This Month @ MIDDLESEX COUNTY COLLEGE

September 2015 Vol. 8, No. 1

Seated, from left: Mark McCormick, MCC's vice president for academic and student affairs; Joann La Perla-Morales, MCC's president, and Barbara-Jayne Lewthwaite, Centenary College president. Standing, from left: MCC's Patrick Madama, vice president for Institutional Advancement; Jeffrey Herron, dean of Professional Studies; and David Edwards, dean of Arts and Sciences; and from Centenary, Joseph Linskey, dean for the School of International Programs; Deirdre Letson, dean of the School of Professional Studies and director of Graduate Studies; Cheryl Veronda, associate professor of Business and chair of the Business Department; and Frank Longo, assistant professor, School of Professional Studies.

Transfer Agreement Links MCC With Centenary College

Officials from Centenary College and Middlesex County College signed an articulation agreement for transfer students during a special ceremony in July. This agreement will facilitate a seamless transfer of MCC students into Centenary College's B.S. in Accounting and B.A. in Criminal Justice.

"Our institutions have a history of collaboration that provides access to high quality academic opportunities for students in the local area," said Deirdre Letson, dean for the School of Professional Studies and director of Graduate Studies at Centenary College. "This opportunity has an added advantage because students local to Middlesex County can take our classes at our learning center right in Iselin. In addition, I am grateful for this agreement as it illustrates how both institutions have collaborated to place students at the center, allowing them to advance their education and careers."

Professor Cheryl Veronda, chair of Centenary College's Business Department, said, "Through this agreement MCC students who earn their Associate's Degree will be provided an academic pathway to complete a 150-credit B.S. Degree in Accounting, which will allow them to sit for the CPA examination."

The Criminal Justice agreement was an expected progression as it allows students to continue their education in Middlesex County while allowing Centenary's professors to work collaboratively with other professionals in the state, according to Joseph Linskey, professor of Criminal Justice and dean for the School of International Programs.

Mark McCormick, MCC's vice president for academic and student affairs, said the agreement offered distinct advantages for Middlesex graduates.

"Middlesex County College is proud to partner with Centenary College on these seamless pathways to a Bachelor's Degree for MCC students," he said. "MCC students may transfer up to 72 credits to Centenary under the terms of the articulation agreements, helping to ease the cost of earning a Bachelor's Degree."

9 Faculty Promoted this Summer

Nine faculty members who are making outstanding contributions to student learning and student success have been promoted.

Nicholas Archer, of the History and Social Sciences Department, was promoted to assistant professor. He had been an instructor.

Gail Becker, of the Natural Sciences Department, was promoted to professor. She had been an associate professor.

Claire Condie, of the Natural Sciences Department, was promoted to assistant professor. She had been an instructor.

Joseph Misuraca, of the Engineering Technologies Department, was promoted to associate professor. He had been assistant professor.

Alice Picardo, of the Counseling and Career Services Office, was promoted to associate professor. She had been an assistant professor.

Brian Sicilia, of the Mathematics Department, was promoted to assistant professor. He had been an instructor.

Craig Stickler, of the Engineering Technologies Department, was promoted to professor. He had been an associate professor.

Helena Swanicke, of the English Department, was promoted to professor. She had been an associate professor.

Theresa Young, of the Natural Sciences Department, was promoted to associate professor. She had been an assistant professor.

Thirteen students, faculty and staff spent a sweat-filled day in July assisting Habitat for Humanity build a home for a family in Perth Amboy. The group leveled and graded the backyard, added siding, and cut and installed wood pieces to the frame. This is the fourth time MCC has helped with the construction.

Above, Malorie Queen is working on the miter saw, while Emily Koester assists.

Transitions

The College welcomed new faces hired over the summer. They include: Meenu Jain, Natural Sciences faculty; Natali Justiano, secretary, History and Social Sciences; Abdiel Acevedo, custodian; Adrian Halton, administrative assistant, Arts and Sciences; Neil Brosnan, chief of police; James DeTata, director of facilities maintenance; Anne-Marie Hogan, chairperson, Visual, Performing, and Media Arts; and Dennis Penny, Veterans Services assistant.

Staff members who have left the College include:

Mark Thompson, Library director; Kathleen Pearle, chairperson, History and Social Sciences; and Wanda Tejada-Coletta and Ronia Walrond of the Police Department.

THIS MONTH AT MIDDLESEX

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

Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders

Ronald G. Rios, *Freeholder Director*
Carol B. Bellante, *Deputy Director*
Kenneth Armwood
Charles Kenny
H. James Polos
Charles E. Tomaro
Blanquita Valenti

Middlesex County College Board of Trustees

Dorothy K. Power, *Chairman*
Thomas Tighe, *Vice Chairman*
Mark J. Finkelstein, *Treasurer*
Robert P. Sica, *Secretary*
Frank T. Antisell
George J. Lisicki
Laura Morana
John P. Mulkerin
Robert Oras
Eileen Palumbo '78
Praful Raja
Nicole D. Risoli '15
Joann La Perla-Morales, *President*

Kim Silva-Martinez '14 was presented the Recent Alumna of the Year Award at the Alumni Association dinner meeting in June. The award is given annually to a graduate of the past 10 years. Ms. Silva-Martinez has maintained her allegiance to Middlesex, assisting with several Alumni Association projects. In addition, she wrote a book to celebrate Middlesex County College's 50th anniversary. The work, called "endless possibilities: Middlesex County College 1964-2014," chronicles the life of the College over its history. In addition, she created a display of photos and artifacts for the College's fundraising gala and community celebration this spring. From left: Dorothy Bitetto '69, president of the MCC Alumni Association; Ms. Silva-Martinez; and College President Joann La Perla-Morales.

Notables

Professor **Santi Buscemi** of the English Department delivered a paper on the Sicilian author Luigi Capuana at an academic conference commemorating the 100th anniversary of the author's death in Mineo, Sicily. The title of the paper was "Why I Translate Luigi Capuana"; it was delivered in Italian. At the end of the proceedings, the Mineo City Council awarded Professor Buscemi an honorary citizenship for the city, presenting him with a plaque in gratitude for his attempts to make Capuana better known outside of Italy. His wife, MCC Professor Emerita Elaine Buscemi, was also named an honorary citizen. Later that day, Professor Santi Buscemi was asked to address a group of graduating middle-school students.

He also delivered two slide lectures on the architecture and literature of Sicily ("Sicilian Treasures") at the Circolo Italiano of Doylestown, PA and at the Italian-American Museum in New York City.

This summer, he wrote the cover article on U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia in "Primo" magazine. The article covered Justice Scalia's background growing up in Brooklyn and Queens, graduating from Georgetown University, where he was the valedictorian, and then on to Harvard Law. Professor Buscemi talks about the justice's legal philosophy and also when the two met in 2013.

Santi Buscemi with his honorary citizenship from the City of Mineo.

Ida Gonzalez, center, presents a donation to Veronica Clinton, executive director of the Middlesex County College Foundation, establishing The SPC Michael L. Gonzalez Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship honors the memory and service of Michael L. Gonzalez, a former MCC student who died August 28, 2008 in Baghdad, Iraq, while serving during Operation Iraqi Freedom. From left: Kayleigh Maklary '10, a veteran who is an assistant in the Foundation; Michael's father Pedro; Mrs. Gonzalez; Ms. Clinton; and Richard Feldman, coordinator of the MCC Veterans Services Center. Funding for the scholarship is provided by the Butterfly Circle of Friends, established by Ida and Pedro Gonzalez.

Edison Chamber of Commerce Honors 2 from MCC

The Edison Chamber of Commerce honored 13 individuals at its annual achievement awards and membership meeting in June, including two from Middlesex County College. Regina Riccioni, MCC's director of corporate education and training, was named Chamber Member of the Year, and MCC student Matthew Jansen received the Annamae Baerenbach Scholarship.

Ms. Riccioni is a member of the Chamber Board of Trustees, and has served on the Golf Committee and the Executive Committee. She was the chair of the search committee that selected the Edison Chamber's president.

Mr. Jansen is pursing a Liberal Arts/ Business major at Middlesex, and plans to graduate and transfer to a four-year university. He is very active in the community, earning an Eagle Scout badge; he has participated in community service projects since he began in scouting in the first grade. These have included assisting in community clean-up projects, collecting for food banks, visiting nursing homes and teaching skills to younger scouts. He is also an usher at Saint Matthew the Apostle Church in Edison.

Other honorees included: JFK Health Care Adult Medical Day Care, represented by Mary Buglio; Taxi and Limousine One, represented by James Vivelo; Farmers Insurance - Amogh Agency, represented by Seema Jagtiani; Leonard Sendelsky of LenGuy Construction; Stephen Deak of the Edison Fire Department; Charles Backman of Cypress Brewery; Marc Krauss of TAP Into Edison; Connor Shah of Sole Purpose NJ; Patricia Diolia-Laird of JP Stevens High School; John Fischer of Woodrow Wilson Middle School; and Roseanne Vallely of Martin Luther King Elementary School.

From left: Regina Riccioni, Matthew Jansen and College President Joann La Perla-Morales.