

The Official Newsletter of

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE

nexus

YOUR  
COLLEGE  
CONNECTION

www.ncc.edu

Where Success Starts...and Continues

Summer 2009

# NASSAU MAKES WAVES

## OPENS NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART DIGITAL AUDIO PRODUCTION LAB



NCC Communications Prof. Peter Euler explains some of the features of the broadcast console to a student in the new digital audio production lab.

**A** NEW, STATE-OF-THE-ART DIGITAL AUDIO PRODUCTION LAB OPENED ON CAMPUS THIS SPRING. FUNDED BY A PERKINS GRANT AND OTHER college sources, the \$250,000 lab contains equipment and software that meet current industry standards. In it, students can approximate what they would be doing if they were working in a professional audio production lab, according to Prof. Anissa Moore, Chair of the Communications Department, which oversees the lab.

A soundproof audio room is part of the production facilities, as is an audio booth

that includes a console. In the lab, students can use software called “Pro Tools” that allows them to mix sound effects and voiceovers. The digital audio production lab was designed specifically for broadcast radio use.

Prof. Susan Kravitz, Dean of Arts and Humanities, sees the new audio production lab as a sign of things to come. “I am truly excited about the recent opening of our radio production lab in South Hall. Computers, monitors and software are industry standard, providing students with the opportunity to work with professional

sound equipment that they will encounter in several media-related fields. Next, we look forward to the development of additional radio production courses and a new degree-related program in the Communications Department,” she said.

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**NCC**  
NASSAU  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE

# A Message From the President

## KEEPING THE NCC CONNECTION

by Dr. Sean A. Fanelli



**W**HEN IT COMES TO NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE, WE TRY TO NEVER LOSE OUR NEXUS.

Now, of course, that means that we continue to keep open the lines of communication by reporting to the campus community and to the broader community in our region and our State on the innovative programs offered by the college and the accomplishments of our students, faculty and staff in a variety of ways, including through *Nexus*.

But, more than that, we strive never lose our nexus – our connection – to the college and the mission that it serves.

For our students, that connection is realized when, through their hard work and their interactions with their fellow students and their professors, they become part of a vibrant learning community. That connection is further reinforced as our students participate in campus-based clubs and other extracurricular activities and come to a fuller appreciation of how their individual efforts are given even greater meaning and impact through their collective efforts.

For our faculty and staff, it is their privilege and responsibility to connect the mission of the college to the students and community that we serve. In face of today's economic difficulties, fulfilling the mission of community colleges is more essential than ever. More and more families are relying on community colleges to be a pathway to high quality, affordable higher education. In addition, all levels of government are relying on community colleges to play a

crucial role in educating and re-tooling the human infrastructure that is essential for sustained economic growth. Fulfilling this mission is possible only through the dedicated efforts of our faculty and staff.

Finally, it is fitting at this time of year and in light of just having graduated our 50<sup>th</sup> class from Nassau Community College that we send our best wishes to our alumni, new and old, and urge them to maintain their connection to the college. Come back and see the enhancements to our campus, including the newly

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**“We should strive never to lose our nexus—our connection to the college and the mission that it serves.”**

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renovated plaza area. And if you are a recent graduate, we hope that as you look forward to embarking on a career or pursuing further educational opportunities, you never let go of what you've learned and whom you met...and stay connected.



## MICHAEL FREEMAN, ESQ. APPOINTED TO THE NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**M**ichael M. Freeman, Esq. was appointed to the Board of Trustees of Nassau Community College by New York State Governor David Paterson. Freeman began his term in February. “I am thrilled to have the opportunity to serve on the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees. I hope that my tenure on the Board will permit me to assist in providing the college with innovative and creative ideas to move NCC to its rightful standing among the leaders in education amongst community colleges in the United States,” said Freeman. Dr. Sean A. Fanelli, president of Nassau Community College, welcomes Freeman to the Board. “NCC has achieved distinction for its academic excellence, the foundation of which stands on a three-legged stool: an outstanding and dedicated faculty, a motivated student body and a Board of Trustees dedicated to the task of creating policies designed to promote innovation and academic prominence,” he said. “Mr. Freeman’s interests and background will certainly be advantageous to the Board,” continued Dr. Fanelli. Since 1972, Michael Freeman has been an active litigator primarily specializing in matrimonial, commercial and real estate matters. He is admitted to practice in the Federal District Courts of the Eastern and Southern districts of the State of New York. Currently a partner in the law firm of Hymowitz and Freeman, Freeman was previously law secretary to Justice Julian S. Greenspan of the Supreme Court of Kings County and a senior trial attorney for the Legal Aid Society of the City of New York. He is a member of the New York State Trial Lawyer’s Association and the New York State Bar Association.

Freeman served as a member of the Nassau County Board of Assessors and an instructor in the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law (Yeshiva University) Intensive Trial Advocacy Program. He has also volunteered for the American Cancer Society, the Muscular Dystrophy Society and the Manhasset Student Aid Society, which provides scholarships for underprivileged college students. Freeman and his wife Barbara live in Manhasset. They have two grown children.

# GET A HEAD START ON COLLEGE WITH NCC'S

## Freshman Orientation



Freshman Orientation at NCC covers a lot of ground, literally and figuratively. Literally, one important part of orientation is familiarizing incoming students with Nassau's campus—all of its 47 buildings and 225 acres. Students participate in a walking tour of campus led by student freshman orientation leaders (trained ahead of time) who may be called upon during the year to give tours to give additional prospective students and parents. During the tour, students are shown classroom buildings and other significant campus facilities. They also have their ID photos taken.

Figuratively, Freshman Orientation at Nassau is a "how-to" guide about being a successful NCC student. Staff members from many walks of college life, including Career and Educational Counseling, Student Activities, Health Services and Public Safety, tell students about their services. Those with common

group needs, such as mature students, or those with disabilities or certain subject majors, are grouped together and given an additional hour of orientation. Parents of incoming freshmen are invited to an "orientation" session with an NCC counselor and the college's president in early September. They also receive a "Parents' Guide" with helpful tips about the needs and changing lives of their young adult college students.

Freshman Orientation is organized by the Student Activities Office of the Student Personnel Services Department. "Freshman Orientation is a wonderful way to begin your college career. All NCC students should take advantage of it," said Prof. Phyllis Kurland, Coordinator of Student Activities. Staffers there estimate that thousands of students have participated in orientation over the years.

As a whole, orientation takes place over three days, with three four-hour

sessions each day, including lunch with the president. In August, all incoming students receive a letter inviting them to one of these sessions.

Students who take part in Freshman Orientation have the initial exposure to their fellow classmates that can smooth their transition into college life. Many of these students ultimately become friends.

In addition to Freshman Orientation, Nassau hosts a Welcome Back party for students during the first club hour of every semester and a Student Activities Fair, during which many of the major student clubs provide information about their groups.

Orientation for this fall will take place on August 24, 25 and 26 at 9:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. each day. For more information about Freshman Orientation, call 516.572.7148 or visit [www.ncc.edu/freshmanorientation](http://www.ncc.edu/freshmanorientation).



### Freshman Orientation at Nassau Community College

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday  
August 24, 25 & 26  
9:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m.  
and 6:00 p.m. each day  
Meet at Building G

\*For more information see your invitation letter that will arrive in August.



## HARENDRA SINGH APPOINTED TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AT NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Harendra Singh has been appointed to the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees by New York Governor David Paterson. Singh began his term on May 12. "We are glad that Mr. Singh has joined the Board and brings to it his experience in the business

community in ways that can enhance NCC's ability to serve our students' academic and career goals," said NCC President Dr. Sean Fanelli. According to Singh, he "looks forward to being an advocate for the College, which has helped so many people."

"It's a wonderful resource for the community," he added.

Harendra Singh is a successful businessman who, after managing the operations of ten restaurants and opening his own restaurant, began to work on the business model of what is today the flagship of Singh Hospitality Group: HR Singletons Classic American Grille, a restaurant, banquet and conference facility in Bethpage.

Singh Hospitality Group also owns and operates the Woodlands in Woodbury. The company owns nine properties in all, including Thom Thom Steak and Seafood, the Delano Mansion, and most recently the Water's Edge facility in Long Island City. Singh, who lives in Laurel Hollow, is also active in international charitable organizations.

# STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS



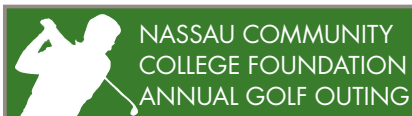
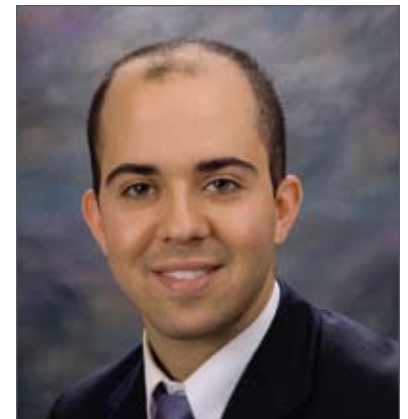
## Janet Dillon is Nassau Community College's 2009 Student Trustee

While Janet Dillon, who has been elected NCC's Student Trustee for the 2009-2010 academic year, is not the traditional college student, she can be classified as a traditional "non-traditional" community college student. The Williston Park resident and graduate from Hollywood Hills High School first took classes at NCC in 1993. During the intervening years, she took a course here or there and went to work for the New York City Fire Department as an emergency medical technician, but didn't officially "go back to school" until 2007. The Childhood Education major is currently continuing her education in the hopes of more professional opportunity. Why was Janet interested in running for Student Trustee? "I enjoy college life and feel like I can bring an adult perspective to the position. I kind of wear two hats—that of a parent and that of a student," said Janet, a mother of five children and step-children, ages two through 21. She hopes to be an advocate for the students on the Board. Janet is having a very good experience at Nassau and would like the same for future traditional and non-traditional students. She believes that all

students should get involved in college life. President of the Human Relations Society and a member of the National Honor Society, Janet hopes to get a bachelor's and master's degree in special education and eventually work with special education for ESL students.

## Gary Jacobelli Named Valedictorian for the Class of 2009

Gary Jacobelli will be the first to tell you that he was a less-than-serious student in high school. After graduating from Mephram High School in Bellmore in 2002, financial and other issues kept Gary from immediately continuing his education. By the summer of 2007, he had some money and plenty of motivation to return to school. Enter Nassau Community College. Gary was pleasantly surprised by what he ended up calling "a magical place." His professors helped him focus his energies on what became his passion for science—particularly medicine. While earning mostly As in challenging courses, Gary found the time to be a volunteer EMT and president of the NCC Earth Science Field and Research Club. He also assists in ongoing neuroscience research at the Queens College Neuroscience lab. He's a recipient of SUNY Chancellor's, Who's Who and Student Activities awards, as well as a member of the honor society. This fall he will begin studies at Cornell University. His intention is to major in nutritional and biological sciences at Cornell and then move on to graduate and medical school.



NASSAU COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE FOUNDATION  
ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

SEPTEMBER 22, 2009  
MEADOW BROOK CLUB  
JERICHO, NEW YORK

### For more information, please contact:

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Office of Development  
One Education Drive  
Garden City, NY 11530-6793  
516.572.8972  
or e-mail [development@ncc.edu](mailto:development@ncc.edu)

## Celebrating 50 Years of Success



On May 28, Nassau Community College celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with over 450 people at a gala at Carlyle on the Green. The event raised nearly \$200,000. Proceeds will support the NCC Foundation scholarship program and endowment.

**From left to right are the gala's honorees:** Paul Fleishman, VP, Public Affairs, *Newsday*; Janet D'Addario, Board Pres., Providence House, Board Member, Long Island Cares (Class of '69); James D'Addario, CEO, D'Addario & Company Inc., (Class of '69); Dr. Sean Fanelli, President, NCC; Corrine Paston, Community Leader, (Class of '68); Jack Bransfield, Pres., Roslyn Savings Bank, Division of New York Community Bancorp, Inc. & Pres., Roslyn Savings Foundation.

These individuals were recognized for their outstanding service and commitment to the Long Island community.

# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2009!

Nearly 10,000 people gathered at Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum on May 20 for the 2009 Nassau Community College graduation. NCC President Dr. Sean A. Fanelli addressed those assembled, congratulated the graduates and their families, offered his advice to them and cited examples of graduates he felt were especially indicative of this year's class. He especially focused on the fifty-year tradition of excellence the college is celebrating in 2009. Nassau County Executive Tom Suozzi also attended the ceremony and congratulated this year's graduates.

This year, there were 3,161 graduates and graduate candidates, one of the largest number of graduates and candidates for a community college in the State of New York. Among them were 637 candidates with honors. Graduates ranged in age from 18 to 68; the average age was 26.

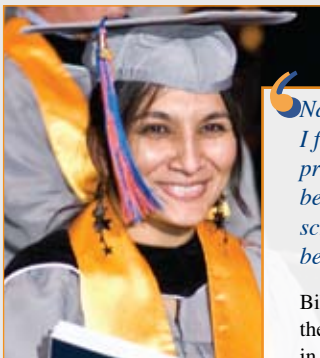
During his speech, class valedictorian Gary Jacobelli recalled how inspirational his late grandmother was to him. Gary advised those listening to him to follow his grandmother's example and "pay it forward," by making their lives extraordinary while maintaining their compassion.



Dr. Sean A. Fanelli, President of Nassau Community College, addresses the Class of 2009.

Dr. Fanelli closed his speech by echoing a sentiment mentioned by first lady Michelle Obama during a speech at the University of California. The first lady urged the graduates, "When times get tough and fear sets in, think of those people who have paved the way for you and those who are counting on you to pave the way for them. ... You are the hope of our nation." Stated Dr. Fanelli: "The real measure of your success will be how well you helped others to achieve success."

## GRADUATE HIGHLIGHTS



**BIBI AMIN**

*"Nassau was so affordable, and I felt that the quality of the professors was just as good if not better than that at any four-year school. They went above and beyond their responsibilities."*

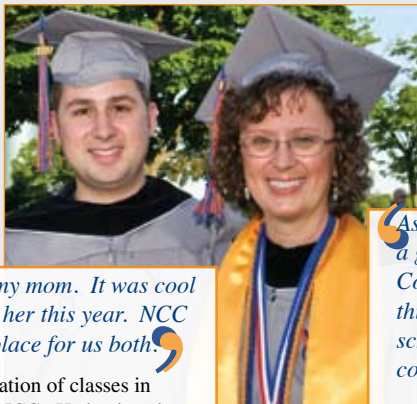
Bibi will attend Queens College in the fall. She hopes to pursue a career in law.



**JENNIFER BRAND**

*"NCC helped me discover the person I truly am. It gave me direction I didn't have before, and for that I'm extremely grateful."*

Jennifer has been accepted into Cornell, Columbia and the NYU-Stern School of Business. She hopes to pursue a career in economics.



**FRAN TROTTER**

*"As a returning student, I had a great experience at Nassau Community College. People thinking of going back to school should definitely consider Nassau."*

Fran will be continuing her education at Stony Brook University in the fall.

**AJ TROTTER**

*"I'm so proud of my mom. It was cool to graduate with her this year. NCC was the perfect place for us both."*

AJ took a concentration of classes in criminal justice at NCC. He begins classes at SUNY-Old Westbury in the fall.

**LATASHA BREWSTER**

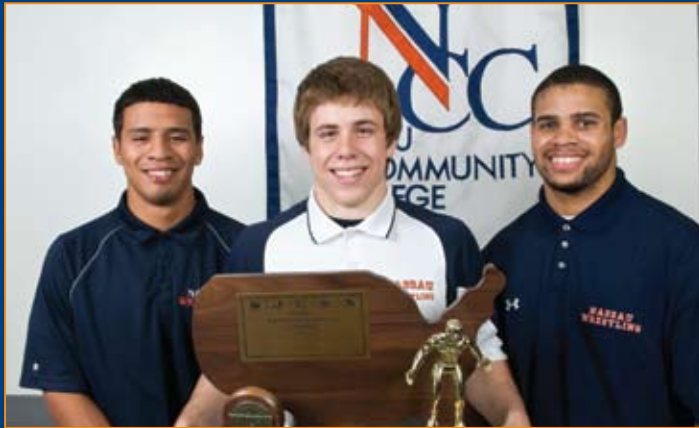


*"Especially appreciated how caring the faculty were. I believe NCC is a great community college because it has prepared me for a four-year school."*

Latasha will attend Queens College this fall and hopes to go into the field of exercise physiology.

# SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

## NCC WRESTLING TEAM Wins Second Consecutive National Title



NCC Wrestlers Eduardo Delgado, Tom Rispoli and Tyshaun Patrick hold the NJCAA National Championship trophy.

The Nassau Community College wrestling team won its second consecutive National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Div III national championship this year. Nassau had two national finalists: Ricardo Gomez and Bobby Ward, who both finished second. Tom Rispoli, Eduardo Delgado and Brandon Williamson all earned All-American honors. In addition, Rispoli and Ward were named as NJCAA Academic All-Americans. Kudos to all the other members of the team (Silas Murray, Tyshaun Patrick, Pat Bell, Jesus Cartenga and Eric Roehrig) for their fine accomplishments.

## Prof. Paul Schmidt NJCAA Coach of the Year for the Second Consecutive Year



Congratulations to Prof. Paul Schmidt, head coach of the wrestling team, on being voted Coach of the Year for the second year in a row by his peers in the NJCAA. Prof. Schmidt teaches in the Criminal Justice department and is also the Fire Science Coordinator at Nassau. He was assisted by Vougar Oroudjov, Sam Thomas and Tyshawn Scarlett. All are to be commended for a job well done.

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## PREPARING STUDENTS FOR CAREERS IN A GROWING FIELD

The Communications Department at Nassau serves approximately 3,000 students a semester. The department currently offers Associate in Arts degrees in three areas: Communication Arts, Media, and American Sign Language. It currently offers one course in radio production. Communications is in the process of developing degree programs in broadcasting and radio. This development is quite timely, because according to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook Handbook (2008-09 Edition), community colleges, technical schools or other college training in broadcast technology provide the best training for those wishing to pursue an occupation in this varied field.

The handbook projects that many positions in broadcast technology are expected to grow faster than the rest of the economy. Among the jobs in broadcast technology are broadcast technician, recording engineer, sound mixer and program director. Those in such related professions as on-air personalities, copywriters and radio news reporters are also often cognizant of audio production techniques.

Nassau Community College also operates a radio station, WHPC (90.3 FM), which is on the air 24 hours a day. WHPC broadcasts some college courses, as well as news, interviews and music. It's staffed by professionals as well as students and other volunteers who are tested for their voice quality when they apply. The Communications Department believes the



newly opened lab will increase the pool of qualified students able to and interested in providing service to the "voice of NCC," said Prof. Moore.

The new digital radio production lab at Nassau Community College reflects the college's ongoing efforts to provide students with the excellent education and technological proficiency they need to build their careers in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

## DR. PHILIP Y. NICHOLSON NAMED DISTINGUISHED TEACHING PROFESSOR BY SUNY

NCC is pleased to announce that Dr. Philip Y. Nicholson, a professor of history, has been granted by the State University of New York (SUNY) Board of Trustees the honor of “Distinguished Teaching Professorship” as a result of his extraordinary professional service. The Distinguished Teaching Professorship recognizes mastery of teaching. Candidates must have demonstrated consistently superior mastery of teaching, outstanding service to students and commitment to their ongoing professional growth, as well as adherence to rigorous academic standards. Dr. Nicholson is one of only 16 professors statewide to attain this honor in 2009.

“SUNY faculty who receive appointment to the rank of distinguished teaching professor are nationally- and internationally-recognized scholars and scientists of the highest academic distinction,” said SUNY Vice Chancellor and Officer-in-Charge John J. O’Connor. In addition to the selection criteria, Distinguished Teaching Professors must



have held the rank of full professor for five years, have three years of full-time service at the nominating institution and have completed at least ten years of full-time service for SUNY.

## 2009 ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING FACULTY ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to those Nassau Community College professors who were recipients of the 2009 Academic Affairs Awards for Outstanding Faculty Achievement (AAOFA), formerly the Distinguished Faculty Achievement Awards. The AAOFA awards were instituted to recognize outstanding scholarship and professional accomplishments among full- and part-time members of the college faculty.



**2009 AAOFA Winners** (From L to R): Seated – **Dr. Faren Siminoff**, History/Political Science/Geography; **Dr. Ronna Feit**, Foreign Languages; **Prof. Marsha Spiegelman**, Library. Standing – **Dr. Jack Ostling**, V.P., Academic Affairs; **Dr. Ricardo Santos**, English; **Dr. Paula Wheeler Carlo**, History/Political Science/Geography; **Prof. Joseph Pescatore**, Marketing/Retailing/Fashion; **Dr. William Moeck**, English; **Prof. Roseanne Scarpelli**, Marketing/Retailing/Fashion; **Dr. Richard Glass**, Mathematics/Computer Science/Information Technology; **Prof. Susan Kravitz**, Dean, Arts and Humanities.

## FACULTY/STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

**Prof. Lisa Bastiaans, Physical Sciences**, was selected to participate with the SUNY-Oswego team in Vortex 2. The SUNY-Oswego team will be one of the teams launching radiosondes (an instrument package carried up by a balloon) near tornados.

**Dr. Carmelle Bellefleur, Nursing**, has had an article accepted for publication in the *Journal of The Black Nurses Association*. The article, entitled “Minority Nursing Students: Strategy for Retention,” will appear in the July issue of the journal.

**Prof. Mark Halfon, Mathematics, Computer Science and Information Technology**, was interviewed by Mark Schwab of WTAM, the radio station of the Cleveland Indians, about his book *Can a Dead Man Strike Out?*.

**Dr. Beverly Harrison, Human Resources, Labor Relations**, is the new president of the LI Chapter of the Labor and Employment Relations Association (LERA). At LERA, professionals interested in all aspects of labor and employment relations network to share ideas and learn about new developments, issues and practices in the field.

**Prof. Jack Mandel, Marketing/Retailing/Fashion**, was a speaker at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Small Business Month, held at Half Hollow Hills Community Library. His topic was “How to Start a Part-Time or Full-Time Consulting Practice.” He also wrote an article titled “Acing the Personal Interview” for *Aspire* magazine.

**Reginald Tuggle, Marketing and Communications**, was presented with the Jack Rettaliata Lifetime Achievement Award by PRPLI, Public Relations Professionals of Long Island. The award is presented to an industry leader who has helped shape the public relations landscape on Long Island.

**Dr. Joseph Varacalli, Sociology, and the Center for Catholic Studies** he directs, were featured in three issues of *The Long Island Catholic*. Two of the articles were about the Center’s “Catholicism and Economics” conference while the third covered the conference “Youth and the Future of the Pro-Life Movement.”

**Dr. Elizabeth Wood, Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work**, has been named book review editor for the journal *Symbolic Interaction*. She is also serving on the editorial boards of *Sexuality & Culture* and *Women’s Studies Quarterly*.

*Note: All members of the college are invited to send articles pertaining to professional and community activities for inclusion. To do so, call Marketing & Communications at 516.572.9634 or e-mail marketing-communications@ncc.edu.*

# NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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University of New York

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**This newsletter is published by:**  
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Nassau Community College  
Where Success Starts...and Continues

# FALL 2009

## REGISTRATION & APPLICATION INFORMATION

**DAY CLASSES BEGIN ON  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3**

**EVENING CLASSES BEGIN ON  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**

**WEEKEND COLLEGE BEGINS ON  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**

### **NEW APPLICATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED THROUGH AUGUST 25**

Call the Admissions Office at 516.572.7345 or check us out online: [www.ncc.edu/myncc](http://www.ncc.edu/myncc)

### **CURRENT STUDENTS MAY BE ABLE TO REGISTER ONLINE AT [WWW.NCC.EDU/BANNER](http://WWW.NCC.EDU/BANNER)**

or in person at the Registrar—Call the Registrar's Office at 516.572.7355 for more information

### **ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT**

Academic Advisement is available through the Academic Advisement Center (Building U). Please call the center at 516.572.7118 for the schedule of advisor availability for your major, or visit [www.ncc.edu/advisementschedule](http://www.ncc.edu/advisementschedule)

**CURRENT AND ADMITTED STUDENTS  
SHOULD REGISTER FOR FALL 2009 BY WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26**