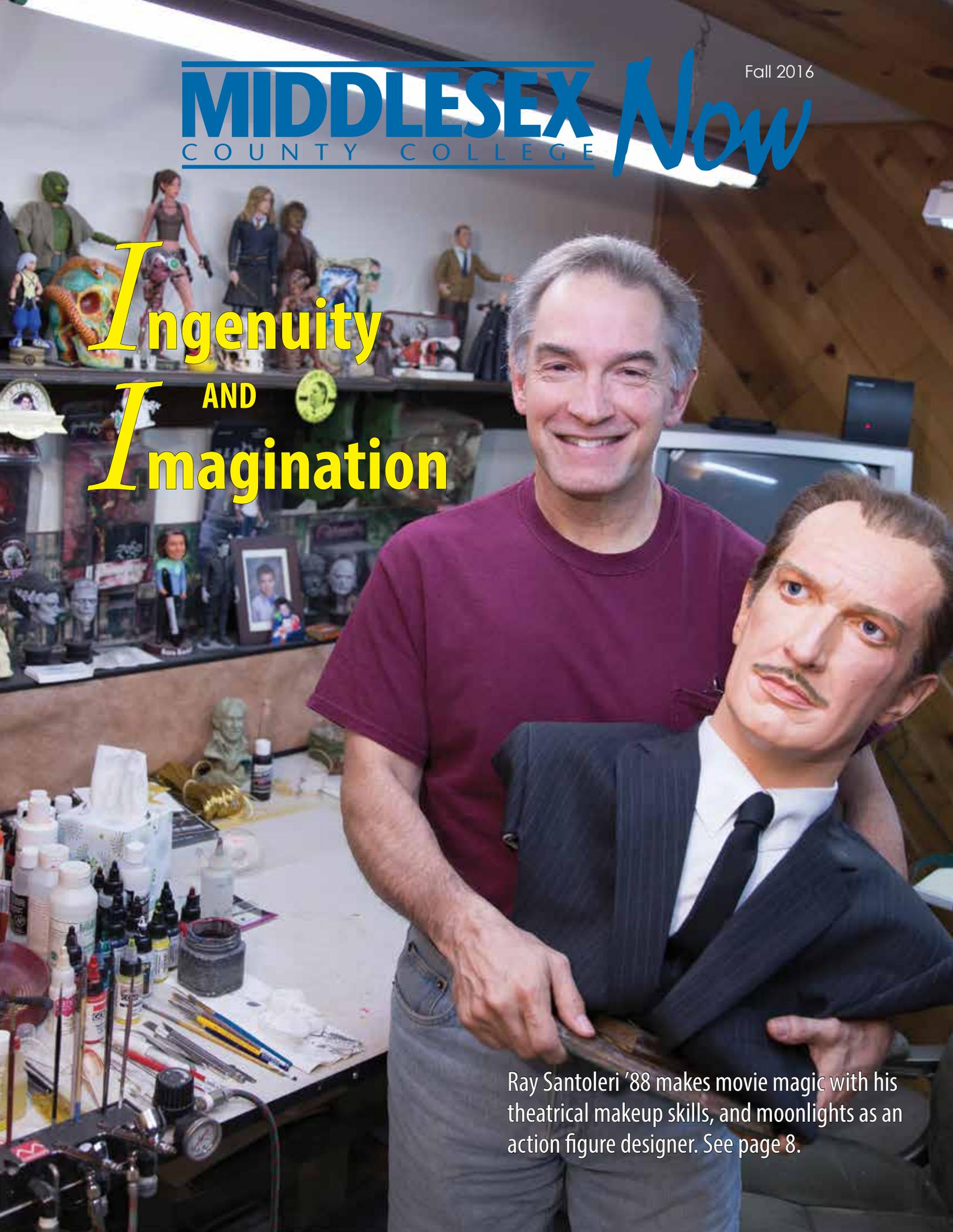


*Ingenuity*  
AND  
*Imagination*



Ray Santoleri '88 makes movie magic with his theatrical makeup skills, and moonlights as an action figure designer. See page 8.

# CAMPUS NEWS

## Business Program Transfer Agreement Signed with Felician University

MCC and Felician University signed an agreement that will allow MCC business students to complete their Bachelor of Science degree in Business, and, if they choose, a Master of Business Administration from Felician.

The Bachelor's-level and graduate classes will be held on the Middlesex campus.

"We are excited to partner with Middlesex County College to create this clear and convenient pathway for MCC students to earn their undergraduate degree in business and even go on for an MBA," said Robert Evans, dean of the Felician University School of Business. "This agreement will allow students to continue their education at Felician without distance as an obstacle."

Jeffrey Herron, dean of professional studies, lauded the agreement.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for MCC business students," he said. "They can transfer the 64 credits required for our Business Administration Transfer degree directly to Felician's Business program, which means that they will not need to repeat courses completed at Middlesex. We have a very good relationship with the Business Department at Felician, and we believe the opportunity to expand our existing agreement to include the ability to pursue an MBA degree is an exciting development for our students, something we hope they will explore."

Dr. Herron noted the two schools already have an agreement linking the Nursing programs.

"I've been able to observe our Nursing graduates participating in Felician's program," he said. "The way Felician has supported our students is very impressive and demonstrates its commitment to our partnership. I feel that this opportunity to grow the already strong relationship between our institutions will be very beneficial to MCC students looking to pursue Bachelor's degrees."

MCC currently hosts bachelor's-level classes taught by faculty from Kean, Jersey City University, as well as the Felician nursing faculty.



From left: Mark McCormick, MCC's vice president for academic and student affairs; Middlesex President Joann La Perla-Morales; Anne Prisco, president, Felician University; and David Turi, associate dean, Felician School of Business.

## MIDDLESEX COUNTY COLLEGE *Now*

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Marketing Communications Department  
Center 4  
Middlesex County College  
2600 Woodbridge Ave.  
Edison, NJ 08837  
email: [alumni@middlesexcc.edu](mailto:alumni@middlesexcc.edu)

## 2 Buildings Opening: Science and Enrollment Services

Middlesex County College opened two new buildings this fall. West Hall, a one-stop enrollment center, opened with a dedication and a reunion of MCC retirees on September 29, and South Hall, which will feature 14 science labs, will have its formal opening ceremony October 21.

“These are two state-of-the-art buildings that will benefit generations of future students,” said College President Joann La Perla-Morales. “I am thrilled with the way the construction has turned out. West Hall will consolidate all of our enrollment departments into one location, which will streamline the process. And the new South Hall will substantially improve the level and breadth of hands-on science instruction and allow us to offer new programs.”

West Hall, which cost \$12.7 million, was built through Chapter 12 funding, the traditional way that county colleges in New Jersey are able to construct buildings. The county sells bonds, and the state and county then split the debt service. West Hall will house the offices of Admissions, Academic Advising, Career Services, Financial Aid, Registration, Student Account Services, Veterans Services, and the deans of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs. The offices are scheduled to open in October.

It is 30,000 square feet and is nearby two large parking lots.

“We’re very excited about this new building because we will serve students in a more efficient manner,” said Brian Clemmons, dean of enrollment management. “Students can sign in from anywhere – home, their mobile phone, or inside West Hall. They will then go to one terminal to get assistance with any type of enrollment issue. Most of them



West Hall

will only need to see just one MCC representative. Wait times should improve dramatically.”

South Hall, which cost \$18.2 million, was funded through the State of New Jersey’s Building Our Future Bond Act, along with a 25 percent match from the County. The two-story, 36,000 square-foot facility includes 14 science labs dedicated to general biology, chemistry, organic chemistry, genetics, microbiology and general science. Classes will begin in January of 2017.

“We’re all excited about the new facility,” said Parag Muley, chair of Natural Sciences. “It looks spacious and inviting. Students and faculty are going to find it to be state-of-the-art, and a really good educational space. It’s going to be equipped with the latest and the greatest equipment for training. We are eager to get started. We can’t wait.”

Donald Drost, executive director of facilities management, said the College will submit the two buildings for LEED certification. LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is an internationally

recognized mark of excellence that provides building owners and operators with a framework for identifying and implementing practical and measurable green building design, construction, operations and maintenance solutions. Crabiell Hall, which was completed in 2011, received a Silver ranking and Mr. Drost expects West Hall and South Hall to earn a Silver or Gold mark.



South Hall



Christopher Drew



Daniel Grek



Gretchen Heaton



Joseph Nesi



Mohit Nigam



Marilyn Ochoa



Giuseppe Rotolo



Andrew Rubin



Linda Scherr



Cheryl Zhang

## MCC Welcomes Talented Cadre of Faculty and Staff

Middlesex County College greeted 22 new faculty and staff this fall.

Christopher Drew is a new faculty member in History and Social Sciences. His expertise is in homeland security, civil security and law enforcement. He holds a B.S. from New Jersey City University, an M.Ed. from Seton Hall University, and a D.Sc. from New Jersey City University.

Daniel Grek is a new faculty member in Engineering Technologies. He holds a B.S. and M.S. from Rutgers University. His area of specialization is in civil/structural engineering.

Joseph Nesi is a new faculty member in Accounting, Business and Legal Studies. A specialist in tax accounting, he is a certified public accountant and holds a B.S. from Siena College and an M.B.A. from Fordham University.

Mohit Nigam is a new member of the Natural Sciences faculty. He has an M.Sc. from Banaras Hindu University and an M.S. and Ph.D. from University of North Texas. His areas of specialization include particle accelerator-based physics.

Giuseppe Rotolo has joined the History and Social Sciences Department. He holds a B.A. and M.A. from the University of Palermo, and a Ph.D. from the University of Palermo and University of Cosenza. His specialty is the philosophy of the mind.

Andrew Rubin is a new member of the Hospitality,

Culinary Arts and Dietetics Department. He has a B.S. and B.A. from Centenary College and an M.B.A. from Western Governors University. His area of specialization is culinary and hospitality management.

Adriana Mamay is the reference and instructional librarian. She holds a B.A. from Rutgers University, an M.A. from New York University, and an M.L.S. from Long Island University. Her specialty is research instruction.

Linda Scherr is the new dean of Arts and Sciences. She holds an A.B. from Cornell University and a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania.

Marilyn Ochoa is the College Library director. She has a B.A. from La Salle University and an M.L.I.S. from the University of Pittsburgh.

New staff members include Gretchen Heaton, director of lifelong learning, and Nick DeMatteo, director of corporate education and training, in Continuing Education; Justin Fiorenza, Bujar Giyriqi, Jose Otero, Anthony Arena, and John McCauley in Facilities Maintenance; Antonio Coppola, officer, and Dawn Spinola, dispatcher, in Campus Police; Carolina Ochoa, student records assistant, New Brunswick Center; Diana Sofo, administrative systems analyst, Information Technology; Cheryl Zhang, director of Financial Aid; and Lisa Alexander, coordinator, cooperative education and experiential learning in Career Services.

# Brilliant Skies, Brilliant Poetry at Long Branch Festival

By Kim Silva-Martinez '14

**U**nder a blue-blanketed sky and the hushed roar of breaking waves in the background, English Professor and poet-in-residence Emanuel di Pasquale hosted the Second Annual Pier Village Poetry Festival, held July 4 at the boardwalk gazebo in Long Branch. Approximately 15 writers participated in the celebration.

As the poet laureate of Long Branch, a position previously held by nationally-recognized poet Robert Pinsky, Professor di Pasquale conceived the idea of a poetry event as an addition to the strong arts program already in the town. He approached Mayor Adam Schneider, a known arts advocate, and the City Council, and they approved the concept. Pleased with the feedback from the inaugural festival, they sanctioned a second one, to be held again on July 4, as a symbol of the freedom and independence poetry often embodies.

As the emcee, Professor di Pasquale bantered with the crowd as the sun shimmered on his Milton-inspired



silvery locks partially covered by a blue Kangol cap.

Mr. Schneider read a poem to open the event, as well as City Council member John

Pallone and his son John Thomas. Mr.

Pallone's brother, Congressman

Frank Pallone, read from a recent

di Pasquale publication, "The

Ocean's Will," with a selection

called "Self-Portrait," a refer-

ence to painter Vincent Van

Gogh. Also in attendance was

another City Council member

Joy Bastelli.

Joining Professor di Pasquale

were MCC colleagues Daniel

Zimmerman and Mat Spano, both

of the English Department. Dr.

Zimmerman read his poetry from the

recently-published work, "Palisades, Park-

ways and Pinelands," an anthology of New Jersey

poets. Dr. Spano, also a contributor to the book, read a

poem called "Sleeper Shark," an analysis of the mysterious

Greenland shark.

Although most of the seats were taken, those on the

boardwalk often paused and listened to a poem or two

as they made their way to the beach. The event lasted for

about an hour and Professor di Pasquale hopes for a third

festival next year as interest grows in the art of poetry.

The newest addition to the MCC Child Care Center is a beautiful fire truck-themed playground. "The theme is a tribute to first responders," says Mary Jo Tivenan-Mackintosh, the center director. "The children always enjoy a visit from the local fire company so when choosing a new playground this seemed like a logical choice. Our new playground provides a safe, happy environment for our students to enjoy being outside and participating in healthy play. The timing is perfect since we will be starting our full-day kindergarten program this fall as well as continuing our year-round preschool program (ages 2-5 years) serving area families as well as children of our faculty, staff and students." The children are shown with Roseann Bucciarelli, dean of Continuing Education, far left; MCC President Joann La Perla-Morales; and at far right, Mary Jo Tivenan-Mackintosh, Child Care director.

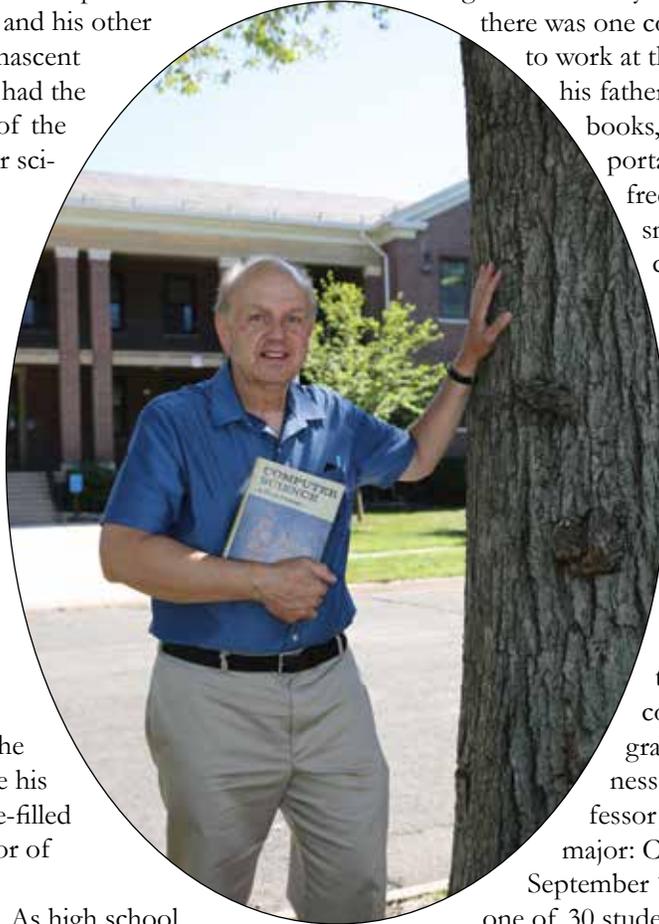


# Fred Puchala: A Pioneer in the Technology Revolution

By Kim Silva-Martinez '14

When Fred Puchala '71 walked into his classroom on the basement level of Raritan Hall, he saw not only his nemesis, but his future: the IBM 1401 computer that would dominate his life while attending Middlesex. This metal behemoth, whose length took up the room's entire wall, placed Mr. Puchala and his other classmates on the cusp of the nascent Information Revolution. They had the distinction of being members of the first class majoring in computer science at the College.

As a child growing up in Sayreville, Mr. Puchala already had a ready-made profession. His dad, Frank Puchala, built and owned Frank's Service Station on Washington Road, which still exists today. When Mr. Puchala entered the ninth grade, it was a right-of-passage to work at the station, and he pumped gas, fixed tires and changed oil on Friday afternoons and Saturdays. When he inquired as to his pay, his mother replied matter-of-factly, "I feed you." So for the next four years, Mr. Puchala ate his three meals in return for grease-filled hands and the ever-present odor of gasoline.



Fred Puchala when he was around 22 years old, and now. Opposite page: computers were a bit larger than today when he started his career in information technology.

As high school graduation approached, Mr. Puchala felt ambivalent about his future at the gas station. "I never felt strong enough to pursue a career as a mechanic," he said. His brother Ted, who also worked at the station, wanted to continue in the business and assume ownership when Frank died. Mr. Puchala wanted to go to college,

and he had heard about MCC from a cousin who had attended.

When Mr. Puchala spoke to his parents about Middlesex, they supported his decision. "I always had strong feelings to further my education," he said. However, there was one condition: Mr. Puchala still had to work at the gas station. So in exchange, his father agreed to pay for tuition and books, fix up an old car for transportation, provide him with all the free gas he needed, and give him a small allowance to buy those 29 cent-hamburgers in the MCC cafeteria.

As the wrought-iron gates to MCC's entrance swung open in September 1968, Mr. Puchala crossed the academic threshold to his future. "I found out Middlesex had a pre-tech curriculum because I had not taken college prep in high school," he said. So after completing two semesters of this course work, Mr. Puchala could start in his declared program. He was torn between business and accounting; however, Professor Jack Dineen introduced a new major: Computer Science. It was now September 1969, and Mr. Puchala became one of 30 students enrolled in this emerging field. President Frank Chambers' plan to concentrate on technical majors (as well as academic), allowed many MCC graduates to be employed with an Associate Degree earned at the College.

Mr. Puchala took six classes each semester: Sunday was reserved all day for homework. He studied early computer languages like Fortran and Cobol, and entered data into the IBM 1401 through a keypunch machine. The printer coughed out calculations on perforated paper fed from a large roll, and he remembers how noisy the classroom was when all the machines were engaged. He did have one professor who sympathized with the hard-working future "techies" – Professor Tom Dunn. During hours-long lab sessions, Professor Dunn allowed two students to go to Dunkin' Donuts and bring back coffee and snacks for the class. Since this was a clandestine operation, there was

only one requirement: the trash needed to be carried to the dumpster behind Raritan Hall to hide the evidence.

Mr. Puchala recalls the large amount of homework received, and he characterized the major as “demanding.” He and a few classmates even drove down to Atlantic City to attend a computer convention that featured the newest technology. Soon after his June 1971 graduation, he started working at Prudential Insurance Company in Newark as a computer operator in the auto/home division.



Mr. Puchala would check the “batches” generated by the computer that day, and test for quality after the programmers made changes in the system. After 27 years Prudential phased out the department and Mr. Puchala worked for various other insurance companies over the years as a business analyst and quality assurance tester. He eventually retired from Chubb Insurance.

And although he never followed in his dad’s footsteps, Mr. Puchala still remembers what made him curious about

computer science: he put together a clear, plastic model of a V-8 engine. “When I was a kid, this made me figure out what I wanted to do. I found this little computer “thing” in the hobby store,” he said. He installed the pieces, which functioned on a binary system. Without realizing it, he probably created a primitive precursor to today’s computerized car parts. And so with his MCC Degree in Applied Science, and a jumpstart into this developing field, Mr. Puchala had a long and successful career in computer testing.

## Bridge Program Gives MCC Students a Jumpstart

A summer program designed to prepare New Brunswick high school graduates for Middlesex County College yielded “phenomenal results,” according to the director of the program. Forty-two successfully completed Phase One of the J&J Summer Bridge Program out of 49 who started in May.

That was the highest percentage in the program’s eight-year history.

“We added some components to the program to meet the needs of today’s learners,” said Kimberlee Hooper, director of School Relations, which runs the Bridge Program. “We really pushed technology and used software that was adaptable and would assist students no matter what level they were at.”

The Bridge Program, sponsored by Johnson & Johnson, also included intensive tutoring with faculty members.

“This personal interaction with the faculty was key to the students’ success,” she said. “They would work with the group as a whole and then also one-on-one.”

The Bridge program is aimed at prospective MCC stu-

dents who, because of their Placement Test scores, must take developmental courses before they can start credit classes. The Bridge program works with those students; they are later tested again, and many started credit classes this fall.

It also allows them to meet key staff in Counseling, Career Services, Financial Aid, and other departments.

“These students are getting a jumpstart on their college education,” Ms. Hooper said.

Of the 42 who completed Phase One, 27 then took Student Success 101, a three-credit course designed to assist college students learn techniques that will help them with college work and college life.

“This is motivating,” Ms. Hooper said. “They have three credits even before starting classes in the fall.”

Students who complete the program receive a \$200 Bookstore credit for the next two semesters and those not receiving financial aid are given a \$500 tuition credit from J&J.

“J&J’s support has been incredible,” Ms. Hooper said.

# Ingenuity **AND** Imagination

By Chuck O'Donnell '91

**R**ay Santoleri '88 was summoned back to the set of a movie after several months for some reshoots. When he got there, he discovered a make-up artist's nightmare.

The problem was that the actor he had been working with had had a buzz cut, but was now sporting four months' growth on top of his head. He was working on a different project and a quick trim was out of the question. Mr. Santoleri was left to rack his brain and rummage through his kit.

So he produced a bald cap, placed it over the actor's

head and began to paint it red. Mr. Santoleri has heard actors wonder aloud if this will look authentic, especially when he starts adding yellows and greens. The whole crew – from the director on down – waited and hoped for some make-up magic. Everything hinged on this. They held their breath as the actor made his way to the set.

"The director was happy with it," Mr. Santoleri said.

"They were able to shoot it and it looked like he was almost bald. So the audience, when they go see the movie, won't be able to tell this last scene may have been shot three months later."

If there's one thing Mr. Santoleri has learned in his 20-plus years as a make-up artist, it's that there's often a bullseye on your back and a microscope on your work. Whether it was on the set of "Paranoia" with Harrison Ford or "Creed" with Sylvester Stallone or "The Benefactor" with Richard Gere, it comes with the territory. The same rules apply when he's doing TV work and he's working on an episode of CBS' "Madame Secretary" or Netflix's "Daredevil."

It's a constant quest to create the illusion of authenticity. Sure, there are times when the actors and actresses who sit in his chair need little more than a



few blemishes covered up or some color added to their cheeks.

Mr. Santoleri, on other occasions, has been called upon to make an actor look like a survivor of an avalanche in the Andes and a farmer tanned and leathered by the sun and the wind. Other times, he's had to make an actor look like he just took a beating (he mixes coffee grounds with fake blood to get a crusty, scabby effect, he says).

Ingenuity and creativity – Mr. Santoleri says these parts of him were fostered by his art and graphic design instructors at Middlesex County College. He had always wanted to go into the arts or acting, but after high school he had to get a job and go to work. He got a job with a construction company operating an excavator. In the winters, he would plow snow from Sears parking lot on Route 1.

At 29, he decided to chase that dream of being an artist and enrolled at Middlesex County College. MCC Professor Fran Krimsky '81 and others helped him learn the basics of graphic design. He grew more confident, even started getting some paid gigs. As Mr. Santoleri puts it, "Middlesex County College got me started. What they taught me,

it got me in the field, got me in the door."

He actually got into the door in two fields. He immersed himself in the field of action figures and statues in the 1990s. He went to work for one of the largest toy companies in the world, McFarlane Toys. His artistry helped bring everything from Spawn characters to sports heroes to life. He more recently was involved in helping create a line of characters based on the cult classic, "The Twilight Zone" for California-based Entertainment Earth.

Mr. Santoleri, of course, also got into the special effects and make-up industry. After graduating from MCC, he attended the Joe Blasco Makeup School and his life went off in a different direction. Before he knew it, he was Will Ferrell's personal make-up artist for two seasons on "Saturday Night Live."

On any given Saturday night, Mr. Ferrell would have to be prepared to impersonate Alex Trebek for a round of "Celebrity Jeopardy" or be transformed into one of the overly excited Spartan cheerleaders alongside Cheri Oteri. Or he might have to become Marty Culp, one half of the Culpes alongside wife Bobbi (played by Ana Gasteyer). Their awkward, unstylish versions of songs such as DMX's "Party Up" were some of Mr. Santoleri's favorites.

"I loved working with Will," Mr. Santoleri said. "I was very fortunate to get him because he loved what he did and he was a very easy-going guy, never heard him complain about anything."

But not everyone who sits in his chair will be so nice. Maybe he or she will be having a bad day or still in character. So when he's not busy on the set of a movie, or sculpting statues or action figures in his home studio in Allentown, Pa., Mr. Santoleri teaches at the Make-up Designory in New York. He tells his students that professionalism and a good chair-side manner can go a long way in their industry.

"I'm not much of a talker, but if they talk, I talk," he said. "I always tell my students, 'If they're not talking to you, keep your mouth shut. They don't care about what you did last night or how hard it was getting to work in the morning. If they talk, if they engage you, that's one thing. Otherwise, keep your mouth shut.'"



Photo courtesy of Ray Santoleri

At left, Ray Santoleri with Will Ferrell before a Saturday Night Live sketch. Far left, Mr. Santoleri's studio, where he creates multiple action figures.

# Roosevelt Care Center Honored for Support of CNA program

The College recently recognized the Roosevelt Care Center of Edison for its support of the College's Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Program. The program, approved by the New Jersey Department of Health, is conducted at Roosevelt Care Center's Barbara E. Cheung facility. CNA students study patient care and hygiene, anatomy and physiology, and patient safety and nutrition. The 50-hour classroom component is interspersed with 40 hours of supervised clinical rotations in Roosevelt Care Center's Parsonage Road facility. Roosevelt Care Center and the Middlesex County Improvement Authority supported the College's program from its inception three years ago and have provided the facilities and logistical support since the initial class was conducted in June of 2015. Students received assistance from a TAACCCT grant (Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training) provided by the U.S. Department of Labor and coordinated through the New Jersey Health Professions Consortium. College President Joann La



From left, Martin Schamberger, allied health grant coordinator at MCC; Frank Damiani, director of patient care at Roosevelt Care Center; and Joann La Perla-Morales, College president.

Perla-Morales hosted the event attended by executives of Roosevelt Care Center, members of the Middlesex County Improvement Authority, the County Board of Freeholders and the College's Board of Trustees.

# College Promotes 6 Evening Degree Programs

Six academic degree programs can be completed at Middlesex County College in the evening. The six allow students who work during the day to complete a program without being on campus before 5 p.m.

"Of course, we've always had evening classes," said Brian Clemmons, dean of enrollment management. "But many programs required you to take one or two classes during the day, which could be difficult for those who work or have child care responsibilities. Now you can

complete a program completely in the evening hours."

The programs are Business Administration, Criminal Justice-Police Science, Liberal Arts-Business, Liberal Arts-General, Liberal Arts-Social Sciences, and Paralegal Studies.

"We expect to add more programs to this list soon," Mr. Clemmons said. "We have numerous support services to assist you, including tutoring. You can add even more flexibility to your schedule by enrolling in online classes."

For more information, contact the evening degree advisor, John Kruszewski, at 732.548.6000, ext. 3130 or [enroll@middlesexcc.edu](mailto:enroll@middlesexcc.edu).



MCC student Priya Karthik received a \$500 scholarship from the Edison Arts Society. From left: College President Joann La Perla-Morales; Gloria Dittman, president of the Edison Arts Society; Ms. Karthik; and Patrick Madama, MCC's vice president for institutional advancement. The artist displayed one of her sculptures, "Temple of Kapaleeshwar in Channi."

## Notables

A paper written by Professor Susan Altman of the Visual, Performing and Media Arts Department has been accepted into the Art Museums and Foundation Studies at the 2017 Foundations in Art Theory and Education (FATE) Conference in Kansas City. The paper, "Gallery Adventures: Going, Seeing, Thinking and Doing," discusses the relevance of MCC's field tips to Chelsea and museums to support student learning within an art foundations program. She will also be chairing a panel at the conference, "Draw and Repeat: Reconsidering the Sketchbook." The presenters she chose will be presenting new and innovative ideas related to the sketchbook with both digital and analog applications.

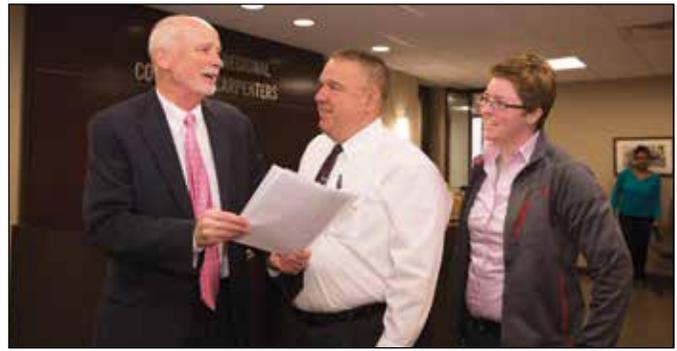
# Of Campus & Commerce

*Note: Of Campus & Commerce is a new column written by MCC's director of Corporate Education and Training, Nick DeMatteo. It will address training issues at New Jersey's businesses and organizations. His email is NDeMatteo@middlesexcc.edu.*

Representing 40,000 members in a multi-state area, the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters makes its headquarters in Middlesex County. From its spacious modern offices in Raritan Plaza, the NRCC supports the activity of carpenters and joiners working throughout New Jersey, New York, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and the District of Columbia. The NRCC represents its membership in the traditional collective bargaining role, operates extensive training programs and provides a broad spectrum of support services for its membership. Additionally, in cooperation with key labor leaders and state policy makers, the NRCC has developed a program called Sisters in the Brotherhood, an initiative that works to recruit more women into the Carpenters Union.

In the spring of 2016, Middlesex County College began offering an on-going series of technology-based courses for NRCC employees. This custom program was developed and implemented by staff of Middlesex County College Corporate Education and Training working together with Melissa Russell-Pasley, human resources assistant at the NRCC. Courses are provided at the NRCC facility in Raritan Plaza with topics ranging from advanced Microsoft Office tools to specialized Notepad applications. In many cases, the College is able to provide these courses as grant-funded training provided under the NJBIA Basic Skills Training Program. This training has proven so effective that it has been expanded to NRCC offices outside New Jersey. This fall, an even broader range of courses is being offered at Raritan Plaza, to include Workplace Spanish and Communication Skills, both written and verbal.

Robert Weakley, director of Human Resources at the NRCC, said that the NRCC employees enjoy the training tremendously because the instructors make the classes so interactive and relevant. He believes the training program has improved productivity dramatically. NRCC personnel depend on technology for managing membership, conducting communications, creating presentations, and compiling data. With training, the staff is able to more



From left, Robert Weakley, director of Human Resources at the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters, Nick DeMatteo, MCC's director of Corporate Education and Training, and Melissa Russell-Pasley, HR assistant, NRCC.

effectively capitalize on the powerful capabilities of the technology.

Providing their members with the training necessary to maintain the required high standard of workmanship is a significant focus of NRCC activity. The Council operates a five-year training program for apprentices as well as on-going skill enhancement training programs for its members. Construction is currently underway at Raritan Plaza on a new 100,000 square foot, state-of-the-art training facility that is scheduled to open by fall 2017.

The 225 employees of the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters are engaged in a diverse range of activities. Council representatives are typically involved in recruitment, bargaining, and the maintenance of standards. Another important function of council representatives is to ensure enforcement of safety regulations on the worksite. Representatives are on site to ensure contract compliance and to participate in the resolution of disputes and grievances. NRCC representatives and support staff are involved with political action committees, community service and the resolution of Department of Labor violations, among many other activities.

In this capacity, NRCC employees are called upon to utilize various forms of technology. Often, individuals trained and experienced in the use of the carpenter's toolkit are required to become proficient with tools such as laptops, smartphones or notepads running Microsoft Office and various other applications. To address this issue, the NRCC has successfully partnered with MCC Corporate Education and Training staff.

Employee engagement is another significant benefit of the training program that Mr. Weakley points out. Employees are interested and stimulated by the classes, so become more involved generally. They appreciate the opportunity to learn, enjoying the challenge and satisfaction of finding better ways to accomplish their work. A significantly improved understanding of the software's capability has enabled staff to take advantage of the technology to "work better, smarter, faster."

# FOUNDATION REPORT

Tehmina Anjum of the MCC Foundation has renewed her support of the **Mehar Nigar Anjum Annual Scholarship** honoring her mother's achievements and contributions to her family and community. Preference is given to a full-time, female student who is raising children while attending MCC.

Sreenivas Botlagudur fulfilled his pledge of \$90,000 for **The Gattupalli Sarojini and Kondapi Radhamma Memorial Endowed Scholarship**. The scholarship was established by his parents, Dr. Suseela and Krishna Botlagudur, in memory of Dr. Botlagudur's mother and grandmother. Together with their son, Sreenivas Botlagudur, and daughter, Rama Botlagudur-Eriksson, the family has long provided support through The Suseela D. Botlagudur, M.D. Endowed Scholarship. This additional endowed scholarship is a testament to the generosity of the Botlagudur family and their commitment to their community and to the success of MCC students.

The Brunetti Foundation established **The Brunetti Foundation Annual Scholarship** with a gift of \$2,500 to benefit Nursing students with financial need and a minimum 3.0 GPA. In a letter to the MCC Foundation, John J. Brunetti, president, noted "Nothing will help our country more than a well-educated population, and The Brunetti Foundation is happy to support a worthy cause and entity."



The Amboy Foundation established The Amboy Foundation Annual Scholarship with a generous contribution of \$2,000. The scholarship will assist second-year students majoring in Business with financial need. Amboy Bank has previously been a generous supporter of the MCC Foundation's fundraising events. From left, Patrick Madama, vice president of Institutional Advancement, Veronica Clinton, MCC Foundation executive director, with Joseph Mullane, vice president, and William Haluska, assistant vice president and branch manager, Amboy Bank.



Metuchen Savings Bank has renewed The Metuchen Savings Bank/Anna-mae Baerenbach Memorial Scholarship with a generous gift of \$3,500 to lighten the financial burden of a Metuchen or Edison resident. The scholarship makes a substantial impact in the lives of deserving students that, in turn, benefits the community. From left, Joseph Razzano, vice president, Retail Branch Manager, Metuchen Savings Bank; scholarship recipient Meg Kathryn Duva; and Lorraine Mulligan, vice president, Business Development & Marketing, at the November 2015 Scholarship Reception.

Donna Frandsen '82, Thelma Frandsen, Janet Gemenden '72, Mihir Shah, Andrea Connor, Jolanta Kucharewicz, David Lipton, Jeff Jannarone, Beata Nicpon and Violetta Nicpon contributed to the **Rosemary Esteves Memorial Annual Scholarship**. The scholarship was established in 2013 by Donna Frandsen and Maria Esteves in memory of Rosemary Esteves, beloved daughter of Maria, and is awarded to current service members or military veterans with a minimum GPA of 2.0, or an entering student who has satisfied placement test requirements.

David J. Lynch '06 renewed his commitment to the **David J. Lynch AXA Annual Scholarship**. The gift was matched with a contribution from the AXA Foundation.

**GMB North America, Inc.** has renewed its annual scholarship with a donation of \$1,500 to assist students majoring in Engineering Technologies.

Highland Park Masonic Lodge provided \$2,000 to renew the **J. Craig Putnal Memorial Masonic Scholarship**. This annual scholarship provides assistance for a student who has entered MCC directly from high school and has financial need.

Audrey Johnson contributed \$3,000 to the **Ernest Johnson Memorial Endowed Scholarship**. Established in 2003 by contributions from family and friends, Mr. Johnson was a member of the MCC Foundation Board of Directors from the early 1980s until 2003, serving as president from 1989 through 1992. Throughout his life, his dedication to community service benefited many civic, religious and charitable organizations.

Betty Wold Johnson continued her support with a gift of \$25,000 to the Annual Fund. Mrs. Johnson has also provided funding through The Willard T.C. Johnson Foundation and The Robert Wood Johnson 1962 Charitable Trust, and her loyal support has been instrumental in making it possible for thousands of students to attend MCC.

Lyondellbasell, a loyal donor since 2013, renewed its support of the Process Technology program with a generous gift of \$5,000.

Raritan Bay Health Care Foundation made a generous contribution of \$1,000 to fund the **Joseph & Dorothy Doll Annual Scholarship**. The scholarship is awarded to a Nursing major with a minimum 2.5 GPA and financial need.

The Rutgers Community Health Foundation provided \$28,699 for the MCC New Brunswick Center High School Summer Institute. The program provided academic support to high school students, together with college preparation activities and life skills development.



The Robert Sydney Needham Foundation has provided support of \$10,000 to help alleviate a student's financial burdens and allow the recipient to focus on his or her studies. The Robert Sydney Needham Foundation is managed by Wells Fargo Wealth Management. Scholarship recipients Deeana Ulyak, left, and Jaleil Croskey, right, flank Diane Conboy, chair, MCC Foundation Board of Trustees.



MCC Retail Services Corporation has renewed its support with a gift of \$5,000 for the MCC Retail Services/Blue Colt Bookstore Annual Scholarship for the 2016-2017 academic year. This scholarship supports a student who has completed 12 credit hours and has financial need. Karen Katt, executive director, (third from left) with 2015-16 MCC Retail Services Corporation scholarship recipients at the November 2015 Scholarship Reception.

Southpole Foundation Inc. has continued its long commitment to MCC students with a gift of \$14,000 to renew the **Southpole Foundation Annual Scholarships** in 2016-2017.

The M&T Charitable Foundation provided a generous contribution of \$3,000 to establish the **M&T Bank Annual Scholarship**. The scholarship provides \$1,000 each to three students majoring in Accounting, Business or Legal Studies with financial need and a minimum 3.0 GPA.

Wells Fargo Foundation renewed its commitment to the **Wells Fargo Regional Foundation Annual Scholarship** with a generous gift of \$10,000. Established in 2005, the scholarship is awarded to full-time, second-year students majoring in Business, with financial need and a minimum 3.0 GPA.

*Continued on page 14*

## MCC Foundation Mission Partners

The MCC Foundation Mission Partners enhance resources and help meet the challenge of providing financial opportunities for students to fulfill their educational and career goals:

Johnson & Johnson  
 The Provident Bank Foundation  
 Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital  
 Stewart Business Systems

# Foundation Report

*Continued from page 13*

Women's Rehabilitation Group of New Jersey provided a generous donation of \$5,000 to support the **Women's Rehabilitation Group of New Jersey Annual Scholarship** in 2016-2017. The scholarship supports female students of Asian-Indian origin with financial need.

The **Designer Greetings Annual Scholarship** has been established by the Gimbelman family and Designer Greetings, based in Edison, NJ. Beginning with the Spring 2017 semester, two scholarships of \$2,000 each will be awarded to students who are addressing the challenges of studying with a learning disability or learning difference and who are enrolled in a creative arts program including Liberal Arts-Visual Arts, Media Arts and Design, Fine Arts-Art, Advertising Graphic Design, Gaming and Animation or Photography.

Contributions from members of the campus community included the following: Eileen Coakley continued her support of the Mary Trickel Endowed Scholarship, Charita Green and Tom Peterson continued their support of the Annual Fund. Mathew Spano renewed his commitment to the Ron Romano Academic Achievement Award Endowed Fund.

## Please Support the Annual Fund

Your donation to the Annual Fund helps the MCC Foundation fulfill its mission of providing scholarships and raising funds for select College programs. All gifts make a difference! Please make your gift online at [www.mcc-foundation.org](http://www.mcc-foundation.org) or call 732-906-2564. Thank you!



From left: Alan and Fern Cohen; Richard Feldman, coordinator of the MCC Veterans Services Center; Abraham Adams, president of the Renaissance Veterans Association; and Sharon Cohen.

## Vets Club in Monroe Donates to MCC Military Veterans

The Veterans Club at Renaissance at Monroe generously provided a donation of \$4,000 to continue its support of student-veterans. This year's donation is made in memory of Sandy Leonard Cohen (1968-2016), son of Club member Alan Cohen and his wife, Fern. The contribution is distributed as bookstore credit for the Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 semesters. Eligibility is restricted to student-veterans discharged under honorable conditions; active duty service members; National Guardsmen; or

active members of a Reserve unit attending MCC whose cost of course materials and supplies is not fully covered by a government program.

Sandy Leonard Cohen passed away April 8, 2016 and, in addition to his parents, is survived by his wife, Sharon, and two children. Mr. Cohen was an executive chef and a graduate of Johnson and Wales University. The Veterans Club at Renaissance at Monroe is proud to celebrate the life of Sandy Leonard Cohen with its loyal and generous support of student-veterans.



**JACKPOT  
FOR EDUCATION**

6th Annual

# Casino Night

**BUFFET,  
BEER & WINE  
WIN PRIZES!**

**Friday, February 24, 2017  
5:30 p.m.**

**\$75 ticket – starts you with \$50 in chips**

(Must be 21 years of age)

**EDISON CAMPUS**

**VISIT [MCC-FOUNDATION.ORG](http://MCC-FOUNDATION.ORG)**

**OR CALL 732.906.2564**

# ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

**Nicholas Mazza '68** is proud to be a member of the first graduating class and remains thankful for the great educational experience he received at MCC.

**Robert Burke, MD '70** graduated from Rutgers University in 1971 and Rutgers Medical School in 1975. Dr. Burke joined the U.S. Public Health Service and later earned a Master of Public Health Degree from the University of Connecticut. After a number of career assignments, he joined the faculty of the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University and Hasbro Children's Hospital in Providence, Rhode Island. He currently serves on the staff of Women & Infants Hospital, Providence Community Health Centers and Tavares Pediatric Center caring for children with physical and developmental disabilities and with complex medical conditions. In a letter to MCC President Joann La Perla-Morales, Dr. Burke said, "I literally owe everything to Middlesex County College as I would not have succeeded in a less supportive academic setting. Middlesex was the gateway to my success. I am and will forever be grateful not only for myself but for

my family, including my daughter who is also a pediatrician. My MCC diploma is proudly displayed on my wall with my Rutgers Medical School diploma."

**Karen Hirsch '72** graduated from the first Radiography class and is looking to get in touch with fellow classmates. If you would like to connect with Karen, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at [alumni@middlesexcc.edu](mailto:alumni@middlesexcc.edu) or call 732.906.7732.

**Barry Constantine '74** is director of Research and Development at Resorbable Orthopedic Products LCC, based in Addison Texas. While working with a fellow MCC alumnus, Nels Lauritzen '68, a water-soluble wax, PEG, was formulated to the same density as a currently marketed product to reduce the learning curve for the surgeon. The product controls bleeding in bone. Patent approval for the resorbable hemostat was obtained in 2006, and the patent was sold in 2009. FDA approval was obtained in February 2016. Today the product is market-approved and is in preparation for launch in late 2016.

**Don Sweeney '77** is interested in connecting with fellow alumni of Marketing, Art and Design. Please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at [alumni@middlesexcc.edu](mailto:alumni@middlesexcc.edu) or call 732.906.7732.

**Breton A. Bocchieri '82** recently joined Robins Kaplan LLP in Los Angeles, CA, as partner in the firm's Intellectual Property and Technology Litigation Group. Breton has been recognized as an "IP Star" by Managing Intellectual Property magazine for the past four years and as a California "Super Lawyer" since 2004. He received his J.D. from the University of New Hampshire, a B.A. from Rutgers University and an A.S. in Engineering Technology from MCC. He dedicates pro bono time as a Los Angeles City prosecutor volunteer, and is a frequent writer and lecturer on intellectual property litigation strategy and tactics.

**Lisa Alexander '92** recently joined MCC's Career Services Department as Coordinator, Cooperative Education and Experiential Learning. In this role, Lisa will oversee

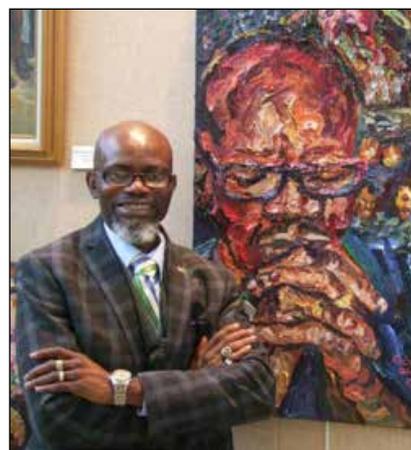
**Richmond S. Otlorin Garrick '96**, Alumnus of the Year in 2011, earned an Associate Degree in Media Arts & Design from Middlesex County College, a Bachelor of Fine Arts/Graphic Design Degree from Montclair State University and a Master of Fine Arts Degree from Rutgers, Mason Gross School of the Arts, New Brunswick.

Mr. Garrick has generously donated a total of 13 original prints of historic African-American figures who, in some way, have altered the course of history. His uplifting drawings

## Richmond S. Otlorin Garrick '96

of inspirational African Americans are done in ball point pen. These prints will be exhibited among 30 original oil paintings that reflect issues dealing with human conditions and socio-political matters. They address the struggles and oppression of humanity, especially his expressionistic dialogue on some of the paintings about the 10 years of civil war in Sierra Leone, and will be on display in the Studio Theater Gallery during February, 2017 as part of the College's Black History Month events. An open reception for the artist featuring his son, classical pianist Richmond Denzel Garrick, is

set for, February 2, 2017 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.



Richmond Garrick

all aspects of the cooperative education/ internship program including working with students to help them locate co-op sites and/ or developing sites for MCC students to use as co-op/internship experiences. Lisa will also be instrumental in partnering with academic areas to launch a new service learning initiative at MCC. She is also committed to community outreach, having worked with the Perth Amboy office of the Department of Labor to create a program for middle school students that helped them create résumés and other critical career prep activities. Lisa will also be working with students in the general career services functions like preparing résumés and assisting students in job search strategies. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from Rutgers-Newark and a Master's Degree in Counseling/Higher Education Concentration from Montclair.

**Joann O'Hara '93**, MCC Alumni Relations & Marketing Services coordinator and secretary of the Alumni Association Board of Trustees, was presented with a plaque for outstanding support of Alumni Association programs and events by Dorothy Bitetto, president of the Association at its annual dinner meeting in June.

**Jeffrey Ortiz '07** graduated from Ross University School of Medicine and has joined the Diagnostic Radiology Residency Program at Geisinger Health System in Dansville, PA. "We are so proud of Jeffrey," says Kimberly Krapels, assistant professor in MCC's Radiography Education Department.

**Lisa Gomes '09** went on to Kean University where she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and worked as a substitute teacher for two years. While searching for a permanent teaching position, she applied to Teach Away, which offers opportunities to teach overseas in ministries of education, private international schools, colleges, universities, and ESL schools. Lisa is now teaching kindergarten in Egypt for a second year. "It has been a very exciting experience, and it all began for me at MCC!"

**Wesley Brooks '12** graduated with high honors and was a member of the Disabilities Task Force, Phi Theta Kappa, and Academic Division Council. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in English and Secondary Education from

Monmouth University. Wesley was recently one of six winners of the Learning Ally National Achievement Award recognizing students' outstanding achievement in college despite a visual or learning disability.

**Michael DiMeglio '13** attends Felician College and is the director's assistant at St. Francis of Assisi Cathedral in Metuchen.

**Evelyn Fuertes, DTR '14** was presented with the Recognized Dietetic Technician of the Year Award by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the New Jersey Dietetic Association, Inc. at The New Jersey Dietetic Association's 84th Annual Meeting in May. Evelyn was a Chambers Award recipient in 2014 as well as the HCD Department's Highest Academic Achievement in Dietetic Technology Award. Soon after graduation, Evelyn passed the national Registration Exam for Dietetic Technicians and currently holds three positions



Evelyn Fuertes, DTR '14

in the dietetics field: her full-time position as the SNAP outreach coordinator for the Community FoodBank of New Jersey, where she coordinates outreach to food-insecure individuals, especially seniors and the Latino community; a part-time nutrition clerk position at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital; and a health coach, writer and health and wellness virtual support specialist. Evelyn is also involved in a number of community-based activities, including the Metuchen Borough Improvement League, Metuchen Dog Park Committee, the Metuchen Farmers' Market Committee, and Peter's Pantry.

**Katherine Owens '16** loves to travel (when she is not working). Katherine's favorite place is Disney. She enjoys reading and writing poetry

and spending time with family and friends. She is currently working on an event planning business and will soon be planning events for future clients. Katherine began classes at Kean University this fall.

**Lylian Pagan '16** is a current student at Kendall College. Lylian has a 23-year-old son, is a certified interpreter, and will be pursuing her dream of becoming an attorney after completing studies at New Jersey City University.

**Faisal Usman '16** transferred to Northeastern University, receiving a total of \$181,000 in scholarships and grants. He has also been awarded grants from the National Science Foundation to study chemistry. Faisal majored in Engineering Science at MCC and received two scholarships during his time here. His goal is to be a research scientist. "Coming to MCC is one of my best decisions so far!"

**Helen Loughman** attended MCC as a returning student to pursue an education in nursing. She became a Licensed Practical Nurse and was among the first group of nurses to work in JFK Hospital, Edison. Helen recently celebrated her 100th birthday.

**Marie L. Alfano** has contributed to numerous humanitarian causes. A resident of Manchester Township, NJ, Marie is president and board member of Joining Hands, Inc., an organization that distributes clothes and toys to the needy and provides financial assistance to critically ill children, adults and families. She has been recognized for her work with terminally ill children and families in crisis and was presented with a Joint Legislation Resolution of the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey as an esteemed resident of the Garden State. Recently, Marie was lauded for her fundraising efforts on behalf of the members of Amalgamated Transit Union Division 726 who were victims of Hurricane Sandy.

## In Memoriam

Doris Uhl '81

Pat Cashin

Margarete K.M. Driver, Professor Emerita

John Gorscak

Ronald W. Bush

Cheryl Krauser

# SPORTS UPDATE

**Cheikn Ndiaya**



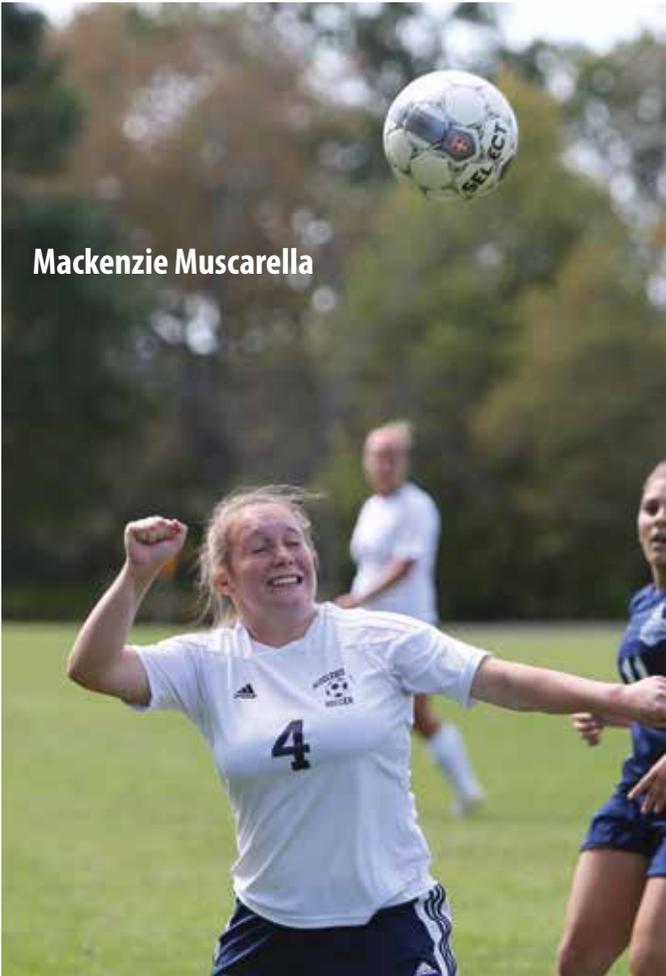
The Men's Soccer team has had a great start to the season, with a 6-2 record (5-1 in the Region). Freshman Idrissa Kamara has scored 14 goals so far this season which is number # 1 nationally.

The Cross Country squad is getting ready for Region 19 Championships that take place on October 30th.

The Women's Soccer team is 3-1-1 in Region 19 play. They turn their focus on the Region tournament which houses two bids to the national tournament. Ciara Alston is leading the team with six goals this season.

Volleyball is in full swing. The team won two of their last four matches. They have their sight set on qualifying for the playoffs.

**Mackenzie Muscarella**



**Goalkeeper Christopher Curton, Luiz Rosa (#7)**



**Ciara Alston**



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The first New Student Day mixed learning about the College with fun as almost 300 students plus family members enjoyed an orientation session a week before the start of classes this fall. They heard from current students with advice on success, and played some games, while parents had a special orientation program just for them. The end of the day featured food and demonstrations by student organizations. Here, Andrew Gerena of the Bridges to Baccalaureate Club mixes some chemicals.