The community colleges have not sought to make up the funding differential by an overdependence on tuition increases." (*The Financing of Higher Education in New Jersey*, page 24).

The community colleges are the one sector of public higher education in New Jersey that is underfunded on a comparative basis (by \$1,000 to \$1,500 per full-time equivalent student). This underfunding is a consequence of the very low investment in these institutions being made by the state. It is recommended that funding priority in New Jersey be given to ensuring funding adequacy for the community/county colleges." (*Recommendations Regarding the Financing of Higher Education in New Jersey*, page 6).

The NCHEMS Reports have given us a powerful tool to use in our advocacy efforts going forward. I want to thank all of New Jersey's 19 community college presidents, who in their roles as members of the New Jersey Presidents' Council, had the vision to embark on this project. This report confirms what we have known all along... if state leaders find a way to add funding to the next state budget for higher education, increasing operating aid to community colleges should be a top priority. This would be consistent with the NCHEMS reports and recommendations – and it would help keep our 19 open doors to opportunity open to the hundreds of thousands of students we serve each year.

To all of our trustees, presidents, administrators, faculty and staff members, thank you for your continued hard work on behalf of New Jersey's 19 community colleges and our students.

I wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season.

Helen Albright
NJCCC Chair

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The New Jersey Council of County Colleges is the state association representing New Jersey's 19 community colleges. As an independent, trustee-headed organization that joins the leadership of trustees and presidents, the Council is the voice of the community college sector before the state legislature and other branches of government. The Council is also the state coordinating organization for all community colleges in New Jersey.

NEW JERSEY COUNCIL OF County Colleges

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NJ's Community Colleges Host Fourth Annual #NJC4 Week to Promote College Completion



Union County College students celebrate another successful #NJC4 week by displaying their C4 banner with thousands of students' signatures.

During the week of Oct. 17, New Jersey's 19 community colleges held the fourth annual New Jersey Community College Completion Challenge (#NJC4), a statewide initiative to increase awareness about the importance of completing associate degrees and certificates.

#NJC4 is a campaign created to increase the number of students at community colleges completing their associate degrees and certificates so that they can successfully transfer to four-year colleges and universities to earn their bachelor's degrees, and enter careers that provide family-sustaining wages. NJC4 partners include the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA), Kean University, Rutgers University-Newark, and the New Jersey Council of County Colleges' (NJCCC) Center for Student Success.

During #NJC4 Week, each community college held a series of campus-based college completion activities with the goal of raising awareness and encouraging students to sign the completion pledge. Since #NJC4 began in 2013, over 30,000 students have signed the pledge to complete their degrees and certificates.

New Enrollment Services Building Building Opens at Middlesex County College

This is the first of a new feature in *Trustee News* spotlighting new and renovated facilities at New Jersey's 19 community colleges

Middlesex County College formally opened its new one-stop enrollment center, West Hall, on Thursday, September 29, with a ribbon-cutting attended by College, County and State officials.

West Hall will house the offices of Admissions, Academic Advising, Career Services, Financial Aid, Registration, Student Account Services, Veterans Services, and the deans of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs. The offices opened in October.

"Today we celebrate the opening of our newest building – one to be used by all current and future students for enrollment services," said Middlesex County College President Dr. Joann La Perla-Morales. "When the founders of the

"Partnering on NJC4 with the New Jersey Education Association, Kean University and Rutgers University-Newark helps our 19 community colleges' Phi Theta Kappa Chapters inform students about the importance of staying in school to earn a college credential," said NJCCC President Dr. Lawrence A. Nespoli.

"NJEA is happy to once again partner with New Jersey's 19 community colleges to support the NJC4 initiative that encourages students to persevere, succeed and ultimately achieve the credentials necessary to be successful members of New Jersey's workforce," said NJEA President Wendell Steinhauer.

"As a Phi Theta Kappa Transfer Honor Roll school, Kean University is proud to support associate degree completion programs like NJC4 as an important step toward receiving a bachelor's degree and ultimately student success," said Kean University President Dr. Dawood Farahi.

"Rutgers University-Newark is excited to continue to strengthen its relationship with New Jersey's community colleges, and NJC4 is a great opportunity to provide hard-working students with the tools, knowledge and encouragement to best achieve long-term academic success," said Vice Chancellor for Academic Programs and Services at Rutgers University-Newark Dr. John Gunkel.

In three years, New Jersey has become a national leader in student completion initiatives, with other states, including Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Oklahoma, consulting with the New Jersey Center for Student Success to begin their own similar statewide campaigns.

To see coverage of this year's NJC4 programs, visit www.youtube.com/NJCommColleges, or visit Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and search using #NJC4. ■



Trustee Ambassador Spotlight: Tracey Abby-White

By Emily Marr, Fall 2016 Communications Intern

For Tracey Abby-White, the journey to becoming a Brookdale Community College Trustee was hardly a direct route. Starting her career as a teacher in Middletown, serving as a Councilwoman for Atlantic Highlands, holding various positions on the Board of Education for Henry Hudson Regional, and then transitioning into the corporate world where she is now the Director of Worldwide Sales and Channel Readiness at Tenable Network Security, she has truly done it all. Each past experience has offered her a



Brookdale Community College Trustee Ambassador Tracey Abby-White, with her daughter, Brittany, on May 18, 2015, at the College's Nurse Pinning Ceremony, when Brittany graduated from Brookdale's nursing program.

diversified and unique perspective to bring to her role as a trustee.

She is quick to describe her journey to trusteeship as humbling, full of trial and error and an unwavering drive to learn and give back. After hearing about the trustee position from a friend and applying to an ad in the paper six years ago, Abby-White felt that her extensive background in education left her well qualified for the task at hand. However, she will be the first to admit that she had not adequately done her homework regarding the position, and was not offered the spot on the board.

Instead of discouraging her, this experience pushed her to gain more knowledge regarding the responsibilities of a trustee, and when the position opened up again, she was ready. Ultimately, this lesson taught her a great piece of advice, which she is quick to pass on to new trustees, "Acknowledge what you don't know, and always remain open to learning new things," she said, while also citing the importance of frequent and mandatory trustee training.

Abby-White graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University with a degree in education, and believes that, "a good education can truly change someone's life." She recognizes her biggest responsibility as a community college trustee is making sure everybody, no matter his or her personal background, has access to an affordable, quality education.

When asked who inspires her most in regards to her role as a trustee, Abby-White replied, "The students that work to earn their degrees, finish their certifications or successfully transfer to their next level of education. I am inspired by the people who never thought furthering their education after high school was an option. Many have overcome significant challenges to better their lives. They push me to continue learning and become the best trustee I can be."

Looking to the future, Tracey sees community colleges playing a key role in the forward movement of America. She wants to continue working with the NJCCC and the NJ Community College Workforce Development Consortium to identify the needs of the New Jersey workforce and implement relevant programs into the colleges, through cross communication and collaboration.

Today, she spends much of her time traveling, whether for business or with her husband and three daughters, and she also loves to unwind on the golf course. ■

Christine Harrington, Ph.D.

Named New Executive Director of Center for Student Success



The New Jersey Council of County Colleges has hired Christine Harrington, Ph.D., of East Windsor, as the new executive director of the New Jersey Center for Student Success.

The New Jersey Center for Student Success works collaboratively with all 19 community colleges in New Jersey to increase successful experiences and outcomes for community college students. Toward this end, the Center organizes professional development events, provides technical assistance with various success initiatives, and participates in statewide and national conversations focused on improving student outcomes. The Center has two locations, the main office in Trenton at the NJCCC and a satellite location at Middlesex County College in Edison.

"We are thrilled to have Dr. Harrington on board as the new executive director of the New Jersey Center for Student Success," said NJCCC President Dr. Lawrence Nespoli. "Her work at Middlesex County College and impressive knowledge and national leadership in the field of student success makes her a valuable asset to our community college faculty and staff members engaged in student success initiatives." ■

"I am extremely excited to be working as a member of the New Jersey Center for Student Success. I believe that the work that we do at the Center has the ability to truly benefit the lives of the community college students, and I look forward to working with our 19 community colleges as we continue to improve student outcomes," Harrington added.

Harrington joins the New Jersey Center for Student Success on a two-year release agreement from Middlesex County College where she serves as a professor of psychology and student success. Prior to working as a professor, she was a full-time counselor at the College. In her position as the coordinator for the student success course and as an author of a research-based first year seminar textbook, *Student Success in College: Doing What Works!* 2nd edition, she has become a national figure in the first-year experience world.

Harrington earned her Ph.D. in counseling psychology from Lehigh University and her M.A. in counseling and personnel services and B.A. in psychology from The College of New Jersey. Aside from student success, she is also passionate about faculty development, and served as the director of the Center for the Enrichment of Learning and Teaching for five years at Middlesex County College.

New Jersey is a part of the National Student Success Center network funded by the Kresge Foundation, which also includes Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Michigan, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Virginia, Texas, and Washington. Other sponsors and partners of the New Jersey Center for Student Success include The Fund for New Jersey, Jobs for the Future, the New Jersey Education Association, the Office of the New Jersey Secretary of Higher Education, the Prudential Foundation, the PSE&G Foundation, the State Street Foundation, and New Jersey's 19 community colleges. ■

Dr. Anthony Iacono Named Third President of County College of Morris



Dr. Anthony J. Iacono, an accomplished administrator with more than 20 years of experience in higher education and community colleges, has been selected by the County College of Morris (CCM) Board of Trustees to serve as the college's third president. He joined CCM on September 1 after Dr. Edward J. Yaw retired as the college's second president at the end of August.

Iacono, a community college graduate, previously served as Vice President of Academic Affairs at Indian River State College (IRSC) in Fort Pierce, FL.

"Dr. Iacono brings a notable passion for student success and a comprehensive understanding of the important roles that community colleges play," said Dr. Joseph L. Ricca, chair of the Board of Trustees. "His expertise in creating innovative approaches to teaching and learning, developing community partnerships and securing grants and other funding provides a distinct advantage as CCM seeks to build upon its record of success for offering high-quality academic programs and career, transfer and professional development programs to serve the community and region."

During his 17 years with IRSC, Iacono also held the positions of Associate Dean for Developmental Education and full-time professor of history. His accomplishments include serving as a core member of the team that helped IRSC earn recognition by the Aspen Award Committee as one of the top 10 community colleges in the nation based on exceptional student success; leading a team of faculty, administrators and staff in supporting IRSC for admission into the Achieving the Dream network; and supporting faculty in the creation of IRSC's Institute for Academic Excellence, an innovative research and professional development center.

Along with his administrative responsibilities, he has served as an advisor to the United States Department of Education, the Florida Department of Education and various national think tanks and educational reform organizations. He is also one of the four founders of Florida's Institute for the Professional Development of Adult Educators. He is the recipient of numerous teaching and leadership awards and is a nationally recognized speaker on the topics of leadership, educational innovation, literacy and career pathways.

Prior to joining IRSC, Iacono held teaching positions at the University of Central Florida and Mississippi State University.

"I am deeply honored to have been selected as the next president of County College of Morris and I greatly appreciate the confidence that the search committee and the Board of Trustees have entrusted in me," said Iacono. "CCM is an exceptional institution that has achieved significant success since its creation in 1968. For more than 30 years, it has benefited enormously from the vision and leadership of Dr. Edward Yaw, its Board of Trustees, its administrative team, talented faculty and staff, as well as members of the community who have dedicated themselves to creating a college that has changed countless lives. As an individual who is passionate about helping people improve their future through education, strengthening communities through partnerships, economic growth and cultural enrichment, and pioneering innovative approaches to learning, I look forward to leading CCM and working with a talented team of people who share that passion. As an educator, my greatest focus is student success and CCM is well positioned to support its students today and for generations to come."

A first-generation college student, Iacono received his Ph.D. in American history from Mississippi State University, his M.A. and B.A. in American history from the University of Central Florida, and his Associate in Arts in general studies from Indian River Community College. IRSC was formed in 1965 when Indian River Community College and Lincoln Junior College merged. ■

New Tools Available for Community College Trustees

The New Jersey Council of County Colleges now has two new tools available to community college trustees to help them in their roles.

First, the NJCCC has expanded its YouTube channel to include short segments of Trustee Education Seminars. Trustees can view these short videos to quickly and easily learn best practices of trusteeship from several experienced trustees and presidents.

Some of the numerous topics covered in the videos are: the Trustee Role in the Accreditation Process, Tips to Keep Trustees Focused on Board Policies, the Primary Responsibilities of the Community College Trustee, County and State Government Relations, and many more.

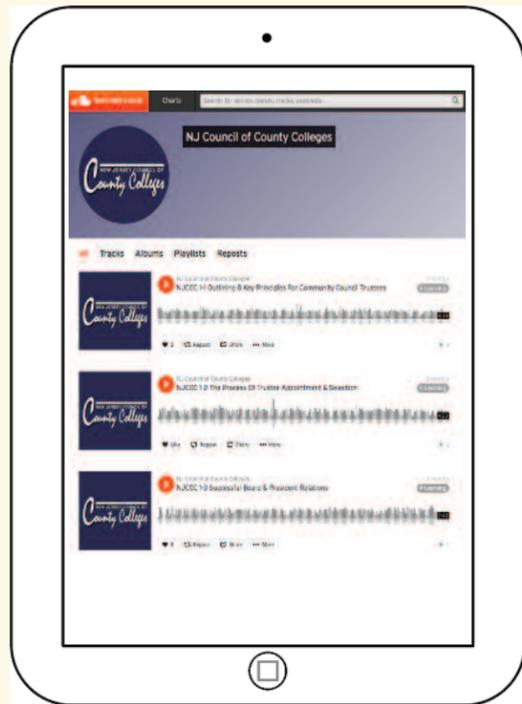
For trustees on the go searching for a mobile source of information, the NJCCC has also developed a podcast site that houses the audio of the above mentioned trustee video segments. In addition, the NJCCC will soon add audio news updates to help keep trustees and presidents informed about statewide community college issues.

The Trustee Education Videos can be viewed on the NJCCC's YouTube page, accessible via the YouTube icon located at the top right corner of www.njccc.org, or directly via www.YouTube.com/NJCommColleges. The audio podcasts can be accessed via the podcast icon located at the top right corner of www.njccc.org, or directly via www.soundcloud.com/NJCommColleges.

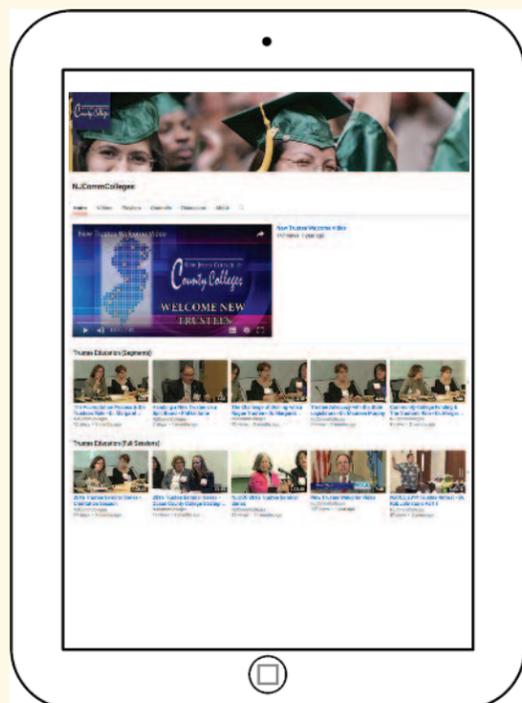
The videos and podcasts can also be accessed via a smart phone or tablet. To view the videos or listen to the podcasts on a smart phone or tablet, simply navigate to www.njccc.org on your web browser and select the YouTube Icon for the videos or the podcast icon for the podcasts.

These new resources have been developed under the leadership of the NJCCC's Trustee Academy Advisory Committee, whose members are NJCCC Chair Helen Albright, NJCCC Vice Chair Tom Tighe, Brookdale Community College President Dr. Maureen Murphy, and Union County College President Dr. Margaret McMenamin.

If you have additional suggestions for Trustee Education video or audio segments, please send your ideas to Dr. Jacob Farbman, APR via jfarbman@njccc.org.



The NJCCC's podcasts are now available via www.soundcloud.com/NJCommColleges.



The NJCCC's YouTube Channel now features short clips of Trustee Education videos. See more at www.YouTube.com/NJCommColleges.

Hudson County Community College

Receives Association of Community College Trustees Regional Equity Award



Accepting the Association of Community College Trustees 2016 Northeast Regional Equity Award on behalf of Hudson County Community College are Board Vice Chairman Bakari G. Lee, Esq.; College President Dr. Glen Gabert; Board Chairman William Netchert, Esq.; and Board Secretary/Treasurer Karen Fahrenholz.

During the Association of Community College Trustees Annual Leadership Congress in New Orleans in October, Hudson County Community College (HCCC) won the 2016 ACCT Northeast Regional Equity Award.

The ACCT Equity Award recognizes exemplary commitment by a community, technical or junior college governing board and its chief executive as a group, to achieve equity in the College's education programs and services and delivery of those programs and services.

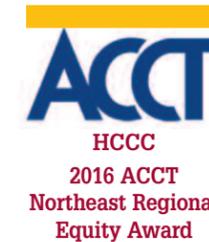
ACCT President and CEO J. Noah Brown stated: "The 2016 awardees are among the best we've seen, reflecting our colleges' tireless commitment to helping students succeed."

HCCC President Glen Gabert, Ph.D. noted that the diversity of the community and the HCCC students is enormously enriching, and that meeting their needs is foremost in the College's priorities and decision-making.

"Hudson County Community College continues to work to offer everyone in our community the finest, most affordable education and programming in the newest, best-equipped facilities," he said. "The environment at HCCC is culturally sensitive and respectful. HCCC faculty and staff reflect the ethnic composition of our community and are multilingual. Our courses, student assistance programs, clubs, and cultural offerings are developed to educate, assist and build greater understanding for all."

Dr. Gabert said this is not the first time the College has been recognized with an ACCT Award. The College was the recipient of the 2012 Northeast Regional Equity and Professional Board Staff Member (to Jennifer Oakley) Awards as well as the 2013 Northeast Regional Chief Executive Award (to Dr. Gabert).

"In working to make Hudson County Community College an institution of first choice that is better every year, we have been fortunate to be recognized with regional and national awards," Dr. Gabert stated. In addition to the ACCT awards, the College has also received the following: American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) 2013 Awards of Excellence for Student Success Finalist (one of just five finalists); AACC 2015 Awards of Excellence for Advancing Diversity Finalist (one of just four finalists); AACC 2016 Awards of Excellence Exemplary CEO/Board Finalist (to Dr. Gabert); National Tutoring Association 2014 Excellence in Tutoring Award; New Jersey Business & Industry Association New Good Neighbor Award in 2009 for the HCCC Culinary Conference Center, in 2012 for the HCCC North Hudson Campus, and in 2015 for the HCCC Library Building; Green Emerald 2015 Award for Urban Green Project for the HCCC Library Building; and the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) 2016 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award (the only New Jersey institution to be awarded to date). ■



Union County College's Mary Zimmermann Named to ACCT Diversity Committee



Mary Zimmermann, former Chair of the Union County College Foundation and member of the College's Board of Trustees and Board of Governors, has been elected to the Association of Community College Trustees' (ACCT) Diversity Committee.

The Diversity Committee ensures the leadership of

ACCT of the involvement of historically underrepresented diverse populations within the governance activities of the organization. The Committee promotes respect for and acceptance of diverse individuals and advances awareness and educational opportunity for underrepresented populations. It advises the ACCT Board by strengthening the links with the minority membership, identifying issues that require member input and recommending strategies to gather input.



Zimmermann, a resident of Summit, describes herself as a "professional volunteer." She serves as a Trustee Ambassador for the NJ Council of County Colleges. In addition to the time she devotes to Union County College and the Council, she also commits her time to other organizations. In July 2010, she was named Volunteer of the Month by SAGE Eldercare. In 2015, she was the first recipient of SAGE's Bob Abelson Carry the Torch Award, for her many years as a volunteer to the Meals on Wheels program as well as other community organizations. Zimmermann also participates in Summit's "Loaves and Fishes" food pantry at St. Teresa of Avila Church, sorting and bagging grocery staples for families in need.

Zimmermann serves as one of five commissioners on the Summit Housing Authority. The SHA owns and manages 195 low-rent family, elderly and handicapped housing units. The authority is also the City of Summit's designated local redevelopment agency and administers the City's Community Development Block Grants Program. The Authority is responsible for the administrative aspects of the management, development and rehabilitation of affordable lower income housing. ■

(Continued from page 3)

New Enrollment Services Building

Building Opens at Middlesex County College

College welcomed the first class there were 760 students. Today we have 12,000 students in credit classes and an additional 10,000 in noncredit classes. We have grown and we have had to change with the times. Our new West Hall will help us change and improve services for our students and bring together the staff to provide these services supported by new technology.

"We are most grateful to both the County of Middlesex and the State of New Jersey for making the funding available for this construction," she added.

"My fellow Freeholders and I believe that education is a pillar of our society. Through education, we obtain knowl-



edge of our world and undergo learning experiences that shape our lives. When students are armed with those tools, their potential is unlimited. That is why I am proud to say that the Freeholder Board contributed \$6 million toward West Hall's construction. The County has always been dedicated to giving its students the very best educational opportunities, especially here at Middlesex County College. West Hall's opening is yet another example of our commitment," Kenneth Armwood, Freeholder liaison to MCC, said.

West Hall, which cost \$12.7 million, was built through Chapter 12 funding, the traditional way that county colleges in New Jersey are able to construct buildings. The County sells bonds, and the State and County then split the debt service.

It is 30,000 square feet and is nearby two large parking lots.

"We're very excited about this new building because we will serve students in a more efficient manner," said Brian Clemmons, dean of enrollment management. "Students can sign in from anywhere – home, their mobile phone, or inside West Hall. They will then go to one terminal to get assistance with any type of enrollment issue. Most of them will only need to see just one MCC representative. Wait times should improve dramatically."

Donald Drost, executive director of facilities management, said the College will submit West Hall for LEED certification. LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is an internationally recognized mark of excellence that provides building owners and operators with a framework for identifying and implementing practical and measurable green building design, construction, operations and maintenance solutions. Crabiell Hall, which was completed in 2011, received a Silver ranking and Mr. Drost expects West Hall to earn a Silver or Gold mark. ■

CENTER FOR UPDATES

New Jersey Center for Student Success

Awarded \$175,000

Prudential Foundation

Grant for Student Success Initiatives

The Prudential Foundation has renewed its commitment to improving the lives of students by awarding a \$175,000 grant to the New Jersey Council of County Colleges in support of the New Jersey Center for Student Success.

The Prudential Foundation grant will fund College Credit Now and College Readiness Now in the spring and summer of 2017, two important intervention programs that assist at-risk high school students. The success of these efforts in previous years has shown that early interventions are crucial for preparing high school students for college, and that dual enrollment programs accelerate the time it takes for students to earn associate degrees.

College Credit Now allows eligible high school students to enroll in dual enrollment college-level courses.

College Readiness Now provides developmental instruction to at-risk high school students so that they are prepared for college-level work before entering college.

"With the Prudential Foundation's continued support, our community colleges, in collaboration with high school partners, can do even more to develop, expand and implement programs that enable students to achieve their goals and reach their full potential," said New Jersey Center for Student Success Executive Director Dr. Christine Harrington.

This \$175,000 grant builds on the initial \$200,000 grant that the Prudential Foundation awarded to the NJCCC and the Center in December 2015.

This past summer, Essex County College, with the support of the first Prudential Foundation grant, provided College Readiness Now to 80 11th and 12th grade students in Newark high schools. Eighty-three percent of the students successfully completed the program.

In addition, currently in the Fall 2016 semester, Camden County College, Ocean County College, Passaic County Community College, Union County College, and Warren County Community College are providing College Credit Now dual enrollment programs to hundreds of 11th and 12th grade high school students as part of the initial Prudential Foundation grant.

New Jersey's Center for Student Success, established in October 2012, works on behalf of the state's 19 community colleges to more effectively assist students in achieving college completion. Grants from the Fund for New Jersey and the PSE&G Foundation helped to launch the Center. In addition to The Prudential Foundation, the Center is also funded by the Kresge Foundation, the PSE&G Foundation and the State Street Foundation, and receives programmatic support from the Office of the New Jersey Secretary of Higher Education, Jobs for the Future, the New Jersey Department of Education, the New Jersey Education Association, Kean University, and Rutgers University-Newark. ■