

New Noncredit Cybersecurity Program Begins

A new cybersecurity program designed to train people to protect the nation's computer network system will be offered at Middlesex County College starting in January. Courses include Computer Forensic Investigations, Computer and Network Security, and Ethical Hacking.

"We recognize the need for information security specialists in the corporate and law enforcement

environments," said Nancy White, president of Digital Consulting Associates, who will be coordinating the Forensic Investigations class. "Cloud computing, social media, wireless and smart technologies demand highly adaptable, skilled individuals who must work smarter than ever to manage risks to electronic information."

Dr. Lynn Lederer, director

of Professional and Community Education at MCC, said the cybersecurity field was growing rapidly.

"Computer security is vital to our nation's future," she said. "The skills in demand include a broad understanding of the security field, communication skills, technical knowledge and a solid understanding of the latest security threats."

Computer Forensic Investigations will be held Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. from January 24-April 11 (no class February 14 and April 4). The cost is \$1,899.

"This 40-hour lecture/demo program is delivered by real-world experts who will provide a solid understanding of computer forensics and cybersecurity as they apply to corporate policies and law enforcement practices," Ms. White said.

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Students from Democracy House, the College's service-learning program, collected warm winter coats to be donated to those in need by Jersey Cares, a nonprofit organization that addresses a variety of community issues. From left: Dwayla Carty, Jamira Riddick, Declon Friday, Modupe Bello, Karla Oliva, faculty advisor Pattiann McMahon, Hana Wachter, Halimat Oshun, Fizza Sulaiman, Yesenia Rivera, and Democracy House coordinator Arianna Illa.



Honoring Service; Connecting Generations

Students from the Middlesex County College Veterans and Servicemembers Association, along with Democracy House, visited residents at the Veterans Memorial Home – Menlo Park in Edison over the Thanksgiving break. They toured the facility, chatted with the residents, and served delicious apple pie. Kids in the MCC Child Care Center wrote letters of gratitude to the residents of the home, and the MCC veterans delivered them. Here, Bill O'Brien, an Army vet and the president of the Menlo Home Residents' Council, reads a letter from one of the kids, while Christopher Pellegrino, the president of the Middlesex Veterans and Servicemembers Association, looks on.

Once Again, MCC Named Top School for Military Vets

Military Advanced Education (MAE) has once again awarded Middlesex County College the designation of a Top School in its 2015 MAE Guide to Colleges & Universities, measuring best practices in military and veteran education. The guide was released in the December issue of MAE, and is available online at www.mae-kmi.com.

The guide presents results of a questionnaire of the military-supportive policies enacted at more than 600 institutions including private, public,

for-profit, not-for-profit, four-year, and two-year colleges. From community colleges to state universities, online universities and nationally known centers of higher learning, MAE's 2015 Guide to Colleges & Universities arms students with information about institutions that go out of their way to give back to the men and women in uniform.

Three other New Jersey community colleges made the list, as well as six four-year schools.

Now in its eighth year of publishing the guide, MAE was the first publication to launch a reference tool of this type. This year, schools were evaluated on their military culture, financial aid, flexibility, on-campus support and online support services. Each school's performance rating by category is represented by an easy-to-recognize dashboard. This will enable prospective students to quickly target schools that follow best practices in military education, and then put these in context with other academic or career considerations.

"We believe the guide serves as an invaluable tool for both education services officers and transition officers when advising service members about their educational opportunities," said Kelly Fodel, MAE's editor. "We used strict criteria to individually evaluate the submissions of respondents, and we had a record number of schools participating this year."

This is the second time Military Advanced Education has cited Middlesex as a top school; MCC was also named to Victory Media's list two years in a row, and it was recently named the fifth most veteran-friendly community college in the nation by Military Times.

THIS MONTH AT MIDDLESEX

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New Noncredit Program Focuses on Cybersecurity

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Computer and Network Security runs Saturdays from January 24-March 7 (no class February 14), from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$999. The course will provide the skills necessary to understand the inherent vulnerabilities in computer networks and the ways to address them by providing security at different levels. It will prepare you to take the Security + Certification offered by CompTIA.

Ethical Hacking is held Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. from March 14-May 9 (no class April 4). The cost is \$1,500. This is a high-level course in which you will learn the skills required to find vulnerabilities and address them. It will assist you to prepare for Ethical Hacker Certification, which is recognized by the Department of Defense.

For more information visit www.middlesexcc.edu/profcom or call 732-906-2556.



When Dr. Christine Harrington published her textbook, “Student Success in College: Doing What Works!,” she decided to take some of the royalties from it and establish a scholarship for students. She invited those taking Student Success 101 classes to create posters summarizing research findings from a peer-reviewed journal article. The three winners were honored at a ceremony in December. From left: Dr. Harrington; Nicole Viveiros, the first-place winner whose poster was on the relationship between healthy habits and academic performance; Professor Patricia Moran; Patricia Salgado, the second place winner whose poster was on migrant farm workers; and College President Joann La Perla-Morales. Not pictured: third place winner Melissa Romero, whose poster was on post-secondary education for those recovering from addiction. Professor Moran taught Ms. Salgado’s and Ms. Romero’s Student Success class. Ms. Viveiros was awarded \$1,500; Ms. Salgado, \$1,000; and Ms. Romero, \$800.



The annual holiday party included a food drive that collected hundreds of pounds of food, which was donated to M.C.F.O.O.S. (Middlesex County Food Organization and Outreach Distribution Services). Members of the College community dropped off food as they entered the party. From left: Erin Cycowski, student assistant in the Blue Colt Bookstore; Paul Lazaro, assistant in the Center for Veterans Services; Lynn Tobin, faculty member in Dental Auxiliaries; Flora Stowe, assistant director of the Educational Opportunity Fund; and Gary Noto, mechanic in the Facilities Department.

Notables

Dr. Shirley Wachtel, professor of English, conducted a presentation of her memoir, “My Mother’s Shoes,” at the U.S. State Department in Washington, DC on November 7. Her presentation, which included a reading, discussion, visual display and question-and-answer session, was part of a series presented by The Ralph J. Bunche Library Speaker Series. Dr. Wachtel’s novel details the story of her mother’s experience during the Holocaust and later as an immigrant in

the United States, as well as the impact of these experiences on her daughter and future generations. On November 6, Dr. Wachtel dropped in on the Etzim class of 2-year-olds at the Jewish Community Center in Washington, DC, where students, including her own granddaughter, Zoey, participated in a reading of Dr. Wachtel’s “The Eight Days of Hanukkah.” Dr. Wachtel contributed a copy of her book, “My

Mother’s Shoes,” to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington and has been invited to conduct a book signing at the museum in the spring.

Professor **Aimee Sukel Mitacchione** represented MCC at the 2014 National Dance Education Organization annual conference in Chicago.

Winter Sports



Winter sports teams are doing well. The women’s basketball team is now 11-3 and ranked seventh in the nation. The men are 8-6. The wrestling squad just returned from a bout at Madison Square Garden, called “Grapple at the Garden,” in which they defeated Sullivan County Community College 35-17.