



College of Staten Island
The City University of New York

CONVOCATION

A Celebration of Accomplishments

Center for the Arts (1P)
Williamson Theatre
December 6, 2018
2:30pm

William J. Fritz
President



College of Staten Island

The City University of New York

CONVOCATION

A Celebration of Accomplishments

December 6, 2018

Convocation is defined as the action of calling people together, and today we celebrate our many accomplishments over the past year. In honor of our new Strategic Plan, this year, the milestones are aligned with the six Strategic Priorities in the Plan: Student Success, Global Engagement, Borough Stewardship, Destination Campus, Scholarship-Driven Education, and Resource Management. As the College embarks on its journey toward future excellence and achievement, we remain committed to improving the lives of our students, striving to make Staten Island a better place to live and work, and building a better world. We will continue our steadfast dedication to the *Opportunity to Ascend*.

Convocation is an opportunity to recognize and acknowledge the countless contributions and efforts of members of our community. While our achievements are many, however, our space is limited and the following list is by no means exhaustive. The College takes great pride in our collective accomplishments and expresses its appreciation to all who contributed to our many successes.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1 STUDENT SUCCESS

... Lifting as We Rise

The College of Staten Island is committed to fostering success for students at all levels, as well as ensuring the strongest possible experience for students, including timely progress toward their degrees. Strong student engagement, both inside and outside the classroom, as well as helping students to develop a “growth mindset,” are essential ingredients in achieving these objectives. The College is committed to embracing the success of all students and eliminating achievement gaps, wherever they exist, to improve educational equity and inclusion.

CSI Students Place Second in International Collegiate Case Competition

In only their third year of involvement in the American Marketing Association Collegiate Case Competition, students from the College of Staten Island returned from the finals in New Orleans with a second place ranking out of more than 100 teams from across North America. Top honors went to a team from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, the oldest Business school in the country.

Amplifying Student Success Partnership Announces Expansion

The Staten Island Field Support Center, District 31 offices, and the College of Staten Island announced the expansion of the Amplifying College Success partnership. The partnership between Staten Island high school English teachers and education and writing professors from the College of Staten Island focuses on creating a better understanding and alignment of high school and college freshman writing expectations. This year, the partnership expanded its work to include more opportunities for families and school communities to interact with partners from Staten Island-based institutions of higher education in their home schools. This work contributes to 30,000 Degrees, a joint initiative of the College of Staten Island, St. John’s University, and Wagner College.

Student Success Continues at the College

One CSI graduate and one current student succeeded in securing entry into prestigious programs: History graduate Peter Scasny was accepted into the Fulbright English Teaching Assistant program in Italy, and Fatu Amara, a junior Biochemistry

major in The Verrazano School Honors Program and the Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP) at CSI, has been awarded a 2018 Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship.

CSI Wins CUNYAC Commissioner's Cup

The College of Staten Island won the CUNYAC Commissioner's Cup for the second time in our history and the first time since the 2000-2001 season. CSI topped runner-up and reigning champion Hunter College by eight points with a total of 113 points during the academic year.

CSI Students Participate in a Four-year Career Exploration and Development Program

More than 100 students were recruited to become the first cohort of the Career Success Academy, a grant-funded program. The curriculum has been designed to assist students in preparation for the real world of work, ensuring that they are competitive in the regional and national markets. A goal of the program is to strengthen student engagement and retention.

CSI Partners with the Future of StoryTelling Summit

For the second year, CSI partnered with the Future of StoryTelling Summit named by Forbes as one of the top five mind-expanding conferences in the world. The two-day summit, held at Snug Harbor Cultural Center and Botanical Garden, brings together the globe's top executives, creative talent, and technologies to explore how storytelling is changing in the digital age. Forty students participated as volunteers, and six students from the Media Culture Department worked as members of the Summit Documentation Team.

CSI Becomes the First Purple Heart University in New York City

President William J. Fritz proclaimed the College of Staten Island as a "Purple Heart University" last May at a ceremony attended by State and City officials, members of the Staten Island Veterans Task Force, representatives of Staten Island veteran service organizations, and Purple Heart recipients from throughout the State and the greater New York metropolitan area. The designation relates to the nationally recognized support that CSI gives to its student-veterans.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2 GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

... The World Right Here

The College of Staten Island is committed to creating a campus that embodies global perspectives in all its endeavors and engaging students, faculty, and staff to become global citizens who are inextricably connected to the world. To instill in CSI students a sense of global social responsibility and action through local, national, and international engagement.

CSI Students Help to Rebuild Homes in Puerto Rico

Six CSI students volunteered to help rebuild homes destroyed by Hurricane Maria through the CUNY Service Corps, which paired the students with organizations in Puerto Rico that implemented programs to help affected families. The students assisted with the reconstruction efforts for two weeks.

College of Staten Island Is Selected for U.S.-Japan COIL Initiative

The American Council on Education (ACE) announced, last September, that the College of Staten Island was named one of six U.S. colleges and universities chosen to be a part of the U.S.-Japan COIL Initiative, which aims to expand U.S.-Japan higher education ties through collaborative online international learning (COIL), a method of linking faculty and students in the two countries for shared teaching and learning using online communication.

CSI Wins 100,000 Strong in the Americas Grant and Launches Program to Cuba

Last May, the U.S. Department of State, Partners of the Americas, and NAFSA: Association of International Educators announced a 100,000 Strong in the Americas Innovation Fund grant in the amount of \$25,000 to CSI, sponsored by NAFSA and CAF Development Bank of Latin America. As a result, CSI partnered with Universidad de Ciencias Pedagógicas “Enrique José Varona” in Havana, Cuba to develop a study abroad program in Havana: “The History and Pedagogy of Cuban Education.”

CSI Is Selected as a Partner to Peruvian Institution to Deliver English Instruction Online

CSI, in strategic alliance with Euroidiomas, a leading provider of English language instruction in Peru, has developed and is delivering an innovative program allowing

CSI instructors to engage Peruvian students in online English sessions in which students will gain better understanding of the language and U.S. culture including proper pronunciation and natural intonation from native speakers. Eurodiomas and CSI will provide double international certifications to their students upon completion of the courses. In addition, Eurodiomas students will have the opportunity to travel to the New York to take intensive English courses at the CSI English Language Institute.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3 BOROUGH STEWARDSHIP

... *One Degree of Separation*

The College of Staten Island is fully committed to advancing its role as a “Steward of Place” through direct, two-way interaction with the Staten Island community through the development, exchange, and application of knowledge, information, and expertise for mutual benefit in such areas as health and safety initiatives, educational partnerships, and economic and career/workforce development.

CSI Joins CUMU’s Higher Education Anchor Mission Initiative

Joining 30 other colleges and universities across the United States, the College of Staten Island has been selected as an inaugural member of the Higher Education Anchor Mission Initiative, a national collaboration designed to develop and share new strategies for deploying higher education’s intellectual and place-based resources to enhance the economic and social well-being of the communities they serve. Higher education institutions like CSI are anchor institutions: local economic engines and mission-driven organizations inextricably linked to the long-term well-being of their local communities, and uniquely positioned and incentivized to play a more active role in supporting the local economy. By intentionally implementing an anchor framework, the entire College will be able to better serve its public Mission. The Higher Education Anchor Mission Initiative will provide a national platform to accelerate this important work.

CSI Small Business Development Center’s Staten Island-based Clients Receive Major Business Awards

Thanks to years of guidance and a nomination from the Small Business Development Center at the College of Staten Island, the St. George Theatre was named the 2018

NYSBDC Community Revitalization Business of the Year. Additionally, Scaran Oil Service Company was named the 2018 Jeffrey Butland Family-owned Business by the New York Small Business Administration.

National Grid Funds CSI Tech Incubator with Largest-ever Grant in NYC

The CSITech Incubator received almost \$250,000 from National Grid's economic development program to expand its hub to create the CSI JumpStart Entrepreneurial Program. The grant is the largest awarded to date by National Grid in the New York Metro area. National Grid's Economic Development Program offers matching grants for eligible projects that help retain and create quality jobs, promote sustainable development, and incorporate energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies.

CSI Hosts Major Civic Events

The College of Staten Island reaffirmed its status as the venue where serious conversations about important issues impacting the community take place. The College hosted and co-sponsored two major Congressional debates; the first occurred in June between incumbent Congressman Dan Donovan and his challenger in the Republican primary, Michael Grimm, and another in October for the national election between Rep. Donovan and his challenger Max Rose. Additionally, CSI hosted the 2019 Charter Revision Commission Public Hearing for the Borough.

CSI Receives Award from the Police Organization Peer Assistance (POPPA)

The College was recognized by POPPA for the support provided to the men and women of the New York City Police Department by Continuing Studies' Office of Workforce Development and Innovation. POPPA was formed to address the rising number of suicides, PTSD, and substance abuse of police officers. The College partnered to develop a program to certify officers as counselors to address these critical issues.

CSI Receives \$350K from SI PPS

The College of Staten Island received a \$350,000 grant, last June, from the Staten Island Performing Provider System (SI PPS). To date, the College has received approximately \$700k in funds from the organization. These funds are used to provide scholarships for students pursuing degrees in mental health, social work, and healthcare management. In addition, the award will fund workforce development training initiatives for the positions of Community Healthcare Worker (CHW), and Care Manager.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4 DESTINATION CAMPUS

... A Preferred Choice Institution

The College of Staten Island will be a destination campus: a preferred choice institution. Students, faculty, and staff will tell our story to various stakeholders, fostering a campus culture that supports and reflects the best of CSI, and cultivating relationships both on and off campus. We will enhance the physical beauty and natural surroundings through the preservation and improvement of the campus infrastructure, facilities, and safety features.

Multiple National Publications Rank CSI among Top Colleges in the U.S.

Three major publications have recently included the College of Staten Island in their lists of the nation's top colleges. CSI is among America's Best Colleges, according to *U.S. News & World Report*. A *Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education* ranking recognized the College's exceptional quality of teaching, learning, and campus life. *Forbes* similarly listed the College on its list of America's Top Colleges 2018.

CSI Receives \$1.35 Million for Dolphin MakerSpace

City Councilmember Steven Matteo, in collaboration with Borough President James Oddo and City Council Speaker Corey Johnson, will provide grant funding at the level of \$1.35 million for the new Dolphin MakerSpace. The grant will support a high-tech facility with state-of-the-art equipment that will allow entrepreneurs, artists, and others to bring their ideas to life.

Con Edison Trading Room Dedicated in Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony

The School of Business celebrated the formal ribbon-cutting of the Con Edison Trading Room in April 2018. During this multi-year project, a computer laboratory was transformed into a special experiential learning venue with state-of-the-art visual displays, financial data feeds, and dual-screen work stations, all visible through a newly renovated glass entrance wall. This project, supporting experiential learning opportunities, represents a strong public-private partnership.

RCSF Atrium Dedicated in Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony

A ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially name the new Richmond County Savings Foundation (RCSF) Atrium in Building 2M took place last June. The Atrium represents a portion of the first phase of the Building 2M Renovation Initiative for which RCSF

has generously provided \$250,000 in funding. This phase also includes the construction of classrooms and an office for the CSI School of Business on the second floor.

Staten Island Chamber of Commerce Recognizes Building 2M Atrium

The newly constructed Atrium of Building 2M has been recognized by the Staten Island Chamber of Commerce with a Building Award for “Excellence in Exterior.”

Four Campus Buildings Receive Major Plaza Renovations

Entrance plazas for four academic buildings (1N, 2N, 3S, and 5S) have been completed, improving access and aesthetics while featuring welcoming designs and landscaping.

Building 1R Pool Undergoes Renovation

The College completed renovation of our pool, creating a much-improved environment for our teams and swim clubs. The project included a new dehumidification system that will improve air quality and more efficiently heat and cool the air temperature, installation of new LED light bulbs directly above the pool, and side wall sconce lighting.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5 SCHOLARSHIP-DRIVEN EDUCATION

... A Community of Scholars

Excellence in scholarship, research, and creative activities strengthens academic programs and provides the foundations for many “high-impact” scholarship-based student learning experiences. Opportunities for student engagement through undergraduate and graduate student research, artistic and creative expression, academic internships, and experiential learning, both in the curriculum and as part of campus life, will strengthen the value of the degree that students attain at graduation

Congressman Donovan Secures Designation of CSI as Federal Depository Library

With the support of Congressman Dan Donovan, the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) designated the College of Staten Island as a Federal Depository Library (FDL). The GPO distributes physical and digital government documents to FDLs

nationwide for use by the public. FDLs provide free access to their federal collections, as well as staff, to help the public research information.

Patricia Smith Receives Numerous Honors

English Professor Patricia Smith, a 2018 Pulitzer Prize finalist for her latest collection of poetry, entitled *Incendiary Art: Poems*, has received three other prestigious honors for the same work: an NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work – Poetry, the \$100,000 Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award, and the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize.

School of Business Reaches AACSB Accreditation Milestone

In September 2018, the School of Business submitted its Eligibility Application for accreditation by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). Last month, the School received notification from the Initial Accreditation Committee, a panel of Deans from accredited business schools worldwide, that its application is being recommended for approval by the AACSB Board of Directors. This represents a major step forward in the accreditation process. Fewer than five percent of the more than 16,000 schools worldwide granting business degrees have earned AACSB Accreditation.

CSI Plays Key Role in CSQCD Physics Conference

CSI was key in organizing and sponsoring a successful international physics conference at the CUNY Advanced Science Research Center this past June. The international workshop, “Compact Stars in the Quantum Chromodynamics Phase Diagram,” brought to New York more than 40 nuclear physicists and astrophysicists from more than ten countries around the world for a week of cutting-edge presentations and discussions on some of the hottest areas of physics and astrophysics in the 21st Century. The CSQCD conference brought distinguished speakers from Princeton University, University of Maryland, Stony Brook, Brookhaven National Lab, and University of Washington, as well as several renowned speakers from abroad. Sponsors included CSI, CUNY, the CUNY Research Foundation, and the National Science Foundation.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 6 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

... Aspirations and Resources Aligned

The College of Staten Island has received recognition for its signature high-quality, low-cost education. As a steward of public resources, the College will be deliberate regarding how and where it invests its funds, on conserving resources, and being more creative in developing and maintaining revenue streams and aligning resource allocations to strategic priorities.

CSI Budget Retreat Engages Broad Campus Community

In April, the Institutional Planning Committee and the College Council Budget Committee sponsored an all-day Campus Retreat, which focused on two goals: provide an opportunity for faculty, staff, and students to learn about our current fiscal outlook and budget, followed by a collaborative session to discuss how we can move ahead with our new *Strategic Plan* while taking our current resources into consideration.

With more than 100 campus stakeholders in attendance, and engaged, collaborative dialog throughout the day, this inaugural retreat was a success. In-depth presentations on the budget were followed by several rounds of tabletop discussion and reporting out from each table. Presentation materials and campus feedback were posted on Blackboard.

CSI Launches Digital Marketing Campaign

Through the creative efforts of our Enrollment Management team and the generous support of the CSI Foundation Board, CSI was successful in receiving \$100K to help fund a digital marketing campaign with the goal of recruiting and enrolling targeted student populations for Fall 2018. Through an overall investment of \$162K, the campaign was successful in generating more than \$550K in revenue.

CSI Recognized as a Demand Response Top Performer for 2017

The Demand Response is an energy conservation program that requires the College to reduce energy consumption at peak usage times to a pre-set target in order to help ease demand on the electrical grid. In 2017, CSI ranked third in all of CUNY for its successful management of the year's demand response events. CSI's Central Plant consistently high achievement with demand response events resulted in the College receiving the Hall of Fame award. In addition to the energy savings enjoyed by participation, an additional \$116,919 was awarded to the College for this achievement.

CSI Is Allocated \$3.2M in City Funding

Through the Office of Government Relations, the College was allocated funding by the New York City Council for various capital projects, breast cancer research, and the CSI Tech Incubator.



2800 Victory Boulevard • Staten Island, NY 10314

www.csi.cuny.edu
