



**College of Staten Island**  
The City University of New York

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# CONVOCAATION

A Celebration of Accomplishments

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October 24, 2013

William J. Fritz, PhD  
*Interim President*



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## Reflecting on Superstorm Sandy

October 24, 2013

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*As the College of Staten Island (CSI) embarked on the 2012-2013 academic year, the mid-Atlantic region of the United States, particularly the New York and New Jersey coastlines, was hit with an unprecedented confluence of weather systems that came to be known as Superstorm Sandy. October 29, 2012, just four days after Convocation 2012, marked the start of a devastating natural disaster that changed the lives of members of our campus community and the entire Northeast region. In its aftermath, this storm presented a defining moment for the College to be a strong presence in the recovery efforts, for leaders to emerge, and for our institution to be transformed and strengthened through its new focus and community outreach.*

**Dr. William J. Fritz**, Interim President of the College of Staten Island and a geologist, hosted the forum “Superstorm Sandy: A Serious Conversation about the Future of Staten Island,” where a diverse group of professionals provided members of the College and Staten Island communities with information on the Superstorm and how to prepare for future severe weather events. Dr. Fritz also gathered an interdisciplinary group of faculty colleagues together to conduct long-term research on the impact of future superstorms in the New York area. He was joined by geologist **Dr. Alan Benimoff**, Professor of Political Science **Dr. Richard Flanagan**, Finance Professor **Dr. Jonathan Peters**, and Vice President for Information Technology and Economic Development, and Executive Director of the CUNY Interdisciplinary High-Performance Computing Center **Dr. Michael Kress**. The College’s Hurricane Research Team has not only presented its findings at numerous international academic symposia, but has been featured by *Crain’s New York Business*, The Weather Channel, *The New Yorker*, *The Economist*, and WNYC Radio.

The superstorm research team also presented at the NYC DataGotham conference, explaining how big data can be used to create inferences that can be used for anything from predicting storm or traffic patterns to influencing major governmental policy shifts.

The College coordinated the SI Realtors’ Association Grant to support faculty and student research on the Superstorm Sandy Recovery Project with Dutch companies. In addition, the campus was host to a team of experts from the Netherlands and Japan, as well as local political and civic leaders, to continue discussions on resiliency and adaptation measures to protect the Island’s coastline.

The **Division of Student Affairs**, in collaboration with the **Division of Enrollment Management**, provided relief assistance to Superstorm Sandy victims

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through Sandy's Closet and Pantry, a repository for non-perishable food and clothing, spearheaded by Suzie Shepardson (CAAS), with remaining items donated to local Staten Island charities. In addition, with funding provided by the Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation and the Robin Hood Foundation, \$119,950 was disbursed to 207 students affected by Hurricane Sandy.

In the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, the **Office of Student Life** took the lead in coordinating relief efforts with over 250 students volunteering in excess of 2,250 hours. Volunteers partnered with relief organizations such as All Hands, Project Hospitality, and Guyon Rescue.

Many **College of Staten Island students** took independent action to relieve suffering, including **Mary Beth Melendez** (who is pursuing a Master's in Mental Health Counseling), whose grassroots efforts to provide food to the affected resulted in a donation of turkey dinners by Anderson Cooper, and an appearance on his television show; and undergraduate Business major **Christian Spears**, who formed Staten Island Friends Together (SIFT), a group of about 350 volunteers who helped residents clean up their homes.

The **CSI Small Business Development Center** (SBDC) created the Business Recovery Center, offering SBDC and small business services, advising more than 250 clients the first week following the Sandy disaster, and subsequently securing more than 100 SBA Disaster Loan applications that resulted from more than 600 business-related inquiries. The Center also gathered feedback from more than 200 business owners in one-on-one meetings. A second SBDC satellite office in New Dorp-Midland Beach opened to assist in the disaster recovery effort. The SBDC also collaborated with SCORE (Counselors to America's Small Businesses) to organize multiple Sandy Disaster Recovery Planning Forums.

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*The College of Staten Island experienced major growth, organizational innovation, and transformational changes to its physical landscape during 2012-2013. In this, the second full year of implementation of our Strategic Plan, 2011-2016—Many Voices, One Vision—notable strides continued to be 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.*

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## **Institutional Accomplishments and Recognition**

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**Dolphin Cove**, the College's first-ever residence halls, welcomed its new student tenants. The new facility has a 97-percent occupancy rate with students from all five boroughs, a number of U.S. states, and many countries.

The College inaugurated its new School of Business under the leadership of **Founding Dean (Interim) Dr. Susan Holak**. Organized into four departments—Accounting and Finance, Economics, Management, and Marketing—the School of Business has over 2,400 declared majors, 35 full-time faculty, and many part-time faculty with licensures and extensive industry experience. The School offers a wide array of programs with specializations in Accounting, Economics, Finance, Management, Marketing, and International Business. Degrees awarded include the Bachelor of Science in Business, the Bachelor of Science in Accounting, the Bachelor

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of Science in Economics, the Bachelor of Arts in Economics, the Master of Science in Business Management, and the Master of Science in Accounting. The School's undergraduate Associate's degree opportunities allow students to explore business studies and transition seamlessly into the Baccalaureate program. The School also offers Business and Economics minors for undergraduates who major in other disciplines and wish to enhance their training and career opportunities.

The School of Business was honored to host **Dr. William Dudley, President, Federal Reserve Bank of New York**, on April 16, 2013. Dr. Dudley interacted with School of Business students and faculty during a presentation, and conversed with members of the College community at a luncheon.

The College announced the establishment of its new School of Education, led by **Founding Dean (Interim) Dr. Kenneth Gold**, which will enable the College to broaden and deepen its work in teacher preparation and educational research. The School will offer a wide array of programs, including early childhood, childhood, and adolescence education at the undergraduate level, and childhood, adolescence, and special education at the graduate level. It will retain programs for a Certificate in Autism and a Sixth-year Professional Certificate in School Leadership at the school and district levels. It will continue to work closely with faculty in the arts and sciences to ensure the success of programs like the Teachers Education Honors Academy.

The College has been designated a doctoral-degree-granting institution, beginning with the Doctorate in Physical Therapy. When the first Clinical Doctorate in Physical Therapy cohort enrolls at the College, students will be able to study and receive their degrees solely from CSI.

The **divisions of Student Affairs and Academic Affairs** provided collaborative leadership for the "Foundations of Excellence" (FoE) project, a campus-wide initiative focused on improving the first-year experience of students in college. The College was one of five CUNY institutions that participated in this nationally recognized initiative out of the John N. Gardner Institute for Excellence in Undergraduate Education.

The College was honored to host New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, who delivered the State of the State address on campus last February.

*U.S. News and World Report* ranked the College as one of America's Best Colleges 2014 (North East Public).

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## Individual Accomplishments and Recognition

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### OUR FACULTY AND STAFF

#### Awards

**Michael Ackalitis** (Women's Swimming) won Coach of the Year honors.

**Dr. John Arena** (Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work) was the co-winner of the 2013 Oliver Cromwell Cox Book Award from the Racial and Ethnic Minorities' Section of the American Sociological Association for *Driven from New Orleans: How Nonprofits Betray Public Housing and Promote Privatization* (University of Minnesota Press, 2012).

**Dr. Soon Chun** (Marketing) earned an Outstanding Paper Award at the Emerald Literati Network 2013 Awards for Excellence for Shafiq, B., J. Vaidya, V. Atluri, S. Chun, and G. Nabi (2012) "Resource Sharing Using UICDS Framework for Incident Management," *Transforming Government: People, Process and Policy*, Vol. 6 (1), 2012: 41-61.

**Dr. Cary Karacas** (Political Science and Global Affairs) received a *Journal of Historical Geography* prize for the best paper published in the journal in the previous 12 months. "A Cartographic Fade to Black: Mapping the Destruction of Urban Japan during World War II," *JHG* 38: 3, 2012.

**Dr. Alan Lyons** (Chemistry) received an NSF SBIR Phase II award in the amount of \$749,995 (September 1, 2013) for "Scratch and Abrasion Resistant Superhydrophobic Polymer Coatings," effective 9/1/2013; and his mentoring efforts contributed to first-place honors at the New York State Pollution Prevention Institute R&D Student Competition (April 2013) and at the CUNY-UNICEF Design Challenge (July 2013) for CSI students.

**Michael Mauro** (Men's Baseball) won Coach of the Year honors.

**Professor Emeritus Dr. George Odian** (Chemistry) was the 2013 recipient of the ACS POLY Paul J. Flory-Polymer Education Award.

**Tony Petosa** (Men's Basketball) won Coach of the Year honors.

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**Professor Patricia Smith** (English) received the 2013 Academy of American Poets Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize for *Shoulda Been Jimi Savannah* (Coffee House Press), and the 2013 Robert L. Fish Memorial Award from the Mystery Writers of America for the best debut short story in the genre, “When They Are Done with Us” from the anthology *Staten Island Noir*.

*Discovery*

**Dr. Irving Robbins** (Engineering Science and Physics) discovered a minor planet with the temporary name “2013 EW09.” Credit was given by IAU Center for Astrophysics at Harvard.

*Grants*

**Dr. Feng Gu** (Computer Science) received an NSF Grant: “Research Initiation Awards: Spatial-temporal Information Fusion and Real-time Sensor Data Assimilation Using Sequential Monte Carlo Methods,” 2013-2015, \$160,448.

**Dr. Michal Kruk** (Chemistry) and Dr. Shuiqin Zhou (Chemistry) received an NSF Grant: “Design of Novel Large-Pore Nanoporous Materials through Understanding of Micelle Templating Process,” 7/1/13 - 6/30/16, \$299,921.

**Dr. Charles Liu** (Engineering Science and Physics) received an NSF Grant: “REU Site: Collaborative Research: Earth and Planetary Science and Astrophysics REU at the American Museum of Natural History in Collaboration with The City University of New York,” 9/15/10 - 8/31/15, \$123,158.

**Professor Tara Mateik** (Media Culture) was a 2013-2014 Franklin Furnace Fund recipient, supported by the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, the Lambent Foundation, the SHS Foundation, and the Jerome Foundation.

**Dr. Sebastien Poget** (Chemistry) received an NSF CAREER grant: “Structural and Mechanistic Analysis of Potassium Channel Modulation by a Novel Activating Snake Toxin,” 4/1/13 - 3/31/18, \$1.18 million.

**Dr. Emily Rice** (Engineering Science and Physics) received an NSF Grant: “Collaborative Research: Deciphering Brown Dwarf Spectra: Disentangling Temperature, Age, Metallicity, Cloud Signatures,” 9/2/2013-9/2/2016, \$76,682; and an NSF Grant: “Collaborative Research: Understanding the Atmospheres of Young Planets,” 9/15/12, \$143,309.



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Organization Leadership and Presentations

**Paulette Brower-Garrett** (CAAS) was appointed to the National Academic Advising Association's Research Committee.

**Dr. Soon Chun** (Marketing) served as General Co-chair for the 27th Annual WG11.3 Conference on Applications Security and Privacy.

**Dr. Rosane Gertner** (Marketing) was named to the editorial board of the *Journal of Academic Research on Management Accounting and Finance* (JARMAF).

**Dr. Alex Matveev** (Management) earned Best Overall Paper and Best Qualitative Paper recognition at the World Communication Association Conference in Seoul, Korea for "Global Brand Communication in Diverse Cultural Contexts: Multi-country Analysis of LG Electronics' Advertising Strategy in South Korea, Japan, the United States, and Russia."

**Professor Cynthia Scarinci** (Accounting and Finance) was honored by the New York State Society of CPAs with the Dr. Emanuel Saxe Outstanding CPA in Education Award.

**Dr. Nan M. Sussman** (Psychology) was elected President of the International Academy for Intercultural Research for 2013.

**Dr. Allen Tesdall** (Mathematics) was appointed to the editorial board (as editor) of the *Journal of Computational Science* in 2012, and appointed as guest editor of the *Journal of Scientific Computing* in July 2013.

Publications

**Dr. David Allen** (Education), *Powerful Teacher Learning: What the Theatre Arts Teach about Collaboration*. Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield, 2013.

**Dr. Christopher Anderson** (Media Culture), *Rebuilding the News: Metropolitan Journalism in the Digital Age*, Temple University Press, 2013.

**Dr. Leigh Binford** (Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work), *Tomorrow We're All Going to the Harvest: Temporary Foreign Worker Programs and Neoliberal Political Economy*. University of Texas Press, 2013.

**Dr. Cynthia Chris** and **Dr. David Gerstner** (Media Culture) (eds.), *WSQ*, special issue entitled, *Engage!* SUNY Press, December 2013, and (eds.) *Media Authorship*. New York: Routledge, 2012.

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**Dr. K. M. Cumiskey** (Psychology) co-edited with Dr. Larissa Hjorth *Mobile Media Practices, Presence and Politics: The Challenge of Being Seamlessly Mobile*. New York and London: Routledge, 2013.

**Dr. Abdeslem El Idrissi** and **Dr. William L'Amoreaux** (Biology) published *Taurine 8 (Advances in Experimental Medicine and Biology)*, Complete work 775, 776; El Idrissi, Abdeslem, L'Amoreaux, William J. (Eds.) 2014, 1, 200 p. two-volume set. Springer, February 2013.

**Dr. Jean Halley** (Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work), *The Parallel Lives of Women and Cows: Meat Markets*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2012.

**Dr. Jinyoung Kim** (Education), *Creative Music Integration: Music Education for Childhood Classroom Teachers*. IA: Kendal/Hunt, 2013.

**Dr. Rob Lovering** (Philosophy), *God and Evidence: Problems for Theistic Philosophers*. Bloomsbury, June 2013.

**Professor Joseph Petrucelli** (Accounting and Finance), *Detecting Fraud in Organizations: Techniques, Tools and Resources*. Wiley, 2013.

**Dr. Emily Rice** (Engineering Science and Physics) co-authored with N. McCrady *Astronomy Labs: A Concept Oriented Approach*. Pearson Higher Education, September 2013.

**Dr. Peter Simpson** (Philosophy), *The Eudemian Ethics of Aristotle*. Transaction, January 2013.

**Dr. Susan Sullivan** (Education), Fourth edition of textbook, *Supervision that Improves Teaching and Learning*, was published.

**Dr. Mark D. White** (Philosophy), *The Manipulation of Choice: Ethics and Libertarian Paternalism*. Palgrave, January 2013, and (ed.), *Superman and Philosophy: What Would the Man of Steel Do?* Wiley-Blackwell, March 2013.

**Dr. Alexandre Zaitsev** (Engineering Science and Physics), co-authored, with Inga A. Dobrinets and Victor G. Vins, *HPHT-Treated Diamonds: Diamonds Forever. Springer Science Series in Materials Science*, July 2013.

**Dr. Alan Zimmerman** (Marketing), co-authored a new book on business-to-business marketing with James Blythe, *Business to Business Marketing Management: A Global Perspective*. London: Routledge, 2013.

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## OUR STUDENTS

A total of \$255,000 was awarded in CSI scholarships to 100 high-achieving students.

A third grant of \$100,000 was awarded to the College in 2013 for the Carroll and Milton Petrie Student Emergency Grant Fund. In addition, \$25,000 in Emergency Grant Funding was awarded through the Robin Hood Foundation in 2013.

College of Staten Island graduates from the Class of 2013 are enrolled in prestigious graduate programs, including the doctoral program at the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, the PhD program in Mathematics at Penn State, the MD/PhD program at Stony Brook, the Criminal Law program at Fordham University, the MS in Public Policy program at Brown University, and the MS in Actuarial Science at Columbia University.

CSI students have received the following national and prestigious awards:

The UNCF/Merck Science Initiative Research Scholarship Award - **Evelyn Okeke**

Jeannette K. Watson Summer Fellows Program - **Mays Jumah**

Women's Forum Educational Fund - **Ying Yu**

CUNY Pipeline - **Karla Pesantes**

IME Becas Scholarship Program - **Irma Cruz**

Young Latinas Leadership Institute Scholarship - **Irlenny Evangelista**

"New York Needs You" Fellowship - **Leonard Balaj** and **Farzeen Kanwal**

Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship - **Juan Cardona, Giovanni Rosa,**  
and **Kristin Vislocky**

A seven-student team of undergraduates from CSI has garnered second-place honors in the Little Fe track of the Super Computing 12 international student computer cluster competition last November in Salt Lake City, UT.

CSI athletes were recognized by the CUNY Athletic Conference (CUNYAC) for the following achievements:

**Samuel Obisanya** (Cross-Country) and **Madiha Mulla** (Women's Tennis) were named "Rookie of the Year."

**Richard Anderson** (Baseball) won the **Pitcher of the Year** Award.

**Jean Marie Lewandowski** (Volleyball) received the Libero of the Year Award.

**Michael Gratkowski** (Cross-Country) and **Dan Lynch** (Baseball) both received a Sportsmanship Award for 2013.

Athletics also earned 31 all-star citations and held its first-ever Hall of Fame celebration in October 2012.

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## Strategic Plan Implementation – Our Progress YEAR TWO

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### STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1

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

The College met its enrollment targets. Additionally, the profile of entering freshmen increased both in the College Admissions Average (CAA) at 85 (a one-point increase) and SAT at 1015 (a 13-point increase).

The College experienced an increase in the number of incoming Baccalaureate-(4%) Master's-degree students (1.3%) since last fall.

The College recruited a total of nine valedictorians and salutatorians from Staten Island high schools for the 2013-2014 academic year.

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

The **Office of the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Studies and Academic Programs**, in collaboration with the **Office of Recruitment and Admissions** and the **Office of the Registrar**, successfully reestablished the Teacher on Sabbatical Program (graduate students) and welcomed the largest class in the program's history.

Six new academic departments were created. Four departments were established within the School of Business: Accounting and Finance, Management, Marketing, and Economics. Two departments, Philosophy, and Political Science and Global Affairs, were established within the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences.

### STRENGTHENING SUPPORT FOR FACULTY IN THE TEACHING ENVIRONMENT

**The Faculty Center for Professional Development** hosted more than 25 presentations in its Event Series, 2012-2013, spanning research, technology, gaming, pedagogy, information management, student behavior management, ePortfolio, online and hybrid teaching and course development, grant funds, sustainability, teaching most effective methods, accessibility, ESL, and LGBTQ. The Center also conducted one conference poster training course in support of the Undergraduate Conference on Research, Scholarship, and Performance (49 projects enrolled), and conducted two program projects (SEEK Virtual Classroom, CORE Video Lecture).

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The College of Staten Island developed and launched an electronic handbook resource for adjunct faculty under the auspices of then Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness **Dr. Susan Holak, Anita Romano, and Dr. Christine Flynn-Saulnier.**

## **STRATEGIC DIRECTION 2**

*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 25 new full-time faculty members to its ranks in 2013.

### **EXPAND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR FACULTY**

A total of \$80,000 was distributed through the **Faculty Center for Professional Development's** Faculty Travel Award Program to 57 faculty members who traveled to domestic and international conferences to present their research, scholarship, and artistic performances. Participants in this program represented the following programs and departments: Biology, Business, Chemistry, Cinema Studies, Computer Science, Economics, Education, English, Geography, History, Linguistics, Mathematics, Media Culture, Nursing, Physical Therapy, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Sculpture, Sociology, Social Work, and World Languages.

### **IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT THAT SUPPORTS RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP**

*See the College's research and scholarship initiatives set forth in "Reflecting on Superstorm Sandy."*

## **STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS 3**

*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**

*See the College's community outreach efforts set forth in "Reflecting on Superstorm Sandy."*

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Over the last year, **Veterans Support Services (VSS)** established key relationships with the offices of Staten Island political leaders, VFWs, American Legions, the Staten Island Veterans Center, and other organizations in an effort to provide greater resources to a growing CSI student veteran population. The College was also named by *GI Jobs* magazine as one of the top 15% of military friendly schools in the nation for the fifth consecutive year.

The **Center for the Arts (CFA)** reached out to 42 community organizations and provided \$1,117 in gift certificates and tickets to performances. The CFA sold out six performances in the 2012 *CFA Presents* season, hosted over 500 campus and community events, and had a 9% membership increase in 2012-2013.

**Liberty Partnerships Program (LPP)** students had a high school graduation rate of 91% (76 students) for 2012-2013, which represents a 10% increase over the previous year. An LPP/Dreamer's Academy student, **Akeema Duff**, won the statewide Talent Contest at the 2013 Empire Promise Summit.

**New Student Orientation (NSO)** collaborated with the New York Police Department (NYPD) to present workshops on prescription-drug abuse during the summer 2013 New Student Orientation program.

The **CSI Small Business Development Center (SBDC)** collaborated with the SI Chamber of Commerce to support The Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!), an afterschool program that transforms local high school students into real, confident entrepreneurs; provided more than \$10 million in economic development support to the Island community in 2012; assisted in the development of the Labor Department grant program, Entrepreneurship, counseling 65 students on how to create startup businesses; and also met with more than 65 Minority-Owned Women and Business Enterprise contacts within the last two months to encourage minorities' participation in the CUNY procurement process.

The SBDC customized seminars for veterans and coordinated veterans job fairs, and moderated a 2012 Black entrepreneurs panel discussion that featured Councilwoman Debi Rose as the guest speaker, attended by approximately 100 students and faculty.

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

Our recruitment staff proudly served as a conduit to the public to raise awareness of

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CSI/CUNY as a community-wide and regional cultural and intellectual resource. As a result of increased recruitment activities in support of housing, this past year, the **Office of Recruitment and Admissions** conducted 120 on-campus events, which included weekly and weekend information sessions/tours, high school visits to campus, and private family visits, averaging about twice a week, with visitors from across the country.

The **Office of Parking & DolphinCard Services** launched the College's first all-in-one card. In addition to being an identification and access card, the DolphinCard can be used to make purchases in the campus bookstore, cafeteria, Cyber Café, Dolphin Express, and Park Café. The Office is still working on re-carding the entire campus community with the new DolphinCard.

The offices of **Campus Planning** and **Facilities Management** coordinated several facility improvements, moves, and renovations. Included among them are the cement path from Alumni Walk to the Willowbrook Memorial and continuation of the cement path from Building 2A to the Victory Boulevard entrance. A \$1.5M Advanced Imaging Lab was completed in 6S, the Psychology Department viewing gallery was renovated, and the Department of Social Work was relocated to renovated spaces in the Library. A Registrar Hub was created, the Building 1M High-Performance Computing Center was expanded, and new offices were created and set up for new faculty hires. A consulting firm was selected to design and renovate the second-floor south wing of Building 2M to create ten new classroom spaces with anticipated completion by the 2014-2015 academic year. The staff designed and installed new outdoor seating, umbrellas, planters, and privacy fencing to create an outdoor space adjacent to the Cyber Café, and new way-finding maps were installed throughout campus that include "you are here" dots. A new bus shelter for the MTA S93 bus was installed outside of Building 1A. As we continue our efforts to be a greener campus, energy-efficient lighting was installed throughout campus, and the College again participated in the nationwide Recyclemania competition. The College came in first in New York State and 21st nationally in its category. A \$6.1M site lighting and \$7M security project began in spring 2013, and FEMA designated CSI as an evacuation center for future natural disasters, effective January 2014.

Five new Ferry Shuttle and Loop Shuttle buses, wrapped with College colors and logos, were delivered to campus.

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Ridership on the S93 bus from Brooklyn has increased over the last several years. The College successfully lobbied the MTA to extend the S93 bus service to stop in the center of campus in front of Building 1A.

#### **STRATEGIC DIRECTION 4**

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

#### **IMPROVE ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT**

The **Center for Advising and Academic Success (CAAS)** implemented specialized Academic Choice Workshops for Transfer Student Orientation, expanded the Pathfinder program to provide all students with the opportunity to explore majors and corresponding career opportunities, implemented the Meet Your Major (MY Major) Fair, and created the Peer Advising Leaders (PALS) program (a paid mentorship opportunity for students to lead various advising functions including peer advising, classroom visits, information sessions, orientations, tabling, and general information sharing).

During 2012-2013, the **Center for Academic Student Assistance in the Office of Academic Support** expanded its tutoring schedule from five to seven days a week and additional tutors were hired for high-demand courses resulting in a 35% increase in student contacts.

The **Office of Academic Support** increased its promotion of its Supplemental Instruction Initiative and, as a result, experienced a 40% increase in the number of courses using Staten Island-based leaders.

#### **ALIGN FACILITIES AND STAFF TO SUPPORT EXPANDING STUDENT SERVICES**

To better meet student demand, the **Office of the Registrar** created a new, more client-friendly “Registration Service Center.”

The **College Bookstore** was renovated, and now includes convenience-store items, and the textbook information center has been improved.

The **Financial Aid Office** assisted 68% of the students in the residence halls in securing funding that enabled them to enjoy the benefits of on-campus housing.

The **Office of Academic Support** was awarded a \$75,000 CUE expansion grant. As



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a result of curriculum changes and workshop innovations made to the 2012-2013 Immersion Programs offered by the Office of Academic Support, 24% more students passed MTH 020, and writing students' pass rates increased by 20%.

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

The **Office of Student Affairs** produced a comprehensive **Progress Report** spanning 2010-2012, highlighting the accomplishments and the impact of the Division on the student experience. Report highlights include the hosting of 230 events in 2011-2012 with over 64,000 participants, in addition to 30,000 hours of office contact with students.

The **Counseling Center** served over 7,700 students in the 2012-2013 academic year, which represents a 12% increase over the previous year.

The **College Testing Office** and the **Office of Institutional Research** initiated the inaugural administration of the Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA), an instrument selected to assess and measure student learning. The College successfully met the initial-year goal of recruiting a random sample of student participants and administering the CLA.

**The Center for Student Accessibility** (CSA) completed a self-study, and received recognition by the external reviewers for the excellent level of service provided to CSI students with disabilities. The CSA provides accommodations and related services and programs for 624 students, which represents the largest population of such students in CUNY.

**The College Opportunity to Prepare for Employment Program** (COPE) served 75 students, an increase of 21% over the previous year. COPE provides a broad range of support services to students receiving public assistance with the goal of having participants make the transition to full-time employment after graduation. A COPE student was hired by Con Edison, chosen among hundreds of applicants, and will be featured in the Con Edison newsletter.

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

During the 2012-2013 academic year, the **Office of Diversity and Compliance** received a \$5,000 Diversity Projects Development Fund grant, awarded by the CUNY Office of the Vice Chancellor for Human Resource Management and the Office of

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Recruitment and Diversity. With this support, in collaboration with the College's **Center for Student Accessibility**, an easy-to-follow guide was created to assist adjunct professors, as well as all faculty members, in the development of a welcoming and accessible classroom environment based on Universal Design concepts in order to increase access for our students with disabilities.

In its first full year of operation, the **LGBTQ Resource Center** offered continuous programming with events, such as the second annual Lavender graduation and the "Transgender Day of Remembrance," and established a "coming out" support group, training on LGBTQ issues, and an LGBTQ social group for students, faculty, and staff.

There were 23 **Pluralism and Diversity** programs in 2012-2013, attended by more than 800 students, coordinated by the **Office of New Student Orientation/Residence Life**.

The **Center for Student Accessibility** and the **Department of Psychology** received a grant in the amount of \$20,000 in CUNY funding for **Project REACH** (Resources and Education on Autism as CUNY's Hallmark), an initiative addressing students who are on the autism spectrum, with the goal of increasing campus awareness and knowledge about Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). The grant also provides students with self-advocacy, academic, professional, and career-planning tools. There was a 90% retention rate for participating students from the first-year to the second year. This initiative has also been funded for 2013-2014. The Center also hosted the fourth annual "My Story" event, which promotes high-achieving students with disabilities who overcame significant obstacles to succeed at the College of Staten Island. The event was attended by over 165 students, faculty, staff, and members of the Staten Island community.

An affordable and vital service that enables parent-students to progress toward completing their degrees, the **Children's Center** served 159 parents while caring for 181 children in 2012-2013. Parental participation represents a 12% increase over the previous year.

#### **STRENGTHEN THE STUDENT LEARNING EXPERIENCE**

The **Career and Scholarship Center** led the implementation of the **CUNY Service Corps**, a program that seeks to mobilize students to work on projects that improve the civic, economic, and environmental sustainability of NYC and of its

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residents and communities. Two hundred and twelve student applications were received resulting in 189 interviewees and culminating in 79 CSI students being selected to serve as Corps members. The College of Staten Island was one of seven CUNY institutions chosen to participate in this prestigious program.

The **Career and Scholarship Center** saw a 15% increase in students who participated in an internship experience and a 10% increase in job placements for Accounting and Business majors.

**CSI Athletics** enjoyed a banner year with three CUNY Athletic Conference (CUNYAC) Championships in Women's Soccer and Softball, and Men's Basketball; and three CUNYAC Tournament Championships in Men's Basketball and Baseball, and Women's Softball.

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

Between October 2012 and October 2013, the College hired 28 new full-time staff in the HEO series.

Continued funding for professional development resulted in 45 members of the professional staff to register for outside conferences.

### **STRATEGIC DIRECTION 5**

*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 College's new visual identity and branding initiative launched and the new CSI logo and branding were added to the current CSI Website.

The **Office of Communications and Marketing** distributed 170 news releases, tracked and distributed 3,100 news items, and had a potential global viewership of 1.9 billion. In addition, the CSI news Website *CSI Today* received 100,600 visitors from ten countries, and 29,415 subscribers (7,369 of which are CSI alumni) to the site's news, events, athletics, and Center for the Arts email newsletters.

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## EXPAND THE ROLE OF ALUMNI IN THE COLLEGE

**Dr. Jerod Loeb '71**, Executive Vice President of the Joint Commission (who passed away on October 9, 2013), was inducted as a CSI Alumni Fellow and gave a campus-wide talk (April 8, 2013) on U.S. healthcare entitled, “The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly.”

Fifty-two alumni visitors celebrating special class reunion years—a 25% increase over the previous year and the largest reunion year attendance ever—joined us for Commencement, some from as close by as Staten Island, New York, and New Jersey, and others from as far away as Florida, Texas, South Carolina, Massachusetts, and Washington, DC.

## ASSESS AND EXPAND ADVANCEMENT AND FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

Nine new corporate philanthropic partnerships were developed in 2013: Best Buy, HSBC Bank, Key Food, Kohl's, Sovereign Santander Bank, Staten Island Board of Realtors, Stop and Shop, TD Bank, and the UPS Regional Office.

There was a 50.2% increase in voluntary philanthropic support from the prior year.

The \$100,000 O'Halloran Scholarship for female Chemistry majors (upper class and graduate students) was established.

**Dr. Michael Nakao '71** has pledged \$100,000 to establish a fully endowed scholarship for students in science, math, and engineering.

The School of Business received a donation from adjunct faculty members to endow a named scholarship, the **Steven V. Maksin and Natalie C. Maksin** Endowed Scholarship for the School of Business.

There were 151 donations, totaling \$2,347, for the 2013 Senior Class Gift. This is an increase from 27 donations (a 459% increase) and \$570 (a 318% increase) over the prior year.

The CSI Foundation awarded \$152,400 in scholarship funding from endowed and restricted annual scholarship funds to 65 students.

The **Percy Ellis SEEK “Strategies for Success” program** raised \$209,000 in 2012-2013 to provide academic tutoring and mentoring to students at PS 78, PS 14, IS 49, Curtis High School, and the JCC Carter Community Center. Last year's funding brings the total raised to support this program to over \$1M over the past 12 years. Sponsors included organizations such as the JPMorgan Chase, Staten Island; TD Charitable; Best

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Buy; and the Lois and Richard Nicotra Foundations, as well as the Jewish Community Center of Staten Island and the NYC Department of Education.

In order to maintain affordable fees for students, the **Children's Center** received \$278,538 in CUNY funding, \$227,125 in Federal Block Grant funding, and \$120,094 from the Department of Education (DoE), totaling \$625,757.

## **STRATEGIC DIRECTION 6**

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

### **CREATE A TECHNOLOGY STEERING COMMITTEE WITH BROAD CONSTITUENCY TO COVER CAMPUS-WIDE PERSPECTIVES**

The College Committee of Campus Communicators (C4) group was formed, and OIT is an active member. The Office also developed a CSI Web Advisory Committee in preparation for a redesign of the College's Website.

### **EXPAND ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVES**

As part of the Faculty Technology Initiative, a CSI Virtual Community has been created, allowing faculty to develop and host Web pages utilized for class work and research.

The College's virtual environment has been expanded in order to reduce the amount of physical servers in use and provide the infrastructure necessary to start virtual desktop deployment testing.

In January 2013, the **Counseling Center** implemented HeartMath emWave, a leading computerized biofeedback program to help students reduce stress levels. HeartMath emWave is available to students in the Counseling Center, Health and Wellness, SEEK, Veteran's Support Services, and the Center for Student Accessibility.

The **SEEK program** was awarded a \$4,600 grant from the CUNY Office of Special Programs to begin developing a framework for a **SEEK Virtual Learning Center** to assist students with homework assignments in math and English, as well as providing online access after hours.

As of Wednesday, September 11, 2013, the **High-Performance Computing**

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**Center's** (HPCC) newest system, Penzias, is in beta production. Penzias was acquired with \$900,000 in funding provided by CUNY. Penzias is a Dell cluster with 1,152 Intel X86 processor cores and 144 NVIDIA Kepler K20. This system is configured to ideally support researchers performing molecular dynamics simulations (nano-materials research, biosciences, energy research, and financial engineering).

The HPCC is providing operational support for the development and validation of the Urban Weather Research and Forecast code (uWRF), an enhancement that includes the effect of building height, heating, and reflectivity on urban weather, to the standard WRF model.

The HPCC is currently supporting more than 500 user accounts. In addition, over the past year, approximately three 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 **Office of Technology Systems** is proud to announce that 589 computers were upgraded throughout the campus this year: 95 new computers and 24 refurbished computers were installed for faculty, 143 new computers and 77 refurbished computers were installed for staff, and 225 new computers and 25 refurbished computers were installed for students.

Ten teaching spaces have been upgraded to Smart Classrooms with fully immersive state-of-the-art technology. Forty existing Smart Classrooms now have closed-caption devices for the hearing impaired.

Multimedia podiums were installed in the Williamson Theatre and the Springer Recital Hall, providing them with Smart Classroom capability for teaching.

#### **EXPAND THE USE OF REMOTE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS**

Working with the **Faculty Center for Professional Development** and the **Provost's Office**, a Lecture Capture pilot project was initiated.

During 2012-2013, the **Faculty Center for Professional Development** staff supported 7,928 course sections using Blackboard; conducted two training courses, the eight-day Winter 2013 Teaching and Learning Academy for faculty teaching

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hybrid courses, and the Conference Poster Training course; and facilitated hybrid course offerings. In addition, the Center conducted 76 training sessions on Blackboard 9.1, encompassing online course set-up and content development, use of interactive tools, and the utilization of the Grade Center; it completed 2,428 Blackboard Faculty/Student Support Requests; supported 387 faculty technology lab patrons; completed 408 Blackboard-related CUNYFirst assistance requests; and administered 49 learning communities and administrative organizations on Blackboard.

#### **CONTINUE TO DEVELOP AND IMPROVE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPUTING**

In collaboration with the **Office of Information Technology**, the offices of the **Enrollment Management Division** successfully transitioned the College to the University's CUNYfirst system. This included the introduction of a new admission module, the registration of all continuing students through the new technology, and introducing all new students to CUNYfirst at the College's New Student Orientations.

To date, 30 Minolta Bizhub devices have been set up to scan to the network, in advancing CSI as a paperless society. These devices service multiple departments.

#### **SUPPORT AND IMPROVE CAMPUS COMMUNICATIONS**

All CSI student email accounts have been upgraded from outdated Windows Live accounts to feature-rich Office 365 accounts. These features include highly reliable email, calendaring, and storage space.

#### **CONTINUE TO IMPROVE TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE**

OIT is moving to upgrade the College's Internet connection from one to ten gigs of bandwidth and will upgrade WAN appliances to ten throughput and servers from 32 bit to 64 bit systems.

OIT also expanded wireless coverage in campus buildings and grounds. Wireless coverage in the academic buildings is 95%, and outdoor access at this time is 40% but once the Blue Lights are powered, the wireless coverage will be closer to 75%.

The campus-wide security project is progressing on schedule. A total of 66 exterior Blue Light security poles have been installed throughout campus providing emergency phone contact with the **Office of Public Safety**.



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