



College of Staten Island
The City University of New York

CONVOCATION

A Celebration of Accomplishments

Center for the Arts (1P)
Williamson Theatre
December 12, 2019
2:30pm

William J. Fritz
President



College of Staten Island

The City University of New York

CONVOCATION

A Celebration of Accomplishments

December 12, 2019

Convocation is defined as the action of calling people together, and today we celebrate our many accomplishments over the past 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, which set forth our vision and goals for the College. 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 Win IBM-Watson Competition

Four CSI students, three of whom are from the Macaulay Honors College at CSI, won the CUNY IBM-Watson Competition with their design for Guardian, a computer program to help veterans who are at risk of suicidal behavior. Guardian is an AI application that recognizes and looks for patterns in veterans’ social media posts, from those who have not died by suicide and those who have, and tries to predict and assist others who might be at risk for suicide.

CSI Named to *Forbes* Top Colleges List 2019

Forbes magazine named CSI to its 2019 Top Colleges List, its “annual review of the undergraduate institutions that deliver the top academics, best experiences, career success and lowest debt.” The list selects only 15% of a total of 4,300 degree-granting postsecondary institutions in the nation.

CSI Team Draws Top Honors in GfK NextGen Hackathon Competition

Three undergraduates from CSI’s Lucille and Jay Chazanoff School of Business have won the first-ever GfK NextGen Data Science Hackathon Competition, in which students attempted to create logistical plans for an artificial intelligence-based smart speaker.

CSI Graduate Students Earn First Place in AGA Government Finance Case Challenge

In their first year of participating in the annual Government Finance Case Challenge from the Association of Government Accountants (AGA), a team of students from the Lucille and Jay Chazanoff School of Business at CSI recently took first prize in the graduate level of this national competition. Graduate students Mohamed Hussein, Kristina Manganaro, and Richard Pallarino analyzed data for this year’s specified government entity, Oklahoma City, OK. Under the mentoring of Professor Patricia Galletta, they developed a Citizen-Centric Report (CCR) designed to provide citizens

of Oklahoma City with accurate information about government spending. As finalists, the CSI team was invited to participate in the second phase of the challenge, producing a 25-minute video presentation to residents at a City Council meeting. The challenge provided an invaluable experiential learning opportunity related to municipal government, public policy, and financial reporting.

CSI Named to Vqtory Media's 2019-2020 Military Spouse Friendly Schools® List

The College of Staten Island has earned the 2019-2020 Military Spouse Friendly School® designation by Vqtory Media, publisher of *G.I. Jobs*®, *Military Spouse*, *Vetrepreneur*®, and *STEM Jobs*SM. The annual companion list to Military Friendly® Schools recognizes those higher-education institutions that actively recruit spouses of active-duty service members and promote student retention and career development policies and programs that acknowledge and support the unique challenges of military life. This prestigious list is created using data sources from federal agencies and proprietary survey information from participating organizations to create a comprehensive guide for military spouses looking to further their education. This year, 196 schools earned this prestigious designation. CSI is committed to actively recruiting and supporting military spouses, knowing firsthand that they bring a level of maturity, discipline, life experience, and talent to the classroom.

Closing the Gender Gap in Technology

In an effort to help close the gender gap in the technology, the CSI Tech Incubator officially launched its inaugural 15-week Girls Who Code program. Girls Who Code is a national non-profit organization working to close the gender gap in technology and change the image of what a programmer looks like and does. The Girls Who Code Club at the CSI Tech Incubator allows high school students to join a sisterhood of supportive peers and role models. Through this program, high school students use computer science to design and build a project, solving real-world problems through code.

Vqtory Media Names CSI to Military Friendly Schools List

The College of Staten Island has earned the Number 2 spot on the Military Friendly® Schools list for large public schools in the nation for 2019. First published in 2009 by Vqtory Media, Military Friendly® Schools is provided to service members and their families, helping them to select the best college, university, or trade school to receive the education and training needed to pursue a civilian career.

National Grid Engineering Workshop Series Connects Island HS Students with STEM

High school students on Staten Island and the greater NY/NJ metro area are gaining critical exposure to the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) fields thanks to The National Grid Engineering Workshops. The workshops are being

funded as part of a \$108,000, three-year grant that National Grid Inc. has provided to the College of Staten Island. The program's focus is outreach to high schools with the goal of expanding the visibility of STEM fields to under-represented students who would otherwise not pursue STEM, and students who would not pursue education at a public institution like CSI. About 300 students yearly are exposed to the exciting field of engineering with a series of mini-lectures, hands-on experiments, tours of instructional and research laboratories, and academic mentoring.

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.

Lucille and Jay Chazanoff School of Business Students Learn about Commerce on Tour to Italy

In June 2019, a group of 13 international business students from the College of Staten Island/CUNY (CSI) experienced firsthand the challenges and rewards of doing business in Florence, Italy. The group, all students in the Lucille and Jay Chazanoff School of Business at CSI, spent nine days in the Tuscan city, visiting a host of businesses from the pharmaceutical sector to fashion design, from high-end automotive cross-marketing to wine production. These were complemented with a variety of lectures ranging from the development of accounting in Italy to online marketing, managing across cultures, and how to ensure employees embrace a corporate culture.

Melissa Riggio Student Participates in Study Abroad

CSI's Office of Community Educational Engagement partnered with the Lucille and Jay Chazanoff School of Business and the Center for Global Engagement, to send one of our students, James Devine, in the Melissa Riggio Higher Education Program (MRHEP), to study abroad in Italy in Florence this past June. This unique and historic collaboration draws from our legacy of place, as an access institution, housed on the former grounds of the Willowbrook State School. The Melissa Riggio Higher Education Program is a fully inclusive five-year college and alumni experience (and

non-degree program for young adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities offering intensive and comprehensive support for academic, civic, and professional growth.

The Lucille and Jay Chazanoff School of Business Continues Its Successful Partnership with the French Business School – IPAG (Institut de Préparation à l'Administration et à la Gestion).

In this dual-degree program, IPAG graduate students spend their fall semester in France studying online and their spring semester at CSI. At the culmination of the international learning experience, they earn a CSI Master of Science in Business Management degree and also transfer their CSI credits back to France for inclusion in their IPAG graduate program. Since its inception in fall 2012, this partnership has included more than 50 students who have brought different experiences and perspectives to our graduate classes and are now CSI alumni.

Leading Chinese Physicians Visit CSI

Nine physicians joined CSI for a three-month stay from May through July for lectures, observations, and visits to healthcare facilities in New York City. The doctors were leading physicians from Anhui Province Hospital, China in Radiotherapy, Geriatric Cardiology, Endocrinology, Radiology, Pathology, Optometry, Otorhinolaryngology, and Clinical Pharmacology. With the assistance of the School of Health Sciences, the physicians were able to learn about and interact with the U.S. healthcare system, further understand the delivery of healthcare in the U.S., and observe new techniques in medical care.

National Chung Hsing University President Fuh-Sheng Shieu Visits the College

In August 2019, President Fuh-Sheng Shieu of National Chung Hsing University visited CSI for opening discussions on joint programming and cooperation. This visit was to expand our existing study abroad programming in Taiwan at NCHU, focused on Life Sciences. Along with Dr. ChangHui Shen of the Biology Department, President Shieu met with Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs J. Michael Parrish and others on campus.

Rector (President) Dr. Anzor Saralidze, Vladimir State University, Visits CSI

Dr. Anzor Saralidze, Rector of Vladimir State University, Russia visited CSI last April to further cement the relationship between CSI and VLSU. Over the past three years, CSI has hosted several Fulbright and other scholars from VLSU and has sent Master's students in Education to VLSU for a week-long visit through a grant supported by the National Science Foundation.

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 Successfully Collaborates with Borough Partners for the \$10M Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant to Benefit the North Shore

Through a collaboration with the Borough President, the Staten Island Chamber of Commerce, and the Staten Island Economic Development Corporation, the borough was awarded \$10 million from the governor’s Downtown Revitalization Initiative to help revitalize three North Shore neighborhoods—St. George, Tompkinsville, and Stapleton. Led by the Division of Economic Development, Continuing Studies, and Government Relations, the College developed the critical proposal for the grant application to build a state-of-the-art Virtual Reality/Augmented Reality Lab in St. George to boost the local economy by advancing education, research, and development in this growing tech sector.

CSI Reaches High School Students with Math Start Program

The College of Staten Island is bringing new opportunities for area students to ascend academically as it partners with Staten Island high schools through CUNY’s Math Start program, a math proficiency and college readiness model that fosters a student’s full math potential, study habits, and self-advocacy skills in order to be successful in college. The implementation of the program at NDHS marks the first time this nationally recognized model was imbedded in a high school. This unique collaboration is part of the 30,000 Degrees initiative, which strives to address the national crises of college access and completion. Created by the College of Staten Island, St. John’s University/Staten Island Campus, and Wagner College, 30,000 Degrees adopts an anchor mission to increase the number of college graduates with a bachelor’s degree or higher from Staten Island by 30,000 by the year 2025.

CSI Recognized in *Forbes* Magazine for Expanding Higher Education and Workplace Opportunities for People with Disabilities

The College of Staten Island recently received recognition in an article in *Forbes* magazine, titled “How to Expand Higher Education And Workplace Opportunities For People With Disabilities,” for its Melissa Riggio program, one of the first, fully inclusive college experiences for non-matriculated students with intellectual and

developmental disabilities at CSI. Mirroring the baccalaureate degree track, this program has persisted as a successful model, enabling participants to immerse themselves in college classes, co-curricular programs, civic engagement, and carefully designed learning experiences to support self-sufficiency. Each student has the opportunity to build lifelong relationships, and to develop the hard and soft skills needed to obtain competitive employment, and to participate more fully in society.

CSI Receives CASE District II Award

The College of Staten Island was the recipient of a prestigious Accolade Award at the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District II Annual Conference in Philadelphia, PA on March 25, 2019. CSI received Honorable Mention honors in the category of “Community Relations Programs, Projects and Special Events” for its Legacy Initiative that has advanced the College’s re-engagement with community and mission. This is the first CASE District II Accolade Award ever received by the College of Staten Island.

CSI Recognized in *Forbes* Magazine for Driving Technological Innovation

The College of Staten Island recently received recognition in an article in *Forbes* magazine, titled “Backing University Research and Innovation Is a Prime Mission for Inclusive Capitalism,” for its efforts to foster technological innovation with an eye toward economic growth in the borough. The article mentions the CSITech Incubator and CSI’s upcoming engineering makerspace in particular, as examples of the College’s dynamic approach toward technological development.

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.

CSI Is Included in *U.S. News & World Report’s* 2020 Best Colleges List for Regional Universities (North)

U.S. News & World Report has named CSI to its 2020 Best Colleges list for Regional Universities (North). According to *U.S. News & World Report*, the collected data that

the magazine gathers on colleges “—and the rankings of the schools that arise from this data—serves as an objective guide by which students and their parents can compare the academic quality of schools.

In addition, the magazine also recognized CSI’s undergraduate program in Engineering.

CSI Named a *Forbes* Best Value College 2019

Forbes magazine named the College of Staten Island a *Forbes* Best Value College for 2019. This list consists of only 300 schools, and assists students and their families to make better-informed decisions on which colleges will provide the best value for their investment.

ASecureLife Names CSI as One of the 100 Most Secure College Campuses in America

The College of Staten Island is one of the 100 Most Secure College Campuses in America, according to security company ASecureLife. CSI is ranked 23 out of 100 on the list for 2019-2020. According to the company’s Website, ASecureLife “analyzed 10 years’ worth of crime data for hundreds of public and nonprofit colleges in the US. We focused on data from four-year schools that offer student housing and have an average yearly enrollment of 10,000 students or more. The list...includes the 100 colleges that had the lowest rates of property crime over the past 10 years.”

***MONEY* Magazine Names CSI to Its 2019 Best Colleges in America, Ranked by Value List**

MONEY magazine has placed the College of Staten Island on its Best Colleges in America, Ranked by Value list for 2019. *MONEY*’s Website notes that in order, “[t]o find the schools that successfully combine quality and affordability, *MONEY* weighed more than 19,000 data points, including tuition fees, family borrowing, and career earnings.”

CSI Accepted to NCAA Division II

A little more than five months after its application to join the NCAA Division II ranks, the College of Staten Island received its formal invitation last July, as the College has been accepted for entry by the NCAA Division II Membership Committee. The landmark moment in CSI Athletics’ history saw the program begin its journey as a provisional NCAA Division II member immediately, becoming a member of the East Coast Conference. Acceptance to NCAA Division II comes with a built-in three-year provisional window, whereby the College will meet thresholds for success after each academic year. In Year One of the provisional period, CSI will implement its model for awarding athletic-related aid in time for the 2020-2021 academic year. The institution will also abide by all Division II compliance measures regarding academic eligibility.

CSI Children’s Center Receives 2019 Program of the Year Honors

The College of Staten Island’s Children’s Center has been chosen as the 2019

Program of the Year by the National Coalition for Campus Children’s Centers (N4C), the national membership organization for campus-based childcare centers. The CSI Children’s Center is one of only two accredited centers on Staten Island.

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

Record-setting \$7.5M Chazanoff Donation to Name School of Business

The College of Staten Island has received a \$7.5M cash gift from Class of '65 alumni Lucille and Jay Chazanoff to benefit the School of Business. The gift is the largest individual donation ever made to a nonprofit within the Borough of Staten Island. With the potential to dramatically transform the work of the School, the Fund will be used to support the Lucille and Jay Chazanoff School of Business, including accreditation pursuant to the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) - an international organization that is the preeminent accrediting body for business schools in the United States. There are 845 business institutions in 56 countries and territories that have earned AACSB accreditation.

CSI Receives \$1.25M in Funding for a New Genomics Research Facility

The College of Staten Island formally announced its plans to develop a new CSI Genomic Research Facility. The new facility, the first of its kind in the borough, will allow faculty and students to conduct genome sequencing and analysis to search for genetic variations in DNA that may cause the development or progression of diseases or conditions such as cancer, drug addiction, and autism. This project was made possible by the generous allocation of \$1.25 million in funding by Borough President James Oddo (\$750,000), Council Member and Minority Leader Steven Matteo (\$250,000), and Council Member Joseph Borelli (\$250,000).

CSI to Receive more than \$2M in Funding from the CUNY 2X Tech initiative

The College of Staten Island is one of a select group of CUNY senior colleges to participate in CUNY 2X Tech, a partnership between CUNY and the NYC

Department of Small Business Services to increase the number of career-qualified tech graduates. The Computer Science Department, the Division of Academic Affairs, and the Division of Economic Development, Continuing Studies, and Government Relations, which advanced this initiative, will be receiving more than \$2 million in funding to support full- and part-time industry-experienced faculty, an academic advisor, a career coach, tutors, and administrative support.

College of Staten Island EdD in Community-Based Leadership Approved

Governor Andrew Cuomo approved the School of Education's proposal for an EdD in Community-based Leadership last November. The EdD in Community-Based Leadership will prepare leaders from education, social work, law, and other related fields to lead cross-sector coalitions in service of the success and well-being of all of our children. The Program will accept candidates who have demonstrated commitment to community-based perspectives in their fields and effectively articulate ideas for research projects during the application process. Faculty from CUNY and other institutions will guide an initial cohort of 12 through coursework in social and psychological foundations, processes of community leadership, and research methods; project development; and a culminating dissertation.

U.S. News Names CSI Master's Programs in Nursing and Social Work to Its 2020 Best Graduate Schools Rankings

The College of Staten Island has been listed in two of *U.S. News and World Report's* 2020 Best Graduate Schools Rankings for its Master's programs in Nursing and Social Work.

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 Reveals Upgraded Nursing Simulation Lab

The College of Staten Island proudly announced state-of-the-art upgrades to its Nursing Simulation (SIM) Lab. Thanks in part to funding by State Senator Andrew Lanza, the lab now includes a SimMan Manikin simulator, a Nursing Anne simulator, and related equipment, including video recording and a SimView Server control system, along with ongoing construction of physical assessment lab room partitions.

The new manikins permit the recording and review of students practicing skills in various clinical scenarios, from routine, such as oxygenation, to life-saving, requiring reviving the manikin after the heart stops beating. As a result, these simulations help build student confidence and maintain training quality, while providing students with excellent clinical skills, ready to save a life even on their first day in a hospital or other medical setting.

Design Phase for New Electrical Substation Completed

CSI, CUNY, and DASNY have completed the design phase for a new electrical substation. Verde Electric Corporation was awarded the contract to build the new substation; construction should begin in the spring. The current substation supplies the campus with two electrical feeds; the new substation will provide the campus with three 33KV feeders. Three feeds will ensure that the College can operate during power outages, providing that Con Edison power is available on the Island. Updating the outdated substation will allow for campus growth, better means of supplying power, and updated equipment, which includes electronic monitoring.

Capital Construction Funding

In addition to CSI's \$5.118M FY20 Critical Maintenance fund allocation, the College negotiated for and received the following: \$4.4M to cover additional construction costs for the Building 2M first floor build out; \$600k allocated for design of campus skylight reconstructions in buildings 1A, 2A, 1P, and 6S (greenhouse); \$350k allocated for design of the Student Center, Dining Hall, and Kitchen reconstruction in 1C; and \$300k to replace boiler safety valves in the Central Plant.

CSI Welcomes Inaugural Adopt a Bench Donors at Dedication Ceremony

The College of Staten Island hosted a heartwarming Adopt a Bench dedication event, last June, to celebrate the generosity and devotion of its inaugural Adopt a Bench campaign donors. The festivities included the unveiling of four Solar Power-Doks and ten new benches with personalized plaques in memory of loved ones, or showcasing favorite quotations. The event was held on behalf of the College of Staten Island Foundation, which is leading the campaign, as well as College President Dr. William J. Fritz. At the event, Dr. Fritz acknowledged that the Adopt a Bench campaign is a powerful way for community leaders to demonstrate their support for the beautification of the College's 204-acre campus and CSI's greatest needs.



2800 Victory Boulevard • Staten Island, NY 10314

www.csi.cuny.edu
