



College of Staten Island
The City University of New York

CONVOCATION
A Celebration of Accomplishments

November 13, 2014

William J. Fritz, PhD
President

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The College of Staten Island experienced major growth, and organizational innovative and transformational changes to its physical landscape during 2013-2014. In this, the third 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.

Institutional Accomplishments and Recognition

The College of Staten Island continues to receive national attention for excellence. The College has been ranked 48th in the country by *TIME* magazine, named a “Top College” by *U.S. News & World Report*, and was chosen to represent New York State in *Business Insider*’s list of most underrated colleges, challenging the myth that a school can only be a quality institution if it is difficult to gain admission.

The College has created a new **School of Health Sciences**.

The **School of Business** celebrated its inaugural year with a launch event for students, faculty, and members of the College community. **Thomas Baxter**, Executive Vice President of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, delivered the

School's Inaugural Lecture in November 2013. The year's events continued in spring 2014 with a visit by **Dr. Anthony DiBenedetto**, a noted expert in innovation and new product development, who spoke in March. Building on its traditions, the School held induction ceremonies for its two honor societies, Sigma Beta Delta and Omicron Delta Epsilon, and closed the 2013-2014 academic year with a new event (Accolades, Achievements, and Awards) celebrating achievements by students, faculty, and alumni.

The College initiated a new **Department of Social Work** with a newly accredited **Bachelor of Science in Social Work** and a **Master of Science in Social Work** that is in the process of seeking accreditation. Nearly 70 students were accepted as the first MSW class and the department was bolstered by hiring two new full-time faculty members—**Barbara Teatre** and **Esther Son**.

The College launched **new departments of Educational Studies, and Curriculum and Instruction**.

The **Office of Continuing Education and Professional Development** relocated its main offices and classrooms to a satellite campus on Merrill Avenue. This move creates the College's first satellite campus and has freed up the equivalent of ten classrooms on our main campus, which represents more than ten percent of our total available classroom space.

The College's Special Education program was named to the top 25 in the country based on student review responses at graduateprograms.com.

The College of Staten Island campus recently hosted a debate between U.S. Congressional candidates Domenic M. Recchia, Jr. and Michael Grimm. This was the only debate in this nationally watched race that was telecast (on NY1) and streamed online (on SILive.com) live.

The College again participated in the nationwide Recyclemania competition and placed eighth out of 256 in the nation in the Grand Champion division of the Recyclemania 2014 contest.

Individual Accomplishments and Recognition

OUR FACULTY AND STAFF

Awards

Michael Ackalitis (Men's/Women's Swimming), **Mike Mauro** (Baseball), **Tony Petosa** (Men's Basketball), **Robert Russo** (Men's Cross-Country), and **Tim Shannahan** (Women's Basketball) won CUNY Coach of the Year honors.

Dr. Zara Anishanslin (History), **Dr. Jeffrey Bussolini** (Sociology and Anthropology), **Sarah Schulman** (English), and **Valerie Tevere** (Media Culture) received CUNY Mellon Mays Fellowships.

Miguel Aragón (Performing and Creative Arts) received the 2014-2015 Kala Fellowship Award from Kala Art Institute in Berkeley, CA, and was awarded an Artist in Residence at the Till Richter Museum, Schloss Buggenhagen, Germany.

Dr. John Arena (Sociology and Anthropology) was named co-winner of the Oliver Cromwell Cox Book Award by the American Sociological Association for his book, *Driven from New Orleans: How Nonprofits Betray Public Housing and Promote Privatization* (May 6, 2014).

Dr. Frank Burbrink had a rare snake in Tibet named after him in a paper by his collaborators, **Peng Guo** and former graduate student **Alex Pyron**. Burbrink's Keelback (*Herpetoreas burbrinki*) is very distinct genetically and morphologically and was unknown to the scientific community before this paper was published.

Rev. Dr. Kathleen M. Cumiskey (Psychology) was honored as an LGBTQ Changemaker by New York City Comptroller Scott M. Stringer (June 26, 2014).

Dr. William J. Fritz was named a Geological Society of America (GSA) Fellow for 2014, an honor bestowed on the best of the profession, in recognition of distinguished contributions to the geosciences, by election at the spring GSA Council meeting. Dr. Fritz was recognized for having trained many geologists in the field geology courses that he taught, and for publishing several seminal articles that have helped to expand knowledge on the geology of the Yellowstone hotspot, tectonic sedimentation in associated graben basins, and the deposition of volcanoclastic and lacustrine sediments. Dr. Fritz also received the Effective Leadership Award on behalf of CSI at the 22nd Annual Golden Age Awards Banquet held by the Latino Center on Aging (LCA). Dr. Fritz and the College received the

award for significant contributions and exemplary commitment to the betterment of the Latino/Hispanic communities throughout the world.

Dr. Mark Lewis (History) received a prestigious Fraenkel Prize from the Wiener Library of London for his book manuscript *The Birth of the New Justice: The Internationalization of Crime and Punishment, 1919-1950*.

Dr. Alan Lyons co-authored “A Nanocomposite Film Exhibiting Superhydrophobicity and Photocatalytic Activity for Water Purification,” which received Best Poster Presentation honors at the 2013 Materials Research Society (MRS) Fall Meeting.

Dr. Jay Rosen (Mathematics) was promoted to Distinguished Professor of Mathematics in June 2014.

Dr. Lara Saguisag (English) received Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association and Children’s Literature Association research grants.

Dr. Chwen-Yang Shew received the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Invitation Fellowship in 2012.

Patricia Smith (English) won the 2013 Robert L. Fish Memorial Award for *When They Are Done with Us*, as well as a 2014 Guggenheim Fellowship for Creative Arts.

Dr. Ming Xia (Political Science and Global Affairs) was named among the top 100 Chinese Public Intellectuals by *Foreign Policy* magazine.

Dr. QianFeng Xu co-authored “A Nanocomposite Film Exhibiting Superhydrophobicity and Photocatalytic Activity for Water Purification,” which received Best Poster Presentation honors at the 2013 Materials Research Society (MRS) Fall Meeting.

Dr. Dan Zhang (Marketing) wrote an article entitled, “Affect, Attitude, and Meaning: Assessing the Universality of Aesthetic Design in a Transnational Marketing Context,” which was selected as the Christer Karlsson Best Paper Award Runner-up in a field of 129 papers at the 21st IPDM Conference in Ireland. Conference papers came from prestigious international institutions including MIT and the University of Cambridge.

Grants

Dr. Frank Burbrink (Biology) received a \$249,998 National Science Foundation research grant for the period of March 2013 to February 2016.

Dr. Soon Chun (Marketing) established the iSecure Lab for Information Security Research and Education with National Science Foundation funding.

Dr. Lara Karasik (Psychology) received a National Science Foundation research grant.

Dr. Sebastien Poget (Chemistry) was awarded a \$50,000 CUNY junior faculty research award (JFRASE) for the period of March 2014 to February 2015.

Dr. Jennifer Wagner (Psychology) received a Brain and Behavior Research Foundation research grant.

Organization Leadership and Presentations

Kenneth Bach (Office of Communications and Marketing) was appointed as Chair of the Staten Island Historical Society's Governance and Nominating Committee.

Paulette Brower-Garrett (Center for Advising and Academic Success) presented the plenary presentation "Assessment of Academic Advisement" at the CUNY Assessment Council Seminar in October 2013.

Dr. Soon Chun (Marketing), an expert in cyber security and data privacy, was elevated to a Senior Member in the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). This ranking is held by about seven percent of IEEE members and requires documented achievements. Dr. Chun was also elected President of the Digital Government Society, a global organization of scholars and practitioners focused on the development and impacts of digital government.

Danielle Dimitrov (Office of Diversity and Compliance) was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Community Health Action of Staten Island, an organization dedicated to improving the lives of individuals, families, and communities challenged by health disparities related to poverty, discrimination, and lack of access through service, education, and advocacy.

Dr. Bonnie Fritz and **Cynthia Scarinci** (Accounting) were appointed to the Greenbelt Conservancy Board of Directors.

Charles Gomes, Athletics, was appointed Vice President of CUNY Athletic Conference Directors Council.

Dr. Jonathan Peters (Finance) gave a presentation on transportation and tolls for the Bureau of Labor Statistics in Washington, DC.

Dr. Lacey Sloan (Sociology) was appointed as the second alternate delegate to the United Nations for the Syrian Orthodox Church of America.

Dr. George Wang (Finance) shared the stage with and interviewed former President Bill Clinton at a global summit of Small and Medium Enterprise executives in Guangzhou, China in November 2013.

Dr. Mark White (Philosophy) was elected president of the Association for Social Economics.

Patents

Dr. Mark Feuer, joined by **Mikhail Brodsky**, was awarded a U.S. Patent on December 17, 2013, for “Method for Measuring Signal Quality in WDM Optical Networks.”

Dr. Nan-Loh Yang, joined by **Ron Pirich**, **Kai Su**, and **I-Wei Chu**, was awarded a U.S. Patent on November 26, 2013, for “Facile Synthesis and Magnetoelectric Coupling at Room Temperature.”

OUR STUDENTS

Many of the College of Staten Island’s 2014 graduates are excelling in their courses of study and are enrolled in prestigious graduate programs, such as a Post-Doctoral program in Psychology at Yale (**Caroline Arout**), the Doctoral program in Physical Therapy at Nazareth College in Rochester, NY (**Michael Massa**), as well as Master’s-level programs in Medical Anthropology at the University of Edinburgh (**Elizabeth Krawczun**), Social Work at Fordham University (**Damian Lebold**), Public Health at SUNY Downstate Medical Center (**Kalpita Abhyankar**), the MD-PhD program in Medical Scientist Training at University of Texas Medical School (**Brian Iskra**), and Education in School Psychology at Columbia University’s Teacher’s College (**Angelica Grant**). In addition, a number of students are enrolled in various CUNY institutions at the graduate level.

Elsa Garcia, a 2014 graduate of the College of Staten Island and a former Adult Education and ESL student, was recently a guest speaker at the White House’s second annual President’s Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanics in New York City. She worked alongside Luis Fraga, Co-Chair of the Higher

Education Committee; Alejandra Ceja, Executive Director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics; and several other White House appointees to address the needs of Latino/a students across the U.S. The College's **Adult Education program** is administered by the **Office of Continuing Education and Professional Development**.

CSI undergraduate students **BiBi Ghafari** and **Hosea Mak** received first-place honors at the 2013 CUNY Design for UNICEF Challenge for their project, "A Bridge to Clean Water," which formulated a plan to improve water quality for families in Kenya with a film that they designed that could be placed in plastic bottles to sanitize drinking water. The students had the opportunity to go to Kenya and implement the plan. Graduate students **Yuanyuan Zhao** and **Yang Liu**, and CSI faculty members **Dr. Mike Bucaro** and **Dr. QianFeng Xu** provided guidance in design on the project. **Dr. Alan Lyons** served as mentor.

CSI undergraduate students **BiBi Ghafari** and **Rania Skaf**, and graduate students **Yuanyuan Zhao** and **Yang Liu**, received the first-place award in the 2013 New York State Pollution Prevention Institute R&D Grad Student Competition. **Dr. QianFeng Xu** served as mentor.

CSI graduate students **Yang Liu** and **Yuanyuan Zhao** co-authored "A Nanocomposite Film Exhibiting Superhydrophobicity and Photocatalytic Activity for Water Purification," which received Best Poster Presentation honors at the 2013 Materials Research Society (MRS) Fall Meeting.

CSI students received the following national and prestigious awards:

- Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship (sponsored by the Institute for International Education) - **Joseph Perillo** and **Diane Scott**
- JET (Japan Exchange and Teaching) Program - **Michael Gigante** and **Kimmy Yu**
- Jonas E. Salk Scholarship (sponsored by CUNY) - **Christina Vicidomini**
- Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship - **Lucinda Zawadzki** (Honorable Mention)
- Teach for America Fellowship - **Ying Chen**
- New York Needs You Fellowship - **Kamal Kaur**

Alexis Booker, a General Equivalency Diploma (GED) student from the **Office of Continuing Education and Professional Development**, was one of ten CUNY students to receive a \$1,500 Peter Jennings Scholarship Laurel Award, which honors students who graduate from CUNY's Adult Literacy/GED programs.

Daniel Ursomanno was named the College's scholar-athlete of the year for all sports, along with being named MVP for Men's Tennis. He was also the student speaker at the inaugural **School of Business** Accolades, Achievements, and Awards ceremony.

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

- **Jacqueline Cautela** (Softball) and **Chris Falcone** (Baseball) were named Pitcher of the Year.
- **Melanie Johnson** (Women's Basketball), **Demi-Jean Martorano** (Women's Soccer), and **Christina Tufano** (Softball) were named Player of the Year.
- **Andrew Pate** (Men's Cross-Country) was named Performer of the Year.
- **Frank Schettino** (Men's Basketball) and **Tim Sweeny** (Men's Swimming) were named Rookie of the Year.
- **Iлона Stoyko** (Women's Tennis) was named CUNYAC Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year.

Strategic Plan Implementation – Our Progress YEAR THREE

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 1

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

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

The College, while maintaining its student headcount, increased its Full-Time Equivalent units (FTEs) to its highest level ever.

STRENGTHEN CURRENT AND DEVELOP NEW PROGRAMS TO ATTRACT AND RETAIN STUDENTS

The **Nursing Department** is recruiting for the **Doctorate of Nursing Practice** program for fall 2015.

The **Doctorate in Physical Therapy** program transitioned to the College from The Graduate Center, CUNY, transferring to the College the ability to confer doctoral degrees. Through cross-divisional collaboration, the College received nearly 250 applicants for the 20 seats in this class, a record for the program.

The **School of Business** received New York State approval for its **new Graduate Certificate in Business Analytics of Large-scale Data**. The School initiated a gradual roll-out of the program, with a full start-up scheduled for fall 2015.

The **School of Education** has developed a **new Master's degree program in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages** and expects to recruit the first class in 2015.

A new **Bachelor of Fine Arts degree program in Art and Photography** was approved by the State of New York.

The new **Bachelor of Arts degree in Geography** was launched.

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

A total of 26 new full-time faculty members were hired in fall 2013.

IMPROVE THE RETENTION OF FACULTY AT THE COLLEGE

The **Office of Diversity and Compliance** began implementation of its five-year Faculty Diversity Strategic Plan (FDSP) to continue strengthening inclusivity efforts concerning recruitment, retention, and improved climate. The FDSP was developed by the College-wide Diversity Council and enhanced a Provost-appointed Faculty Subcommittee with input from various faculty and administrative constituencies of the College. As a result of the FDSP, the College will embark on a momentous campus-wide climate survey that will launch later this year.

EXPAND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR FACULTY

A total of \$60,000 was distributed through the **Faculty Center for Professional Development's Faculty Travel Award Program** to 62 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, Computer Science, Education, Engineering Science and Physics, English, History, Library, Mathematics, Media Culture, Music, Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology and Social Work, and World Languages and Literatures.

IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT THAT SUPPORTS RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

The Grants Review Panel initiative, which pairs junior-level faculty who are seeking guidance with senior faculty who have achieved success in the area of writing proposals and obtaining grant awards, began this academic year. The program is open to faculty from all disciplines and is ongoing. The first cadre of faculty mentors and mentees is now being matched.

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

The newly created **Economic Development and Civic Prosperity initiative (EDCP)** led by **Vice President Michael Kress** and **Sandra Sanchez**, Director, received \$15 million from the NY CUNY 2020 Challenge Program to fund the CUNY Big Data Consortium initiative spearheaded by CSI and The Graduate Center to enable training of graduate and business professionals to meet the growing demand

in the data analytics and visualization market. The **School of Business** prepared a portion of the grant proposal. The **new Graduate Certificate in Business Analytics of Large-scale Data** was included in the document. Some of the funding will be earmarked for the renovation of Building 2M.

The EDCP received additional funding, including \$275,000 as part of another NY CUNY 2020 grant for the Transportation, Sustainable Fuel, and Product Development initiative; \$250,000 from Governor Cuomo's NY Rising Staten Island Community Reconstruction Plan for the Go to High Ground initiative; and \$25,000 for a research report from the Staten Island Board of Realtors on Staten Island coastal protection strategies, and, in concert with the Borough President and Council Members, to develop a *Staten Island Land Use Catalog*. CSI was the first CUNY campus to receive approval for its StartUp NY Plan, designating CSI as a tax-free zone to attract start-up or "high-tech" businesses to campus.

The EDCP has increased community engagement in its Staten Island and broader outreach efforts. More than 300 "emergency go pouches" were distributed as a result of CSI's participation in the annual Special Needs Fair co-sponsored by Senator Lanza and the Jewish Community Center. The EDCP unit hosted and coordinated the NYS Citizen Preparedness Training Program; more than 200 attendees completed the emergency evacuation training program, received a Certificate of Completion, and an Emergency Go Bag. In April, the EDCP hosted the United States Geographical Survey Workshop Conference, where scientists from federal agencies, academic institutions, and the insurance industry met to share knowledge on storm surge and wave modeling for forecasting coastal vulnerability and risk management.

The EDCP also produced the *New York Archdiocese Demographic Profile*, with data spanning the last two decades, to assist the Archdiocese in developing a marketing plan and greater understanding of enrollment and population trends for Catholic high schools.

The activities of the **CUNY Interdisciplinary High-Performance Computing Center** (IHPCC) continue to have a significant impact on the research and academic programs of the College and the University. For example, the CSI **Computer Science Department**, with support for the IHPCC, received a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to conduct three "Research Experiences for Undergraduate" summer programs in high-performance computing. The first program will take place in the summer 2015. In addition, on a CUNY-wide level, the

IHPCC staff is supporting a joint Brooklyn College/Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research project designed to introduce genomic studies using high-performance computing into microbiology courses at ten of CUNY's four-year colleges and four of its two-year colleges. Center staff has also completed the installation of \$1.3 million worth of data storage systems received under an NSF grant. This system, designed by IHPCC personnel, is currently being used to support CUNY's extensive programs in the environmental sciences, phylogeny, and financial engineering.

The **30,000 Degrees College Readiness for a Stronger Staten Island** initiative, spearheaded by the College of Staten Island, Wagner College, and St. John's University, aims to create and support a college-going culture to increase students' attainment of a college degree by providing educational mentoring from pre-K-12 through career. For the purpose of advancing these goals, these three institutions of higher education have come together to form the **Staten Island Educational Partnership** (SIEP). The SIEP will work with community-based partnerships of public, private, nonprofit, business, civic, and faith-based agencies to expand or build cradle-to-career education partnerships to achieve a shared community vision that all Staten Island youth will have cross-sectoral support to achieve a college-level degree, consistent with STRIVE "collective impact" goals. The **School of Business**, in collaboration with the **New York State Small Business Development Center** (SBDC), piloted an outreach program for New Dorp High School virtual enterprise students in support of the 30,000 Degrees Initiative.

The **School of Business** expanded community partnerships and collaboration, as marketing students completed projects for the *Staten Island Advance* and iDriveThru. In addition, the School established an internship program with the Mediterranean Shipping Company; six students participated in summer internships. The School also contributed to the community through the IRS-sponsored Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, in which more than 60 students prepared tax returns for more than 1,600 elderly and low-income clients, volunteering almost 2,000 hours of their time.

Through a network of 24 regional centers, the SBDC delivers high-quality business counseling and training to New Yorkers who want to start a business or improve the performance of an existing business. Since the Center's start in 1993, the experienced SBDC advisors have worked directly with more than 6,700 businesses, assisting them to invest more than \$148,500,000 in the area's economy, creating or

saving more than 4,500 jobs. Based upon a median personal income of \$42,000 on Staten Island, the total community impact from prorated income from jobs created and capital infusion during FY 2013-2014 is an estimated \$19 million of economic impact to the community. The impact of the SBDC on the economy is demonstrable, significant, and has increased over time. In FY 2013-2014, the SBDC has far exceeded its goals with 117% new business starts, 225% more long-term clients, and 353% more extended engagement clients. With more than 20 years of serving the Staten Island and Brooklyn community, the SBDC hosts more than 40 seminars each year to better serve the members of the public who are looking for business assistance.

The SBDC participated in several events as an outreach in the Staten Island community such as **Senator Andrew Lanza's** Disabilities Fair and the SBDC "20th Anniversary Business Meeting." Other highlighted events include the Start-Up New York Initiative.

The SBDC has also participated in the CUNY Service Corps Program for the last two years. This program creates opportunities for students and community partners to work on projects that improve the city's short- and long-term civic, economic, and environmental sustainability. The SBDC has partnered with CUNY and CSI students to work with SBDC clients to better serve the community.

Dean Balsamini, Director of the SBDC, received a \$516,687 grant from NPORG/Research Foundation/SUNY for "NYS Hurricane Sandy Business Assistance." These funds will continually be allocated toward better serving the Staten Island community after Superstorm Sandy.

In November 2014, the **Office of Veterans Support Services (VSS)** held the College's first "Flags for the Fallen" event honoring the country's service men and women who perished since September 11, 2001, in Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation New Dawn. There were 6,746 flags with the name of each service member and his/her branch of service placed on the Great Lawn. The event was co-sponsored by the Disabilities and Veterans Affairs Commission, **Student Government**, and **Armed Forces Club**.

The **Center for the Arts (CFA)** hosted capacity crowds for three performances in the 2013 *CFA Presents* season and issued 180 licensed agreements receiving more than \$470,000 in contracts. It also reached out to 42 community organizations and donated more than \$1,100 in both gift certificates and tickets to performances.

The **Office of Student Life** held an inaugural Student Leadership Recognition Ceremony in spring 2014. There were more than 250 students, administrators, faculty, and staff in attendance to celebrate students' co-curricular accomplishments.

The **Health and Wellness Center** was the recipient of the NY Blood Center "Pacesetter Award," acknowledging the Center's achievements in holding blood drives and the number of pints of blood collected.

The **Office of New Student Programs** (NSP) offered 584 CLUE-certified events with 9,346 students participating. The Office also provided 12 New Student Orientation sessions to 3,448 new students.

CSI College Now student participants won four out of the ten Spirit of New York scholarships awarded in spring 2014. Four CSI College Now students participated in the Model City Council program and were provided with the opportunity to study the NYC legislative process, meet City Council members, and hold a debate in the Council Chambers at the end of the program.

CSI established a new V.E.T.S. Hockey team in spring 2014. Managed by **Vito Zajda** of the **Registrar's Office**, it is comprised primarily of student-veterans and includes other CSI students as well. The team won its first men's league championship this year. This fall, the team is playing in the MCHC Conference with colleges such as Fordham and Columbia.

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

The **Office of Campus Planning and Facilities Management** coordinated several facility improvements, moves, and renovations. Included among them are the successful negotiation of an agreement between CSI/CUNY and the Archdiocese of New York to lease modular buildings to establish the presence of the Continuing Education program at the Merrill Avenue Campus. A new space was created for the **Veterans Center** in the Campus Center.

Extensive work was performed in the **Sports and Recreation Center** including improved energy-efficient lighting over the pool, refurbishment of locker rooms, painting the building, and plumbing upgrades.

Auxiliary Services Corporation (ASC) added a new business component that will enhance the College's ability to host conferences. ASC now has the capability of

accepting credit card payments for individuals attending on-campus conferences. In addition to accepting online registration, ASC can provide Conference ID DolphinCards, as well as updated status information for conference registrants.

Dolphin Cove has a 94% occupancy for fall 2014. This year, move-in day for resident students was in two phases. Freshmen moved in on Sunday, August 24, with President William Fritz greeting new students and their families by preparing his famous waffles. Returning residents moved in on Tuesday, August 26.

The **School of Business** continued to build its international collaborations by hosting students from IPAG (Nice, France) and CPH (Copenhagen, Denmark).

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 4

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

IMPROVE ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT

The **School of Business** piloted a Transfer Orientation Program for fall 2013 that became the model for other programs hosting transfer students.

The **Office of Academic Support** was awarded more than \$350,000 in CUE and VTEA grants.

The **Center for Advising and Academic Success (CAAS)** received a Student Success Research RFP Grant: “Gateway Intervention Strategy (GIS): Mapping out Success in Early Career Coursework,” 2014-2015, \$150,000.

ALIGN FACILITIES AND STAFF TO SUPPORT EXPANDING STUDENT SERVICES

To better represent its expanded services and meet the changing needs of students, the Hub was renamed **Enrollment Services** and a new Director was appointed.

In order to provide targeted and strengthened advisement, senior Academic Advisors were embedded in the **English and SLS departments**.

The main and auxiliary gymnasiums were completely renovated, including a new bleacher system, branded floor redesign and paneling, and the addition of new scoreboards in both gyms.

The College was awarded \$1.5 million to install lighting and bleachers at the soccer complex.

USING IDENTIFIED BEST PRACTICES, EXPAND AND IMPROVE STUDENT SUPPORT PROGRAMS

The College Board has announced that the College of Staten Island is one of the top 100 sites participating in CLEP (College-Level Examination Program), and commended CSI for its “outstanding staff.”

The **Office of Academic Support** has expanded CSI’s new Online Tutoring Initiative to include English, Core, Math, Marketing, and Physics. In addition, partnering with Wagner, New Dorp, and Port Richmond high schools, the Office offered pre-test preparation in mathematics to high school students.

The College implemented the Hobsons Retain campus-wide communications and early warning system.

The **Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs**, in collaboration with offices across campus, held the Second Annual Freshmen Convocation with a record attendance of more than 2,200 students.

The **Counseling Center** was the first center to launch ProtoCall Services, an after-hours mental health telephone service for students living on campus. The Center also received reaccreditation by the International Association of Counseling Services for the third consecutive year.

Student visits to the **Health and Wellness Center** increased by more than 800 appointments last year due to the Center’s ability to provide onsite lab services. This was a 29% increase from the previous year. There was a 28% increase in student participation in the Healthy Eating-Weight Loss Program. The Center’s Peer Educators worked 775 hours, delivering interactive programs to more than 2,000 students.

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

The **Center for Student Accessibility (CSA)**, in collaboration with the **Department of Psychology**, received a grant from CUNY for Project REACH: Resources and Education on Autism for the second consecutive year. The CSA also provides accommodations to more than 650 students, which represents the largest population of such students in CUNY.

The **Office of New Student Programs’ Pluralism and Diversity Program** had record attendance at events including the Eighth Annual “Tunnel of Oppression”

with 171 attendees, as well as “Sacred Grounds” and the Tenth Annual Asian Cultures Day. Overall, more than 1,581 students attended events throughout the academic year.

The **Offices of Student Life** and **New Student Programs** received a grant from the American College Personnel Association (ACPA) to create “Pride Kamp,” a conference providing ally training for students who are members of the LGBTQ community.

The College of Staten Island was named by *GI Jobs* magazine to the top 15% of military-friendly schools in the nation for the sixth consecutive year.

The **Office of Design Services**, in collaboration with Advanced-Online stores, has developed a line of gifts and wearable CSI merchandise. Designs include sports teams and the dolphin mascot, incorporating the College colors.

STRENGTHEN THE STUDENT LEARNING EXPERIENCE

The **School of Business** completed Phase I of its plan to increase experiential learning in finance, economics, and related courses through the establishment of a Finance Learning Lab/Trading Room. In addition, a stock ticker and two display panels were installed in an existing computer lab to feature news and financial data to be incorporated into curricular and co-curricular activities. The School also held a successful Accounting Job Fair that attracted a dozen employers and more than 100 students. The event resulted in offers being made to approximately 20 students.

The College opened its first Linguistics/Speech Laboratory.

The **Career and Scholarship Center’s** first cohort of 71 students in the CUNY Service Corps completed their year-long internships at 28 community partner organizations throughout the five boroughs. The Center also hosted the 2014 Career Expo with approximately 100 companies and graduate schools, and more than 500 students in attendance. The Center successfully transitioned to Symplicity, an online service that provides students with 24/7 access to a large job and internship database. The Center also awarded 114 students internal scholarships totaling \$347,000. This represents a 14% increase in the number of students receiving scholarships and a 54% increase in scholarship dollars awarded over the previous year.

As a result of curriculum changes and workshop innovations, students participating in the **Summer Immersion Program** demonstrated increased pass rates in all three skills areas (reading, writing, mathematics).

CSI Athletics teams won seven CUNYAC Regular Season Championships—Baseball, Men’s Basketball, Men’s Swimming and Diving, Softball, Women’s Basketball, Women’s Soccer, and Women’s Tennis.

CSI earned four CUNYAC Postseason Championships—Men’s Cross-Country, Men’s Swimming and Diving, Softball, and Women’s Tennis.

The **CSI Intramural program** was awarded the CUNY-wide Intramural Participation Championship.

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 CSI news Website ***CSI Today*** received 98,000 visitors from 11 countries, with 35,827 email subscribers, plus 18,369 alumni subscribers.

EXPAND THE ROLE OF ALUMNI IN THE COLLEGE

A total of 70 alumni, celebrating reunion years ending in 4 or 9, participated in Commencement 2014. Alumni were from Staten Island and the tri-state area as well as Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Maryland, and Pennsylvania.

Margaret Ricciardi, Class of '86, CSI's oldest active alumna and continuing student, was feted for her 100th birthday at the National Arts Club in Manhattan with a retrospective of her work. Mrs. Ricciardi was also featured on the WCBS 2 News segment, "Secrets to Living to 100."

The Fifth Annual "Savor the Flavors" tasting event raised \$15,500. Once again, more than 30 local restaurants donated their time and food to help raise scholarship money. The **CSI Alumni Association** created the Alumni Legacy Scholarship with funds raised from this event.

The **Interim Founding Dean of the School of Business**, in conjunction with the **Division of Advancement and External Affairs**, initiated the formation of a Dean's External Executive Board.

ASSESS AND EXPAND ADVANCEMENT AND FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

The Above and Beyond Gala, held at the Hilton Garden Inn's Above Rooftop Lounge,

raised \$89,000 for the greatest needs of the College. The event honored faculty members, **Dr. Sylvia Kahan** (Performing and Creative Arts) and **Dr. Thomas Tellefsen** (School of Business) for their longtime support and commitment to excellence in teaching, scholarship, and performance. The **School of Business** faculty established a graduation award for **Dr. Thomas Tellefsen** in honor of his recognition in receiving the 2013 President's Medal.

The Annual **Library** appeal raised more than \$9,000 and qualified for a match by CUNY, doubling the impact of the gift to support resources for graduate students and the Reserve Desk, notably textbooks, laptops, and calculators.

In May 2014, the CSI Golf Outing raised more than \$30,000 for **CSI Athletics**.

The College celebrated Italian Heritage Month with a special Broadway benefit concert by the world's longest-running Phantom (of the Opera) in support of the CSI Italian Studies program.

An increase of 76% in sponsorship funding for the 2013 **Staten Island Breast Cancer Research Initiative** Walkathon was received in fall 2013.

The **Office of Student Life** held its fifth Annual Relay for Life event and has raised more than \$100,000 for the American Cancer Society, to date.

Grace Hillery Breast Cancer Awareness Night garnered more than \$7,000 on April 22, its highest total ever, and The Danielle Ponsiglione No One Stands Alone Benefit Night raised nearly \$8,000 for a former student-athlete battling melanoma.

The **Division of Student Affairs** received external funding in excess of \$1.7 million for student financial support and program operations for offices throughout the Division, such as **C-STEP**, **BMI**, **LPP**, **COPE**, the **Children's Center**, the **Percy Ellis SEEK Strategies for Success Program**, the **Career and Scholarship Center**, **Counseling**, and the **Center for Student Accessibility**. In addition, through a collaboration with the **divisions of Student Affairs** and **Institutional Advancement**, a Carroll and Milton Petrie Emergency Student Grant in the amount of \$300,000 was awarded to the College for the second year.

The **Children's Center** received \$278,538 in NY State funding, \$228,231 in Federal Block Grant funding, \$117,195 from the Department of Education (DoE), and \$21,626 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), totaling \$645,590.

A gift of \$100,000 was received from **Rosemary O'Halloran**, a trailblazer in the field of chemistry, to support undergraduate and graduate women Chemistry majors.

Fred Curry, who lost his wife Beverly (a student in the former Department of Business) on September 11, 2001, established the Beverly Curry Memorial Scholarship in July. **Dr. Jonathan Peters** and, especially, **Dr. Simone Wegge** were very instrumental in the establishment of this scholarship for a School of Business student.

CSI continued to build relationships with corporate sponsors. New partnerships were formed with Verizon, Capital One Bank, Richmond County Savings Bank, Mannix Family Supermarkets, Bloomin' Brands, Inc., and American Campus Communities.

The first corporate grant for the **Bertha Harris Women's Center** was received from the Verizon Foundation in December 2013.

An increase of 40% in funding was received from the Northfield Bank Foundation to support CSI student internships at Staten Island nonprofit organizations.

The Percy Ellis SEEK "Strategies for Success Program" raised \$146,000 from various companies and foundations last year to provide academic tutoring and mentoring to students at the elementary through high school level, and students at the JCC Carter Community Center. .

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 6

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

EXPAND ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVES

Through the expansion of technological and interactive communication via CUNYfirst, the **Registrar** encouraged successful students to increase course loads and accelerate degree attainment, increasing the College's FTEs to record levels.

Office Automation and User Services provides resources for faculty to create their own Webpages; more than 70 Webpages have been developed by faculty members and departments. The Office has taken on full responsibility for the Library's Web server. Several companies providing services to CSI students throughout the College, authenticate through College servers. Some of these companies include AdvisorTrak, AskOnLine, Blackboard (One Card), Collegiatelink, Iota Solutions, and Panopto.

IMPROVE TRAINING AND RAISE AWARENESS OF EXISTING TECHNOLOGIES

The **HelpDesk** has provided significant support with the CUNYfirst implementation while continuing to provide training and technology events to faculty, staff, and students. The HelpDesk assisted approximately 2,500 students throughout the Summer NSO Series Training and assisted 2,300 students with CUNYfirst, CUNY Portal, BlackBoard, and student email problems during the first two weeks of the semester. In addition, the HelpDesk conducted follow-up visits for all faculty and staff computers during the Windows 7 migration. Finally, the HelpDesk conducted its first “Wonderful World of Technology” event.

CONTINUE TO DEVELOP AND IMPROVE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPUTING

With the implementation of CUNYfirst, the **Office of Technology Services** continues to provide intranet system support by providing multiple reports for faculty and administrators, such as enrollment counts by academic plans, enrollment lists by academic plans, class rosters with the student contact information, course enrollment reports, and graduation statistics. This system provides many functions not readily available in CUNYfirst. The Office has been busy developing many new sites and online applications as well, such as the School of Education, Continuing Education and Professional Development, the Center for International Service, and the Center for Developmental Neuroscience, as well as a new online application system for admission into the RN to BS in Nursing program.

The **Administrative Server Support Group** transitioned the Testing Lab to Internet-based versions of COMPASS and CLEP. In addition they increased storage for Virtual Machine infrastructure by more than six times the previous amount. With implementation of additional CUNYfirst modules, activity has greatly increased managed security and user roles/access to CUNYfirst, with more than 600 CUNYfirst security requests processed.

UPDATE THE COLLEGE WEBSITE

The **School of Business** established a new Web presence and a LinkedIn site.

CONTINUE TO IMPROVE TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE

The College has increased the capacity of the Local Area Network backbone and the connection to CUNY by a factor of ten to 10G. By the end of the year, we expect this progress to expand throughout the entire campus in upgrading the fiber infrastructure and switches. To keep current with the ever-increasing demand for wireless coverage, we have deployed access points with the latest standards to allow

for three times' faster coverage. Soon, our wireless network will provide for multiple devices per user with a single sign-on.

The **Merrill Avenue Campus** is fully operational with technology including the installation of more than 65 data and phone lines, network hardware, and configurations to provide for wired and wireless connectivity, a computer lab, and authentication privileges for seamless access to College-based resources using their CSI computer IDs.



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