

Nassau Community College Nexus

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Where Success Starts...And Continues

Fall 2003

NCC Continuing Education Programs Expand to Meet the Needs of the Community

Over 15,000 Traditional and Non-Traditional Students Participate

Nassau Community College takes pride in working in partnership with the community to meet the ever-changing needs of Long Island's population. A major part of that ongoing effort is an innovative department called Community Services. Community Services at Nassau is comprised of four main sections: the Office of Continuing Education, The English Language Institute (ELI), Special Programs for Business, and Corporate Credit Programs. It's also the home of the College's expanding Weekend Learning Program. Founded in 1976 and still currently headed by Dr. James Polo, the department serves over 15,000 traditional and non-traditional students each year—over and above the 21,000 full- and part-time traditional (for credit) students studying at NCC. Through the years, Community Services has evolved from a department that offered mostly non-credit "personal interest" course into one with a multifaceted professional and personal education curriculum.

Among the myriad of programs offered through Community Services, continuing education courses are perhaps the most well known. At NCC, continuing education involves much more than the stereotypical adult education class. With more than 250 classes available, there is a course for almost every interest—from Introduction to CorelDraw 8.0, to Advanced Songwriting Workshop, to Basic Conversational French. These non-credit courses are affordable and offered at times convenient to the schedules of busy adults.

The English Language Institute at Nassau provides over 1,000 students with a preparatory course in the English language to enable them to better comprehend their



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NCC Math Professor Edward Hom teaches computer applications to employees in Verizon's "Next Step" program. From left: Booker T. Hucks, Jr., Kevin Buckout, Prof. Hom, and Laura Porter-Lopez.

coursework. This program is especially valuable considering the influx of non-English speaking students to Long Island. Their increased proficiency enables students not only to excel in the classroom, but also to become more efficient and productive employees who contribute to the workplace.

The Special Programs for Business section of Community Services is just that—courses tailored specifically for the needs of businesses based on Long Island. Verizon and Cablevision are among the companies that have taken advantage of this unique training program. NCC faculty teach practical supervisory, communications, motivational and computer topics to employees on campus

as well as at company sites. Louise Rotchford, Assistant Dean for Community Services and Director of Special Programs for Business, manages this area of the department.

Employers realize that in order to compete in today's marketplace, their staff must be better educated and maintain their skill levels. Many of these companies choose NCC for its academic excellence, affordability and range of degree and certificate programs. Corporate Credit Programs, overseen by Assistant Dean Paula Setteducatti, is the area of Community Services dedicated to providing corporations and smaller businesses with credit and degree bearing programs for their most valuable resource—their

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NCC Professor Patti Tana

Nominated for Pulitzer Prize



Patti Tana, Professor of English at NCC, has been nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in Poetry. Her book, *Make Your Way Across This Bridge: New & Selected Writings* (Whittier

Publications, 2003), a collection of new poems and selections from her five earlier books, has been accepted for consideration by The Pulitzer Prize Board. In addition to teaching at Nassau, Tana is Coordinator of the College's Creative Writing Project. Tana is also the associate editor of the *Long Island Quarterly* and has served on the editorial boards of the *Hiram Poetry Review* and *Espirit: A Humanities Magazine*.

Columbia University awards Pulitzer Prizes in Letters annually to American authors for a distinguished book of poetry, fiction, non-fiction, drama, biography or autobiography, and the history of the United States. Books are submitted for consideration by their publishers. Prizewinners will be announced in the spring of 2004.

Nassau Community College Expands Weekend Learning Option

Flexible Schedule Makes it Easier to Attend NCC On Weekends

As part of its continuing effort to make higher education available to students of all ages and lifestyles, Nassau Community College has expanded its Weekend Learning Option. Several additional courses have been added to the schedule for the fall 2003 semester, including higher-level courses. Busy professional adults can now take many different types of courses—from Anatomy & Physiology, to Desktop Publishing, to Psychology of the Exceptional Child—and complete their studies in a number of ways. Under the Expanded Weekend Learning Option, classes are offered for one day each week. One option is Friday evening study

for a full semester of 14 sessions. Students can also attend classes for an entire semester solely on Saturday or Sunday, either in the morning or the afternoon. Finally, in a new alternative just begun this fall, individuals can choose an accelerated option in which they attend class for a longer period of time during either half of the semester, in that way completing their coursework in half the time.

For more information about Nassau's Expanded Weekend Learning Option, contact the Office of Admissions at 516-572-7345 or the Office of Continuing Education at 516-572-7472.

NCC Continuing Education Programs

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employees. Courses offered through the program are available on campus as well as at a company's site, provided class enrollment is sufficient.

NCC faculty bring the College to the community through the Community Services Department's Extension Site program. At eight local high schools and middle schools, evening credit courses are offered in a variety of subjects, from Beginning Spanish, to History of Western Civilization, to Medical Terminology, as well as many others.

Acknowledging the need for flexible schedules, Community Services offers weekend learning undergraduate classes. This option provides individuals with an opportunity to work on an accredited certificate program or a two-year

associates degree program in arts or sciences entirely on the weekends. The course content in the classes is the same as those offered during the week. Another alternative within the weekend learning program is an intensive accelerated option in which students can choose to complete an entire semester's work in essentially half the time.

In addition to the areas of concentration mentioned above, the Community Services Department operates several programs designed to meet the academic needs of specialized populations. It maintains NCC's General Equivalency Diploma (GED) testing site, which is the largest New York State approved testing site on Long Island. Test preparation and brush-up courses for the SATs, the New York State

mandated LAST exam for future teachers, and other approved continuing education professional courses are also available through the department. College placement preparatory classes are provided as well. Developmentally disabled adults who have completed a secondary education can pursue life skills in courses offered through Special Programs for Living, which is also operated by Community Services.

Community Services at Nassau is a dynamic department striving to meet the needs of its' students. It is at the forefront of adapting education to the demands of the 21st century. For information about the courses offered through the Community Services Department, call 516-572-7487, 572-7488, or 572-7489.

Nassau Community College Names Craig Wright Associate V.P. for Academic Student Services

Nassau Community College has named Craig Wright Associate Vice President for Academic Student Services. Wright began working in his position on July 1. "I am excited about Craig joining our team. He has an exceptional educational and work history that complements the goals and objectives of Student Affairs," said Kenneth Saunders, Vice President of Student Affairs.

Wright has over 16 years of experience as a higher education student services administrator. He served as the Director of Student Development/Affairs at the New York Institute of Technology (NYIT) from 1988 to 1996. In 1996, Wright joined the State University of New York (SUNY) at Old Westbury, where he subsequently held the positions of Director of Student Activities, Interim Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, Dean of Students, and Acting Vice President for Student Affairs.

In addition to his professional service, Wright has participated in several committees involving higher education. Among the SUNY-wide committees he has served on are: the Admissions Directors Council, the Judicial Affairs Officers Committee, the Chief Student Affairs Council and the Personal Safety Committee.

Wright obtained a Master of Science in labor industrial relations from NYIT, and a Bachelor of Arts in political science from Cheyeny University of Pennsylvania. He is currently pursuing a doctorate in pastoral community counseling.

As a testament to his commitment to education, Wright has been the recipient of several awards, including the SUNY Old Westbury Student Government Association's Excellence in Leadership Award, NYIT's President's Outstanding Service Award, and the J.A.M. Youth Outreach Outstanding Service Award. He has also been



awarded numerous citations from town, county and state officials.

Wright is excited at the prospect of his new position at Nassau. "I am looking forward to working with the students, faculty and staff at NCC," he said. "I have always been impressed by the quality of service that Nassau offers its students."

NCC to Host 2003 American Heart Walk



Back Row: Evelyn R. Comer, NCC; Craig Wright, NCC; Vice President Kenneth Saunders, NCC; Reginald Tuggle, NCC Seated: Dr. Sean A. Fanelli, President, NCC and American Heart Walk Vice-Chair; Richard Turan, Island-wide American Heart Walk Honoree and Chief Executive Officer of Nassau Health Care Corp.; Carol M. Croston, NCC Honoree.

Nassau Community College is proud to be the official Nassau County site for the 2003 American Heart Walk. This year, the Long Island Honorary Chair is Richard Turan, Chief Executive Officer of the Nassau Health Care Corporation. The College will be walking in honor of Carol M. Croston of the Biology Department. Carol will also be serving as the Red Cap Ambassador for this year's walk. Red Caps are distributed to the survivors of heart attack and stroke.

Last year, the American Heart Walk's most successful one to date, over 200 members of the Nassau Community College family participated in the walk, raising over \$18,000. Approximately 4,000 walkers from all areas of Nassau County raised a total of over \$200,000 for research and education to prevent heart disease, American's number one killer.

Please join Co-Chairs Reginald Tuggle and Evelyn Comer, along with the rest of the NCC team, at the Sunday, October 26, 2003 American Heart Walk on the campus of Nassau Community College.

Prof. Mary Cay Ardise, Reading and Basic Education, was awarded the Outstanding Service to Students Award by the New York College Learning Skills Association. Prof. Ardise is a learning disabilities specialist in the Basic Education program.

Prof. Bob Axel, Art, displayed his work at the following galleries: Southern Light Gallery; Westside Gallery, School of Visual Arts, New York; Soho Photo Gallery, New York; Annual Juried Photography Competition, Smithtown, New York; Center for the Visual Arts, Wausau.

Prof. Denise Broadhurst and Prof. Steven Rosenhaus, Music, have been chosen as American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers (ASCAP) award recipients this year. The awards are based upon the unique prestige value of each writer's catalog of original compositions, as well as recent performances in areas not surveyed by the Society.

Profs. Sandra Carrion, Larry Chatterton, Bernice Halpern Cutler, Susan Dooley, Kristin Holcomb, Susan Kravitz, Rob Toedter and Lois Youmans, Art, will all display photographs at the inaugural exhibition at foto foto Gallery in Huntington. The photos will be available for viewing Oct. 10 through Nov. 2.

Prof. Evelyn Deluty, Philosophy, was given the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Dr. Sally Ann Drucker, English, received a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities to attend a summer institute titled "Women Writing—Venice, London, Paris—1550-1700," held at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in July.

Dr. Arthur Friedman, Library, received an Ed.D. in Educational Administration, Leadership and Technology from Dowling College. In November, he will become president of the New York Library Association.

Dr. Mark Halfon, Philosophy, wrote a book entitled *Integrity: A Philosophical Inquiry*, which is referenced extensively in Stanford University's *Encyclopedia of Philosophy*.

Prof. Susan Kravitz, Art, will exhibit more than 20 of her black and white panoramic photographs at the Media Center in the Port Washington Library in a show entitled "Intersections: A Suburban Panorama." The exhibit will run in November and December.

Prof. Gerald Leibowitz, Library, was elected to the Office of Trustee at the North Babylon Public Library.

Prof. Jack Mandel, Marketing and Retailing, provided expert commentary on a News 12 Long Island segment which focused on the 2003 back-to-school sales tax abatement week. Prof. Mandel also wrote an article entitled "Give Your Business An Identity" for the October 2003 issue of *Latin Long Island*.

Prof. Emeritus Victor Margolis, Student Personnel Services, chaired a committee of colleagues from around New York State to draft legislation to provide college students with disabilities with textbooks in electronic format. The bill was passed unanimously in both the Senate and the Assembly and is currently awaiting Governor George Pataki's signature to make it a law.

Prof. Eileen Morrison-Darren, Theatre and Dance, is the new theatre critic for the Times Ledger Newspapers of Queens. Her first review appeared in the paper in June.

Prof. Natika Newton, Philosophy, is the editor of the philosophical journal

Consciousness and Emotion. She also recently published numerous articles and book reviews.

Dr. Hugh O'Rourke, Criminal Justice, has been awarded a Fulbright grant to examine the criminal justice system on the island of St. Lucia in the Caribbean. Dr. O'Rourke also presented papers to the Hunter College Elderhostel program of the Brookdale Center for the Aging. He spoke on "The History of the Irish in New York" and "The Gangs of New York: the Real Story."

Prof. Gary Ostertag, Philosophy, is the editor of *Definite Descriptions: A Reader*, published by MIT Press.

Prof. Bob Rubin, Student Personnel Services, appeared on the Metro television show "Naked New York," hosted by Bob Berkowitz. The show revolves around issues concerning sexuality and relationships. Prof. Rubin spoke about how these issues affect college students.

Dr. Paula Wheeler-Carlo, History, Political Science and Geography, was the keynote speaker at the Huguenot Society in April in Charleston. She spoke about the education of Huguenot young people in colonial New York. She also presented papers on women's rights in the Central Queens YM/YWHA and the Syosset Public Library.

Aurora Workman, Human Resources, was a guest panelist on "Examining 21st Century Political Leadership" at the 2nd annual National Action Network Convention in April. She was also presented with the Black Women Heritage Award for her community service at the African American Museum by the Fannie Lou Hamer Political Action Committee.

Note: All members of the College community are invited to send articles pertaining to their professional and community activities to Nexus for inclusion on a space availability basis. For more information, call Gail Ignacio or Alicia Steger, Editor, at the College Relations Office at 572-9634 or 572-7249.

Nassau Community College Offers New AS Degree in Photography

New York State Education Department and SUNY Approves Program

There's a new degree program at Nassau Community College this fall. The Art Department now offers an associates (AS) degree in photography designed, according to Art Department Chair Professor Susan Kravitz, "to provide students with a better foundation in photography and enable them to transfer into a BFA or BA program at a four-year institution with greater ease than before."

Prior to the new program, students could graduate with a certificate in photography but were not able obtain a degree in it. Eleven courses are offered at present, covering techniques in such subjects as electronic imaging, large format photography, digital technology and photojournalism. This intense concentration in advanced photographic procedures also helps students to build a more in-depth portfolio, which is, of course, a major factor in admission to a BFA program, as well as in future employment opportunities.

Nassau currently has articulation agreements with four schools for this degree program: the School of Visual Arts in New York City, Long Island University at C.W. Post, SUNY College at New Paltz and SUNY Purchase. Credits earned at the College will in most cases transfer to these institutions, provided students meet the individual school's GPA and portfolio review criteria.

The variety of courses offered isn't the only strong point of NCC's new



© William Baker Photography

Professor Kravitz demonstrates the effective use of electronic strobe in studio photography.

photography program. "We are very fortunate to have one of the best faculty and one of the finest photo facilities in the

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***Art Dept Chair,
Professor Susan Kravitz***

metropolitan area," said Professor Kravitz. The art department has been the recipient

of several Perkins grants to incorporate the latest in digital photography and other technological advancements into the school's photography course offerings.

In addition to participating in on-campus classes, if they're qualified, students may also avail themselves of photography internships, working at *Newsday* or other publications, as well as with professional fine art photographers, in galleries or with commercial photo studios. Such internships have greatly assisted new professional photographers when they begin their careers.

The faculty of the Art department is excited about its new degree offering. For more information about the photography degree, contact Art Department Chair Professor Susan Kravitz at 516-572-7162 or Photography Program Coordinator Professor Sue Dooley at 516-572-8041.

Nassau Community College Cultral Program Presents “IN THE NEWS”

How the FBI Failed to Stop the 9/11 Attacks

Peter Lance, Tues., Oct. 21 at 2:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. In his recently published book, *1000 Years for Revenge: International Terrorism and the FBI*, Emmy Award-winning journalist Peter Lance offers a chilling chronicle of “the greatest failure of intelligence since the Trojan horse.”

Iraq: Debacle or Success?

Timothy M. Phelps, Wed., Nov. 12 at 12:30 p.m. *Newsday* Bureau Chief Tim Phelps covers the Middle East from the D.C. perspective.

Online Music Piracy And What to Do About It

Terry Fisher, Mon. Nov. 17 at 2:00 p.m. Harvard Law School Professor Terry Fisher will discuss the problems associated with downloading music files from the Internet and propose a solution for the recording industry’s legal problems.

Balancing Freedom and Security: A Debate on Civil Liberties in Post 9/11 America

Ron Kuby vs. Ruth Wedgwood, Wed., Dec. 3 at 2:00 p.m. Outspoken attorney and WABC radio talk show host Ron Kuby debates Ruth Wedgwood, Johns Hopkins International Law Professor and United States member of the United Nations Human Rights Committee.

The NCC Cultural program is free and open to the public. All programs will be held in the Nassau Community College College Center Building. For further information please contact Prof. Phyllis Kurland at 516-572-7153.

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