



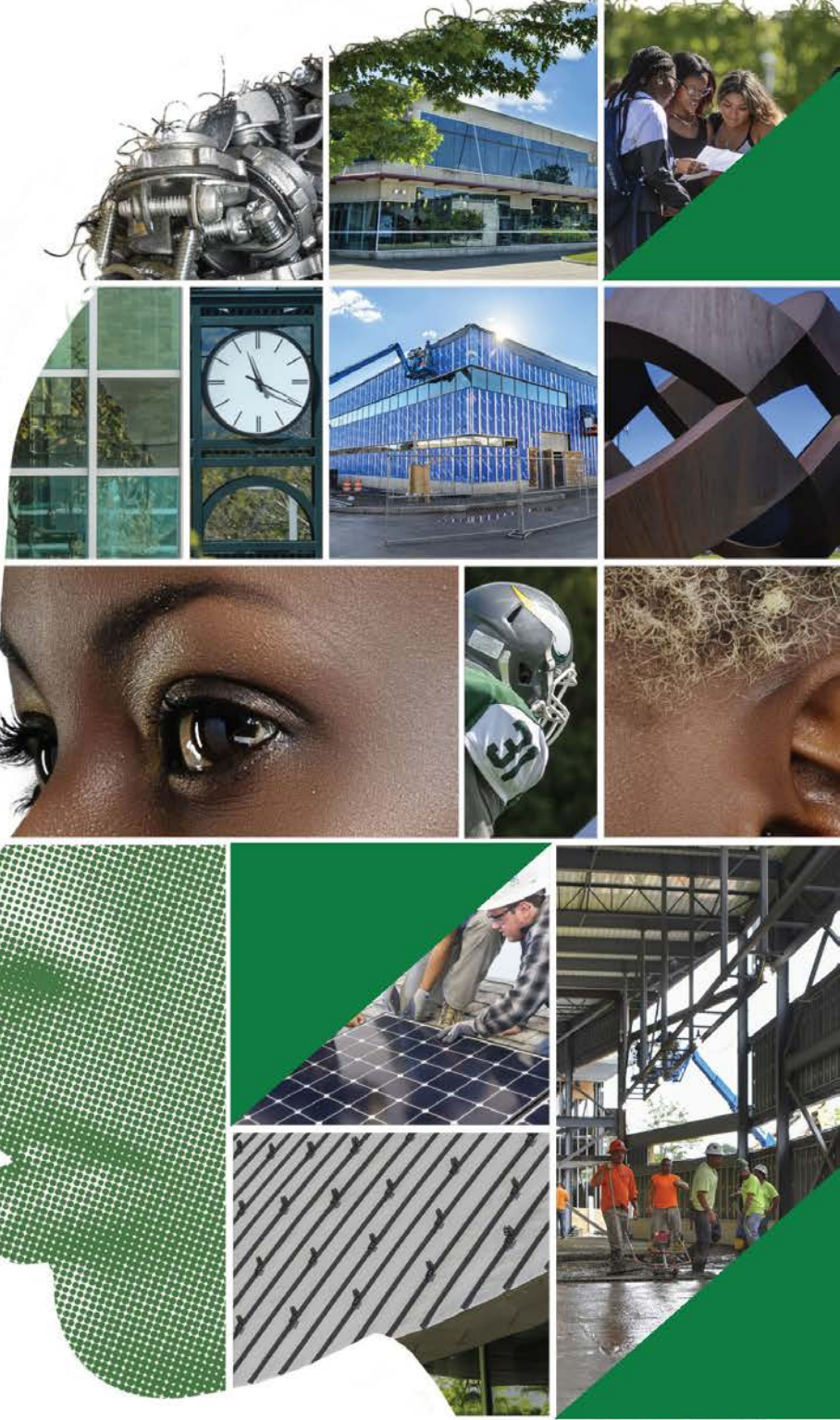
The State University
of New York

SUMMER

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VALLEY
VIEW

The Hudson Valley
Community College
Magazine



College Unveils
New Strategic Plan

College Giving Helps
Students During
COVID-19 Closure

Inauguration of
Roger A. Ramsammy

Valley View is published by Hudson Valley Community College

Summer 2020

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One *Valley View* Per Address
In order to conserve paper and postage expense, only one *Valley View* is mailed to each address in the college's database of more than 85,000 alumni, friends and donors. Additional copies are available by contacting Debby Gardner (d.gardner@hvcc.edu or (518) 629-8071) in the Office of Communications and Marketing.

This and past issues of *Valley View* may be viewed at www.hvcc.edu/alumni/valleyview.html



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CAMPUS NEWS

Eight named recipients of the prestigious SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence

Instituted in 1972 by the State University of New York, the Chancellor's Award recognizes exceptional contributions to the university system by dedicated professionals. Recipients must show a markedly strong dedication to their work or scholarship. Since its inception, more than 180 faculty and staff members from Hudson Valley Community College have received the Chancellor's Award.

The recipients from 2019 include:



EXCELLENCE IN ADJUNCT TEACHING RECIPIENT

Christina T. Henchey,
Adjunct Instructor,
Dental Hygiene

Henchey, an adjunct faculty member for the Dental Hygiene

Department, divides her time between working in private practice and teaching for the college. She serves as senior clinic coordinator, helping run the department's busy dental clinic where, under the supervision of a dentist, students and faculty serve community members with a variety of dental services. Henchey oversees all aspects of the clinic, from scheduling to clinical objectives and subsequent evaluation. In addition, she also devotes many hours to supplemental instruction, volunteering for student learning labs every semester.



EXCELLENCE IN CLASSIFIED SERVICE RECIPIENT

Sherri M. Wait,
Program Assistant,
School of Business
and School of
Engineering
and Industrial
Technologies

Wait began her career at Hudson Valley in 1999 as a senior typist. In the intervening years, she has become a valued and respected staff member of the college. She currently

serves as the program assistant for the dean of the School of Business and the School of Engineering and Industrial Technologies.

Wait helps coordinate the planning, implementation and follow-up of the many accreditation processes her departments must undertake and also serves as a liaison to the departments for many other projects. An alumna of the college, she also serves as vice president of the college's Non-Instructional Employees Union.



EXCELLENCE IN FACULTY SERVICE RECIPIENT

David P. Larkin,
Professor, Advanced
Manufacturing
Technology

Larkin has been teaching in Hudson Valley's School of

Engineering and Industrial Technologies since 1991 and is an early 1970s graduate of the college.

During his 27-year teaching career, Larkin has devoted himself to the improvement of the college's Advanced Manufacturing Technology program. In many ways, his ability to develop corporate partnerships and his vision, leadership and dedication helped to make the college's new \$14.5 million, 37,000-square-foot Gene F. Haas Center for Advanced Manufacturing Skills a reality.



EXCELLENCE IN LIBRARIANSHIP RECIPIENT

Cynthia L. Koman,
Assistant Professor/
Faculty Librarian,
Marvin Library

Koman came to the Hudson Valley

Community College Library in 2009, bringing with her more than five years of experience in the Albany Medical College Schaffer Library of Health Sciences. She immediately put her

experience to use at Hudson Valley, instituting a formal relationship between Hudson Valley's School of Health Sciences and its Dwight Marvin Library, which has flourished during her tenure at the college.

Koman is the liaison to eight health sciences programs and their related departments. She also has led many of the library's innovative projects, including LibGuides, a collection of more than 80 continually updated subject guides for students.



EXCELLENCE IN PROFESSIONAL SERVICE RECIPIENT

Doreen C. McGreevy,
Academic Coach,
Center for Academic
Engagement

McGreevy has been with Hudson Valley for more than 18 years. She

began her career at the college in 2001 as a technical assistant in what was then known as the Learning Disabilities Office.

When Hudson Valley established the Center for Academic Engagement in 2015, Doreen seized the opportunity to become an academic coach. She was then asked to head the committee to form an initiative called the Graduation, Achievement, and Placement Program, which serves students who score below the expected college level on placement tests. Most recently, she has begun working with student athletes to ensure they maintain a 2.0 GPA or better, which is required to remain eligible for intercollegiate sports.



EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING RECIPIENT

Tammy J. Conway,
Associate Professor,
Dental Hygiene

As the freshmen clinic coordinator, Conway's primary responsibility is to provide opportunities

(Continued, next page)

(Chancellor's, continued previous page)

for first-year students to apply dental hygiene theory to clinical application. She also has created and led enrichment programs for freshmen and seniors and taken a lead role in teaching in the Senior Remediation Intersession Clinic to prepare students for licensing exams.

Recently, she developed a recruitment endeavor to provide interactive workshops for local high school seniors who wish to learn about the field of dental hygiene.



EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING RECIPIENT

James J. LaBate, Professor and Writing Specialist, Learning Assistance Center

LaBate has served as a full-time writing specialist in Hudson

Valley's Writing and Research Center since 2000. During his nearly two decades of service to the college, he has also taught numerous sections of English Composition, courses for Community and Professional Education and workshops for the campus community.

LaBate is well known on campus as a published author of non-fiction and fiction. One of his books, *Writing is Hard: A Collection of Over 100 Essays*, is a compilation of pieces originally written as handouts for his students.



EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING RECIPIENT

John M. Meehan, Associate Professor, Business Administration

Meehan brought real-life management and international business

experience to Hudson Valley when he joined the faculty in 2001. Students credit his focus on critical thinking, collaboration and student engagement with giving them a deeper understanding of the skills needed to be successful in the world of business.

Meehan's extensive list of campus and SUNY involvement includes service on the Business Administration Department Assessment Team and helping develop and lead a summer program in Europe for business students interested in sports management.



ICONIC FEMINIST/AUTHOR VISITS - A leading voice for equality for women since the late 1960s, Gloria Steinem visited campus on April 5, 2019. English Department Chairperson Maria Palmara led a Q&A session at the sold out event.



HEALTH SCIENCE SUMMER CAMPS - Sixteen Capital Region teenagers spent a week last summer exploring careers in the health care field during the college's first-ever Health Sciences Summer Camp. Each day, faculty members and department chairs introduced the careers associated with their program and provided hands-on training for the rising ninth and tenth graders. Campers, who also earned their CPR/AED certification during the week, received a stethoscope and blood pressure cuff, which they used throughout the week.



CULTURAL AFFAIRS PROGRAM - The Piscataway Nation Singers and Dancers were part of the Fall 2019 Cultural Affairs programming on campus. The group, which performed on Nov. 7 in the Bulmer Auditorium, carries on the long-standing traditions and culture of their indigenous ancestors.

CAMPUS NEWS



College Announces New Chief Advancement Officer

Hudson Valley Community College recently announced that Allison L. Collins-Schroeder will be the college's new Chief Advancement Officer. This position is responsible for working with the college's Foundation and the Executive Director of External and Government Affairs to facilitate fundraising and other philanthropic efforts to support the college.

Collins-Schroeder joins the college after serving as a donor relations officer at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute for five years. Prior to that, she worked at the Albany Academies as both the associate director of institutional advancement for special events and stewardship and assistant director of alumni relations and annual giving. She has also worked as an English teacher and held several positions as an anchor, producer, news director and reporter for various TV news stations.

Collins-Schroeder holds a Bachelor of Arts in English and Secondary Education from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.



EXPANDED AGREEMENT WITH UALBANY - The region's two largest SUNY institutions forged a broad new partnership this past fall. The two leading higher education institutions will announce expanded collaborations to ensure seamless pathways for students. The partnership includes new transfer agreements as well as programs that will make it easier for students to transfer from Hudson Valley to the university. Also included is a new "Pathways" program that offers students who were not initially accepted to UAlbany a second opportunity for success. After completing two full-time consecutive semesters at Hudson Valley and meeting certain academic requirements, they can transfer directly to the university.

New Academic Affairs Leaders, Department Chairs Named

Hudson Valley Community College has announced several new leaders in Academic Affairs and several new department chairs.



JUDITH DILORENZO has been named the college's new Vice President of Academic Affairs, after serving for seven months in an interim capacity.

Prior to becoming interim vice president, she was the department chair for the college's Dental Hygiene department for 19 years and previously served on the faculty. She has a master's degree in social policy and adult learning from SUNY Empire State College; a bachelor's degree in health science from Northeastern University; a dental hygiene certificate from the Forsyth School for Dental Hygienists; and an associate degree in dental science from Northeastern University.

DR. PATRICIA KLIMKEWICZ

has been named the college's new Dean of Health Sciences after serving for six months in an interim capacity. She is a registered nurse and prior to becoming dean, worked as a professor in the college's Nursing department for 19 years. She is also a commander in the United States Navy Nurse Corps. Dr. Klimkewicz has a doctorate in health services from Walden University; a master's degree in nursing and an MBA, both from the Sage Graduate School; a bachelor's degree in nursing from Russell Sage College; and an associate degree in nursing from Mohawk Valley Community College.



DR. JONATHAN ASHDOWN has been named the college's new Dean of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) after serving for six months in an interim capacity. Prior to becoming interim dean, he was an assistant professor in the college's Electrical Engineering Technology program for more than eight years. He holds a doctor of philosophy in electrical engineering, an MBA, and both a master's and a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering, all from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; as well as an associate degree in engineering science from Hudson Valley.

DEBORAH SHOEMAKER has been named the Associate Dean of Community and Educational Partnerships at the college. Prior to starting this position, she served as the college's Director of Community and



Professional Education for more than 13 years. She has a master's degree in education from the Sage Graduate School and a bachelor's degree in elementary education with a concentration in history from Russell Sage College.



TARA BOCKETTI has been named the Director of Community and Professional Education at the college after working for six years as assistant director under Deb Shoemaker. She has an MBA and a bachelor's degree in business, both from

the University at Albany.

DR. TYLER KESSEL

is the new department chair for the Department of English, Foreign Languages and English as a Second Language, and has been a faculty member in the department since 2005. He has a Ph.D. in English from the University at Albany; a master's degree in English with a certificate in creative writing from Binghamton University; a bachelor's degree in English and studio art from Saint Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota; and a certificate in advanced Polish language from the Sopot School of Polish in Sopot, Poland.



RICKY THIBODEAU, the chair of the Department of Accounting, Entrepreneurship and Marketing since 2015, will also now oversee the Business Administration and Computing and Information Systems programs. He has

an MBA from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; a bachelor's degree in computer science with a minor in mathematics from SUNY Plattsburgh; an associate degree in computer information systems from Hudson Valley; and has completed several doctorate-level courses at RPI.

JODI DORROUGH has been named the department chair for the Department of Nursing and Surgical Technology. She is a registered nurse and has been a faculty member since 2015. She is in the process of earning a Doctor of Nursing Practice from Capella University, and has a master's degree in nursing with



TAMMY CONWAY, who has served for the past nine months as interim department chair for the Dental Hygiene and Dental Assisting programs, has been named permanent chair of the Dental Hygiene department, where she

has been a faculty member since 1997. She is a licensed and registered dental hygienist and has a master's degree in educational administration and policy studies from the University at Albany; a bachelor's degree in community health from William Patterson College; and an associate degree in dental hygiene from Hudson Valley.

GEORGE RANERI, who has served for the past nine months as interim department chair for the Department of Automotive, Manufacturing and Electrical Engineering Technologies, will now oversee the Department of Applied



Technologies. He was an instructor in the automotive department for more than 22 years before becoming the interim department chair, and has a Master of Divinity from Northeastern Seminary; a bachelor's degree in elementary education and studio art from SUNY Potsdam; and an associate degree in automotive technical services—autobody repair from Hudson Valley.



CRAIG D'ALLAIRD has been named the department chair of the Department of Civil, Construction, Industrial and Mechanical Technologies. He has been a faculty member in this department since 2000 and has a master's and a bachelor's degree in civil

engineering, both from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, as well as an associate degree in civil engineering technology (architecture) from Hudson Valley.

Interfaith Partnership Grows

In early 2019, at the urging of President Ramsammy, the college began reaching out to faith-based community leaders from around the Capital Region. The college's first Interfaith Community Forum, held in March 2019, brought together nearly 100 religious leaders and college administrators to address education as well as social and workforce-related challenges.

"It is my opinion that, because of the broad mission of community service that

churches, mosques, and synagogues often take on, establishing a dialogue with these faith communities can be a good way to link higher education to those who may not have considered it a viable option in the past," said President Ramsammy. "We discussed the ways we can help one another grow and the priorities we can work toward together to shape our community's future."



Guided Pathways Effort Steps Up

Keeping students on the path to completion is the ultimate goal of SUNY's new Guided Pathways initiative, which Hudson Valley joined in 2019.

Guided Pathways focuses on providing structured educational experiences from high school through attainment of credentials at SUNY campuses.

Research by the American Association of Community Colleges shows that creating a more clearly defined pathway to completion for students and setting benchmarks along the way helps achieve their academic goals.

As part of the Pathways work, the college will implement strategies to help students identify a more structured academic path and stay on course using:

- The creation of "meta-majors" to help students choose a program of study, identify critical courses, and define milestones for each semester
- The development of education and employment goals for every pathway
- A curriculum map with a structured semester-by-semester sequence of courses
- Learning outcomes aligned with the requirements for further education and employment
- Advisement to assist students in selecting a program that is right for them
- Timely feedback to students when they meet benchmarks or get "off track"



CAMPUS NEWS

Viking Athletics Get New Look



Vikings athletic teams have always been feared among their competition in NJCAA Region 3, but now they have a new weapon – a fierce new Vikings logo. The Athletics Department worked during 2019 with Charlotte-based Summit Athletic Media to rebrand the department with updated athletic logos. The redesign modernized the HV letter mark logo and incorporate the text "Hudson Valley Vikings" into the primary logo, while also including a gender-neutral Viking helmet.

During the 2020 winter break, the McDonough Sports Complex gym floor was redesigned and the Athletics Community Day was the first time for the community to see the new court.



Retirees

The following faculty and staff members have retired during the past year.

CAROL BOSCO, Dean of Health Sciences, Academic Affairs

MARTHA DESMOND, Department Chair, Nursing

LINDA DESNOYERS, Associate Professor, Medical Imaging

RICHARD EDWARDS, Director, Physical Plant

JOANN FOWLER, Program Assistant, English, Foreign Languages and English as a Second Language

SUE E. GRAYSON, Professor/Faculty Librarian, Library

DONALD HECKELMAN, Professor, Mathematics and Engineering Science

JANICE HINDES, Education Specialist/Professor, Individual Studies

ANTHONY KOSSMANN, Professor, Automotive, Manufacturing and Electrical Engineering Technologies

ANNE LABELLE, Assistant Professor, Faculty Librarian

CHRISTINE LAPLANTE, Department Chairperson, Civil, Construction, Industrial & Mechanical Technologies

EILEEN MALONEY, Technical Assistant, Vice President of Student Affairs

MARIA PALMARA, Department Chair, English, Foreign Languages and English as a Second Language

ROY POMPEY, Coordinator, Collegiate Academic Support Program

RICHARD PORTER, Assistant Professor, Building Systems Technologies

KELLY SAYERS, Assistant Professor, Business Administration

PETER SHEERAN, Senior Systems and Network Specialist I, Information Technology Services

TIMOTHY SMITH, Assistant Professor, Building Systems Technologies

SUSAN STINER, Assistant Professor, Biology, Chemistry and Physics

PETER TOLCSER, Associate Professor, Civil, Construction, Industrial & Mechanical Technologies

VONNIE VANNIER, Associate Professor, English, Foreign Languages and ESL

P. PHILIP WHITE, Dean, Schools of Business and Engineering and Industrial Technologies

SANDRA WIMMER, Assistant Professor, Health, Physical Education & Exercise Studies

College Unveils New Strategic Plan

When Dr. Roger Ramsammy joined Hudson Valley as the college's seventh president in July 2018, he arrived with a passion for improving lives through education, a love for teaching and learning, and nearly four decades of experience as a leader in higher education. But perhaps the most important thing he brought was a vision for the future of Hudson Valley as an integral part of the greater community.

Soon after arriving, President Ramsammy led an ambitious strategic planning process to bring that vision to life and ensure that the college remains ready to embrace the challenges of the future. A 32-member Strategic Plan Steering Committee was appointed with representatives from the student body, faculty, staff, Academic Senate, Board of Trustees and college Foundation. They engaged the college's many core stakeholders in dozens of meetings and town hall discussions.

Altogether, the committee connected with hundreds of stakeholders to uncover, confirm and guide Hudson Valley's strengths, challenges and opportunities in a new era. In addition to refining the college's mission and vision statements, they outlined new shared priorities and goals and established core values for the institution as a whole. Now, implementation plans are being constructed with key performance indicators and benchmarks to measure and track progress.

As the higher education landscape shifts and evolves, the college's 2019-24 Strategic Plan outlines clear opportunities to meet the needs of an emerging and diverse generation of students and partners.

With the theme of "Future Forward," the strategic plan spells out 175 specific strategies to enable the college to remain adaptable and responsive to what's ahead in the next five, 10, or 20 years and beyond. It renews the college's commitment to student success, academic excellence, enrollment, faculty and staff, partnerships, community, and campus culture.



HIGHLIGHTS

The Strategic Plan Steering Committee was asked to create a vision for how we can prepare the institution for success over the coming decades.

By inviting the entire campus community to share their views and opinions through multiple listening sessions, all-college meetings and surveys, the committee has crafted a document that captures perspectives from the college's many stakeholders. In total, the planning process provided more than 1,500 students, faculty, staff, community leaders and education partners with the opportunity to participate.

OUR MISSION

Hudson Valley Community College provides transformative, student-centered and high-quality educational opportunities that address the diverse needs of local and global communities.

OUR VISION

Deliver what the future demands.

Hudson Valley Community College will meet the educational needs of a rapidly transforming world by leading today and anticipating tomorrow.

OUR CORE VALUES

Leadership, Excellence, Accessibility, Diversity, Service

PRIORITIES

- Commit to Student Success, Inclusion and Equity
- Enhance Academic Excellence
- Optimize Enrollment
- Encourage Faculty and Staff Excellence
- Expand Partnerships and Community Engagement
- Reinvigorate Campus Culture and Infrastructure

Campus Energy Master Plan Follows SUNY-Wide Trend Toward Sustainability

When SUNY Chancellor Kristina Johnson held her first State of the University speech in 2018, she set ambitious goals for creating a state university that would be an exemplar of environmental sustainability.

Hudson Valley Community College leaders were listening, and the college was already in the process of formulating a campus-wide plan to monitor and deal with energy efficiency in a sustained way.

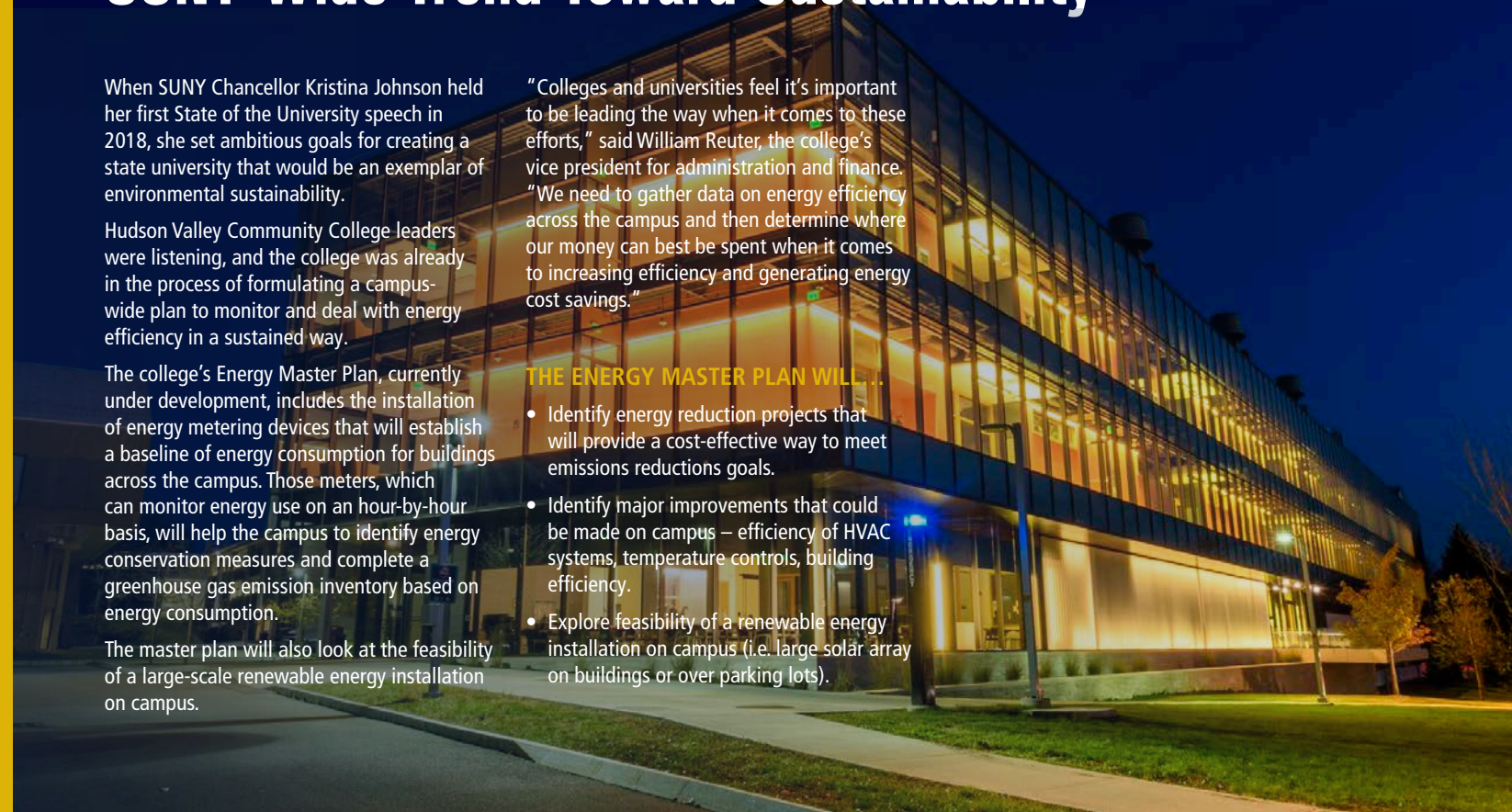
The college's Energy Master Plan, currently under development, includes the installation of energy metering devices that will establish a baseline of energy consumption for buildings across the campus. Those meters, which can monitor energy use on an hour-by-hour basis, will help the campus to identify energy conservation measures and complete a greenhouse gas emission inventory based on energy consumption.

The master plan will also look at the feasibility of a large-scale renewable energy installation on campus.

"Colleges and universities feel it's important to be leading the way when it comes to these efforts," said William Reuter, the college's vice president for administration and finance. "We need to gather data on energy efficiency across the campus and then determine where our money can best be spent when it comes to increasing efficiency and generating energy cost savings."

THE ENERGY MASTER PLAN WILL...

- Identify energy reduction projects that will provide a cost-effective way to meet emissions reductions goals.
- Identify major improvements that could be made on campus – efficiency of HVAC systems, temperature controls, building efficiency.
- Explore feasibility of a renewable energy installation on campus (i.e. large solar array on buildings or over parking lots).



SMART BUILDINGS

TEC-SMART

Awarded LEED Platinum designation for Building Design and Construction

SCIENCE CENTER

Awarded LEED Silver designation for Building Design and Construction

DID YOU KNOW?

SUNY operates 40 percent of the buildings owned by New York State, and as such, it's a key part of Governor Cuomo's efforts to make the state's energy 100 percent carbon-free by 2040.

COGENERATION PLANT

Recovers waste heat for heating and cooling LaPan, Hudson, McDonough buildings as well as the Campus Center

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS TRAINING LAB (located on Morrison Avenue)

Designed specifically for training students in home energy auditing, insulation installation, photovoltaic installation

BUILDING A CLEAN ENERGY WORKFORCE

CLEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Clean energy technology doesn't only give us power to control the future of our energy resources, but it also creates jobs. The number of renewable energy careers is expected to boom during the next decade. Our A.A.S. degree in Clean Energy Management combines renewable energy and business courses to meet those industry demands.

Inauguration of Roger A. Ramsammy

Hudson Valley celebrated the inauguration of Dr. Roger A. Ramsammy on Oct. 25, 2019.

A native of Trinidad, Dr. Ramsammy is a first-generation college student who has enjoyed a successful career as a researcher, professor and academic leader at some of the nation's most prestigious community colleges. His teaching and leadership are guided by his own experience as a student who found a path to a brighter future through higher education.

President Ramsammy has worked to establish relationships in the greater Capital Region community and lead positive campus-wide change and strategic planning efforts that will set the college on the path to continued fiscal, academic and student success.

**IF YOU WANT TO GO FAST,
GO ALONE.**

**IF YOU WANT TO GO FAR,
GO TOGETHER.**





CAMS GRAND OPENING – The college hosted a grand opening ceremony for the \$14.5 million Gene F. Haas Center for Advanced Manufacturing Skills in 2019. The 37,000-square-foot facility will allow the college to double enrollment from 144 to 288 students in the Advanced Manufacturing Technology degree program and meet an urgent workforce demand for skilled manufacturing employees in the region.



NURSING DEPARTMENT UPGRADES – The Nursing Department had an extensive makeover during the summer of 2019. Faculty offices in Fitzgibbons Health Technologies Center were reconfigured and several new lab spaces were constructed. The new labs are shown here during a health sciences simulation that brought together students from several programs.



CAMPUS THANKSGIVING – For the second consecutive year, faculty, staff and students gathered to enjoy a free Thanksgiving meal in the Campus Center, served by administrators. Those attending were asked to bring a non-perishable food item to help stock the College Food Pantry for the winter months.



ACE OPENING – With the aim of increasing off-campus offerings in Albany County, the college dedicated the Albany Center for Education in 2018. The site, at 30 North Russell Road, has served as the Albany location of the Capital District Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) for several decades. Hudson Valley, which administers the EOC, decided that it was also an ideal location to offer credit-bearing college courses, along with credit-free career training.

College Giving Helps Students During COVID-19 Closure

Members of the college community came through in many ways to support the successful completion of the spring 2020 semester. Here are just a few examples:

>> Respiratory Care Students on Front Lines

Because of COVID-19's impact on the respiratory system, the college's senior Respiratory Care students became a vital part of the effort to serve patients. The seniors were allowed to continue their clinical rounds through the end of the spring semester at Albany Medical Center, St. Peter's Health Partners and the Northeast Center for Rehabilitation.

At least 75 percent of the region's respiratory therapists were educated in the college's A.A.S. program.

>> Senate Donates Class Gift to Support Students with Food Insecurity

The college's Student Senate met virtually on April 6, and voted to create an \$8,000 class gift that was used to make \$50 food gift cards available to current students who were experiencing hunger and food insecurity. The senate also voted to add \$1,000 from its current yearly budget to the figure and the Faculty Student Association, which oversees auxiliary services on campus, also added \$1,000.

The college quickly turned around a process where current students could request the cards for either Hannaford or Price Chopper supermarkets.

In the first week the gift cards were offered, nearly \$6,000 was distributed.

>> COVID-19 Emergency Fund

When the coronavirus hit, the college Foundation quickly created a COVID-19 emergency fund to support critical student needs. The funds were initially used to purchase technology to loan to students for the remainder of the semester and additional emergency needs for current students: e-gift cards for food and assistance with unexpected educational and personal expenses.

An easy online application was developed and the campus student emergency committee evaluated each application and helped the student within 24 to 48 hours.

Donations to the fund came from the Faculty Student Association, Student Senate, the NTP Collective Bargaining Unit and the Faculty Association. Staff and faculty, along with alumni donors and friends of the college, have also donated to the fund.

Academic Response to COVID-19

MIKE BENDER, ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

Assistant Professor Mike Bender considers himself to be a "glass half full" kind of guy, so when his Motor Control Theory and AC Theory courses and labs were shifted out of the Williams Hall due to the COVID-19 outbreak, he looked for the best possible solution for his students.

"We have 22 hours of class sessions a week and 14 of those are hands-on in the labs, so we needed to come up with some kind of solution," he said.

Bender's solution was to turn a room in his house into a teaching lab. He hung a white board, found an 8-foot piece of plywood to cover his pool table and brought in some equipment from his labs on campus.

"This is a challenging time, but we are doing the best we can and the students seem to appreciate it," he said. "Basically, what I'm doing is showing them everything they would be doing in the labs. I'm doing the labs and answering questions. So far, it's going very well, better than I thought."

Bender said one of the things he's most proud of is the collaboration he's seen working with his fellow faculty members in the Electrical Construction and Maintenance program. When the call came about moving classes and labs off campus, he and fellow faculty member Jim Countryman connected to brainstorm. He said all of the ECM faculty members have been involved in creating videos with TechSmith Relay that are used in his labs.



College Makes Remarkable Transition to Online/Remote Instruction

Shifting instruction for a college of 10,000 students to an online or remote format over the course of two weeks is no easy task, but when the COVID-19 outbreak forced colleges and universities to shift coursework out of the classroom this spring, Hudson Valley's faculty and instructional support staff stepped up to the plate.

Hudson Valley is fortunate to have a depth of experience in distance learning and also the technological infrastructure that made ramping up 400 online or remotely-taught courses over an extended spring break possible.

When the decision to shut down campus was made, staff and faculty mentors in the Center for Distance and Online Learning launched an intensive training schedule that focused on getting faculty comfortable with the tools at their disposal, all with an emphasis on academic continuity and maintaining quality standards. Hour-long introductory workshops were conducted on the primary tools faculty needed, including Zoom, TechSmith Relay, Blackboard, Blackboard Collaborate and VoiceThread.

The first week of training saw 51 workshops, including on Saturdays and evenings, and over the next three weeks, DL staff held a total of 126 workshops and one-on-one sessions. They covered everything from how to set up a remote course with email and phone conferencing to helping build out a completed Blackboard course template that could complement synchronous video lectures. They offered hundreds of hours of training, all with the aim of getting teachers ready when classes resumed on March 30.

By all accounts, the hard work paid off. Faculty at the college have risen to the challenge, according to President Roger A. Ramsammy, and found unique and innovative ways to meet students' education needs.

"From the humanities to the sciences and from business to the technologies, our campus community has responded incredibly to this unprecedented challenge," President Ramsammy said. "Our faculty were willing and our staff were there to help them. This has been a campus-wide effort, and I'm immensely proud of how we've adapted our teaching and support services to ensure that every student has the opportunity to complete their studies this semester."

With the college's decision to move all summer instruction to an online or remote format, faculty members also were asked to shift their courses to a new modality in time for the start of summer classes in May and July.

Chief Information Officer Jon Brennan said the college was able to adapt to a fully online or remote learning environment so quickly due to the strong technological infrastructure the campus already had in place. Services like Zoom, Softphone, virtual desktops and an expanded server capacity were already in place on the campus. They just needed to be scaled up to match the shift to a remote work environment.

"One thing that really stands out for us is that we already had most of the infrastructure that we are now depending on," Brennan said. "We just needed to scale a lot of it up to cover the whole community. This allowed us to focus our efforts on making things perfect. We were way ahead of the curve before, and now we are in a position to define what the curve looks like."

Jeff Schoonmaker



Hudson Valley Community College Physics Professor Jeff Schoonmaker will pass a milestone very, very few have reached this year when he reaches his 50th year of teaching at the college. Here, he shares his thoughts about his five decades of service to the college.

WHY DID YOU GO INTO TEACHING IN THE FIRST PLACE? WHAT WAS IT ABOUT THE PROFESSION THAT INTERESTED YOU?

Teaching was not a childhood dream, and I entered my senior year at SUNY Oneonta having no idea what I wanted to do. A friend suggested teaching and told me of an opening in the Physics Department. In spite of my insecurity, I applied, along with over 20 others. Given my modest grades and total lack of experience, how did I get the job? By God's grace! A career that began with fear and trepidation, turned into 50 years of fun, satisfaction and fulfillment.

HOW HAS HUDSON VALLEY CHANGED IN THE 50 YEARS YOU'VE BEEN TEACHING?

DO THE STUDENTS SEEM TO HAVE THE SAME ISSUES/CONCERNS IN 2019 THAT THEY DID IN 1969?

Though the world has changed dramatically since the turbulent 60's and tense 70's, the students are still just people. Yes, technology has greatly impacted how they spend their time, and some arrive on campus not quite as well prepared educationally as they used to be. But the people in my classes are still a delight to teach and interact with, and that's the biggest reason why I'm still teaching.

YOU HAVE A LONG HISTORY OF BEING INVOLVED IN THE STUDENT CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION AS AN ADVISOR. HOW DID THAT EVOLVE AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO CONTINUE IN THAT ROLE?

During my first year a couple of students approached me about starting a club for Christian students. A friend at RPI was involved in such a club and he helped me draft a charter. I used the same name as his club, the Student Christian Association. When

FACULTY PROFILE

the RPI club changed its name, he gave us their big red banner and we've been using it ever since.

Working with a great variety of Christian students for the past 49 years has been a tremendous joy. They have never ceased to inspire me with their faith in Christ, nor to move me with their enthusiastic worship and heartfelt requests for prayer. Watching them grow in their love for God and in their knowledge of His word has impacted my own relationship with the Lord, for which I am very grateful.

YOUR WIFE, DORIS, IS AN EMERITUS FACULTY MEMBER IN THE MATH DEPARTMENT. HOW WAS IT TO HAVE YOUR SPOUSE TEACHING IN THE SAME COLLEGE?

Having my wife, Doris, also teaching at HVCC for 39 years was really cool. Through her I got to know some of the great math and engineering science professors in her building. We often had some students in common, and I benefitted from many conversations with her about teaching styles and ways of handling similar student issues. And having identical vacation times was a huge perk!

WHAT IS IT ABOUT HUDSON VALLEY THAT HAS KEPT YOU HERE SO LONG? WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT THIS PLACE?

In addition to my inherent love of teaching, another reason is the supportive and congenial atmosphere here. I have had an unbroken string of terrific department chairs and wonderful colleagues who have made every year so pleasant and stress-free for me. The tech services people, the print shop and graphics personnel, the course schedulers, the room reservers, the disability resources folks, the student activities people, and everyone else from the custodial staff, groundskeepers and security personnel to the deans, VPs and presidents have all been very good at their jobs and easy to work with. I could not have asked for a better place to work ... if you can call teaching work.

STUDENT PROFILE

Farkhondeh Tajik



After moving from Iran to Afghanistan to Turkey as a child, and then from Turkey to the United States as a teenager, Farkhondeh Tajik had plenty of life experience at a young age. What she didn't have was a formal education. But that all changed when she and her family moved to the United States five years ago—and now she's on the way to achieving her dream of becoming a medical professional.

That dream had been a long time in the making for Farkhondeh. While living in Turkey, she and her family became well-known in their community for their willingness to help immigrant and refugee families with translations. Because she spoke both Farsi and Turkish, Farkhondeh became invaluable for those who needed help bridging the language barrier. Then, one day, someone requested her help in a way that would change the rest of her life. A group of immigrants had been driving over a winding mountain pass and lost control; the vehicle ran off the road and over the side of a cliff. When they were brought to the hospital, none of them spoke Turkish. Farkhondeh was called in to help, and spent nearly three weeks in the hospital, around the clock, translating and tending to the victims and the survivors who had lost loved ones.

The experience, she said, changed her. She had always liked helping people, but by the end of those three weeks, she knew it was her calling to become a medical professional and devote the rest of her life to helping others.

Not having had the opportunity to pursue a formal education while growing up, Farkhondeh was faced with the idea of starting from scratch when she and her family arrived in the Troy area. But she wasn't deterred by the hard work ahead of her; instead she chose to focus on the opportunities that hard work could bring. Daunting as it was, she threw herself into the task of learning English as her third language, taking ESL classes wherever she could find them, including at BOCES and at the Capital District EOC. At times, she said, she was taking up to five English classes a day. Meanwhile, she was also of making up for lost time by earning her high school equivalency, all while working to help support her family.

Eventually, all of that hard work began to pay off. She was selected to attend business conferences in Florida two years in a row

through the EOP program and the Student Senate, and participated in the ESL program at SUNY Albany, visiting places like Niagara Falls and the New York State Museum, which she said helped introduce her to American cultural experiences. Additionally, Farkhondeh was recognized by Trinity Alliance for her academic achievements, and has received many certificates for her ESL accomplishments, as well as a sponsorship from KeyBank to help fund her education as she works toward achieving her dreams.

Today, those dreams are getting closer and closer to becoming a reality. She is working on her associate degree in Individual Studies at Hudson Valley. When she finishes that, she'll apply to the Nursing program here at the college, then pursue a bachelor's degree in nursing, with the hopes of ultimately becoming a doctor. She's also very involved on campus—she serves as vice president of the Student Senate, is a member of the Faculty-Student Association, and served as a student representative on the Strategic Planning Steering Committee.

It's a lot to juggle, but Farkhondeh is no stranger to hard work—and more importantly, she's happy with the progress she's making.

"I keep telling people about how great Hudson Valley is. Then they see me moving so fast and making so much progress, and they know: of course it's good!" she says. "The library, the professors, the Learning Assistance Center—they've all helped make me a stronger and more independent student. At a larger school, you can't get connected to a professor; you're just a random person. Here, my professors know me and I know them. I use their office hours, and I feel connected, so I can ask questions and tell them any problems I'm having. With less than 30 students in a class, the professors have the time to pay attention to each student one on one—and they're willing put in the time to do that."

In fact, Farkhondeh says benefits like those are what drove her to choose Hudson Valley in the first place—and she hasn't been disappointed.

"The great thing about being in the U.S. is the opportunity to get an education. The great thing about Hudson Valley is the progress you can make," she said. "Here, I know I can get the support I need to go on to another school—and the first and most important thing is getting that support."

ALUMNI PROFILES

Summer 2020

James Lipscomb '67 Chronicles Childhood in Memoir

Alumnus James Lipscomb's childhood was anything but idyllic. Still, a reader of his new memoir "I Got Shoes" gets the impression that what led him first to Hudson Valley and then on to Howard and Columbia Universities, followed by a distinguished career as a corporate lawyer, sprang directly from the poor but tight-knit community of his youth.

"I Got Shoes," named after an old church spiritual, starts with Lipscomb's family in Coeymans, a port town on the Hudson River that was once home to two active brickyards. Those brickyards and a nearby mushroom plant drew dozens of southern black men and women north looking for a better life. They settled in company housing, really nothing more than shacks with little in the way of 20th century amenities.

In the book's early chapters, Lipscomb describes just how primitive their living conditions were, but in equal measure, he recounts how the community came together and made do with what they had. Parents worked tirelessly, not only at their jobs but tending family vegetable plots, chopping wood for stoves and bartering extra work with neighbors. And from a young age, the Lipscomb children worked, too – cleaning after hours at the local bar, painting, working in the gardens, washing windows and more. Hard work from an early age was a simple fact of life.

Lipscomb's family moved to Albany while he was in high school and he found himself attending Hudson Valley Community College after his guidance counselor connected him with a dean at the college.

Like many alumni of that era, Lipscomb recalls Hudson Valley as a new campus, with the buildings named A through F, and the ever-popular Grove restaurant/bar serving as an unofficial G building. He said the number of minority students was small at that time but

he had little trouble making friends on campus.

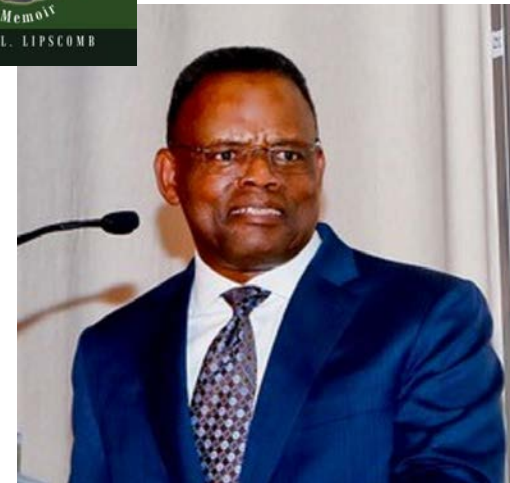
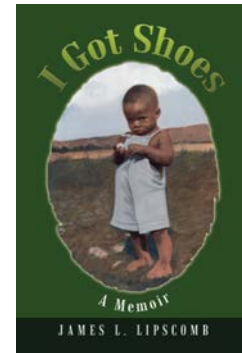
"The school really wasn't divided by cliques that I saw. I spent many days in the parking lot with my friends listening to the radio," he said. "I still have one or two friends I remember from back in the day."

One of those friends is former Troy Police Chief Nicholas Kaiser. "Nick and I were in the same class. He used to be in an R&B band that he formed and they would play around town. The last time I was on the Hudson Valley campus was a few years before Nick retired, and I came back to have lunch with him."

Lipscomb said the growth he saw on campus upon his return is a testament to the important role Hudson Valley plays in the Capital Region's higher education landscape. "I've been on some campuses where things have stood still," he said. "It looks like Hudson Valley has had a whole transformation of the campus."

The 1960s and early 1970s were undeniably a time of social upheaval, and as the Civil Rights movement was gaining momentum, Lipscomb was there on the ground floor. Summer breaks from college saw him creating a youth opportunity program in Albany, which he ran with his cousin. "I Got Shoes" also recounts, in harrowing detail, his experience as a poll watcher in rural Mississippi during the 1971 election season.

After graduating from Hudson Valley, Lipscomb joined two older brothers, who were studying at Howard University. He subsequently matriculated at Columbia University School of Law. His law school graduation and wedding to his wife, Nancy, is where "I Got Shoes" concludes. Lipscomb said



his first 25 years "served as the foundation" for what he was to become.

Now retired after a legal career working with some of the largest corporations in the world, he spends much of his energy on charity work. Proceeds from the sale of "I Got Shoes" will support a charity that he helped create more than 15 years ago: Center of Hope (Haiti), an orphanage and school complex that serves students in one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere.

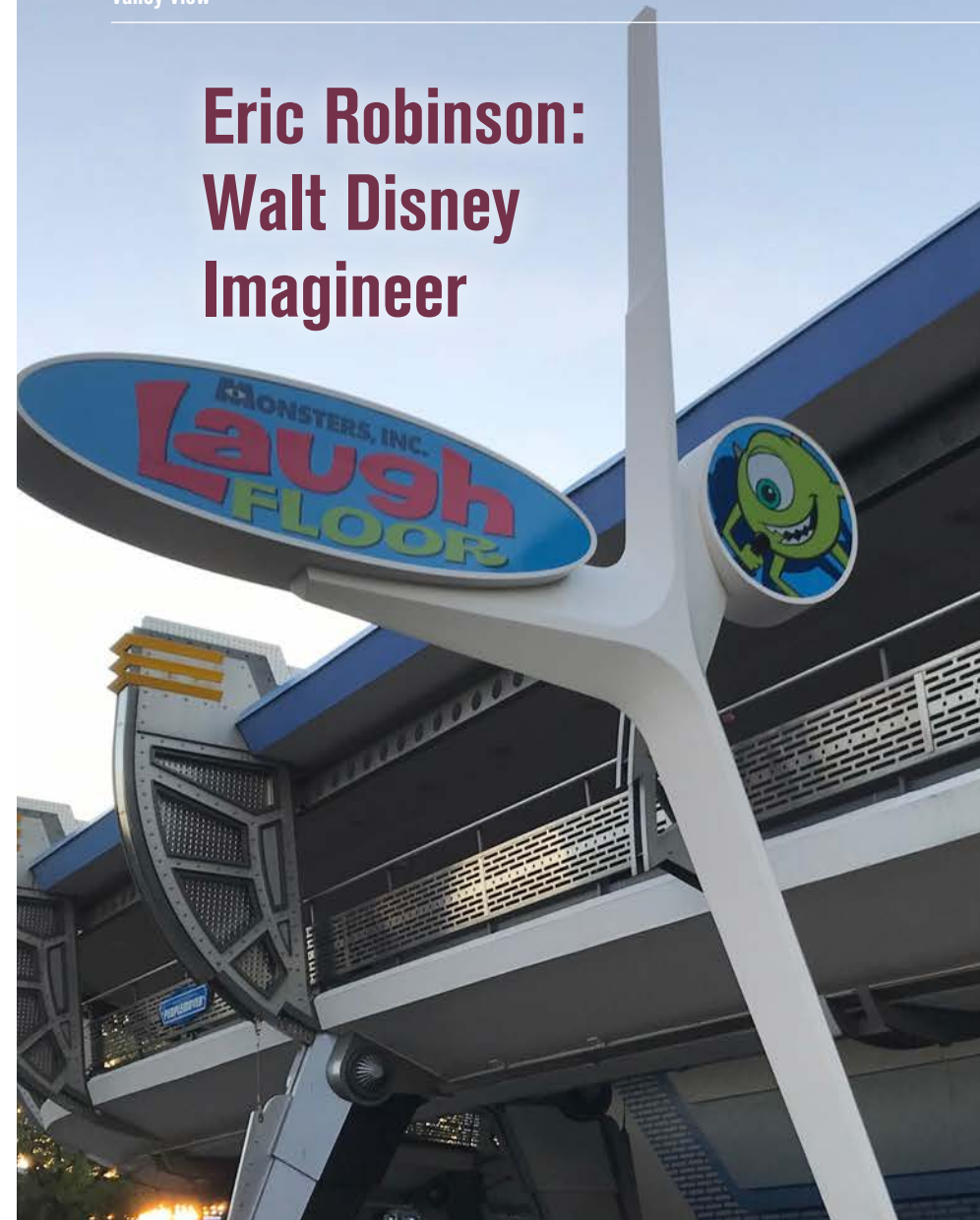
Now celebrating its 15th anniversary, Center of Hope takes in a new group of first graders each year. By the time they complete their schooling, they are poised to enter high school with the skills to succeed. One of the goals of Center of Hope, Lipscomb said, is to have these students remain in the country and build the intellectual capital that will help turn the struggling nation around.

"We just completed the eighth year of school. Those kids who are now in eighth grade can speak four languages and they can read and write. We realize that we're just a drop in the bucket, but we're trying to bring some hope, thus the name," he said.

To learn more about alumnus James Lipscomb and his book "I Got Shoes," go to www.FourthHouseOnTheHill.com.

Valley View

Eric Robinson: Walt Disney Imagineer



"It's ok to have a winding road instead of a direct path as your career. Find what you love, and do what you can to make the future fall into the path you want to take."

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It's not an exaggeration to say Eric Robinson '04 & '06 had a whirlwind start to his career, but to hear him tell it, all those early steps - in architecture, civil engineering, design, alternative energy and fabrication - were the proving ground for his current role as a graphic fabricator for the Walt Disney Imagineering team.

Working to turn designs and ideas into reality, Eric helps put the "magic" in the Magic Kingdom and other Disney properties.

A 2004 Industrial Technology graduate, Eric jumped from field to field in the early years of his career, finding success and increasing responsibility but nothing that convinced him he had yet found his "dream job."

"Everything I learned in college and all of those job experiences prepared me and led me to where I am today," he said. "The Industrial Technology program at Hudson Valley was very innovative at the time. There was a little bit of architecture, construction, manufacturing, and industrial design. It helped me build the skills I have and hone in on what I thought I wanted to do."

After graduation, and gaining an additional Hudson Valley Business Administration degree, Eric began a series of career transitions with one guiding principle – "don't be afraid to move on and take calculated risks if you're not completely satisfied."

That strategy led him to positions in commercial computer aided design, alternative energy design and eventually to a company that designed and fabricated custom aluminum products.

"For the first time in my life I thought, 'This is what I love. Carrying through the design work into the fabrication and installation and then seeing people actually use it.'"

With that experience, he was recruited to join a Florida-based company that worked with dozens of national brands, one of which was Disney.

These days, Eric is part of the large and diverse Walt Disney Imagineering team – one of the creative engines that designs and builds Disney theme parks, resorts, attractions and cruise ships around the world. He is a graphic fabricator for the Magic Kingdom and has worked on projects large and small throughout the entire property.

"This job is doing what I love to do and taking it to a whole other level. We take what may be seemingly impossible ideas and turn them into incredible experiences for our guests," he said.

"I'm working with some of the most brilliant minds I've ever met. It can be fast-paced, stressful, but at the end of the day, when I'm able to help be a part of creating memories for a family or a Make a Wish child. It's worth it."

Markeia Robinson: Taking the Non-Traditional Route

If you're looking for inspiration, you couldn't do much better than Markeia Robinson '14.

A teenage mother who dropped out of high school in the ninth grade, Markeia took stock of her life at age 30, and through a remarkable show of perseverance, turned what was once desperation into inspiration.

In 2010, she earned her GED, and over the next seven years she completed an A.S. in human services as well as bachelor's and master's degrees in psychology and organizational management - all while working full-time and raising two daughters as a single parent.

"I was turning 30 and I did a lot of reflecting," she said. "I had a ninth grade education; I was a single parent of two daughters, and I reflected about what led me to that point. Was I satisfied with where I was? Was I being a role model for my daughters?"

Her answer was "no," and the first step was at Hudson Valley.

Entering her first college classroom at age 30, she said "my level of anxiety was off the charts."

"You have to remember, I had never written a paper, never done research, hadn't even been inside a classroom in 15 years," she said. "I just didn't know what to expect. For the first year, it was just me putting one foot in front of the other. I didn't focus on the past, I just focused on each day and giving it all that I had. The professors were so nice, and it helped that in Human Services classes you had a lot of non-traditional students."

Markeia admits that there were times during her educational journey when she felt like abandoning her dream. Then, she'd often remember something Human Services faculty member Patricia Birch said when Markeia once confided her fears. "She said 'Markeia, what is your alternative?' I decided that there was no alternative. I wasn't going to go back. Giving up is the easiest thing to do and I stopped giving myself that option."

These days, Markeia is an inspirational speaker and certified life coach who takes genuine pleasure in empowering others. She's also the director of operations and a training consultant at McLean Consulting in Albany, where she helps businesses and organizations create an environment where diversity, equity and inclusion are more than just buzzwords, they're a sustainable part of the culture.

"The whole goal is to help other people discover and live out their dreams. Sometimes people can't see the path to get where they want to be. I'm not going to tell you what to do, but if I can ask the right questions, it can help you alter your mindset a little bit, and maybe you'll see things from a more positive perspective."

If seven straight years of higher education wasn't enough, in 2018, the indomitable

Markeia also published her first book, "The Non-Traditional Route: From GED to Ph.D.," a memoir that can serve as an inspiration and road map for others.

"The book tells the story from the beginning to the end," she said. "Well, up to this point at least." Please forgive her if she wants to take a break before tackling her doctorate.

Because of her decision to return to school at age 30, Markeia said, a whole new world opened up, not only for her but for her daughters as well.

"I have a responsibility to break generational curses," she said. "My mother had me when she was 15. I got pregnant when I was 15, and then I had two daughters, so, in my mind, I refused to allow them to keep that cycle going. I had a responsibility to show them that their life could be their own."



Seven Recognized with Distinguished Alumni Awards

The Hudson Valley Community College Foundation's annual Distinguished Alumni Award celebrates alumni for notable contributions within their career fields and communities. In 2018 and 2019, honorees included:

CLIFTON "CLIFF" PEREZ '79 2018 RECIPIENT

Cliff Perez has dedicated his life to helping people with disabilities. His passion for advocacy and ensuring equal treatment began when he was a student at Hudson Valley in the late 1970s. The first legally blind student to attend the college, his influence helped bring about the first Office of Disabled Student Services at the college. Today, that office has evolved into the Center for Access and Assistive Technology, which serves more than 650 students with disabilities each semester.

REV. DR. PAUL M. BARNER '82 2018 RECIPIENT

Rev. Dr. Paul Barner started and currently runs an orphanage, school and churches on the southern Philippine island of Mindinao. He, his wife, Elvie, and their children, Timothy and Abigail, travel the world for two months each year searching for sponsors for the more than 4,000 poor children who have attended his school, the Barner Christian Academy in Davao City, Mindinao.

ANDREW LARSON '93 2018 RECIPIENT

Troy native Andrew Larson found his way into the world of television sports production through a job as a golf caddie in 2005. Carrying bags for some CBS Sports employees in Hilton Head, they offered him a foot in the door - an opportunity to join the CBS crew covering that week's Heritage Golf Tournament. Sixteen years later, he's still on the CBS Sports payroll, travelling the world to cover PGA Tour events and NFL games as well as a host of other sports.

DAQUETTA P. JONES '02 2018 RECIPIENT

Daquetta Jones served as executive director of the YWCA of the Greater Capital Region, Inc. in Troy for five years before being appointed as the deputy commissioner for administration with New York State Civil Service Department in June 2019. Under her leadership, the YWCA saw significant growth in programs, community impact and partnerships.

DAVID J. ALLARD '75, CHP 2019 RECIPIENT

David J. Allard, CHP is a nationally and internationally recognized expert in radiation protection. He began his career as a medical health physicist at Albany Medical Center, and has been involved in the various aspects of governmental, industrial, reactor, medical and academic radiation protection for over 40 years. He serves as the acting deputy secretary for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)'s Office of Waste, Air, Radiation and Remediation.

CYNTHIA DORING HOLLOWOOD '77 2019 RECIPIENT

Cynthia Doring Hollowood is a Rensselaer County native who has spent most of her more than 40-year career in the hospitality industry serving as the general manager and partner of the Holiday Inn Saratoga Springs. She has also served in leadership roles in many business and trade organizations, including the Saratoga Convention and Tourism Bureau, the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce and the New York State Hospitality and Tourism Association.

DR. MALCOM S. FIELD '79 2019 RECIPIENT

Dr. Malcom S. Field holds the titles of senior research hydrogeologist for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and editor-in-chief of the Journal of Cave and Karst Studies, a publication of the National Speleological Society. He is a recognized international expert on karst, underground landscapes that are formed by erosion.



CLASS NOTES

DR. J. MICHAEL SKIBA '91 – International white collar fraud expert Dr. J. Michael Skiba has made a living out of researching and uncovering the psychological foundations of insurance fraud, a problem that costs \$80 billion each year in the United States alone.

After graduating from Hudson Valley with a criminal justice degree, Skiba started a career in the insurance industry and at the same time continued his academic studies with a research focus on economic crime.

Twenty years later, with an M.B.A. and a Ph.D., Skiba is one of the world's most sought-after speakers on the causes and prevention of insurance fraud. In 2017, Skiba published "The Psychology of Fraud," which examines the reasons insurance fraud is so prevalent and the practical things companies can do to prevent it.

He's even patented the moniker "Dr. Fraud," and uses it as he consults and teaches around world. Recent lecture stops have included the Netherlands, Malaysia and Dubai. Not too bad for a kid who entered college without a lot of direction. He credits Hudson Valley with helping him find his path and a career he's passionate about.

To find out more about what's happening in Dr. Skiba's professional career, go to www.drfraud.org.

ANDREW LARSON '93 – CBS Sports producer Andrew Larson has built a career based on hard work and giving back.

A business administration graduate, Larson began his career as a spotter working with the CBS Golf production crew on PGA Tour events, and through a lot of hard work he's risen through the television production ranks over the years. In 2016, he and fellow CBS colleagues won an Emmy Award for their work on Super Bowl 50.

In addition to his professional success, Larson has focused a lot of his time and energy on spearheading charitable work among his

colleagues. The CBS Sports crew each year selects a charity to support and the Troy native is often at the forefront of that effort.

In 2016, when the PGA golf tournament held at the famous Greenbriar resort was cancelled due to extreme flooding, Larson and his crew helped raise funds for the resort staff who greatly depend on the earnings during tournament week.

RICHARD J. SULLIVAN '80, a Mortuary Science graduate, was elected the 2019-2020 president of the New York State Funeral Directors Association. Sullivan, a member of NYSFDA for more than 30 years, has previously served as president-elect, secretary/treasurer and



RICHARD J. SULLIVAN

Region 7 director for the Association. He is a past chairman of the NYS Tribute Foundation, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, established in 2003 out of a desire to unite the knowledge and resources of funeral service professionals throughout New York State.

THERESA MOROUKIAN '82 - Theresa Moroukian was promoted to the position of full principal with Mosaic Associates. A 27-year employee of Mosaic, Moroukian has extensive experience managing all financial and human resource matters for the multi-million-dollar firm. She has been instrumental in creating and implementing innovative staff development, human resources and team building policies and procedures.

NEW YORK ARMY NATIONAL GUARD MAJ. DOUG BAKER '89, a veteran of the Iraq war and the campaign against the Islamic State, has been promoted to lieutenant commander after he assumed command of the 501st Ordnance Battalion. The 501st's mission is to manage the employment of explosive ordnance disposal units. These are the elements in the Army and other services called upon to remove improvised explosive devices in combat. The 501st is the higher headquarters for the New York Army National Guard's 1108th Explosives Ordnance Disposal Company, also based at the Glenville Armed Forces Reserve Center.

COLONEL JAMES FREEHART '90 has received a Legion of Merit Medal and a New York State Conspicuous Service Medal in recognition of his 38-year career in the active Army and the New York Army National Guard. Freehart, who commanded the 204th Engineer Battalion and 153rd Troop Command, served in Afghanistan in 2008 with the 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team.



ANDREW LARSON '93



DAQUETTA JONES '02

SUZANNE WALSH '91 was named the 19th president of Bennett College, a 146-year-old private women's historically Black college. Walsh is a respected education innovator who has held leadership roles across the nation with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Lumina Foundation and The Heinz Endowments.

DENNIS NAYOR '93, who has served as acting chief since June, will be the Ithaca Police Department's new permanent chief. Before his acting position, Naylor served as the deputy chief of professional standards for the Ithaca Police Department. He previously led the Oneonta Police Department as chief before his move to Ithaca, and has also served as director of research, development and training for the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police.

DAN VERGINE '00 was one of 23 local football legends honored at the 10th Annual Capital Region Football Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony in August. Vergine was a tailback on the 1999 Vikings team and holds the career and season rushing average record at the college.

FRAN BROWN '02 is the co-defensive coordinator and cornerbacks coach for the Temple University football program, where he's recognized as one of the best recruiters in the nation, and he's helped put countless high school athletes on the path to future success.

DAQUETTA JONES '02 was appointed deputy commissioner for administration at the NYS Department of Civil Service. NYS DCS is the central personnel agency for the executive branch of NYS government, serving approximately 150,000 employees.

DEMARCUS WHITE '06 was named the McDaniel College head football coach after serving as the team's defensive coordinator. White earned all-Prince George's County honors playing football at Laurel High School before playing at Hudson Valley Community College, where he earned two-all-conference honors.

JESSICA CANCELLIERE '07 and **KEVIN HYNES '91** were both featured in a segment of "On the Front Lines," a series of short videos developed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation that highlight the important work carried out by DEC employees. Search for "DEC On the Front Lines" on YouTube.

JASON BLASI '11 recently caught up with one of his old Criminal Justice professors, Carmine Pesca. He continued his education in the Criminal Justice program at the University at Albany and attended law school at Rutgers University. Following law school, he clerked for a Superior Court Criminal Judge and, for the past two years, has been an assistant prosecutor in Bergen County, New Jersey, where he is assigned to the felony trial section.

STONE INGRAM '16 has been hired as a design engineer at Ryan Biggs/Clark Davis. He earned his associate degree in engineering science from Hudson Valley Community College.

JOHN OGLE '16 has been hired at Ryan Biggs as a CADD operator. He holds a CADD certification from Hudson Valley Community College.

MANIK ELAHI '17 continued his education at the University at Albany and completed his bachelor's degree in political science in 2019. He is currently working as a legislative aide in the NYS Senate, helping to draft and coordinate legislation. While at Hudson Valley, he served as the student trustee and was on the executive board of the Student Senate.



MANIK ELAHI '17

LOUIS VENDETTI '17 has been actively promoting his book "My Disability Doesn't Define Me," available in bookstores and online. Louis, who has cerebral palsy, graduated with honors and first began work on the book the day after his graduation.

Foundation Names 2018 and 2019 Outstanding Philanthropist Award Winners

The *Outstanding Philanthropist Award* is presented to an individual, couple or family foundation who has shown exemplary leadership through their own charitable giving, while motivating others to emulate their role in philanthropy and support of the Foundation's initiatives.

2018 RECIPIENT: THE MCCARTHY CHARITIES

The McCarthy Charities has been helping people in need for more than a century. Founder Peter McCarthy, born in Troy in 1845, grew up in poverty but went on to become a successful businessman, industrialist, and philanthropist. In 1917, two years before his death, he founded the McCarthy Charities to ensure that his mission of helping others would live on.

Five generations later, that mission is carried out by his descendants, who make up the board of the McCarthy Charities. Their efforts are aimed at improving quality of life in Rensselaer County, especially in education, social services, and housing.

The McCarthy Charities' generous contributions have benefitted many community organizations and institutions, including generous gifts to the Hudson Valley Community College Foundation. Their support has provided scholarships for adult learners and tuition to the college's summer camps for children from low-income families. Most recently, the college reached out to the Charities to fund Second Chance Scholarships for students who not only have financial need, but have also overcome tremendous personal obstacles in order to pursue an education.



2019 RECIPIENTS: DAVID W. DAVIS AND MARTY MCGILL

DAVID W. DAVIS

David W. Davis and his wife, Irene, have focused on philanthropy for years. The couple run Simmons Machine Tool, Inc., a Menands-based company that is part of the NSH Group, a global manufacturer of machine tools for the aerospace, automotive and railway industries.

David and Irene have focused their philanthropy on vocational education needed to develop the highly-skilled manufacturing workforce. They routinely mentor youth interested in international manufacturing occupations and encourage Simmons employees to give back to their communities.

Over the past nine years, Simmons Machine Tool has provided corporate sponsorships for more than 20 students in the college's Advanced Manufacturing Technology program. David's service as co-chair of the Gene F. Haas Center of Advanced Manufacturing Skills capital campaign committee was instrumental in making CAMS a reality.



MARTY MCGILL

Marty McGill is vice president of Allendale Machinery Systems, located in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. This multigenerational family business is known throughout the manufacturing industry for its foundation of values and business practices.

Allendale has for decades taken a great interest in educational programs for manufacturing careers, and prides itself in supporting colleges that support bringing new workers into the manufacturing sector. Marty was instrumental in fundraising efforts to create the Gene F. Haas Center for Advanced Manufacturing Skills, and his work as co-chair of the CAMS capital campaign committee was key in making the new facility a reality.



Scholarship to Honor First Black Professor of Economics at Hudson Valley



The Hudson Valley Community College Foundation has announced a new scholarship in honor of retired professor Frederick W. Kakumba.

The Professor Frederick W. Kakumba Equal Opportunity Scholarship was created by the family and friends of Professor Kakumba in honor of his 75th birthday. Kakumba was the first Black professor of economics at Hudson Valley Community College. He was a positive role model for many students and paved the way for other professors who came after him. This scholarship honors his 40-year career and establishes a legacy for generations to come.

The \$500 scholarship will be awarded to a matriculated student who demonstrates leadership, and preference will be given to students of African descent (i.e. African American, African or Caribbean) and who are faced with financial challenges when it comes to gaining access to quality education.

Professor Kakumba grew up in Uganda in a village that did not have a school; students would gather under a tree for their lessons. In the 1960s, he left Uganda to come to America and further his education. Here, he studied business, finance and banking. He completed an internship at Key Bank in 1967, and eventually became the first minority bank manager in the Capital Region.

In 1970, Professor Kakumba began teaching economics and African studies at Hudson Valley. He originally planned to complete his higher education and go back to Africa, but his teaching experience opened him up to a lifetime of learning. He joined several committees at the college and served as a representative to the New York State Community College Association, among other boards and committees.

Professor Kakumba spent his entire four-decade career at the college fully committed to his students and to furthering his own understanding of his subject matter. He could always be found either reading, studying or teaching, even

dedicating many weekends and evenings to tutoring his students. Even when he retired in 2010, he couldn't stay away for long, continuing to teach a course or two per semester for the next several years.

His wife, Dawn, said that the scholarship will help students get an education despite whatever circumstances may hold them back—a hallmark of her husband's career and teaching style.

"Students liked his method of teaching because he worked his experiences into the coursework," she explained. "If his students had issues and missed class, he would take his own time to tutor them on evenings and weekends. His teaching philosophy was 'No one should fail,' and that everyone can get an 'A' if they aim high. Don't say never, don't say 'I can't,' say 'I can.'"

To donate to the Professor Frederick W. Kakumba Equal Opportunity Scholarship fund, contact the Hudson Valley Community College Foundation at foundation@hvcc.edu or (518) 629-8012.



Family Establishes Mary Dugan Bottini RN Memorial Scholarship

Maria Bottini Guyette, together with her husband

Richard Medvetz, have recently created a nursing scholarship in honor of Maria's late mother, Mary. The Mary Dugan Bottini, RN Memorial Scholarship memorializes a woman for whom nursing was a lifelong passion.

Born in Richfield Springs, Mary grew up as one of nine siblings on a family farm in rural upstate New York. She worked her way through school and became a licensed practical nurse, working at Little Falls Hospital for several years until she saved enough money to enroll at the St. Elizabeth School of Nursing in Utica. She completed the three-year program and graduated as a registered nurse in 1959.

Mary's joy was pediatric nursing. Though her daughters recall that at times she could be a bit shy, her exuberant personality showed through when caring for her little charges. The same tenderness with which she mothered her own

two daughters was extended to every child in her care; she loved each and every one of them.

"Mommy worked the 3-11 shift and I would often be awake when she got home from work," recalls her daughter Maria. "Sometimes I would join her for her nightly snack of cinnamon toast and tea and hear about that night's nursing stories. When she got called to cover in the ER, which was another favorite of hers, I could sense how much she relished the chance to offer medical and emotional care in a high-stress clinical environment."

It was her routine hospital physical that led to the discovery of her leukemia in 1970. After a five-year illness, Mary died on May 1, 1975, at only 41 years old. At her funeral, an honor guard of her fellow nurses lined the long sidewalk to the church entrance.

"That was a powerful tribute," says Maria's sister, Michelle Bottini Wolsey. "We knew her as Mommy, but to see the respect and love poured out by her professional colleagues, many of

whom had become her close friends, reminded us that she had made a difference beyond our family. She had made it her life's work to care for people when they most needed her warmth and compassion. I'll never forget the image of that honor guard and how proud I was of her."

The Mary Dugan Bottini RN Memorial Scholarship is available to students who meet Hudson Valley's academic and financial assistance requirements. At the specific instruction of the family, priority will be given to students from a diverse background.

"My family is deeply committed to diversity and inclusion," says Maria. "Our goal is to increase the diversity of nursing graduates, thereby enriching the talent pool entering the nursing profession and diversifying the medical field for the benefit of all patients. I know this would have made my mom very happy."

To donate to the fund, contact the Foundation at (518) 629-8012 or go to www.hvcc.edu/giving.

ATHLETIC NOTES



Summer 2020

New Head Coaches



DON JONES – FOOTBALL

Don joins the Viking Nation from Iowa Central Community College, where he served as the program's co-defensive coordinator and defensive backs coach.

At nationally-ranked Iowa Central, Jones' defense led the NJCAA with nine defensive touchdowns.

He previously served as the defensive backs coach at Ellsworth Community College in Iowa Falls, where he was a member of three straight Graphic Edge Bowl championship teams.

Earlier in his career, Don worked at Dartmouth College, Delaware State University and was the defensive line coach at his alma mater, Westfield State University, where he was a running back from 2001-2005.

Coach Jones is a proven recruiter and talent evaluator with previous experience recruiting in the Northeast, as well as Georgia, Florida, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina and Missouri.



JOSHUA PARROW – BASEBALL

Joshua joins the Hudson Valley athletics coaching staff after nine seasons as an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator at the NCAA Division II University of Bridgeport.

He's taking over a Vikings team that finished with a record of 22-11 and trip to the Region III sub-regional game in 2019.

Joshua played high school baseball at Troy's Catholic Central High School and college baseball for Herkimer County Community College.



CATIE BELL – MEN'S AND WOMEN'S BOWLING

Catie recently completed her first season as the head coach of the Vikings men's and women's bowling program. A Capital Region native, she

replaces longtime Hudson Valley coaching legend Joe Prest after 31 years at the helm. Catie spent the previous two seasons as Hudson Valley's assistant coach. In her first season as an assistant, she helped the Vikings advance to the Intercollegiate Team Championships Sectional Tournament for the first time since 2014.



RICHARD ABERLE – LACROSSE

Rich begins his first season as head coach of the Vikings men's lacrosse program this spring after serving two years as an assistant coach at Union College.

During his time at Union College, Coach Aberle and the Union College coaching staff, under Hall of Fame head coach Paul Wehrum, were voted the 2019 Coaching Staff of the Year by the Intercollegiate Men's Lacrosse Coaches' Association following an appearance in the third round of the NCAA Division III tournament.



DEVON TOMSON – MEN'S SOCCER

Devon completed his first season as head coach last fall. He has extensive experience in collegiate soccer on both the East Coast (Bard College, Marist College) and West

Coast (UC Santa Cruz), as well as a coaching time with several top-level youth academies across the country. His team compiled a 6-9-2 record in his first season.



Baseball Player Takes National Award; Home Run Title

North Dakota native Jackson Wenstrom arrived on campus in 2017 after serving in the United States Army and joined the Vikings baseball program after a walk-out tryout several weeks into the season.

Little did his coaches know that their impromptu walk-out would become not only one of the top baseball players in the college's history, but a role model for his fellow student-athletes.

Earlier this year, Jackson, who's continuing his collegiate career at Florida Atlantic University, learned he was the recipient of the 2019 Lea Plarski Award, which is presented each year to an NJCAA student-athlete who exemplifies sportsmanship, leadership, community service, academic excellence and athletic ability. It's one of only three national awards the NJCAA bestows each year.

In his first season alone, Jackson was a NJCAA First Team All-American and a Rawlings Gold Glove recipient, as well as Region 3 and Mountain Valley Conference Player of the Year. He finished his career in 2019 as the college's all-time home run leader and third on the list of RBI producers.

But it was his character and leadership during his time on campus that helped him win the national recognition.

Jackson, whose unassuming nature covered his quiet leadership style, was one of three Hudson Valley student-athletes to receive the 2019 SUNY Chancellor's Scholar Athlete Award. He also led efforts to help his team give back to the local community, including projects like sodding an infield for Green Island Little League and volunteering at local youth baseball camps. In addition to community service with the baseball team, Jackson was president of the Student Athletes Leading Together (SALT), a college-sponsored organization that spearheaded community service projects.

"He is the epitome of what you look for in a student-athlete," said Athletic Director Justin Hoyt, who nominated Jackson for the award. "This is the first time our institution has ever won this award, and there is no one more deserving of this honor than Jackson."

Economic Impact

In 2019, the college worked with data analysts at EMSI to gauge the impact the college and its alumni have on the Greater Capital Region community. Using economic impact and investment analysis, the college was shown to have a \$600 million total impact* on the Capital Region economy.

*all statistics relate to FY 2017-18.



FOR EVERY \$1 OF PUBLIC MONEY INVESTED IN HVCC, TAXPAYERS RECEIVE \$4.30 IN RETURN OVER THE COURSE OF STUDENTS' WORKING LIVES



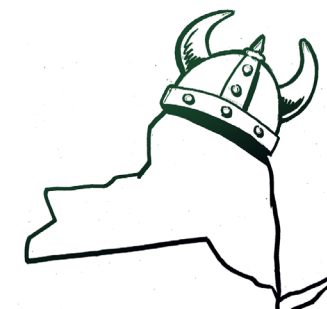
1 OUT OF 87 – CAPITAL REGION JOBS IS SUPPORTED BY THE ACTIVITIES OF HUDSON VALLEY



\$600 MILLION TOTAL REGIONAL IMPACT = 1% OF THE REGION'S TOTAL GRP (GROSS REGIONAL PRODUCT)



\$495.7 MILLION = NET IMPACT OF ALUMNI EMPLOYED IN THE REGIONAL WORKFORCE



6,362 NEW YORK STATE JOBS ARE SUPPORTED BY HVCC



FOR EVERY \$1 IN EDUCATION COSTS, STUDENTS SEE A \$4.60 LIFETIME RETURN ON THEIR INVESTMENT



A Look Back

The college initially was housed in the former Earl and Wilson shirt collar factory building at Broadway and Seventh Avenue in Troy.

College's International Outreach Continues

With a renewed focus on international recruitment and distance learning initiatives, the college is poised to serve a wider audience than ever before, and provide opportunities suited to an increasingly global future.

Here's a look at a few places around the world where Hudson Valley is exploring new partnerships.

COSTA RICA

On the invitation of the Costa Rican government, college officials visited in 2019 to explore partnership opportunities with economic development organizations promoting education, business and industry collaboration. They made presentations before the Congress of Costa Rica and met with the First Lady, the Minister of Education, and more than 200 Costa Rican business leaders, along with several schools and universities.

PHILIPPINES

Last summer, college representatives visited the Philippine island of Samar, where they met with officials regarding Dental Assisting and Teacher Preparation programs, visited several schools, and presented information to hundreds of parents, teachers and administrators.

TRINIDAD AND BARBADOS

Hudson Valley officials traveled to Trinidad and met with the United States ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago, the country's USA Education Coordinator, and officials from the Office of the Minister of Education, as well as with many high school principals, counselors, teachers and parents interested in study abroad, ITV classes, online learning, College in the High School and workforce training opportunities. Officials also visited Barbados to meet with stakeholders and represent Hudson Valley at high schools and college fairs.

UNITED NATIONS

President Ramsammy welcomed United Nations Ambassadors from the Caribbean and Latin America to a luncheon meeting at the SUNY Global Center in New York City to discuss the specific educational and training needs of each country and explore how Hudson Valley can become part of their educational and economic communities.

