

NEXUS

Nassau Community College . . . Where Success Starts

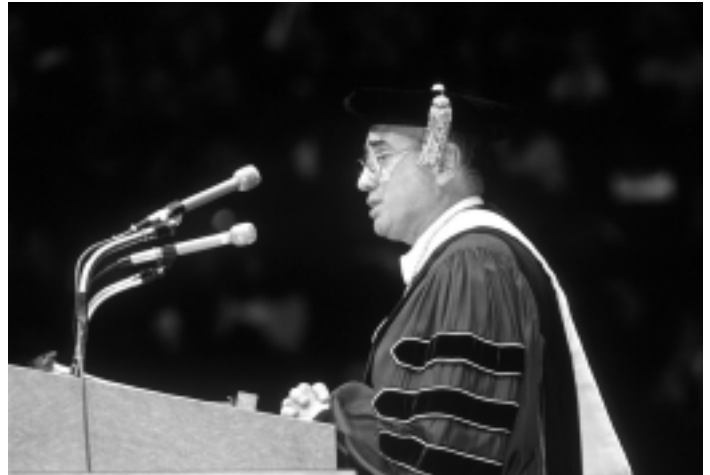
The Class of 2000

In his commencement address to the class of 2000, Dr. Sean A. Fanelli, President of Nassau Community College, said, "Our goal has been to prepare you as active, participating members of society. Toward that end, we have helped you to acquire new knowledge, but most importantly, we have taught you how to use it for the betterment of not only yourself, but of all humankind."

On Sunday, May 21, at a ceremony held at Nassau Coliseum, Dr. Fanelli spoke to an audience of over eight thousand people made up of NCC graduates, family, friends, board members, faculty, staff, and honored guests. In one of the largest graduation ceremonies on Long Island, the second largest in the nation among single campus two-year colleges, 3,247 graduated from Nassau.

With a student body of over 20,000 full- and part-time students, Nassau awards more associate degrees than all but one community college in the country. Nearly one-fifth of the graduates of the Class of 2000, graduated with honors with a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher. Graduates ranged in age from 17 to 77 years, with an average age of 27. About 75 percent of the graduates will continue their education at a four-year institution. Top academic honors went to Debra Cassidy, valedictorian.

Dr. Fanelli cited many individual stories of graduates that illustrated the courage, determination, and the dedication of this graduating class. The stories were filled with hope and inspiration to all. He spoke about many of the challenges and obstacles students faced to earn their degrees. Dr. Fanelli also had high praise for Nassau's talented and dedicated faculty.



Dr. Fanelli addresses the class of 2000

Dr. Fanelli congratulated the first class of this new century, and reminded them of their responsibility "With the acquisition of knowledge comes an awesome responsibility to use it well. With the acquisition of knowledge also comes a strong feeling of accomplishment and self worth and the recognition of the worth of all peoples. Use your newly acquired knowledge each day to make this a better world. Periodically take account of how you may have touched another's life and made it better. That is the true measure of a successful person."

Ezra Delaney Named Vice President of Administration



Ezra Delaney has been named Vice President of Administration at Nassau Community College, announced Dr. Sean A. Fanelli, President. His appointment comes as a result of a seven-month national search. Mr. Delaney has a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the State University of New York College at Purchase and a Master of Environmental Design from the Yale School of Architecture, Yale University.

For the past three years, Mr. Delaney has served as the Senior Project Manager at the New York Public Library. The New York Public Library operates 85 branch

and four research libraries, serving more than 11.4 million people every year. In his position, Mr. Delaney was responsible for \$40 million in library design and construction. In addition, he implemented design and information technology standards for all branch library construction. Some of the projects he was responsible for included several Carnegie buildings and a new library at Columbia University. Prior to working for the New York Public Library, Mr. Delaney was the Assistant Director of Capital Projects at the New Botanical Gardens, where he managed numerous capital projects throughout the Gardens' 225-acre campus. He oversaw the construction of educational facilities and service buildings, the renovation of office space and research laboratories, and all site utility improvements.

When asked what he hopes to bring to his new assignment at Nassau Community College, Mr. Delaney said, "I am delighted to be able to bring my 12 years of experience to an institution with

Nassau Community College Celebrates 40 Years of Success

by Dr. Sean A. Fanelli

In 1959, final approval was issued for the opening of Nassau Community College, and nearly 700 hundred students registered for the first day of class in the Old Court House in Mineola in 1960. At the first graduation address given by Dr. Marvin A. Rapp, Executive Dean of the College in 1962, the philosophy for the establishment of the College was stated, and to a large degree has remained so since. He said, "We would find here an exciting place for learning and doing, where the pursuit of excellence and truth in higher education among a congenial community of dedicated teachers and scholars finds its rich expression in the liberal, creative, and technical arts through an intimate consideration of individual growth and development, m a s t e r f u l teaching on campus and in classrooms, and contributions for the advancement of mankind toward the end that man will completely realize his destiny. This can be achieved by being unafraid of the traditional as of the new, by using the best of scholars...and the best from the latest scientific information of outer space."

Over the past forty years, Nassau Community College, like the rest of the county and the world, has undergone changes that even Dr. Rapp and the first Board of Trustees and President could not have imagined. The extraordinary evolution of social, scientific, economic, and political change has been so fast, so sweeping and so global that Nostradamus could not have foretold these events. The semi-conductor, the advent of the personal computer, and ever increasing ways of transmitting and receiving information have transformed the modalities of higher education everywhere. It is necessary -- from the use of text books, to one-on-one techniques, to distant learning applications -- for colleges to incorporate the very best teachers, capable of

implementing the most modern teaching techniques with current technology in order to prepare students to successfully compete in either the workplace or as they pursue baccalaureate degrees.

For forty years NCC has had dedicated and visionary trustees, competent administrators, and excellent teachers working to provide high quality educational and training experiences for our students. This collaborative effort has served to make Nassau one of the best community colleges in the nation and the largest undergraduate program within our state. According to a report by the U.S. Department of Education, Nassau ranked number one in degrees

"It is hard to go anywhere in Nassau County and not meet someone who has either graduated from NCC or knows of someone who has done so."

awarded in all disciplines for a two-year institution in New York and number two nationwide. In Liberal Arts and Sciences, NCC ranked number one in New York State and number four in the nation. We have tried to make sure that state-of-the-art computer and current instructional technology is available to all of our students and faculty.

During these forty years, NCC has evolved from a relatively homogeneous student body and faculty into one that is as culturally and ethnically diverse as our general population. Among the 21,500 full- and part-time students attending Nassau, 29 percent are members of ethnic minorities. Students from 60 different countries that speak 28 different languages enrich college life for everyone.

Our alumni, who now number more than 100,000, have gone on to be successful in virtually every facet and profession of life. It is hard to go anywhere in Nassau County and not meet someone who has either graduated from NCC or knows of someone who has done so. From elected officials to doctors; from engineers to CPAs; from



teachers to business people, NCC alumni have made all of us proud by their enormous contribution to the economic and social stability of Nassau County.

We have come a long way from those first days in the Old Court House with just a few rooms. Today, we are located on 225 acres, on the former Mitchel Field air base. There are 29 buildings on the campus, including the Library, Physical Education Complex, Administrative Tower, two academic wings and refurbished former military buildings. In the last two years alone we have added a Social Science and Visual Arts building, a Student Center and most recently a new Academic Advisement Center. All buildings are handicapped accessible.

Over the past 40 years, thousands of students and hundreds of teachers have experienced the enduring richness of NCC. Collectively, they have worked assiduously to make NCC one of the educational gems of the SUNY system, producing more graduates per year than any other undergraduate institution. The cultural arts program, which annually brings dozens of national and international newsmakers to the campus, and a sports program, which has produced scores of regional and national championships, adds to the exceptional collegiate life one experiences at Nassau Community College.

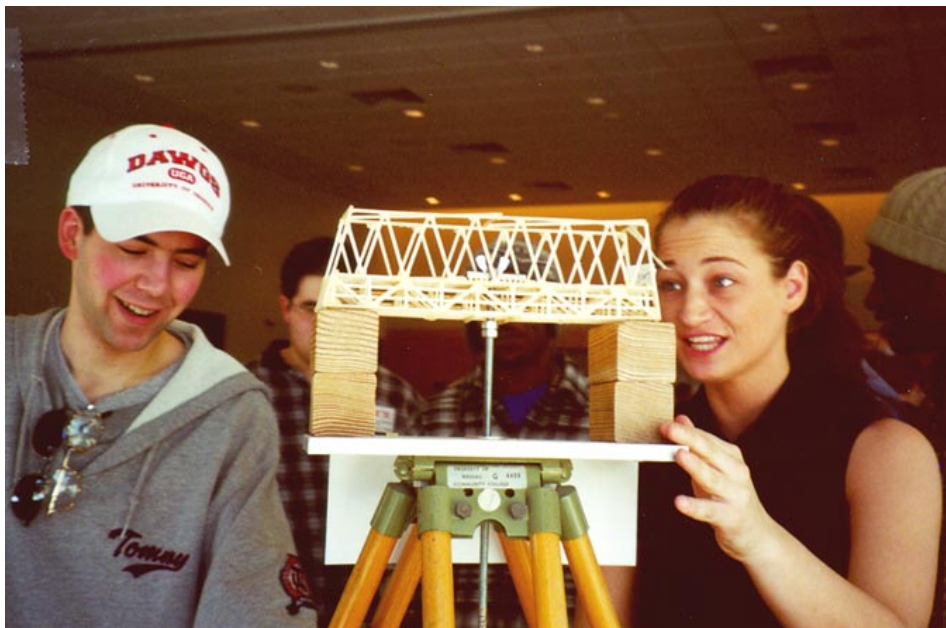
On behalf of all of us at Nassau Community College, I express our gratitude to the residents of Nassau County for supporting us throughout the years. You can be proud knowing that we have a community college which has consistently maintained its mission of providing excellence in teaching, thoroughness in learning, and success in preparing students for transfer and career pursuits.

NCC Engineering Students Help Build Bridges for the Future

In celebration of National Engineers' Week, the Nassau Community College Engineering Department hosted the annual Bridge Building Competition on March 3rd. The competition, which was a joint project with the New York State Association of Transportation Engineers, took place in the NCC College Center Building.

Over 250 high school students from 22 high schools participated in the day-long event. They used their creativity, problem solving skills, and the basic principles of physics to create model bridges made from balsa wood. The bridges were then judged on design and strength. Engineering students from NCC served as the organizers, coordinators and facilitators of the competition. Nassau Community College faculty members judged the contest. All faculty members of the NCC Civil Engineering Program are also professional engineers.

According to Professor Andy Kowalik, Chairperson of the NCC Engineering/Physics and Technology Department, "This project becomes a contest that encourages natural curiosity and creativity. The focus is on the engineer as a problem solver. These students are curious and they enjoy the competition and using their scientific skills.



(L to R): Engineering students Michael Ambrosio and Dara Gershon view a student's bridge

It is an opportunity for the College to give back to the community and work in partnership with our local high schools."

The Nassau Community College Engineering Department has been on campus since the inception of the College 40 years ago. It has produced many graduates who have moved on to four-year colleges and become professionals in the engineering field. Through ongoing education and events like the bridge building competition, the College works to link expert veterans and current professionals with the future engineers of our community.

ALUMNOTES

Nassau Community College Alumni Association Names Karen Murphy Outstanding Alumni

Karen Murphy, Nassau County Clerk, was one of two alumni chosen by the NCC Alumni Association for its annual award in recognition of her outstanding contributions in public, legal and community affairs. Ms. Murphy always credits Nassau Community College for providing the solid foundation on which she built her subsequent educational endeavors. The other recipient of the Alumni Honor Roll Award is Dr. Dolores M. Fernandez, Class of '75, who is president of Eugenio Maria de Hostos Community College in the Bronx. Ms. Fernandez was recognized for her outstanding contributions in the field of education. She received her award from Chancellor Ryan at the SUNY Conference Honor Roll Dinner.



(Lto R): Micki Saracino, President of the NCC Alumni Association; Karen V. Murphy; Dr. Sean A. Fanelli, President of NCC. Ms. Murphy, a 1977 graduate of Nassau Community College, is shown holding her SUNY Alumni Honor Roll Award.

Debra Cassidy Named Valedictorian



Nassau Community College named Debra Cassidy valedictorian for the class of 2000. This year's graduating class has over 3,200 graduates and graduate candidates. Debra, a resident of Massapequa, will be graduating with an Associates Degree in Liberal Arts. During her time at Nassau Community College, she maintained a 4.0 grade point average while raising five children, all the while keeping in sight her dream of becoming a psychologist. Debra plans to continue her education at C.W. Post.

Debra was happy raising her family, but sometimes wondered how her life would have been had she gone to college. At the age of 42, she decided to return to school. Her interest in psychology came from her experience as a parent to her children, now aged 10, 14, 17, 19 and 20. Debra believes her studies have already helped her relate to them. "As a parent, I became more empathetic to my children. We now have something additional in common — being a student," she said.

Following her dream has been a positive experience for Debra. "I love Nassau Community College. If I could, I would stay at NCC for my Ph.D.," she said. Based on her experience at the College, Debra has some advice for others: "Don't be afraid to take chances in life...Just go for it!"

Brian Leiba Elected New SGA President

Brian Leiba has been elected president of the NCC Student Government Association (SGA). Mr. Leiba is a resident of Jamaica, Queens and a graduate of Lawrence High School.

Brian is excited about his new position in SGA, and ready to do his part to promote educational excellence. "My intent is to maintain open lines of communication between the Student Government Association, the faculty and staff, and the administration of the College," he said. "Together we can effect positive change." One important issue Brian plans to address is the food service situation on campus. "Our short term goal is to improve our current food services. For the long term, we need to lobby our local elected officials to complete the long overdue food court," he explained.

Brian has long been active in campus life at Nassau. He served as a freshman student senator representative for the NCC Academic Senate and is also a member of the Student Organization of Latinos and Haraya, the African-American student association.

A recipient of the Student Activities Award for the year 2000, Brian intends to participate in the NCC Honors Program. He then plans to continue his education and begin a career in law or theology after he graduates.

On a personal note, Brian believes that the experience of being a student leader has enriched his experience at NCC. Not only has he developed friendships and a good rapport with the faculty and staff, but he's also learned a great deal. "I'm proud to represent Nassau Community College, the largest single campus in the state university system, with a rich and diverse population of over 20,000 students," he said.



Cheryl Sydor, New Student Trustee



Cheryl Sydor, a freshman at Nassau Community College, was recently elected by the students to serve a one-year term as student trustee of the Nassau Community College Board of Trustees. Ms. Sydor is a resident of Hicksville and a 1999 graduate of Kellenberg High School.

Cheryl has been an active member of the NCC Student Government Association, where she served as a freshman student senator representative for the NCC Academic Senate. Cheryl was also a Freshman Orientation Leader in the fall of 1999, and currently serves on its Steering Committee. In addition, she is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the honor society for two-year colleges. She also participates in NCC's Honors Program.

Cheryl believes that together NCC students can make a difference. "I see the role of a student trustee as an advocate as well as a representative for the students at Nassau. I would like to see more students get involved. I encourage more student attendance at Board of Trustees meetings," she said. Cheryl added that, "Students at Nassau should also take advantage of the many opportunities to participate in campus life. There are so many clubs and organizations."

After graduation from Nassau, Cheryl plans to continue her education and hopes to attend New York University. She would like to pursue a career in business. As far as her experience at Nassau Community College: "I love it! Going to Nassau was one of the best decisions I made. The faculty, staff and the students have been so supportive."

NCC Campus Calendar

Nassau Community College
Theatre Department presents

Sylvia

June 15 - 18 and June 21 - 25

NCC Mainstage Theatre

Performances at 8:00 pm, Sun. at 3:00 pm

Tickets \$7.00, Regular; \$5.00, Discount

(H.S./Col. Students & Seniors over 55)

Free to H.S./Col. Stu. on June 15, 21, 22

Tel. Ticket Orders 516-572-7676, 7509:

Mon.-Fri. 10 am-12 pm & 2 pm-4 pm

•••••

Freshman Orientation

August 28, 29, 30 - three sessions

each day, 10 am, 2 pm, 6 pm -

Building G:

Classroom Preparation, Tour, and Social

Activities

Welcome Back Party

September 7

Free food, DJ

College Center Building

Guest Speaker - Amy Mullins

mid - September

College Center Building

Student Activity Fair

mid - September

College Center Building

Registration

June 5 - August 10

Rolling Registration

August 21 - September 1

Late Registration

FALL SEMESTER BEGINS SEPT. 6

New VP Ezra Delaney

Continued from page 1

such a prestigious reputation. This position offers me the opportunity to combine my leadership skills and technical expertise with that of my colleagues. Together, we can continue to improve the Nassau Community College campus. I'm looking forward to working on a wide range of projects."

Mr. Delaney's responsibilities will include general administration over the physical plant, campus maintenance, management information systems, and facilities utilization. "Mr. Delaney's background and depth of experience will bring creative approaches to existing and new projects that are underway at Nassau Community College," said Dr. Fanelli.

NCC Apparel Design Students Run Away with the Show



(L to R): Sergio Fuerzdida, Kelly Glemboski and Joe Deruvo. Kelly, a first semester Apparel Design student, is wearing a design by Jane Ordonez, a fourth semester student.

Stylish and sophisticated . . . the Apparel Design students at Nassau Community College have created new designs that represent the 21st century with a twist. Their annual fashion show, co-sponsored by the NCC Design Innovators Club and the NCC Programming Board, was held on May 4 and May 5 in the Nassau Community College Center Building.

This professionally-staged runway presentation highlighted the designs of both second and fourth semester students. As their final project, the students designed, draped and constructed an original garment. Among them were outfits that were part of a line of five garments designed by students in their final semester. "The students have selected fabulous fabrics — dupionni silks, stretch sequined knits, ultra suede — and worked with them to design imaginative and exciting garments," said Marketing and Retailing Professor Sharyne Wolfe. From music to modeling, the entire show was a collaborative effort of the students involved. Several styles were on display, from a modern updating of the little black dress to sophisticated evening gowns.

In an effort to promote new talent, scholarships were awarded to the best designers in the fourth semester classes. The designs were judged by fashion and art faculty and then selected based on the student's innovative approach and the effectiveness of their collections. This year a day show was added. Fashion and art

students from Nassau and Suffolk high schools as well as the college community attended the program.

Additional highlights complementing the show included a photomontage created by the newest member of the Apparel Design faculty, Professor Joseph Pescatore. The Visual Merchandising class, under the direction of Professor Candy Sutton, mounted a display of students' children's wear designs. Professor George Bouchard of the music department entertained during the pre-show reception. The addition of Professor Bouchard's piano added a cultural and festive note.

Nassau Community College's Apparel Design program has been in existence since 1989. Graduates are employed on Seventh Avenue at some of the industry's top design firms: Ron Chereskin, Cynthia Rowley, Anna Sui, Shoshanna, Perry Ellis, and Liz Claiborne. Apparel Design alumni were honored at a pre-show reception. "I thought it would be a good opportunity for our students to network with some of our successful graduates," said Professor Barbara Blumberg, the show's coordinator.

The expertise and enthusiasm of the students, faculty, and staff in the Apparel Design fashion show was infectious. It was also a model example of how Nassau Community College helps prepare its students for their professional lives after graduation.

Nassau Community College Opens It's Heart



The 2000 Nassau Community College 5K Fun Run/Walk

Among the many philanthropic activities the Nassau Community College community participates in are the NCC 5K Fun Run/Walk and American Heart Walk.

Accounting and Business Professor Neil Nugent, President of the Faculty Student Association, has coordinated the annual NCC Fun Run/Walk for over twenty years. The event, which is held in May, draws participants from students, faculty, staff and administration. Proceeds from the NCC 5K Run/Walk have gone to many different charities and organizations over the years. For the past three years, money has been raised for the North Shore Pediatric Cardiology Unit, in memory of Carleigh McComack. This year, the funds will go towards the purchase of a fetal echocardiogram machine that will allow doctors to diagnose heart defects in babies as early as 16 weeks in utero. Over 100 individuals from the college ran or walked in the 2000 NCC Fun Run/Walk.



The American Heart Walk, which took place last fall, was co-chaired by Evelyn Comer, Special Projects Coordinator, Government/Community Relations, and Reginald Tuggle, Director, College/Community Relations. The annual event raises money for the American Heart Association's research into the potential causes and cures of cardiovascular disease and stroke.

One hundred walkers from the College solicited sponsorship from their families, friends and neighbors. Working together with Honorees Amber Minacapelli and Amanda Luneberg — family members of NCC employees — they raised over \$5,500. Evelyn Comer and Reginald Tuggle are grateful for the generosity and dedication of everyone who participated in the American Heart Walk. They also remind the NCC community to save the date of the next Heart Walk, which is October 22nd.

Grants to NCC Highest Ever: \$1.6 Million

*by Dr. William A. Atkins,
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs*



For the second year in a row, federal, state, and foundation grants to the College have exceeded \$1.6 million. This year's \$1,641,739 is the highest dollar total ever. There were thirty-one faculty and staff involved in these twenty-eight grants. The grants ranged in size from \$5,000 to \$377,196.

As reported previously in *Nexus*, one of these grants, GEAR UP, was one of only three such grants awarded to community colleges in New York by the U. S. Department of Education. GEAR UP is an acronym for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs. This grant of \$377,196 was the largest ever received by the College, and will amount to \$2.7 million over five years.

The College also received its tenth consecutive grant from the New York State Education Department to operate a Liberty Partnership Program. This year's grant was for \$197,361. Both GEAR UP and the Liberty Partnership Program are directed by Marilyn Monroe, Associate Director of Admissions at the College. The two grants together total \$574,557, and make her the largest recipient by far at the College.

For the fourteenth consecutive year, the College was awarded a federal grant to provide services to our disabled students. This grant for \$312,998 is administered by Janis Schimsky, Director of the Center for Students with Disabilities.

Twenty-five other grants were obtained by the following people: Richard Ashker, Student Personnel Services; Heidi Atlas, English; Susan Bello, Office of Institutional Research; Toby Bird, English; Ellen Branson, Mathematics/Statistics/Computer Science; Philip Cheifetz, Mathematics/Statistics/Computer Science; Leonard Durso, English as a Second Language; Melanie Hammer, Reading; Lawrence Jacob, Allied Health; Bernice Kliman, English; Andrew Kowalik, Engineering/Physics/Technology; Julie de la Lastra, Marketing/Retailing/Fashion & Interior Design; Noreen Lowey, Office Technology; Lois Lucca, Allied Health; Jean Miller, Reading; Carol Mueller, Marketing/Retailing/Fashion & Interior Design; Patricia Nugent, Nursing; Mike Pelliccia, Physical Education; Louise Rotchford, Special Programs for Business; Florence Scarinci, Library; Paula Setteducati, Special Programs for Business; Arnold Silverman, Sociology; Janet Smith and Mary Beth Smollon, Academic Advisement; and Janet Walsh, Children's Greenhouse.

FACULTY/STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Prof. Michael Anzelone, English, published an article, *The Role of the Hero (Heroine) in Nathaniel Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter*, in the book, *Quest: Listening and Speaking in the Academic World*. Prof. Anzelone was recently appointed Associate Editor of the *Nassau Review*. This journal publishes essays, stories, and poetry from contributors across the globe.

Dr. Judith Bennett-Murray, Nursing, was recently given the Shirley Chisolm Award by the Brooklyn Museum in honor of her leadership and excellence in nursing.

William Bryan, Dean of Students, recently led a workshop and panel discussion at the Conference on Problem Gambling at SUNY Albany. The conference addressed the issue of gambling addiction from a New York State perspective for policymakers, health care professionals, educational experts, and governmental officials.

Dr. Jane Brody, Nursing, presented a poster session at the New York State Nurses' Association Convention last fall. Her poster was entitled *Student Habit Change Journals and the Development of Insights and Interventions for Supporting Healthier Lifestyles*.

Prof. Paula Wheeler Carlo, History and Political Science, presented a paper, *Anglican Conformity and Nonconformity Among the Huguenots of Colonial New York*, at an international scholarly conference in London this spring. The paper will also be published in a forthcoming volume of the *Proceedings of the Huguenot Society of Great Britain and Ireland*.

Prof. Douglas Cody, Chemistry, recently presented a lecture on safety at SUNY Stony Brook. Mr. Cody currently serves on the Long Island chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers as President-elect and also publishes the chapter newsletter.

Prof. Richard Conway, Student Personnel Services, was appointed to the executive board of the Community College Journalism Association. Prof. Conway also published reviews of *A Journalistic Approach to Good Writing: The Craft of Clarity and Pulitzer Prize Feature Stories* in the Spring '99 and Summer '99 issues of *College Media Review*.

Prof. Robert Costello, Criminal Justice, recently had the following articles published: *The Constitutional and Public Policy Concerns of Fetal Endangerment in The Criminal Justice Journal*; *Just the Facts, Ma'am: The Supreme Court says No to Media Ride-Alongs in The Journal of Criminal Justice and Popular Culture*; and *Censoring the Press: The Supreme Court Rules on Media Ride-Alongs in The University of San Francisco Journal of Law and Popular Culture*. Prof. Costello also chaired a Hate Crimes Conference at NCC this spring.

Larry Dellaquila, Health, Physical Education and Recreation, has been selected to coach the United States team at the World University Golf

Championships in July in Northern Ireland. Larry is also a member of the Golf Coaches Hall of Fame.

Prof. Paul Doyle, English, wrote articles on Pearl Buck for Oxford University Press's *American National Biography*. He also wrote an essay published in a Festschrift (a volume of articles and essays contributed by many authors in honor of a colleague) dedicated to Donald Greene.

Dr. Lorraine Findlay, Allied Health Sciences, has been re-appointed for a two-year term to the joint National Science Foundation/American Society for Microbiology Committee on the Status of Women in Microbiology.

Prof. Susan Gubernat, English, was a poetry fellow in residence at the Millay Colony in Austerlitz, N.Y. and at the McDowell Colony in Peterborough, N.H. She also received a poetry fellowship from the New York Foundation for the Arts. In addition, her book *Flesh* has been published.

Dr. Hadassah Guttman, Music, was a visiting artist/scholar for the Annenberg Foundation, which seeks to bring music into public schools. She also was invited to perform for the Association of Piano Teachers of Long Island this spring.

Dr. Barbara Horn and Prof. Hedda Marcus, English, were recipients of an award from the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration Committee of Nassau County, Inc. The award was in recognition of their work on the SEED (Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity) project.

Prof. Frances Izzo, Nursing, had an article published in the September issue of *Nursing Spectrum*. The issue focused on educational topics and the article, *Shaping Associate Degree Nurses for Tomorrow*, described how Nassau's Nursing Program is evolving to better prepare graduates in the modern health care delivery system.

Prof. Susan Kravitz, Art, recently exhibited a series of black and white documentary photographs of ordinary women at Soho Photo Gallery in New York City. The photographs were taken both in the U.S. and abroad during the 1990s. Prof. Kravitz's photographs have appeared in museums in Germany, the Czech Republic, and Northern Bohemia, as well as in many galleries in the United States.

Prof. Jack Mandel, Marketing, was a keynote speaker at Millennium Magic, a trade show convention for the courier and messenger industry, held this spring. His topic was *How to Make Your Employees Work With You, Not For You*. He also spoke to the Nassau Library System on *Marketing Your Library's Programs and Services for 2000 and Beyond*.

Prof. Kathleen McKiernan, Math, Statistics and Computers, was awarded by the Dr. Martin Luther

King Jr. Birthday Celebration Committee of Nassau County, Inc. for her leadership role as president of the Nassau County affiliate of Habitat for Humanity.

Dr. Patricia Nugent and Prof. Barbara Vitale, both of Nursing, were presenters at the Nursing Student Association of New York State's annual convention. Their presentation was entitled *Test Success*.

Dr. Tom O'Brien, Biology, is the recipient of the Excellence in Education Award from the East Meadow Civic Association. Dr. O'Brien also recently conducted a workshop at the National Association of Biology Teachers' Convention in Texas. Dr. O'Brien is on the executive board and represented the New York Biology Teachers' Association at the conference. He also recently had an article entitled *A Bright Future for the Peconic Estuary* in *The Empire State Association of Two-Year Colleges*, Spring Edition.

Dr. Caroline Olko, Psychology, recently had a research paper entitled *Cerebral Asymmetry of Emotion and its Relationship to Olfaction in Infancy* accepted to the journal *Laterality*. Her research was based upon evidence that the cerebral hemispheres of the adult assume asymmetrical functions for aspects of emotional behavior.

Prof. Robert Osborne, Music, sang a concert of Peter Maxwell Davies' *Eight Songs for a Mad King* at the Miller Theater in New York City this past fall. Prof. Osborne also made his debut at the Concertgebouw Concert Hall in Amsterdam. The concert was simulcast on Dutch National Radio.

Prof. Mary Ann Pervelis, Nursing, was chosen this spring as the Sigma Educator of the Year.

Alicia Steger, Assistant Director, College Relations, was a panelist in the workshop, *The Fundamental Things Apply*, at the 15th Annual Connection Day. The event is sponsored by the Long Island Coalition for Fair Broadcasting. Over 650 print and electronic journalists and public relations professionals attended this conference. She also served as a program advisor on the conference advisory board.

Prof. Joseph Varacalli, Sociology, is the author of *Bright Promise, Failed Community: Catholics and the American Public Order*, published by Lexington Books. The focus of the book is on the reception of Catholic social teaching in the United States.

Prof. Barbara Vitale, Nursing, was one of 50 volunteers recently honored by the Junior League of Long Island. Prof. Vitale was recognized for her volunteer work at Christa House, a home for individuals with AIDS.

Deborah Weber, Director of Student Financial Affairs, was elected Long Island Regional Director of the New York State Organization of Bursars and Business Administrators.

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.

NCC Sports Highlights

Nassau Community College Lacrosse Team National Champions

Team Captures 18th Championship Title

Nassau Community College's lacrosse team, the Lions, won the 2000 National Junior College Athletic Association Lacrosse Championship by defeating Anne Arundel Community College of Arnold, Maryland on May 14th. This is the team's 18th national championship. With hard work and dedication, the team members upheld the winning tradition of NCC's nationally recognized lacrosse program.

Professor Richard Speckman has coached more national lacrosse championship teams and more junior college championship teams than any other coach in the United States.

The superior quality of the coaching, teaching and support personnel also instill values in the student athletes that will serve them well in life. The men's and women's teams at NCC are often ranked among the top teams nationally.



Photo courtesy of Newsday

NEXUS

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE
One Education Drive
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A Unit of the State University of New York

PRESIDENT Sean A. Fanelli
PUBLISHER Reginald Tuggle
EDITOR Alicia Steger
PRODUCTION Robert Lohne
FACULTY/STAFF
HIGHLIGHTS.....Gail Ignacio
LAYOUT/ DESIGN Alicia Steger
SUPPORT STAFF Seri DiLapi
..... Lisa Friel

THIS NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED
BY THE OFFICE OF COLLEGE/
COMMUNITY RELATIONS
(516) 572-9634 FAX: (516) 572-7497
E-Mail: NCC-Rel@sunynassau.edu

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