NEASC confirms GCC accreditation through 2016

The New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), Inc. through its Commission on Institutions of Higher Education has accepted GCC’s fifth-year report and confirmed its accreditation of GCC through 2016.

GCC was last accredited by NEASC in 2006 after a two-year self study process and rigorous scrutiny during a three-day site visit. The accreditation was through 2016, but was contingent upon acceptance of a fifth-year interim report.

In a letter to GCC President Dr. Dorsey L. Kendrick, NEASC Chair Mary Jo Maydew wrote: “The fifth-year interim report submitted by GCC was accepted because it responded to the concerns raised by the Commission in its letters of October 25, 2006 and December 17, 2010, and also addressed each of the eleven standards. The Commission applauds the institution for continuously strengthening its service to its communities as indicated by increasing enrollments and the completion of a new consolidated campus in the center of New Haven.”

In particular, NEASC commended GCC for “developing a culture of evidence” in terms of quantitatively assessing things like student engagement, for expanding its distance learning and for focusing on the continued development of its IT network. Maydew also said NEASC takes “favorable notice of the new ‘green’ building that will be the first state-owned facility in Connecticut to achieve Gold LEED certification.”

Accreditation of an institution of higher education by NEASC indicates that it meets or exceeds criteria for the assessment of institutional quality periodically applied through a peer review process. An accredited college or university is one which has available the necessary resources to achieve its stated purposes through appropriate educational programs, is substantially doing so, and gives reasonable evidence that it will continue to do so in the foreseeable future. Institutional integrity is also addressed through accreditation.

Accreditation by NEASC is not partial but applies to the institution as a whole. As such, it is not a guarantee of every course or program offered, or the competence of individual graduates. Rather, it provides reasonable assurance about the quality of opportunities available to students who attend the university.

Inquiries regarding accreditation status by NEASC should be directed to GCC administration at 203-285-2065. Individuals may also contact the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, New England Association of Schools and Colleges, 209 Burlington Road, Suite 201, Bedford, MA, 01730-1433, or 781-271-0022 or via e-mail at che@neasc@org.

LEEDing the Way: Solar power on our new campus

News

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Our new downtown campus is designed to be the state’s first public building gold-certified in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).

This is the first installment of our new “LEEDing the Way” feature, which will spotlight the various LEED aspects of our new campus.

LEED is an internationally recognized green building certification system that provides third-party verification that a building or community was designed and built using strategies aimed at improving performance across all the metrics that matter most: energy savings, water efficiency, CO₂ emissions reduction, improved indoor environmental quality, and stewardship of resources and sensitivity to their impacts.

Developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), LEED provides building owners and operators with a concise framework for identifying and implementing practical and measurable green building design, construction, operations and maintenance solutions. There are four levels of LEED certification: the first is called simply “certified.” The next highest is silver, then gold and lastly platinum. A project’s level of certification is decided by the USGBC after construction is completed and a user has moved in. Its level is based on total points earned in more than 50 facets of design and construction, operations and maintenance and tenant “fit out.”

Today’s “LEEDing the Way” spotlight: Solar power.

Our new campus will use two forms of solar energy. There will be solar panels on the north building and photovoltaic panels along the top of the entire Atrium section of the complex. Both will provide the campus with self-generated energy that will reduce utility costs.

There will be 40 solar panels installed on the north building, which will heat the two 500-gallon hot water tanks located in the basement of the building. Two-inch circulation pipes will run from the boilers up to the panels, around the panels and back down to the boilers with the heated water. There also will be more than 300 195-watt photovoltaic panels that will generate electricity that will be stored in two 30-kilowatt AC inverters, which will feed the electricity back into the building.

ESL students in Long Wharf Theatre project

Eleven of GCC’s English as a Second Language (ESL) students are featured as part of an immigrant project at Long Wharf Theatre in New Haven tied into a recent production that spotlighted the immigrant experience.

Maryna Harrison, artistic resident at Long Wharf Theatre, visited Professor Carol Brutza’s ESL 161 class and interviewed, tape recorded and photographed the students for the project which was on display in the theater’s Stage II lobby (see photo).

Students interviewed came from Burundi, Iraq, Brazil, Kuwait, Vietnam, Albania,
Faculty, Staff Highlights

- Humanities instructor to be NEH summer scholar

Student Highlights

- Student forum on state budget held March 7
- SOAR student placed in SCRCOG internship
- 79 students inducted into Phi Theta Kappa chapter

President’s Corner

President’s Corner is Gateway Community College’s campus newsletter. It is published by the college’s Public Relations and Marketing Department.

Gateway’s Mission

Gateway Community College offers high-quality instruction and comprehensive services in an environment conducive to learning. We respond to the changing academic, occupational, technological, and cultural needs of a diverse population.

Faculty, Staff Highlights

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Colombia, India, Venezuela and Morocco.

The project tied into the “Agnes Under the Big Top” production at the theater from March 2 to April 3. The play explored the intersecting lives of immigrants as they searched for a new life in a busy U.S. city and to redefine themselves in their new world.

Brutza, coordinator of the ELS program, said she and six of her ESL students went to see a preview performance of the play and enjoyed it “immensely.”

"Maryna told me that many of the theatergoers have commented favorably on the lobby display," she said.

To read transcripts of the interviews and see the students’ photos, click here.

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‘Iron Chef’ on April 17 will help fund scholarship

The fourth annual Iron Chef Elm City Competition, which will benefit a hospitality management scholarship, will be held Sunday, April 17 at Delia, the Viking Center of New England in Wallingford.

The event, which is based on the popular Food Network Iron Chef program, features local chefs as participants and prominent culinary experts as judges. It is the brainchild of GCC Professor Stephen Fries, who is also a food columnist for the New Haven Register.

The chefs will be provided with a list of five possible "secret" ingredients prior to the event. The selection will be unveiled on April 17 and the chefs will be required to create an appetizer, entree and dessert at the event using the ingredient.

Chef Jeff Caputo of Scoozzi, chef Prasad Chirnomula of Thali and chef Michael Denisiewicz of 116 Crown will compete for the title. Ann Nyberg, evening anchor of WTNH News 8 will be the emcee. Celebrity judges include: Jordan Caterers Executive Chef and Hell’s Kitchen runner-up Kevin Cottle; Lisa Waddle, managing editor of Fine Cooking magazine; and Jocelyn Ruggiero aka Foodie Fatale, a well-known food blogger. GCC Pastry Instructor Mike Devlin and Todd Lyon, restaurant writer and co-owner of Fashionista Vintage and Variety Store, will be the commentators.

There will be a raffle for a chance to taste a dish prepared at the competition, as well as a silent auction. Tickets at $30 are limited and can be purchased by calling 203-777-8550 or 203-415-3519. If there is no answer, please leave a message. To read Fries’ column about the event, click here.

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Latest issue of Gateway Gazette available now

The Winter/Spring edition of the Gateway Gazette is available now at locations...
across both our Long Wharf and North Haven campuses. Tom O'Neil is the faculty adviser to this student publication. The latest issue includes articles about our new campus and other issues. To e-mail the publication a story idea or comment, send it to gwgazette@gmail.com.

Exercise Science and Wellness Seminars April 13-20

Three seminars will be held later this month as part of the Exercise Science and Wellness Seminar Series that was created in response to a campus-wide survey of students, faculty and staff by Exercise Science and Wellness students.

“Weight Loss: Gain Knowledge, Lose Fat” will discuss diet and exercise tips for weight loss, explain the different body types and why fad diets do not work. It will be held Wednesday, April 13, from 4 to 5 p.m. in room 216 on our Long Wharf campus and Thursday, April 14, from 4 to 5 p.m. in room 211 on our North Haven campus.

“A Hunger for Knowledge: Food for Fitness” will include presentations about diet and nutritional information, explaining carbohydrates, fats and proteins and discussing recommended intakes for various fitness goals. It will be held, Tuesday, April 19, from 4 to 5 p.m. in room 113B on our North Haven campus and Thursday, April 21, from 4 to 5 p.m. in room 110 on our Long Wharf campus.

And “Flexibility: Preventative Medicine for Aches and Pains” will feature a lecture about the importance and benefits of flexibility and provide the tools to properly stretch, and keep yourself flexible for better workouts and improved day-to-day functionality. Participants should come prepared to stretch! It will be held Wednesday, April 20, from 4 to 5 p.m. in the North Haven Fitness Center and Friday, April 22, from 4 to 5 p.m. in room 160 on our Long Wharf campus.

For more information regarding the seminars or the Fitness Center, please contact Program Coordinator Todd Degree at 203-285-2446.

Early Learning Center honors Week of Young Child

GCC’s Early Learning Center (ELC) is celebrating the Week of the Young Child with an ELC Art Show (photo) and encourages everyone in the GCC community to stop by room 161 on our Long Wharf campus to see the art and write down their comments, which will be read to the children.

The art exhibit will also be showcased by the New Haven early childhood education community as part of a week-long highlight of related events. As such, the first 40 families who visit the exhibit April 13 will receive a children’s book, according to ELC Director Marjorie Weiner.

In addition to the art show, the ELC has a number of other events related to the Week of the Young Child in April and May. They include: a classical South Indian dance presentation by Arshia Puri on April 15 at 4 p.m. on the Long Wharf campus in room 261; a “Little Read” family storytelling event for ELC
families led by GCC ELC students on April 21; a conga drums presentation by ELC parent Charlie Dias on May 12; and a “Move and Learn” music and movement program for ELC families presented by ELC teacher Helene N’Guessan that combines physical activity, cognitive skills and good nutrition on May 17.

The Week of the Young Child, which runs April 10-16, is an annual celebration sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, the world's largest early childhood education association, with nearly 90,000 members and a network of more than 300 local, state, and regional affiliates. The goal of the week is to focus public attention on the needs of young children, from birth through age 8, and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs.

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GCC on Facebook: ‘Like’ us and get plugged in

All GCC employees and students are encouraged to join the 928 current fans who “like” the college’s Facebook page to help us keep you informed about what’s going on.

Right now we have more than 600 active monthly users and want to see that number keep climbing. Just search for “Gateway Community College, New Haven” and click on the “like” button on the home page to begin seeing our posts on your news feed.

And if you have information about college news or events that you’d like to get out on our Facebook page, send it to Evelyn Gard, director of public relations and marketing, at egard@gwcc.commnet.edu.

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Employee and Family Picnic will debut May 28

Mark your calendars: May 28 will be the first Employee and Family Picnic for GCC since the merger of our two schools. It will be held rain or shine at our North Haven campus from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Additional details will be announced in the near future, including the cost to participate. The event will be entirely funded with participant fees. No state money will be spent.

The picnic brings back a tradition from before the merger of the two schools when North Haven used to have an annual event. The day will include food and games for all ages for a small, as-yet-to-be-determined charge.

Earlier this year, GCC President Dr. Dorsey L. Kendrick created an ad hoc committee chaired by Director of Human Resources Lucy Brown to generate ideas for enhancing GCC’s sense of community. The committee conducted a survey of faculty and staff that asked for opinions regarding possible social outings as a group.

Seventy-nine percent said they were interested in a college-wide outing and 62 percent said they preferred to include family members and the largest preference was for a picnic format on the North Haven campus. Pricing preferences were almost
evenly split between “under $20” and “between $20 and $40.” Possible future social events include participant-paid trips to Lake Compounce, theaters, sporting events, sports activities, fundraisers, and happy hour events at local restaurants and destinations.

Poetry Month commemorated with April 11 readings

GCC’s Humanities Department commemorated National Poetry Month by sponsoring a poetry reading to showcase the talents of our staff and students on April 11 on our Long Wharf campus.

Faculty, staff and students were on hand to read either their own poetry or a favorite poem by another author. Inaugurated by the Academy of American Poets in 1996, National Poetry Month is now held every April, when publishers, booksellers, literary organizations, libraries, schools and poets around the country band together to celebrate poetry and its vital place in American culture.

GCC In the Media: WTNH, New Haven Independent

GCC was featured recently on WTNH-TV and in the New Haven Independent.

On March 14, GCC Professor Stephen Fries appeared with cookbook author Jane Stern on WTNH-TV’s “Connecticut Style” program to promote the Gateway Community College Foundation’s April 3 fundraisers, which included a tapas reception with Stern as the featured speaker. To see the WTNH appearance, click here.

The New Haven Independent covered an Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority of New Haven event held March 7 on our Long Wharf campus about the effects of the economy on women (photo courtesy of the Independent). To read the article, click here.

Program Spotlight: Nuclear Medicine Technology

If you have a keen interest in health care and computer technology — and want the potential to earn more than $30 an hour without a four-year degree — you will want to consider GCC’s Nuclear Medicine Technology Program.

Nuclear medicine technologists work with doctors in the diagnosis, management, treatment and prevention of disease by administering to patients very small amounts of radioactive materials, also known as radiopharmaceuticals.

“These are high-tech, high-paying jobs that don’t require a four-year degree,” said
Program Director and Assistant Professor Beata Gebuza, MS, CNMT, NCT. “If you’re just starting out or you’re looking for a new career, these programs offer a tremendous return on your investment.”

The Nuclear Medicine Technology (NMT) program at GCC prepares students for employment as certified nuclear medicine technologists in community hospitals, university-affiliated teaching hospitals, medical centers, outpatient imaging facilities, private physicians’ offices, public health institution and government and private research institutions. Additional career paths include senior staff technologist, PET/CT technologist, research technologist, educational program director, clinical or academic faculty, chief technologist, departmental administrator, industry sales representative, technical application specialist, and research and development specialist.

Cheshire resident Sarah Lord, 30, hopes to find employment in a hospital as a nuclear medicine technologist or in a research facility testing new drugs and tracers after she graduates from the program in May.

“The program is challenging, with coarse work ranging from chemistry and physics, to electronics and computers and the instructors do a fantastic job of integrating the wide range of information required into a fun and exciting program,” Lord said. “As a nuclear medicine technologist, every day is different. We use radioactive drugs to study an organ or systems function, rather than anatomical location of organs as in other imaging modalities, so no two patients will process our tracers in the same way, making every scan and every day different.”

The NMT program began at GCC in 1974. It is part of the Radiologic Technology Program in the college’s Allied Health Department and its courses are offered on our North Haven campus. Students can opt for either an associate degree or a certificate. The 66.5 credit-hour associate degree program takes 22 months to complete, including winter intersession and summer clinical internships. The 34 credit-hour certificate program allows registered radiographers, radiation therapists, and diagnostic medical sonographers with associate degrees to complete the Nuclear Medicine Technology Program in 22 months, including summer and winter intersession internships. Graduates of both programs will be ready for board examination and entry-level employment as nuclear medicine technologists (see photo of 2010 graduates, left to right: Xiangning Wang, Rebeca Cuadrado and Aiju Wong).

The NMT Program is accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology. Graduates of an accredited NMT program are eligible to apply for the national board certifications in Nuclear Medicine Technology.

GCC’s NMT program offers students the opportunity to train on state-of-art imaging equipment at a variety of clinical sites through Connecticut, including Yale-New Haven Hospital and Hospital of St. Raphael in New Haven, the VA Medical Center – West Haven, Middlesex Hospital in Middletown, Griffin Hospital in Derby, Midstate Medical Center in Meriden, Waterbury Hospital, Milford Hospital, Backus Hospital in Norwich, Lawrence & Memorial Hospital in New London, St. Francis Hospital in Hartford, UConn Medical Center in Farmington, and Cardinal Health Nuclear Pharmacy in East Hartford.

The application deadline for the NMT program beginning in the fall is May 24. For more information, contact Program Director Beata Gebuza at (203) 285-2381 or bgebuza@gwcc.commnet.edu.
GCC program coordinators who are interested in having their program featured in a future Program Spotlight should contact Alison Skratt at askratt@gwcc.commnet.edu. Articles will be assigned on a first-come-first-served basis.

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‘Kitchen Tours,’ tapas reception a success

More than 100 people attended each of the Gateway Community College Foundation’s fundraising events on Sunday, April 3, which included an afternoon tour of five must-see kitchens in greater New Haven and an evening tapas reception featuring famed cookbook author Jane Stern, who is best known for her “Roadfood” series and “Roadfood” column in Gourmet magazine.

“People thoroughly enjoyed themselves and are looking forward to next year,” said Dean of Development and Community Partnerships Mary Ellen Cody.

The day started with three buses filled with tour participants who were shuttled to five homes in the area for kitchen tours. Each stop featured food and beverages from two restaurants and tour participants were treated to raffles and celebrity tour guides while on the buses, including Teresa LaBarbera, the morning traffic reporter on WTNH-TV.

Then, in the evening, a tapas reception was held at at Delia, the Viking Center of New England in Wallingford. Emmy-nominated TV Medical Reporter Jocelyn Maminita emceed the event, which included a silent auction and tapas prepared by some of Connecticut’s most well-respected chefs, including Arturo Franco Camacho of Suburban in Branford, Daniel Chong Jimenez of Norwich Inn & Spa in Norwich, Manuel Romero of Ibiza in New Haven and Jean Pierre Vuillermet of Union League Café in New Haven.

“Jane Stern entertained the guests with stories of the early days when she and Michael Stern began developing stories for their ‘Roadfood’ books,” Cody said. Stern also signed copies of her book “Two for the Road,” which was given out free to each guest attending the reception (see photo).

Calendar Highlights

April 14: Chilled Water Supply in Lunchtime Series

Chilled Water Supply will perform on our Long Wharf campus on Thursday, April 14, as part of the new Yale Ensembles Lunchtime Concert Series, which is co-sponsored by the Esther Haseltine Schiavone Endowment for the Arts at GCC and the Office of College Life.

The concert will be in room 160 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Chilled Water Supply is a one-year-old jazz ensemble based at Yale University.
Performing a mix of original tunes, standards, and unique covers, it blends a variety of jazz genres with a unique and original sound. The band has performed at numerous venues and private functions in the New Haven area, and recently made its debut on the New York jazz scene.

The series will continue on May 2 with The Adelpha Quartet. The Esther Haseltine Schiavone Endowment Fund was established in 2006 through the Gateway Community College Foundation by Schiavone’s daughter Jennifer Schiavone, who set up the endowment in her mother’s memory to help the arts programs put on at GCC by her longtime friend and author, GCC Professor Franz Douskey.

**Through April 15: Spring Food Drive**

The GCC Core Committee’s Spring Food Drive is under way. Donations of non-perishable food and cash will be accepted through Friday, April 15.

Food donations may be left in Room 122 at the Long Wharf campus or Room 101 at the North Haven campus (see photo showing just some of the donations made to room 122 including two 50-pound bags of rice). To make a cash donation, contact Kim Shea at (203) 285-2011 or kshea@gwcc.commnet.edu or Teresa DeMars at 203-285-2286 or tdemars@gwcc.commnet.edu.

All donations will benefit the Christian Community Action Food Bank. All gifts of food or cash will be matched with a donation from the Feinstein Foundation.

**Now through April 16: Free student tax preparation**

The free personal income tax preparation service offered to GCC students has been extended one day to Saturday, April 16.

The program will now be held on Wednesday, April 13, from 7:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. and on Saturday, April 16 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Long Wharf cafeteria. This year’s deadline to turn in taxes is April 18 due to holidays in other states.

Students are asked to bring a government-issued ID, original Social Security card or ITIN for everyone being claimed, all income forms (W-2s, 1099s, other information), last year’s tax return if possible, a list of deductions (medical, donations, taxes, interest and miscellaneous expenses), and bank account information for Refund Direct Deposit by the IRS.

This program was offered for the first time in 2010 on Saturdays only. Since then, the number of individuals participating has doubled, according to Dean of Academic Affairs Mark Kosinski.

The program is made possible through a partnership that includes GCC, the IRS Stakeholder Relationship Division’s Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program and the New Life Corporation of New Haven. Due to program guidelines, the service is available to students only; it is not open to faculty or staff.
April 16: Veterans Club trip to Boston

The Veteran's Club is hosting a day in Boston on Saturday, April 16, which will depart from our Long Wharf campus at 8 a.m. and leave Boston at 8 p.m. Student Tickets are $15 and non-student tickets are $30. Student tickets can be purchased in the Office of College Life in room 138 on our Long Wharf campus. Non-students must be 18 years of age or older to participate.

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April 19: Career Fair at North Haven campus

GCC's Career Services Department is sponsoring its second career fair this month on Tuesday, April 19, in the foyer of our North Haven campus from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will feature employers from the automotive, engineering, allied health and nursing fields.

Career Services sponsored a Career Fair on April 7 on our Long Wharf campus in room 160 that featured employers in the business, human services and early childhood education fields (see photo).

Students are encouraged to bring their resumes with them. For resume assistance or more information about the Career Fair, call 203-285-2144.

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April 21: Famed defense attorney, prize fighter speak

Esther Haseltine Schiavone Endowment for the Arts at GCC is sponsoring two speakers on Thursday, April 21: renowned defense attorney and author Norm Pattis and “Ice” John Scully, former prize fighter, boxing champion and ESPN commentator.

Pattis will give a lecture on current judicial law at 9:30 a.m. in room 201 on our Long Wharf campus. Scully, who is also a motivational speaker, will make a presentation at 11:05 a.m. in room 234 on our Long Wharf campus.

Both events are free and open to the public.

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April 27: Scrabble tournament for Literacy Volunteers

GCC is looking for volunteers for teams to represent the college at the 2011 New Haven Scrabble® Challenge, a fundraising event for the Literacy Volunteers of Greater New Haven, on Wednesday, April 27, at the Knights of Columbus in New Haven.

GCC President Dr. Dorsey L. Kendrick will co-chair the fundraising event for the Literacy Volunteers of Greater New Haven, which will be from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The college sent four teams to last year’s event and hopes to do the same again this
year, said Ginny Woolums, who is coordinating GCC’s Scrabble Challenge Team. If you’re interested please contact her at 203-285-2162 or vwoolums@gwcc.commnet.edu.

The college is a long-time participant in the annual event and GCC President Dr. Dorsey L. Kendrick also has long-time ties to Literacy Volunteers. Last year, she co-chaired the event. And in 2003 and 2007, she was a recipient of the organization’s Community Partnership Award, which recognizes outstanding contributions that further the cause of literacy in greater New Haven.

April 28: Helping Hands Fund Benefit Luncheon

The GCC community is invited to participate in a benefit luncheon for the college’s Helping Hands Student Assistance Fund that will be held Thursday, April 28, from 12 to 2 p.m. in the cafeteria on our Long Wharf campus.

Cost is $8 and lunch is available for eating in or taking out. Our thanks go to Theodora’s Catering Services for donating the day’s buffet lunch of mixed green salad, chicken marsala, pasta/rice, meatballs and Italian sausage and peppers, soda and water.

April 29: International Club trip to United Nations

The International Club is hosting a trip to the United Nations in New York City on Friday, April 29. The bus will depart Long Wharf at 9 a.m. and leave New York at 7 p.m. to return. Student tickets are $12 and non-student tickets are $15. Tickets are available in the Office of College Life in room 138 on our Long Wharf campus. Non-students must be 18 years of age or older to participate.

April 29: Faculty Institute on Infant and Toddler Care

There will be a full-day Faculty Institute on Best and Current Practices and Resources for Infant Toddler Care on Friday, April 29, on our Long Wharf campus in room 160 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

It is part of a project being worked on by Professor Carmelita Valencia-Daye. The statewide project includes the Department of Social Services, Connecticut Head Start Collaboration Office and Connecticut Charts-A-Course and involves the integration of the Connecticut Early Learning Guidelines and the Infant/Toddler Modules, created through the National Infant and Toddler Child Care Initiative.

Faculty from two- and four-year public and private colleges are expected to attend. “In addition to faculty and staff from other state agencies, we are also expecting colleagues from the National Infant and Toddler Child Care Initiative office and possibly other infant/toddler specialists from Rhode Island whom we are collaborating with as well,” Valencia-Daye said.
May 1: Walk Against Hunger for CT Food Bank

You can help GCC and the rest of the greater New Haven community fight hunger by participating in the Connecticut Food Bank's Walk Against Hunger on Sunday, May 1, at East Rock Park in New Haven.

Registration opens at 1 p.m. and the walk begins at 2 p.m. There are two ways you can help. You can join GCC's team and walk that day or you can donate to help the total amount raised by GCC's team.

To join GCC's team, click here and under “Which team would you like to join” select “Gateway Community College.” To donate to the team online, click here and scroll down and select “Gateway Community College” under “team” or you can also choose to support a specific member of the team by clicking on that individual's name, listed directly below the team name.

Or you if you’d like to give a donation in person, please contact Kim Shea at (203) 285-2011 or kshea@gwcc.commnet.edu or Teresa DeMars at 203-285-2286 or tdemars@gwcc.commnet.edu.

May 3: 2011-12 SGA officers to be sworn in

Everyone is invited to attend the swearing in ceremony for the 2011-12 Student Government Association officers, which will be held Tuesday, May 3, at 3 p.m. on our Long Wharf campus in room 160. SGA officers will be elected on April 21.

May 4: SGA Leadership and Athletics Awards

Save the date: The 2011 Student Government Association’s Student Leadership and Athletics Awards Banquet will be held on Wednesday, May 4, at Anthony’s Ocean View. This annual event honors the best among GCC’s student and athlete leaders. Invitations will be sent out soon with more details.

May 7: SGA sponsors trip to Six Flags New England

The Student Government Association will sponsor three buses on a trip to Six Flags New England in Agawam, Mass., on Saturday, May 7. The buses will depart our Long Wharf campus at 8:30 a.m. and will leave Agawam at 9 p.m. Student tickets are $5 and non-student tickets are $25. Tickets are available in the Office of College Life in room 138 on our Long Wharf campus. Non-students must be 18 years of age or older to participate.
May 7: PTK car wash fundraiser in North Haven

Get the last of winter off your car and help a good cause by participating in the Saturday, May 7, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society car wash, which will be held at the North Haven McDonald’s on Washington Avenue.

PTK changed the venue this year to help the environment because the catch basins at McDonald’s are connected to the local sewer systems and not rivers and streams, according to adviser Rich Halkyard. Tickets are $5. For information, contact Halkyard at 203-889-8506 or rhalkyard@gwcc.commnet.edu.

PTK will not be offering a document shredding fundraiser this year because its vendor no longer offers free community shredding.

Faculty, Staff Highlights

Humanities instructor to be NEH summer scholar

Humanities instructor Renee A. Gaines will be summer scholar for the National Endowment for the Humanities in July at the Fannie Lou Hamer National Institute on Citizenship and Democracy at Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi. The initiative, called “We the People,” will give Gaines an opportunity to do research on the civil rights movement and civil rights studies.

Student Highlights

Student forum on state budget held March 7

More than 35 students participated in a forum on Monday, March 7, to discuss the pending state budget and its affect on GCC.

The 90-minute event was held in room 160 on our Long Wharf campus. Speakers discussed what could change at GCC if the current proposed state budget passes and why the changes are happening. Speakers included GCC Director of Finance Jill McDowell, GCC Director of Financial Aid Raymond Zeek and Dr. Matthew Long, director of student development and services.

The event was coordinated by a subcommittee of the Student Government Association called Students For the Opposition of Budget Cutbacks. The subcommittee is in the midst of an e-mail outreach campaign to try to mobilize students to write or call their state legislators and encourage them to oppose the proposed cutbacks.

SOAR student placed in SCRCOG internship
Through a partnership with the state Department of Environmental Protection and funding from the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund, a GCC student enrolled in our new SOAR Alternative Energy Transportation Technology certificate program has been placed in an internship with the South Central Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG) in North Haven.

North Haven resident Andre Puzio will assist with the regional greenhouse gas inventory and the Regional Climate Action Plan and energy benchmarking, according to Carla A. Roehrich, GCC’s SOAR regional coordinator. SCRCOG includes 15 towns: Meriden, Wallingford, Bethany, Woodbridge, Orange, Milford, Hamden, New Haven, West Haven, North Haven, East Haven, Branford, North Branford, Guilford and Madison.

GCC’s SOAR Alternative Energy Transportation Technology (AETT) Certificate was launched last fall. It gives students the skills they need for entry-level careers diagnosing and repairing problems with electric, hybrid, natural gas and other alternatively fueled vehicles.

It is one of three new programs offered by GCC that are part of the Connecticut Community College System’s Sustainable Operations: Alternative and Renewable (SOAR) Energy Initiative, which was funded by a three-year, $2 million U.S. Department of Labor Community-Based Job Training Grant in 2009.

79 students inducted into Phi Theta Kappa chapter

Seventy-nine academically outstanding students were inducted into GCC’s Alpha Xi Theta chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society in a ceremony held March 18 in GCC’s North Haven campus auditorium.

The mission of the Phi Theta Kappa is to recognize and encourage the academic success of students attending two-year colleges. Members have the opportunity to participate in honors and leadership programs, community service and fellowship programming. Students who are inducted have completed 12 hours of course work while achieving a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.


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