

Transfer Agreement Signed with Pontifical Catholic of Puerto Rico

Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico (PUCPR) and Middlesex County College signed an agreement that allows students to obtain a Bachelor's Degree at PUCPR.

The agreement establishes that the students of MCC with an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts have the opportunity to transfer to PUCPR and take the required courses in a corresponding program and receive a PUCPR University Bachelor's Degree. It also establishes a structure that streamlines the process of recognition of credits for students transferring from MCC to PUCPR.

To ensure the transfer from MCC to PUCPR, the student must have graduated with an Associate Degree in liberal arts, and PUCPR validates the 66 credits. The participant chooses a baccalaureate program and continues as a third-year student.

"Pontifical is an excellent university

with a wide range of quality academic programs in a beautiful location," said Joann La Perla-Morales, president of MCC. "In addition, it provides students with a valuable cultural experience."

Both PUCPR and Middlesex share

a mission and vision that are student-focused.

An information session for MCC students will be held on Thursday, April 14 from 2-3:30 p.m. in the Brunswick Room of Crabiel Hall.



Jorge Ivan Vélez Arocho, president of PUCPR, with Joann La Perla-Morales, president of MCC, surrounded by officials from PUCPR.

Three successful and experienced African American entrepreneurs spoke at the New Brunswick Center as part of Black History Month in February. They spoke on the challenges of business ownership as well as the satisfactions. Gregory Hall is a fourth-generation entrepreneur, worked as a baseball coach and is a legislative agent to the State Street Public Affairs Group in Trenton, and Aisha Rodriguez is the CEO of Mitchell School of Business and a founder of the Black Business Fund. Not shown, Yvette Murray is president and CEO of YRM Consulting Group, providing executive and team development.



Celebrating Storytelling at Arts and Sciences Festival

The Arts and Sciences Festival, an annual event highlighting the contributions of music, history, science, sociology, theater, poetry and more to society, will be held at Middlesex in April.

Except where noted, events are free and open to the public.

“This month allows faculty, students and others from the outside to gather and celebrate the mind,” said Michael Nester, chair of the English Department and the Arts and Sciences Festival. “This year, the theme is ‘Sharing Stories Through Words, Images, Performances.’ I think the College community and the public will really enjoy the events. We have a terrific group of presenters.”

Events include:

April 4-April 18

Visual Arts Exhibition, Studio Theatre Gallery

Monday, April 4

“\$\$\$Careers\$\$\$ in the Pharmaceutical Industry with an MCC Chemical Process Technology Degree” Hazel Orellana, Crabiell Hall, Brunswick Room, 11 a.m.

Thursday, April 7

“Storytelling Contest”

Students will present live, original stories. Studio Theatre, 2 p.m.

Monday, April 11

“Keynote Address” A panel of three professional storytelling artists discuss their unique storytelling experiences. Crabiell Hall, Brunswick Room, 11 a.m.

Tuesday, April 12

“Mixing and Matching: Storytelling in the Digital Era” Hank Kalet, Crabiell Hall, Brunswick Room, 2 p.m.

Wednesday, April 13

“Poems from My Sicilian Childhood” MCC Poet-in-Residence, Emanuel di Pasquale, will read and discuss his work. College Center Gallery, 11 a.m.

Thursday, April 14

“Stories and Ideas from the Past” Students from the History and Philosophy Honor Society will share their research. Cristobal Espinoza-Wulach and students, College Center Gallery, 2:30 p.m.

April 14-17

“The Secret in the Wings” Spring Theatre Production, Performing Arts Center, April 14-16, 8 p.m., April 17, 2 p.m. Student free; others \$10.

Monday, April 18

“Gaining Insight into Personal

Struggles through Fiction” Shirley Wachtel reads portions of her novel, “The Music Makers.” Crabiell Hall, Brunswick Room, 9:30 a.m.

“Sharing the Story of a Millennium-old Family: A Digital Collaboration with the Noble Boncompagni Ludovisi of Rome.” T. Corey Brennan, Crabiell Hall, Brunswick Room, 11 a.m.

Tuesday, April 19

“Media Inconsistency: Did an African-American Discover the North Pole?” Crabiell Hall, Brunswick Room, 1 p.m.

Wednesday, April 20

“Victims of Security: From the Espionage Act (1917) to Patriot Act (2001)” Cristobal Espinoza-Wulach, College Center Gallery, 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, April 21

“Am I My Brother’s Keeper? Genocide, Human Rights Violations, and Atrocities around the World Today” Jacqueline Murekatete, L’Hommedieu Hall, Room 205, 2 p.m.

Friday, April 22

“Singer-songwriters and the Stories behind Their Songs” Jerry Smith, Studio Theatre, 1 p.m.

Sunday, April 24

“Preliminary Rounds of Speech Competition” Crabiell Hall, Brunswick Room, 4 p.m.

April 25-May 12

“Media Arts Exhibition” Studio Theatre Gallery

Monday, April 25

“Stories to Remember” Phi Theta Kappa invites students to read to the kids in the Child Care Center and then donate the book. Jeana Mari Davis and Charlotte Quigley Crabiell Hall, Amboy Room, 11 a.m.

“Science Presentations” Three speakers from various Natural Science programs share their research. Crabiell Hall, Raritan Bay Room, 11 a.m.

THIS MONTH AT MIDDLESEX

This Month at Middlesex is a publication of Middlesex County College
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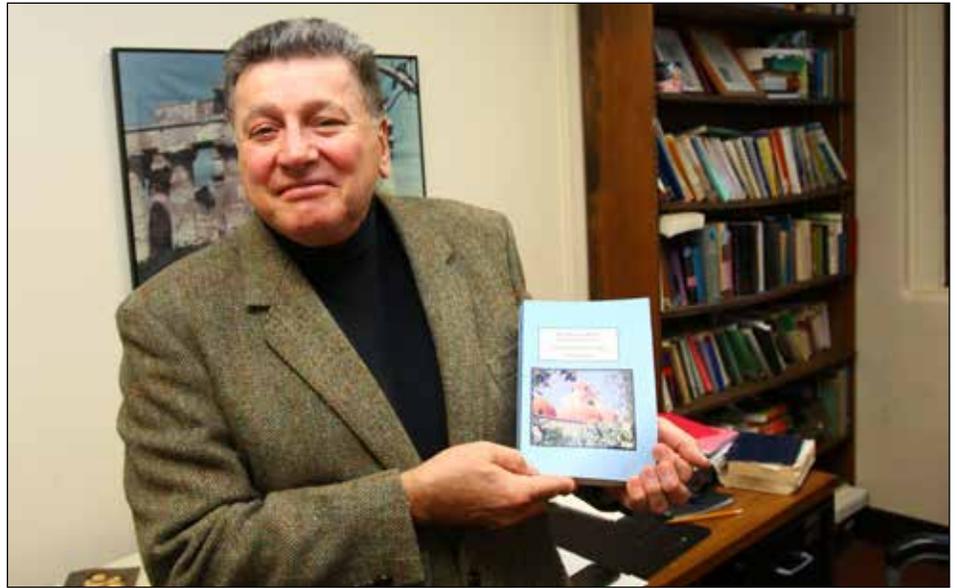
Professor Translates Capuana's Plays

One is a riveting courtroom drama, another a thriller in which a woman, who took the rap for a murder actually committed by her husband, comes looking for him. Themes of class and betrayal, these are only two of nine plays by the Sicilian author Luigi Capuana (1839-1915) that have been translated into English by Middlesex Professor Santi Buscemi.

"It was a new challenge for me," said Professor Buscemi, who has translated other works by Capuana. "I grew up speaking Sicilian but had less familiarity with the written word. But I was fascinated by the plays. Some of the characters in them were very familiar to me – I grew up with them – figuratively. That was the fun of it."

The work, "Nine Sicilian Plays by Luigi Capuana Translated from Sicilian into English," was published in February by Mellen Press. Aimed at research and university libraries, the book retails for \$100.

Not only did Professor Buscemi



Santi Buscemi

translate the work, he also took the photograph on its cover. It is a photo of a 12th Century Monastery, St. John's of the Hermits in Palermo.

Professor Buscemi has become an expert on the life of Capuana, the father of "verismo," the literary

philosophy that maintains that humans are pawns of outside influence – economic, political, social, biological – that leaves little room for free will.

"Capuana was a prolific author of novels, short stories, fairy tales, criticism and plays – with plays coming more toward the end of his life," Professor Buscemi said. "He did 12 plays and I used the nine best and most famous in the book."

Capuana wrote in both Italian and Sicilian and Professor Buscemi credits him and others such as Nino Martoglio with reviving regional languages in Italy.

This is Professor Buscemi's third translation of Capuana. His first was "C'era una volta," a collection of fairy tales under the English title "Sicilian Tales," which was followed by "The Marquis of Roccaverdina."

He's not done with Capuana.

He completed "Profiles of Women: A collection of six novellas," as well as two short story collections: "The Neighbors" and "The Enemy Is Within Us." Professor Buscemi is also completing a translation of "Giacinta," Capuana's first novel.

"Capuana is a fascinating author," Professor Buscemi said. "I've enjoyed studying his life and work."



MCC students and staff represented the College at Student Lobby Day in Trenton in March. The program brought community college students from all over the state to talk with state legislators. "The students had an amazing experience and took advantage of the opportunity to not only talk about the importance of higher education and support for community colleges but also the opportunity to see the political process in action," said Ode Hoppie, assistant director of Student Activities. From left, Mark McCormick, vice president for Academic and Student Affairs; Marla Brinson, dean of Student Affairs; Tony Graves, veteran student leader; Assemblyman John Wisniewski (D19), Komal Naqvi, PTK student leader; Mr. Hoppie; Charlotte Quigley, manager of Career Services; Birane I. Toure, PTK student leader.

Professor Wins Excellence Award from McGraw-Hill

Christine Harrington, professor of History and Social Sciences and the director of the College's Center for the Enrichment of Learning and Teaching (CELT), received the 2016 Excellence

in Teaching First-Year Seminars by the publishing company McGraw-Hill.

She accepted the award at the annual conference of the National Resource Center for the First Year Experience and Students in Orlando, FL in

February. She received a plaque, \$1,000, plus travel and conference expenses.

Dr. Harrington is the coordinator of the Student Success course at MCC, which introduces new students to college life and helps them become successful. The class covers time management, using college resources, motivation, studying, and many other facets of going to college. It focuses on getting to know the college, as well as personal and academic success factors.

"Christine is an excellent professor – she is very deserving of this recognition," said David Edwards, dean of Arts and Sciences, who nominated Dr. Harrington for the award. "She has become a real leader in the pedagogy of helping students transition. She's done wonderful work in adapting our Student Success program to mirror new advancements in the field. She's outstanding. She never stops thinking about how to better serve our students."

Dr. Harrington is the author of "Student Success in College: Doing What Works!" and she uses some of the royalties from the book to fund a scholarship for students. Each year, she invites those taking Student Success 101 classes to create posters summarizing research findings from a peer-reviewed journal article. Three are chosen each December and are honored at a ceremony.

Dr. Harrington said she was thrilled to be selected as the recipient of the McGraw-Hill Excellence in Teaching First-Year Seminars Award.

"The first-year seminar is such an important course that is offered at almost every institution," she said. "I am honored to have the opportunity to work with students at the beginning of their college journey. Watching students gain knowledge, skills and confidence is incredibly rewarding. When you teach this course, you are a part of a national effort to help students make successful transitions. Being a part of the FYE community is really something special."



Who Knew Leadership Training Could be This Much Fun?

About 40 students engaged in the first of a series of leadership workshops offered this spring in a collaborative effort by Student Activities, Career Services, Democracy House and Admissions. First on the agenda were ice breakers.

Arts & Sciences Festival Set for April

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"Why Should I Care? The Impact of Big Agribusiness on Our Health and the Health of the Planet," Alexandra Fields, Crabiell Hall, Amboy Room, 12:30 p.m.

Monday, April 25

"Fish Tales" Mathew Spano will read from his own published fish tales as well as others. Crabiell Hall, Amboy Room, 2 p.m.

Tuesday, April 26

"Demography and Presidential Elections" Andrew Dzurisin, Crabiell Hall, Brunswick Room, 2 p.m.

Wednesday, April 27

"Myths for Moderns: Classic Tales for Contemporary Concerns" The students in the Honors Mythology in Literature class. Mathew Spano, College Center, 319/321, 11 a.m.

Thursday, April 28

"Henrietta, Who?" Participants will explore racism, classism and ethics within the medical community.

Alexandra Fields, College Center Gallery, 11 a.m.

"Encounters: Tales of Love and Conflict" Enjoy a program of curated plays written by MCC students.

Benjamin Marshall, College Center Gallery, 2 p.m.

"Final Round of Speech Competition" Students in the Fundamentals of Public Speaking class participate in the final round of the speech competition.

Crabiell Hall, Brunswick Room, 6 p.m.

April 30-May 2

"Dance Concert" Enjoy a program of dance pieces performed and choreographed by the MCC Dance Ensemble. Aimee Mitacchione, Performing Arts Center, Saturday, April 30, 7 p.m. & Sunday, May 1, 2 p.m. Free with a \$5 suggested donation.