



The Middlesex County College community had the opportunity to get to know its military veterans at a meet and greet event in November. From left: Navy veteran and MCC Natural Sciences Professor James Martiney; Paul Lazaro, assistant in the Center for Veterans Services and an Army veteran; Kayleigh Maklary '10, assistant in the MCC Foundation and an Army veteran; and Navy vet Christopher Pellegrino, MCC student and the president of the College's Veterans and Servicemembers Association.

MCC Named a 2015 Top College for Vets

Middlesex County College is one of the most veteran-friendly colleges in the United States, according to Military Times, which surveyed services, success rates and other factors in making the determination. MCC is listed as the fifth best community college in the nation and the best in New Jersey.

Military Times publishes magazines for members in the branches of military service. It called its survey "Best for Vets."

"We factor in what is, to our knowledge, the most detailed school-by-school data on veteran students' academic success anywhere, including graduation, retention, persistence and course completion rates," says Amanda

5 ranking in "Best for Vets," a look at colleges nationwide.

Miller, editor of Bests for Vets. Two years ago, only 11 percent of the hundreds of schools surveyed could provide that level of detail. This year, that figure is up to 45 percent.

"By recognizing only the schools that do the most, we believe we're helping to raise the bar in veteran student services," she said.

MCC President Joann La Perla-Morales credited the Center for Veterans Services for the ranking.

Established in 2011 with support from the Willard T.C. Johnson Foundation, the center's mission is to assist with quality education and comprehensive support services.

"The center has done a great job in assisting military veterans as they transition to civilian life," she said. "They make sure veterans receive all the entitlements for which they are eligible, coordinate services they need to be successful, and create an environment where they can socialize with other military veterans."

For the full Best for Vets: Colleges 2015 rankings, go to: www.

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Scholarship Reception

MCC held a reception to thank those who donated to the Foundation and supported student scholarships, and to honor the scholarship recipients. It also allowed donors and students to chat. Here, Nicky and Paige L’Hommedieu talk with dental student Rachel Benko. The L’Hommedieus are longtime friends of the College and benefactors of the L’Hommedieu Family Scholars program, which assists health technology students.

Info Session for Alternate Route Teaching Program to be Held Dec. 11

The New Pathways to Teaching program has been created to allow individuals who have not completed a traditional teacher-training program the opportunity to become teachers through the New Jersey alternate route system.

There will be an information

session at the College on Thursday, December 11 at 6 p.m. in Crabiel Hall on the Edison campus to review the requirements of the program. Please RSVP by calling 732-548-6000, ext. 3144, or emailing Lnorek@middlesexcc.edu, and leave your name and phone number. Parking lot

1 has the nearest parking and parking permits are not needed. In case of inclement weather please check the College’s website, www.middlesexcc.edu, or call 732-906-2555.

“Most of our participants have always wanted to teach but, for one reason or another, have not had the opportunity,” said Kimberlee Hooper, director of the Office of School Relations. “Others may have developed this interest in teaching later in life, as they are looking for a more meaningful career helping others. Whatever their motivation, New Pathways is the program that can help them fulfill their dreams.”

Participants come from a variety of academic disciplines with a minimum 2.75 grade point average in an undergraduate or graduate degree, and a Certificate of Eligibility.

The Office of School Relations also offers Introduction to Teaching, which is a 24-hour course that covers five weeks and must be completed before applying for a teaching certificate.

THIS MONTH AT MIDDLESEX

This Month at Middlesex is a publication of Middlesex County College
2600 Woodbridge Ave., Edison, NJ 08837

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A Glimpse of MCC History

In the spring of 2001, College officials prepared a capsule of items important at the time, with instructions to open it at MCC's 50th anniversary in 2014. Those items were photographed, and along with some new items, will be placed in another capsule to be opened at the College's 100th anniversary in 2064. Top left, from left: Jerry Slicner, Dan Fuchs and Robert Pawol remove the cap from the time capsule. Top right: Carole Kurtz, who was MCC's Board chair in 2001 and current Chairman Dorothy K. Power, examine a document; and at left, Frank Deiner, a Freeholder in 1964, MCC President Joann La Perla-Morales; Mrs. Power and Mrs. Kurtz.

Middlesex Cited for Veterans Services by Military Times

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militarytimes.com/bestforvets-colleges2015. In New Jersey, Warren County Community College was ranked 13th among community colleges; Rutgers was ranked 10th among four-year schools, Richard Stockton College was 22nd and Monmouth University was 95th.

The rankings are published in full in the issues of "Army Times," "Navy

Times," "Air Force Times" and "Marine Corps Times" on newsstands the week of Nov. 10; in the November issue of Military Times "EDGE" magazine; and online at MilitaryTimes.com, as well as ArmyTimes.com, NavyTimes.com, AirForceTimes.com and MarineCorpsTimes.com.

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Middlesex alum Travis Tidwell '03 spoke to students in November about his career in engineering. Mr. Tidwell is a sales account manager with Rockwell Automation, the world's largest company dedicated to industrial automation with over \$6 billion in global sales. He spoke on "Engineering is for You: How I Went from Remediation to Rockwell Automation." It was sponsored by the MCC Office of Minority Student Affairs. From left: Mr. Tidwell; MCC student Pedro Hernandez; John Dunning, director of Minority Student Affairs; and MCC student Louis Pinchinat.



Notables

Professor Iris Ramer, of the ESL/ Languages and Cultures Department, was the keynote speaker at the 41st Annual Puerto Rico TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) Convention in November in Ponce, Puerto Rico. Dr. Ramer's talk, "Addressing Language Competencies Using a Multicultural

Approach," focused on strategies and class projects to get English language learners to engage in meaningful communication using balanced literacy and communicative language teaching. At the conference, Dr. Ramer was also recognized and thanked for her 30-plus years of support to the organization, teachers and students. Dr. Ramer's

popular textbooks "Read Now" and "Write Now," published by Kendall/Hunt, were part of the publisher's exhibit during the conference. As founder of the Read Now Project and co-founder of Literacy Solutions LLC, Dr. Ramer was also able to share ways to promote literacy skills for students at all levels.



The Association of Middlesex County College Nursing Students held its annual coat drive and delivered 27 coats, 45 pairs of gloves, 28 hats and nine other pieces of winter clothing to the Raritan Bay Medical Center Pediatric Department. The program, called "Coats for Kids" is an annual event to aid patients at Raritan Bay. From left: Casey Pinal, secretary; Stacy Horowitz, treasurer; Moya Stewart-Gray, vice president; Penninah Menezes, president; and Luiza Asahme, nursing instructor and association advisor.