

# College of Staten Island

The City University of New York

# CONVOCATION

A Celebration of Accomplishments

October 25, 2012

William J. Fritz, PhD *Interim President* 

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The College of Staten Island experienced major growth, organizational innovation, and transformational changes to its physical landscape during 2011-2012. In this, the first full year of implementation of our Strategic Plan 2011-2016 – Many Voices, One Vision – notable strides have already been made toward our six Strategic Directions. Convocation is an opportunity to recognize and acknowledge the countless contributions and efforts of members of our community. While our achievements are many, our space is limited. The following list is laudable, but by no means exhaustive. The College takes great pride in these accomplishments and expresses its appreciation to all.

# **Institutional Accomplishments and Recognition**

The Middle States Commission on Higher Education reaffirmed the College of Staten Island's accreditation status in June following a multi-year self-study process and evaluators' visit in April 2012. The College received commendations on 12 of the 14 Middle States Standards of Excellence.

*Washington Monthly* magazine named the College of Staten Island among the nation's "Best-Bang-for-the-Buck" colleges.

The College broke ground on March 30, 2012 for its first student residence complex. The Student Housing project, a two-building, 133-apartment, 454-bed residential complex, is on schedule and expected to be move-in ready for August 2013.

Funding in the amount of \$8 million has been secured for the High-Performance Computing Center.

# **Individual Accomplishments and Recognition**

### **OUR FACULTY AND STAFF**

**Dr. Soon Chun** (Business) received a \$133,333 National Science Foundation federal grant for her work on Integrating Learning Resources for Information Security. It is extremely rare for the NSF to support research by the Business Department.

**Dr. Marianne Jeffreys** (Nursing) was the recipient of the R. Louise McManus Medal from the Teachers College, Columbia University. The Medal is given in recognition of longstanding contributions of a distinguished nature to the nursing profession. It is named in honor of one of nursing's earliest leaders and one of the most distinguished faculty members and Chairs at Teachers College, Louise McManus. It is the highest award given by the Nursing Education Alumni Association.

**Dr. Irina Lyublinskaya** (Education) was inducted into the New York State Mathematics Educators Hall of Fame.

**Dr. Fred Naider** (Chemistry), our Interim Provost, was the Chair and organizer of an international meeting under the auspices of the Gordon Research Conference Organization. The Peptides Gordon Conference focuses on topics related to the synthesis, structure, and function of peptides and polypeptides.

**Dr. Dan McCloskey** (Psychology) received a \$930,942 National Science Foundation CAREER grant for his proposed work on animal social behavior.

Tony Petosa (Men's Basketball) received the CUNYAC Coach of the Year Award.

**Professor Sarah Schulman** (English) was named a Fellow at both the New York Institute for the Humanities at New York University and at the University of Toronto Bonham Center for Sexual Diversity Studies.

**Dr. Christina Tortora** (English) received a \$236,626 National Science Foundation Collaborative Research grant for her work on the *Syntactically Annotated Corpus of Appalachian English*.

# **OUR STUDENTS**

A total of \$300,000 was awarded in CSI scholarships to 100 high-achieving students.

A second grant of \$100,000 was awarded to the College in June 12 for the Carroll and Milton Petrie Student Emergency Grant Fund.

CSI students have received the following national and prestigious awards:
Goldwater and UNCF/Merck Undergraduate Research scholarships – Evelyn Okeke
Jeannette K. Watson Summer Fellows Program – Troy Weekes, Jr.

Women's Forum Educational Fund - Katina Lucas

CUNY Pipeline - Sharifa Hampton, Ala Jaarah, Gregory Lella, and Christina Terracino

NYU Rusk Institute Summer Fellows - Stephen Hongach and Leo Stroll

College of Staten Island graduates from the Class of 2012 are enrolled in prestigious graduate programs, including PhD programs at Harvard and Boston University, a joint MD/PhD program at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, and the Master's of Library Science program at McGill University.

The Men's Basketball team won a program-record 19 straight games, set a single-season record with 26 wins, captured the CUNYAC championship, qualified for a berth in the NCAA Division III National Championship Tournament, and advanced all the way to the Sweet 16. In addition, CSI won regular CUNY season championships in Women's Soccer and Women's Softball, and CUNYAC Postseason Championships in Women's Soccer, Men's Basketball, and Cheerleading.

**Jacqueline Jamaleddine**, a highly successful student-athlete, was featured prominently on the cover of *NCAA Champion*, a national magazine.

**Vladislav Romanov** (Men's Swimming) was named the CUNYAC Scholar Athlete of the Year. This award has not been bestowed on a member of the College community since 1999. **Lauren Neglia** (Women's Soccer) and **Olivia Tierno** (Women's Basketball) received CUNYAC Scholar-Athlete Honorable Mentions.

Three College athletes, **Demi-Jean Martorano** (Soccer), **Vladislav Romanov** (Men's Swimming), and **Kaitlyn Flynn** (Softball), won CUNYAC Player of the Year Awards. **Nikki Fabozzi** (Women's Basketball), **Javon Cox** (Men's Basketball), **Timur Rakhimov** (Men's Swimming), **Brittany Smith** (Softball), and **Will Difede** (Baseball) were recognized as CUNYAC Rookies of the Year.

# Strategic Plan Implementation – Our Progress YEAR ONE

## STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1

Develop a Richer Array of Rigorous Undergraduate and Graduate Degree Programs That Meet Students' Educational and Professional Aspirations

The College's FTE enrollment increased by 2.5% over last fall; the College enrolled the largest number of incoming baccalaureate students in its history, representing a 5.2% increase over last fall.

The quality of incoming CSI students continues to rise, as five valedictorian/salutatorian scholarships were awarded to entering students this fall. This year's awardees reflect the highest profile to date with a mean 96.7 high school average and a mean 1185 combined verbal and math SAT score. In addition, the number of entering students passing all three assessment exams increased by 6%.

The number of Master's degrees awarded increased by 22%; the number of Baccalaureate degrees awarded increased by 4.7%.

# STRENGTHENING THE ORGANIZATION OF CSI'S PROGRAMS TO SERVE THE NEEDS OF STUDENTS AND THE COLLEGE

The Business Department received approval for the MS in Accounting program and admitted 17 students for Fall 2012.

The Education and Psychology departments jointly developed a new certificate program in Autism to commence in Spring 2013.

The BS in Social Work program was admitted to candidacy for accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

The Medical Laboratory Scientist Program, under the direction of Professor Carol Hartman, was granted initial accreditation by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS) for five years.

The Advanced Certification in Leadership in Education was approved by the U.S. Department of Education as an eligible program for Title IV federal student aid, which includes the Federal Direct Loan program.

The Alfred Harcourt Foundation provided funding for students in the Teacher Education Honors Academy (TEHA) in the amount of \$63,000 through a successful grant application authored by TEHA Director Dr. Jane Coffee.

The Middle States Reaccreditation Evaluation Team commended the SEEK program for its impact on the retention of underprepared students.

The College Now program continues to effectively help high school students transition into their post-secondary experience, as the program's enrollment grew to 940, marking a 9% increase from 2011. A total of 144 students with CSI College Now experience enrolled at the College of Staten Island as undergraduates this fall, an increase of 88% from last year. Eight of those students are currently in the Macaulay Honors College. In addition, more than 92% of participating College Now students successfully completed college-credit courses in the program, and of the ten total College Now scholarship recipients across CUNY, three were graduates of the College of Staten Island program.

The National Society of Collegiate Scholars, an honor society for freshmen and sophomores, was established and inducted 60 members at its inaugural ceremony in November 2011.

Sigma Beta Delta, an honor society for business, management, and administration, inducted 65 members at its inaugural ceremony in May 2012.

## STRENGTHENING SUPPORT FOR FACULTY IN THE TEACHING ENVIRONMENT

The Faculty Center for Professional Development hosted 22 presentations in its inaugural Special Event Series in 2011-2012, spanning research, technology, gaming and pedagogy, online and hybrid teaching, student accessibility, assessment, retention, and most effective methods in classroom management.

Enhance the Quality and Recognition of Research, Scholarship, and Creative Works for Faculty and Students

### STRENGTHEN FACULTY RECRUITMENT AND HIRING AT CSI

The College of Staten Island welcomed 21 new full-time faculty members to its ranks in 2012.

The College developed and implemented an updated recruitment search procedure and new compliance documents that are aligned with CUNYfirst. Through collaborative efforts among the offices of the Provost, Deans, Human Resources, and Diversity and Compliance, the development of new search processes allows for more accurate monitoring of compliance issues related to equal employment opportunity.

## EXPAND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR FACULTY

More than \$85,000 was distributed through the Faculty Center for Professional Development's Faculty Travel Award Program to 58 faculty members who traveled to domestic and international conferences to present their research.

# IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT THAT SUPPORTS RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

Twenty books were authored by 19 faculty, 40 chapters were written by 26 faculty, 101 faculty published 235 articles in peer-reviewed journals, 13 art exhibits were curated by five faculty members, 13 performances were presented by six faculty members, and 13 patents were awarded to eight faculty.

Twenty-seven faculty and six administrators secured over \$4.1 million in external funding for their research projects and sponsored programs.

The Library acquired 35,000 ebooks, the Birenbaum Papers (President of Staten Island Community College, 1967-1976), 892 scores through a gift to the Department of Performing and Creative Arts from the Staten Island Chamber of Music Players, and *Films on Demand*, a database that includes over 6,000 educational and documentary videos. Collections for new initiatives in areas including Italian studies, Latin American studies, human geography, social work, and medical technologies were strengthened and enhanced with monographs, e-journals, and DVDs.

# ALIGN FACILITIES TO SUPPORT TEACHING RESOURCES

A new bell schedule was implemented, resulting in an additional 150 course sections and increased space efficiency.

Become a More Vibrant Center of Intellectual and Cultural Exchange through Community Partnerships

# EXPAND AND ENGAGE THE CSI COMMUNITY IN SUPPORT OF THE COLLEGE'S MISSION, VISION, AND VALUES

The College entered into new community partnerships that include: (1) a program with the Staten Island University Hospital for the delivery of an onsite tuition waiver "RN to BS" program, of which the first two cohorts started in the spring of 2012; (2) a program with the Jewish Community Center (JCC), which acquired a New York City Department for the Aging (NYCDFTA) grant to deliver recreational and educational programs to retiring baby boomers, with the educational programs subcontracted to the Office of Continuing Education and Professional Development (CE & PD); and (3) a program with Maximus, a social services organization located in Virginia, which has applied for NYC Human Resources Administration (NYCHRA) "back to work" grants, with the Office of CE & PD as the intended provider of literacy services on Staten Island.

A total of 158 CSI students were enrolled in the Center for International Service study abroad programs reflecting a 19% increase from the previous year. Over the past five years, the College has consistently increased enrollments in study abroad by 10 to 20% per year. Over \$122,000 in scholarships were awarded to students in 2011-2012; this figure includes three recipients of the prestigious Gilman Scholarship for semesters in Japan and Egypt.

New international partnership agreements were forged with University Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah, Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Taounate in Fez, Morocco (in STEM subjects) and IPAQ in France (business), as well as a dual agreement with Institut de préparation à l'administration et à la gestion for MS in Business Management students.

In addition, study abroad agreements were created with Universidad de Iberoamerica for nursing students, Risumeikan University in Japan for Japanese language and culture courses, Cadi Ayyad University in Morocco for study of the STEM subjects, and with Vesalius College in Belgium for business, communications, and international affairs courses.

The Liberty Partnerships Program successfully secured funding for the 2012-2017

cycle in the amount of \$350,000 per year over a five-year period, totaling \$1.75 million. In June 2012, the Liberty Partnerships Program was nationally recognized by the America's Promise Alliance, as a Promise Place where young people can receive five evidence-based protective factors to succeed in post-secondary goals.

The "Strategies for Success" program, SEEK's tutoring and mentoring initiative in several Staten Island public schools and community sites, secured \$189,000 in grants from the JPMorgan Chase Foundation, the Staten Island Foundation, the Department of Education/District 31, and other organizations.

Health and Wellness Services received an award from Verizon Wireless for its contribution to the UHOPELINE Cell Phone Collection Drive held to raise awareness about dating violence, provide aid to domestic violence survivors, and encourage college students to help the environment.

The College received a "Pacesetter" Award from the NY Blood Center, acknowledging the number of drives and pints of blood that the campus community donated, as well as for conducting blood drives during "critical periods" of need.

The College raised over \$7,400 at the Ninth Annual Grace Hillery Breast Cancer Awareness Night (Baseball), representing the highest total ever.

The Division of Student Affairs received the first-ever grant totaling \$60,000 from Councilmember Debi Rose's office to support the creation of a computer lab/lounge for CSI students who are veterans of the military.

## EXPAND AND IMPROVE CSI'S REPUTATION AND CAPACITY AS A HOST

The Center for the Arts (CFA) issued over 5,400 tickets to its "CFA Presents" performances with over \$65,700 in ticket sales, and increased its memberships by almost 19%. To improve the audience experience, the CFA is installing a new digital sound system in the Springer Concert Hall.

Among its most acclaimed performances, the Division of Student Affairs Office of Student Life produced the first annual *CSI's Got Talent* competition: over 100 students auditioned, resulting in 12 finalists. On April 19, 2012, the *CSI's Got Talent Finale* attracted a sold-out audience in the Williamson Theatre, and was broadcast on SICTV.

The Offices of Campus Planning and Facilities Management coordinated several facility improvements, moves, and renovations. Included among them are the

Building 5S Geriatric Simulation Lab, a new entry way for the Library, the replacement of sidewalks on campus, the addition of more than 1,000 heads on lighting fixtures, and lights installed on the Women's Softball Field.

The Office of Public Safety, in conjunction with the Office of Human Resources, developed a campus-wide protocol to meet the requirements of CUNY's Workplace Violence Prevention Program. After collecting survey data, Public Safety performed a walkthrough and assessment of all campus spaces of concern, and made recommendations on appropriate work practice control measures to address identified risk factors.

Following the successful implementation of Designated Smoking Areas and nicotine cessation support services last year to facilitate the gradual enactment of CUNY's Revised Tobacco Policy, effective July 1, 2012, the College of Staten Island became a tobacco-free campus. This initiative, with its emphasis on respect for others and the environment, is the culmination of the comprehensive "Change Is in the Air" campaign developed by the CSI Tobacco-Free Environmental Task Force.

Strengthen and Increase Our Ability to Serve a Broad and Diverse Campus Community

### IMPROVE ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT

The Office of Academic Advisement became the Center for Advising and Academic Success (CAAS) and adopted the motto, "Empowering Proactive Learning and Providing the Foundation for Lifelong Success" to more accurately reflect the Office's mission, goals, and role within CSI and the CUNY community at large.

The College expanded its academic advising process by embedding senior academic advisors within its Biology, Business, and Psychology academic departments. This initiative, under the umbrella of CAAS, works collaboratively to assist students in successfully transitioning from CAAS to these respective academic units once they have earned 45 college-level credits. This initiative attempts to increase retention, timely graduation, and post-graduation testing success for our students.

The mandatory New Student Orientation (NSO) program continued to expand with 2,608 students and over 250 staff and faculty participating during summer 2012. This is an excellent example of a campus-wide initiative to enhance the first-year experience.

Over 1,500 students completed summer immersion with a 72% pass rate in one or more basic skills requirement. This represents an 11% increase over 2011.

The College remains dedicated to student support, as total student tutoring contacts increased by 93%, and supplemental instruction assignments increased by 150%.

# USING IDENTIFIED BEST PRACTICES, EXPAND AND IMPROVE STUDENT SUPPORT PROGRAMS

The Counseling Center was granted accreditation on March 14, 2012 by the International Association for Counseling Services (IACS). The Center is the first CUNY institution to be granted this accreditation.

The Child Care Center was awarded continuation of a grant to provide Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) services through 2015.

The College Opportunity for Employment (COPE) program successfully supported a student and provided her with the requisite skill set to enable her to obtain employment with the U.S. military. This was the highest-paid position that any

student in COPE's history has achieved at a rate of \$150,000.

# DEVELOP PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES THAT ATTRACT AND SUPPORT A DIVERSE CAMPUS POPULATION

In Fall 2012, the Center for Student Accessibility (CSA) served over 600 students welcoming over 150 new first-year students for the 2012-2013 academic year, the highest number of students with disabilities ever enrolled at the College of Staten Island. CSI has the highest number of disabilities among all CUNY's senior colleges. The Center's First-Year Connections Program received a commendation from the Middle States Evaluation Team in April 2012.

*G.I. Jobs* designated the College as a military-friendly institution for the fourth consecutive year. To strengthen our support for veterans, the Transfer Evaluation System (TES) was configured to incorporate military credits reflective of the American Council on Education guidelines. Veterans Support Services staff members have participated in two roundtables, hosted by local politicians, focused on improving services to veterans on Staten Island. In November 2011, the Veterans Support Services and the Veterans Educational Transition Services (VETS) presented "The American Soldier" in the Center for the Arts Student Art Gallery.

The Veterans Center hosted the First Annual Veterans Commencement Luncheon, held on May 11, which honored student veterans for their educational accomplishments and degree completion.

The Black and Latina Women's Initiative was instituted to address gaps in student enrollment and faculty retention issues. An event for Women of Color that included faculty, staff, and students was held at the President's home on October 17, 2011, and a student mentoring program was established as a follow-up.

The LGBTQ Resource Center opened on May 3, 2012. The Center is a collaboration of the Gay-Straight Alliance club, the Vice President for Student Affairs, the Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, and the Office of Student Life. The Center is dedicated to improving the educational environment for LGBTQ students, faculty, and staff and encourages a confidential support network.

The first-ever Lavender Graduate Reception was held in May 2012 as a new component of the College's Commencement.

Several initiatives were directed toward international student recruitment and support. The Communications Office launched Google Translate to allow visitors to translate content into 66 languages, developed a Student Blogs content category, and forged alliances with Recruitment and Admissions for international student blogging.

### STRENGTHEN THE STUDENT LEARNING EXPERIENCE

CUNY recognized the College as a leader in pre-test preparation. As a result, the Executive Vice Chancellor is currently recommending that all colleges in the University offer a pre-test preparation initiative to incoming students based on CSI's model.

The SEEK Learning Center produced a publication, *Hands On: The English Tutor's Guide to the Art and Craft of Tutoring*, by Ms. Linda Principe. The document offers a compilation of thoughts from past and current Learning Center tutors, who share their ideas and basic advice for all professionals providing academic support.

The College's Internship program was expanded through the participation of these companies: Meals on Wheels, SIUH, Sirius XM Radio, Dow Jones, the MTA, and ConEdison.

In 2011 recycling efforts, CSI placed sixth out of 288 institutions competing in the "Competition Division"; CSI achieved a recycling rate of 60% and was the only CUNY college participating. In 2012, the College placed 11th out of 265 institutions in the "Grand Champion" category; our recycling rate increased to 67%.

Since it began, the Community Garden has expanded from a 30' x 30' plot to a 30' x 50' fenced plot. Vegetables and herbs from the garden are donated for use by Dining Services. The Garden started a composting container with the guidance of the NYC Compost Project Coordinator at Snug Harbor Cultural Center and Botanical Garden. Dining Services collects the skins from fruits and vegetables for use in the Garden compost pile, yielding nearly 60 gallons of organic waste per week.

# IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR CENTRAL ROLE, FURTHER INTEGRATE HIGHER EDUCATION OFFICERS AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL STAFF INTO THE ACADEMIC MISSION OF THE COLLEGE

Between October 2011 and October 2012, the College hired 18 new full-time staff in the HEO series.

A total of \$30,000 was allocated to a professional development fund in support of HEO travel to professional development conferences.

Position the College to Achieve Greater Regional, National, and International Recognition through Advancement and Fundraising Activities

# IMPROVE AND EXPAND PUBLICITY AND RECOGNITION FOR FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

The Office of Design Services played a leading role in the development and implementation of the College's new branding in an effort to create a uniform and more effective institutional identity for the College by guiding a Steering Committee on branding standards and identity development, composing an identity manual, planning for multiple design mediums, and developing tools to assist members of the campus community in preparing their own projects to promote the brand.

The Web Development Office completed beta design development for the new College Website, utilizing the proposed branding elements.

The Office of Communications and Marketing distributed nearly 200 press releases, published 2,000 pages of electronic news clippings, launched a Photo of the Day segment to complement the online photo galleries, and designed and implemented a new, more intuitive video channel page integrated with YouTube.

## EXPAND THE ROLE OF ALUMNI IN THE COLLEGE

The Division of Institutional Advancement and External Affairs established a reunion program for alumni classes celebrating milestone reunion years. Alumni from these featured anniversary classes joined the Class of 2012 and marched in the academic procession at Commencement on May 30, 2012.

A regional alumni reunion was held at the Harvard Club of Boston.

A strategic initiative was developed by the Division to engage alumni in more meaningful ways, as the College brought three high-achieving alumni back to campus to share their expertise with students.

The Division launched the inaugural Alumni Fellows program with Dr. Jerod Loeb, '71, Executive Vice President of The Joint Commission. Dr. Loeb will be on campus on October 30 to address a class, meet with faculty, and give a joint public lecture on campus on the future of healthcare in the U.S.

The Division held the 2012 Homecoming Festival, in collaboration with the Division

of Student Affairs, on October 6, 2012. As part of Homecoming, the Walkathon to support the Staten Island Breast Cancer Research Initiative (SIBCRI, a Center for Environmental Science initiative) was held.

The College celebrated the inauguration of its first-ever Athletics Hall of Fame honoring Jeff Benjamin, John Cali, Sonny Grasso (posthumous), Evan Pickman, Jacclyn Rock, Ira Sweet, and Elizabeth Zwingraf.

# ASSESS AND EXPAND ADVANCEMENT AND FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

The Pennies from Heaven Scholarship, a fund that generates financial assistance in the form of scholarship funding to a selected single parent student enrolled at the College of Staten Island who is majoring in Nursing, was established. Mrs. Gabriela Bass, who established a generous endowed Nursing scholarship in honor of her late husband Sam Bass, also made another very generous gift to support the Nursing program, which will be recognized via the naming of one of that Department's rooms in loving memory of Mr. Bass.

The Division secured a grant from the Staten Island Foundation for "The Covey Project," representing a partnership between the divisions of Student Affairs and Academic Affairs. As a result, the College will become a conduit for bringing the Covey philosophy and training to CSI and to the Staten Island community through Franklin Covey's 7 Habits course on individual and organizational effectiveness.

Through the generosity of Northfield Bank, 25 College of Staten Island students are being supported in richly rewarding internships with Staten Island non-profit organizations.

Examine the College's Current and Possible Future Uses of Technology for a Wide Range of Purposes

### EXPAND ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVES

The High-Performance Computing Center (HPCC) continues to enhance the reputation of CSI as a leader in the use of computational science, within CUNY, the New York Metropolitan Area, and nationally. The HPCC has just completed the upgrade of its Cray XE6 supercomputer—more than doubling its compute capacity. In addition, over the next two months, the HPCC will be installing an additional \$2 million in computing equipment—all funded by external grants. With these upgrades, its capacity in terms of computational resources will have grown by a factor of 40 over the last four years. Included in this new equipment is a large data storage system with a total capacity of two petabytes, which is about the amount of storage available on 4,000 personal computers.

To support the growth in high-performance computing resources, the College has completed a building project that has increased the size of the HPCC by 50% and provided for a substantial augmentation of the electrical and air conditioning infrastructure for the HPCC, including an uninterruptable power supply system with diesel backup.

The HPCC organized and held a workshop on "Accelerators in High-Performance Computing and Computational Science" in June 2012. Over 125 people attended this workshop. Noteworthy among the speakers were three Chief Executive Officers and two Chief Technology Officers of important technology companies, and a Managing Director of JPMorgan Chase. In addition, there were, of course, many outstanding academic presenters. CSI, the CUNY Research Foundation, and the National Science Foundation funded this workshop.

Over the past year, approximately four dozen research papers were published based on research performed on HPCC resources in the domain sciences of chemistry, physics, environmental science, transportation policy, environmental biology and ecology, and other fields.

# EXPAND AND UPGRADE SMART CLASSROOMS AND COMPUTER LABS

The College upgraded approximately 600 faculty, staff, and student computers throughout the campus. Six teaching spaces have been upgraded as Smart

Classrooms with fully immersive state-of-the-art technology. Ten floor-standing and ADA-compliant kiosks, which provide students with financial aid resources, were installed in the Student Resource Center in 2A-104. A total of 129 student-lab computers were upgraded and a new 54-computer open computer lab, the largest on campus, was set up in the Library (1L-201). In addition, 12 public access stations were installed in the Building 1C Rotunda area, and the 1S-214 Mathematics Tutoring Center was renovated with both new computers and furniture. Library/Media Services, in conjunction with OIT, installed 31 computers on the third floor of the Library. A total of 25 new laptops were procured to expand the Laptop Loaner Program.

#### EXPAND THE USE OF REMOTE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Since Fall 2011, the Faculty Center for Professional Development staff have supported 7,500 course sections using Blackboard, conducted 130 training sessions on Blackboard 9.1, conducted two training courses – the eight-day Winter 2012 Teaching and Learning Academy for faculty teaching hybrid courses and the Conference Poster Training course – and facilitated hybrid course offerings through the Hybrid Initiative that also foster classroom space conservation. Since the Center's inception, its training programs have resulted in a 5.3% increase in Blackboard adoption among CSI faculty.

### CONTINUE TO DEVELOP AND IMPROVE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPUTING

CUNYfirst implementation continues at an impressive pace. Extensive work has been done on data validation in preparation for the Campus Solutions module release in March 2012. Plans are being developed to support the College's current shadow systems. Marketing planning and employee training continue with the implementation of each new module.

The Office of Human Resources ranked first in CUNYfirst Integrity/Data Collection Correction, and was asked to share its processes at a University-wide meeting of human resources and payroll directors.

The first round of data cleansing and conversion from SIMS to CUNYfirst resulted in zero returns in critical student data elements, an achievement generally unheard of in such a conversion.

The Office of Reprographics implemented a phased-in process to decrease copier overage charges through the use of an ID log-in system to assess usage. The data collected

will enable the College to better match equipment to the needs of the Office.

In an effort to reduce paper usage, Minolta Bizhub copiers, located in offices throughout the campus, have been connected to the College's network. Once connected, these machines can be used as a network printer and high-speed scanner. Currently, 18 office/department copiers have been connected providing digital capabilities for over 250 College employees. Networking these devices provides potential significant savings to the College in terms of hardware, paper, toner, and electricity costs. The connection of these devices to the network is ongoing.

The Library/Media Services improved scheduling and enrollment processes by upgrading all production SQL Servers, including deployment of a new SQL Server in advance of CUNYfirst implementation. The area implemented VMWare installation to improve hardware utilization and recovery capabilities and completed major upgrades to a variety of systems including Titanium Scheduling, Smart Catalog, Ascent Imaging, and QMatic.

### UPDATE THE COLLEGE WEBSITE

Compilation of a Website dedicated to Policies, Procedures, and Governance is complete and can be found at <a href="http://www.csi.cuny.edu/privacy/">http://www.csi.cuny.edu/privacy/</a>. Special sections are dedicated to students, faculty, non-instructional staff, classified staff, and other topics for easy reference

# SUPPORT AND IMPROVE CAMPUS COMMUNICATIONS

*CSI Today* received a top-down overhaul and rebranding in support of new guidelines. The site hosted 90,000 visitors from 150 countries who viewed a total of 230,000 pages.

The Office of Communications and Marketing launched a Website templates platform and supporting email newsletter accounts.

The College focused on graduate student retention by implementing a new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system for graduate students called Hobsons Connect. The CRM provides all prospects, applicants, and newly admitted graduate students with targeted communications and personalized VIP pages. The establishment of this system will provide our graduate programs with a more personal and targeted approach to inquiry and application management.

The College implemented a student electronic paperless billing system (e-billing) during Fall 2011 that has dramatically reduced paper billing. Semester comparisons demonstrate the savings – Fall 2010 (108,500 bills) vs. Fall 2011 (61,000) represents a 44% reduction; Spring 2011 (89,500) vs. Spring 2012 (38,500) represents a 57% reduction in paper use. The College also reduced its postage expenditures in excess of \$27,000, a 35% reduction from 2010-2011.

New communication technologies and social media applications, including a mobile version of *CSI Today* and a CSI Social Media page, were launched. The College's GPA Calculator Application was developed for both iPod and Blackberry mobile devices by the College's Web and Application Development staff.

# CONTINUE TO IMPROVE TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE

The Wireless Local Area Network (LAN) expanded coverage by 40%. The Local Area Network is now configured as an Enterprise Network design, which allows for high availability and recovery of LAN resources with 20 Gigs of bandwidth.

The Wide Area Network (WAN) Time Warner and Verizon connections were upgraded to the level of two gigabits access to the Internet. Network components were updated to provide redundancy and ten-Gig capacity to our HPCC. The system now features redundant firewalls, antivirus, intrusion detection, monitoring, and routing, all to ensure fault-tolerant connections to the WAN. With increasing demand for Internet and LAN access by the campus community, we have been able to scale our LAN to provide 20-Gig capacity to our students, faculty, and staff, and redundant two-Gig capacity to the Internet.



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