GCC president honored with 2012 Liberty Bell Award

GCC President Dr. Dorsey L. Kendrick was honored Jan. 28 by the Foundation of the New Haven County Bar with its 2012 Liberty Bell Award for encouraging respect for the law, stimulating a sense of civic responsibility and contributing to good government in the community.

Dr. Kendrick was introduced by state Senate Majority Leader Sen. Martin M. Looney (D-New Haven) as a “remarkable person who has spent her entire career inspiring others to dream, learn and become more.”

“She is a dedicated educator, in every sense of the word, and a visionary leader,” he said. “Dorsey remains true to the two ideals she holds most dear. First is her commitment to fairness and justice. Every day, Dorsey strives to treat people with the same dignity and respect with which she hopes to be treated. Second, she aspires to be a servant-leader. Her greatest joy, she says, is doing for others, modeling leadership and making a difference.”

In accepting her award, Dr. Kendrick said that society has failed to protect the basic “inalienable rights” of all people, including a good education, adequate housing, affordable medical care, quality childcare and opportunities to enter well-paying jobs and move into leadership roles.

“As individuals, educators and professionals, we have a social, economic and moral responsibility to teach one another how to maximize our full potential and build a legacy for those who come after us,” she said. “We need to tap our human value system to help us build today’s and tomorrow’s dream makers.”

Dr. Kendrick is third from the left in the photo with members of the GCC community who joined her at the award dinner.

April 29: Foundation Kitchen Tour, Tapas Reception

The Gateway Community College Foundation will be holding two fundraising events on April 29, an afternoon tour of four fabulous gourmet kitchens in greater New Haven and an evening Tapas Reception at Delia, the Viking Center of New England in Wallingford.

Proceeds from the events will benefit the foundation and GCC’s culinary and hospitality programs.
The Kitchen Tour will take place from 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. It will feature a local personality accompanying participants on a coach bus that will take them to each site, where they will learn interesting facts about the kitchen and enjoy a beverage or tasting of local food treats. Each participant will also receive a program book with information about the kitchens, delicious recipes from well-known area chefs and culinary trivia.

The Tapas Reception will take place from 5:30 to 8 p.m. and will feature guest speaker Claire Criscuolo, author chef and owner of Claire’s Corner Copia and Basta Trattoria. Criscuolo will be introduced by Jane Stern, co-author of dozens of cookbooks who is best known for her “Roadfood” series and “Roadfood” column in Gourmet magazine.

Emmy-winning TV journalist Jocelyn Mimenta will emcee the event, which will include a silent auction and tapas prepared by six of Connecticut’s most well-respected chefs. Participating this year are: Jean Pierre Viullermet of Union League; Patrick Hogan of Kelly’s Restaurant; Prasad Chirnomula of Oaxaca, Thali and Thali Too; Franco Camacho of Tacuba and Twill; Manuel Romero of Ibiza and Jason Carmon of Soul de Cuba.

Tickets to the Kitchen Tour are $65 per person. Tickets to the Tapas Reception are $90 per person. Combination tour and reception tickets, which include a copy of Claire Criscuolo’s “Welcome to Claire’s” cook book valued at $24.95 (photo), are $145 per person. To make a reservation for either or both events, please contact Susan Swirsky at 203-285-2617 or sswirsky@gwcc.commnet.edu.

GCC Professor Stephen Fries, coordinator of GCC’s hospitality management program and a food columnist with the New Haven Register, and GCC Board Member Carol Marianaccio are co-chairing the events.

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GCC is on Twitter under @GatewayNewHaven

As part of our continued efforts to embrace social media, Gateway is now on Twitter.com under the name @GatewayNewHaven — and we want your help to grow this popular channel of communications so we can continue to make it as easy as possible for our students and community to keep up with all that’s going on at Gateway and reach out to us when they want, how they want.

Gateway has more than 2,100 followers now on its Facebook page, which is listed under “Gateway Community College, New Haven,” giving us direct online access to those individuals. And students are beginning to use our Facebook page more often as a way to ask questions and get the information they need.

How can you help us on Twitter?

- If you’re on Twitter, follow us under @GatewayNewHaven;
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.

March 30 deadline to apply for 133 scholarships
Students who will be continuing at GCC this fall have until Friday, March 30 to apply for any of the 133 scholarships being offered this year by the Gateway Community College Foundation. Altogether, the scholarships are valued at more than $100,000.

Applications will be inside a brochure explaining all of the scholarships and their requirements, which will be available starting Feb. 17. In addition to being available inside the foundation office, room 130 on the Long Wharf campus, it will also be available in both cafeterias, libraries, the Office of College Life, Financial Aid Office, Counseling Office, Admissions Office, Student Lounge and the Records Office at the North Haven campus.

Many of the scholarships’ specific qualifications are general in nature. Some of them are program specific. Application packets must include two letters of recommendation and an unofficial copy of a transcript through the fall 2011 semester that shows a student’s cumulative GPA. For more information, contact Susan Swirsky at 203-285-2617 or sswirsky@gwcc.commnet.edu.

Men in nursing scholarship established
As part of GCC’s continuing efforts to foster greater gender diversity in the nursing profession, the Gateway Community College Foundation is offering a $500 scholarship for the 2012-13 academic year for a male nursing student accepted into GCC’s nursing program.

Applicants must also prove a need for financial support, have a minimum 2.7 GPA and meet additional criteria. The scholarship was established by Sam Osei, R.N., a 2006 graduate of GCC’s nursing program, to advance the college’s Gateway Men Embrace Nursing (G-MEN) initiative.

For details or an application, contact Susan Swirsky at 203-285-2617 or sswirsky@gwcc.commnet.edu.

Update on progress of our Campus Transition Teams
The Campus Transition Teams — each led by a member of the President’s Cabinet and comprised of volunteer faculty, staff and where appropriate, students — have all been hard at work for the past year preparing for our move to the new downtown...
The following is a brief update on the progress of each, which was presented at Professional Day Jan. 18. The photos were taken during the faculty/staff campus tours in January:

**New Campus Tours Team** — This team includes four specialized teams: General Tours for the public at large; Green Tours as part of our Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification; Specialty Division and Department Tours; and Internal Orientation Tours for faculty and staff. The teams are developing routes and scripts and hope to begin offering some tours in June. The team is working to establish a schedule for the entire slate of tours throughout the rest of 2012. Starting in 2012, only the General Tours and Green Tours will be ongoing. GCC’s Office of Public Relations and Marketing is also creating a series of narrated “virtual tours” that will be available on our website and allow divisions and departments to highlight their own particular area.

**Scheduling Team** — This team is charged with minimizing our move’s negative impact on the delivery of education. It helped decide that, in order to ensure the most expeditious transition with the least impact on classes, we will be having an abbreviated summer semester this year that is completed by July 4. The semester will still offer a variety of courses and support those students whose funding sources, like the G.I. Bill, require no greater than a 30-day break in training. This team also worked closely with the Transportation Team to draft a new proposed class time schedule starting in the fall semester to minimize the impact on downtown traffic of our students, faculty and staff.

**Transportation Team** — This team has been actively working with stakeholders in the community to mitigate the impact of our emerging presence downtown. Its proposals include a revised class schedule, incentives for increased use of public transportation, continued use of reserved parking for faculty and staff, use of a single-card system to serve as an ID and parking entry key, creation of a UPass Program and continued dialogue with our downtown neighbors to measure our impact.

**New Telephone System Team** — This team is working to finalize the new exterior/interior communication system for the new campus. The proposed system, which will be built around a Cisco Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) system, will be more robust and flexible than our existing system and offer features not available on the current system. Features include phones that are capable of functioning as a public address system, that can provide users with a caller log to determine who called without checking voicemail, and programmable “call attendants” that offer changeable greetings for various areas of the college.

**Communications Team** — This team is helping to oversee a variety of initiatives,
including a new college website, the selection of a public relations firm to lend support in event planning and external communications related to the new campus, and the creation/distribution of answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) for faculty and staff.

**Marketing/Logistics Team** — This team has made progress in areas that include creating a new Gateway brand for our collateral materials and planning for events that could include preview parties, functions for legislators, donors, neighborhood businesses and the media, as well as the campus’ grand opening.

**More answers to FAQs about our move downtown**

The second in a series of answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) about our downtown move is now available

The “Series 2” FAQ, created by the Transition Communications Team, includes answers to questions about information technology, transportation, use of the new building and the move itself. Among other things it explains: how faculty can scan teaching materials, how to backup and store emails and files, computer lab use, primary parking for the downtown campus, where guests to the downtown campus may park, whether faculty and staff can bring personal furniture or small appliances to their work areas, security features, the current schedule for moving and who will pack and unpack.

To see the Series 2 FAQ, click on the Public Folders tab in Outlook, then expand the Gateway tab and click on the Move FAQs folder. In it, you’ll find the team’s Series 1 and Series 2 postings. If you have questions that haven’t been answered yet that you’d like to see in future postings, there are three ways to submit them:

- Send an e-mail to GW-MoveFAQPublishers@gwcc.commnet.edu;
- Go to the Move FAQs public folder in Outlook and select the “New Post” option and posting your question there; or,
- Submit a written question in the FAQ box in the Long Wharf or North Haven libraries.

**Nominations sought for 2012 student awards**

Nominations are being sought for the 2012 Best All-Around Student Award and all of the awards associated with the 2012 Student Leadership Awards Banquet

Each year at commencement, GCC recognizes a Best All-Around Student, someone who does not meet the college’s criteria for highest academic achievement, but nonetheless makes major contributions to the college and society. In addition to the award, the student also receives $200.

To be eligible, a student must be graduating and have demonstrated leadership and mentoring, personal achievements, career goals, a consistent commitment to service, participation in community and student activities, employment accomplishments and a minimum cumulative GPA of at least 2.5. All nominations should be forwarded to Carol McHugh in the president’s office by April 16. If you have any questions about the Best All-Around Student Award, contact Carol McHugh at 203-285-2061 or cmchugh@gwcc.commnet.edu.
The Student Leadership Awards Banquet, an annual event that celebrates the success of our student leaders, will be held May 4. A committee composed of Student Government Association officers selects the award winners for all awards except Student Leader of the Year and Student Employee of the Year. Those awards are decided by a committee of faculty and staff.

Other awards include: Fundraiser of the Year, Philanthropic Program of the Year, Student Organization Program of the Year, Club/Organization of the Year, and Advisor of the Year. All faculty and staff are welcome to submit nominations for Student Leader of the Year. Supervisors may submit nominations for Student Employee of the Year. All nominations must be submitted to Janet Klinck in the Office of College Life, room 138 on our Long Wharf campus, by 4 p.m. on March 16. For nomination packets, contact Janet Klinck at 203-285-2208 or jklinck@gwcc.commnet.edu.

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High school event explores entrepreneurship

GCC hosted the Connecticut Young Entrepreneur Seminar (CT-YES) on Feb. 2 on its Long Wharf campus, giving students from local high schools an opportunity to learn more about being an entrepreneur.

Approximately 65 students from Sound School, West Haven High School and Foran High School who expressed interest in learning more about becoming entrepreneurs attended with their entrepreneurship teachers, as well as GCC students from Professor Jane Griffith’s Management and Growth – Small Business class.

The morning-long seminar included a panel discussion on successful young entrepreneurs facilitated by GCC students Capree Irvin and Connor Lawless with panelists that included Bethany Biodi and Kristen Blando of Autumn Rose Floral Shop in Milford, Christina Yaworowski and Drew Lewis of Active Wellness Holistic Fitness and Personal Training in New Haven and Ken Giannetta from Two Guys One Grill in Wallingford. The entrepreneurs answered questions like: What ignited the spark in you to start a new venture? What have been some of your failures, and what have you learned from them? What would you say are the most significant qualities that make up a successful entrepreneur?

Dr. Pat Sanders, chair of SCORE New Haven, was also a speaker, discussing how SCORE can help entrepreneurs start a business and about a SCORE scholarship for high school students entering the Entrepreneurial Studies Program at GCC. And Dennis Brown, vice president of Connecticut Community Investment Corp. in Hamden, discussed how to start a small business while in high school or college.

The event was sponsored by GCC’s Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) group in collaboration with its Entrepreneurial Studies Program, the Business Department, the GCC Small Business Center and SCORE.

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Library’s spring newsletter available online
The GCC Spring 2012 Library newsletter is now available online. It includes a variety of library news, including how the Long Wharf and North Haven libraries are preparing to move and combine downtown, library workshops and resources, book reviews by Jean Incampo and Patricia Schnepf and “Librarian’s Pick — Free Apps for Your Mobile Devices.”

To read the spring edition, click here. To see the Library Newsletter archives, click here.

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LEEDing the Way: Green power, recycling on campus

Making sure a portion of the electricity to run our new campus comes from “green power” sources and ensuring there will be enough collection points for recyclables are two more ways our new campus will help the environment.

Plans call for purchasing more than 30 percent of the campus’ power from renewable resources, thereby reducing the power purchased from traditional power plants and, hopefully, the adverse effects they can have on the environment.

Also, there will be recycle bins on each floor for items such as plastic, cans and paper, and a designated area to store these recyclables until they can be recycled.

This “LEEDing the Way” feature spotlights the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) aspects of our new campus, which is designed to be gold-certified in LEED. The LEED Green Building Rating System™ is a voluntary, consensus-based standard to support and certify successful green building design, construction and operations.

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Program Spotlight: Dietetic Technology Degree

The adverse effects of Americans’ poor eating habits are well-documented. As a nation, we struggle with soaring levels of cardiovascular disease and diabetes, with the latter accounting for $1 of every $4 spent on hospital care.

Dietetic technicians are an important part of helping to prevent these challenges from occurring, often working in partnership with registered dietitians to screen, evaluate and educate individuals while monitoring their progress. And GCC offers the only state-funded Dietetic Technology Program in Connecticut.

The program, which is part of GCC’s Allied Health Division, offers an associate degree in science. Its mission is to prepare graduates with entry-level skills, competence and flexibility to compete successfully in a dynamic employment market wherever food, nutrition and wellness are emphasized, said Program Coordinator Elaine Lickteig, M.S., R.D.
“Graduates might work in hospitals, long-term care and sub-acute care facilities in a clinical or food-service setting,” Lickteig said. “They can also work in dialysis centers, community or public health settings educating clients on a wide variety of nutrition topics.”

The 65-credit program includes 450 hours of required field experience in the form of internships with GCC partners that include St. Mary’s, St. Francis, Milford and Norwalk hospitals, Montowese Health Center, Lord Chamberlain Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, the Hartford Department of Health, Trumbull Health Advisory Committee, YMCA of Milford, Galosso Services and GCC’s own Early Learning Center and Step Forward Program.

Since its establishment in 1972, GCC’s Dietetic Technology Program has graduated 344 students and currently has more than 60 enrolled. It is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics, the accrediting agency for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, and is also approved by the Certified Dietary Managers Association. Its general education courses are offered on both GCC campuses, with its program-specific courses currently on GCC’s North Haven campus.

Many of the program’s graduates go on to earn bachelor’s degrees. Others are practicing dietetic technicians, registered dietitians or dietary managers. Shannon Sabas, a 19-year-old Milford resident and current student, says she hopes to continue her education after graduating this spring to ultimately become a registered dietitian.

“I chose Gateway because it has an accredited program and I wanted to start taking classes right away instead of doing two years of general study first,” Sabas said. “I think the program is great. You get to do internships and start to get involved in the field before you graduate, which allows you to meet new people in the nutrition field and possibly even get a job. I would definitely recommend the program to a friend. All the professors are great and give you lots of support.”

Faculty, Staff Highlights

GCC participates in AHA National Wear Red Day
On Friday, Feb. 3, the GCC community embraced National Wear Red Day, showing its support for women’s heart health.

Across the nation, people wore red to encourage women's heart disease awareness as part of the American Heart Association Go Red for Women observance. The AHA’s goal is to change the perception that heart disease is a “man’s disease” given that it is the No. 1 killer of women in the United States.

GCC also plans to send a team for the fourth consecutive year to the AHA Heart Walk in West Haven on June 2. If you’d like to join the Gateway team, please contact Kim Shea at 203-285-2011 or kshea@gwcc.commnet.edu or Sheila Solernou at 203-285-2393 or ssolernou@gwcc.commnet.edu.

CSF director named to Hamden energy commission

David Cooper, director of GCC’s Center for a Sustainable Future (CSF), has been appointed by Mayor Scott Jackson to the Town of Hamden’s Energy Use and Climate Change Commission through July 2015.

The commission was formed to help the town reduce its energy footprint in the interest of reducing its impact on global warming and to help save the town money by assisting the town in making wise investments in terms of energy use and efficiency.

As a result, the commission, among other things, looks for areas of inefficiency within the town and makes recommendations for improving overall efficiency of the town’s buildings, fleet, etc., investigates and promotes alternative power generation technologies and encourages residents to take a proactive stance on energy use to improve the town both environmentally and financially.

Scholarship established in memory of professor

The Gateway Community College Foundation has established a $1,000 scholarship in memory of retired GCC Professor Richard Fiore in partnership with his family.
Applicants must be interested in math, science or nursing and possess a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0. In addition to being a professor, Fiore was program coordinator of chemistry, math and physics. In 2009, he was granted emeritus status, an honor given to faculty and administrators who have retired from state service with at least 15 years of service and who have distinguished themselves by providing meritorious service while employed in the community college system. Fiore passed away Nov. 27.

Those interested in contributing to his scholarship may send a check made out to the Gateway Community College Foundation with “Richard Fiore Memorial Scholarship” in the memo line. Donations should be sent to Susan Swirsky in room 130 on Long Wharf in the Office of Development & Community Partnerships. His family will be notified of each individual contribution without disclosing the amount given.

Appointments in Registrar, College of Technology

GCC is pleased to announce that Susan Moscato has been named acting associate registrar and Professor Susan Spencer has been appointed as the College of Technology program coordinator. Please join us in congratulating both of them for their achievements!

GCC culinary professor, student on TV’s ‘CT Style’

GCC Professor Stephen Fries, coordinator of the college’s hospitality program, appeared on the “In the Kitchen” segment of WTNH-TV’s “Connecticut Style” on Jan. 18 with GCC culinary student Steve Carmichael and morning traffic reporter Teresa LaBarbera. To see the segment and see Fries’ recipe for delicious pea soup, click here.

GCC Campaign for Charitable Giving raises $7,800

GCC completed its portion of the Connecticut State Employees’ Campaign for Charitable Giving (CSEC) in December, raising $7,806.

The CSEC is a once-a-year opportunity for state employees to contribute to non-profit charities at the workplaces. Through it, employees can make a single gift to help people locally, throughout the nation or around the world. Statewide contributions go to hundreds of charities, making possible a wide range of vital services, including shelter for the homeless, protection of the environment, research for cures of diseases and care for both children and the elderly.

Our thanks go out to everyone who participated for their generous contributions.
In Memoriam: Educational Assistant Lisa Kydes

Lisa Kydes, an educational assistant in GCC’s Science Department for the past 13 years, died on Jan. 24 after a brief illness. Kydes, 53, a Middletown resident was a GCC graduate and went on to earn her bachelor’s degree from Southern Connecticut State University and was attending classes toward earning a master’s degree. Our sincerest condolences go out to her family, friends and co-workers.

Student Highlights

Every DMS senior passes board exam on first try

All 10 of the seniors in GCC’s Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) Program recently took and all passed the board exam for the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS), a national test necessary to become registered with a level of difficulty high enough that only 57 percent of first time testers pass.

This is the first time that all qualified GCC DMS students have taken the ARDMS boards before graduation and passed, according to Program Director Valerie Hylas, RDMS, RDCS. “A lot of credit goes to them for their interest in the technology and their partnership with their instructors,” Hylas said. “Their achievement is really something to brag about.”

250+ attend ‘Family First’ nursing orientation

More than 250 people attended the GCC Nursing Division’s Jan. 12 Family First Workshop on our Long Wharf campus, an event designed to involve nursing students’ families and friends in helping to ensure they successfully complete the program.

Started five years ago with 38 attendees, January’s event came at the end of a three-day Nursing Program orientation. In addition to new nursing students, it was attended by their spouses, children, parents, grandparents and friends.

“We believe that if we involved the families, the students’ chances of success increases,” said Barbara Rudolph, GCC’s nurse counselor/advisor. “Everyone has to partner with the students because nursing is a difficult major.”

The event began with a team-building exercise and included a dinner prepared by the students that focused on ethnic dishes and was served by current students and members of the Student Nurses Association. It also included an informal discussion by Rudolph and Nursing Division Director Sheila Solernou about the life of a nursing student and ways that families can help them achieve their goals.

Students volunteer at Ronald McDonald House
On Dec. 6, six GCC students participated in the Office of College Life’s Student Community Outreach Program to volunteer at the Ronald McDonald House in New Haven.

The Ronald McDonald House’s mission is to create, find and support programs that directly improve the health and well-being of children, and housing children and families in times of need.

Jasmine Carson, student community outreach coordinator, said she and the other students helped in a number of ways, including preparing food for the families staying at the house, as well as conducting arts and crafts activities with the families.

“It was a humbling experience to be able to lend a hand due to the fact that the families who were helping did not all have money and the fact that we were able to make a difference was a big encouragement,” Carson said. “There was a lot of holiday spirit going around and the families really needed some cheer and joy because their children were in nearby hospitals. Overall, it was a great experience and we look forward to continuing this relationship.”

Wanted: New Student Orientation Leaders for fall

The Office of College Life is recruiting returning GCC students to serve as New Student Orientation Leaders for the fall semester, the first time the program will take place in our new downtown campus.

In order to be selected, students must have completed at least one semester at GCC, be returning to the college in the 2012-13 academic year, be in good standing, be able to serve as a role model, be highly responsible and available for the following dates and times:

- Tuesday, Aug. 14, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for New Student Orientation Leader Training Part 1;
- Wednesday, Aug. 15, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for New Student Orientation Leader Training Part 2;
- Thursday, Aug. 23, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. for New Student Orientation—Session 1;
- Monday, Aug. 27, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. for New Student Orientation—Session 2;
- Thursday, Aug. 30, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. for New Student Orientation—Session 3; and,
- To serve as mentor to our new students throughout the year.

Students will be paid on an hourly basis. In addition to an application, applicants must submit a resume and be available to participate in an interview with the selection committee. For an application, contact the Office of College Life at 203-285-2208.

Alumni Highlights

May 18: Nursing Alumni 10th Anniversary Picnic
GCC’s Nursing Division is hosting a 10th Anniversary Reunion Picnic for all its alumni on May 18 in honor of a decade of excellence in nursing education.

The event will be held from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on the lawn at our North Haven campus and will include music, food and games. RSVPs are due by April 13 to Linda Scott at 203-285-2403 or Barbara McFarland at pmcfarland@gwcc.commnet.edu.

Couple, both GCC alums, run veterans organization

George and Mary Porter, both GCC alumni and veterans, are running The No Vet Left Behind Inc., an organization they founded in 2007 in Ansonia to serve homeless and newly returning veterans.

In addition to organizing events to help veterans, the organization also recently opened a food pantry and thrift shop at 14 Jewett St. in Ansonia. The food pantry fed more than 150 families over the holidays. The food pantry and thrift shop accept donations of food, clothing and furniture.

“We are especially proud of this new location because it is now 4,000 square feet and houses not only our thrift shop, but it will be the home to our computer lab that will be dedicated for veterans and their families for job searching and resume writing,” said Mary Porter.

Calendar Highlights

Free drop-in math tutoring available this semester

GCC math instructors will be available for free drop-in tutoring throughout the spring semester for students needing assistance with pre-algebra and introductory algebra courses.

Specifically, the courses available for tutoring are MAT 075, MAT 095 and MAT 097.

Drop-in tutoring is available for these courses on the Long Wharf campus in the Center for Educational Services, room 142, on:

- Mondays from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and 3:40 p.m. to 4:40 p.m.;
- Tuesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and 5:05 p.m. to 5:35 p.m.;
- Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., 3 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and 3:40 p.m. to 4:40 p.m.;
- Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., 5:05 p.m. to 5:35 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.;
- Saturdays from 12:25 p.m. to 1:25 p.m. in room 247 on the Long Wharf campus.

Drop-in tutoring is available on the North Haven campus in the Center for Educational Services/Library on:

- Mondays from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.;
- Tuesdays from 1:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.;
- Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.;
Fridays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Before coming to a drop-in math tutoring session, students are encouraged to call and confirm that there has been no change to these posted hours. To confirm the Long Wharf hours, call 203-285-2217. To confirm the North Haven hours, call 203-285-2348.

Feb. 21: Classical guitar concert with ChromaDuo

The Esther Haseltine Schiavone Endowment Fund for the Arts at GCC presents a free classical guitar concert Tuesday, Feb. 21, at 5:30 p.m. at our Long Wharf campus in room 160, featuring ChromaDuo with performers Tracy Anne Smith and Rob MacDonald.

A dedicated new voice in the contemporary music world, ChromaDuo is vigorously developing and presenting some of today’s most evocative, lyrical and exhilarating music. Classical guitarists Smith and MacDonald unveil refreshing and innovative programs of new works by some of the most exciting living composers of our time.

The Esther Haseltine Schiavone Endowment Fund was established in 2006 through the Gateway Community College Foundation by Schiavone’s daughter Jennifer Spinach, 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.

Feb. 23, 29: Black History Month events

GCC and its Black Student Association are celebrating Black History Month with a number of events, including:

- Feb. 23, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., “Black Love Discussion” in the Long Wharf cafeteria;
- Feb. 29, at 2 p.m., “Black History Jeopardy” in room 160 on the Long Wharf campus and a closing ceremony commemorating the end of Black History Month.

Events that have already taken place include a showing of the movie “Sankofa,” a panel discussion of the question “Affirmative action: Does it help or hurt?” and an event remembering the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Feb. 25 to May 24: Important graduation-related dates

Potential graduates are reminded that graduation is not automatic. The following procedure must be followed to graduate in 2012:
1. Make an appointment to meet with a counselor for a preliminary graduation audit;
2. Get a graduation application from the Records Office
3. Submit the application by March 9 to the Records Office on either campus, in room 125 on our Long Wharf campus and room 101 on our North Haven campus.

The Dean of Students Office reminds the college community of the following important graduation-related dates:

- Feb. 25: January diploma pick up begins;
- March 9: Deadline to apply for May graduation – no exceptions;
- May 17: Graduation rehearsal, 10 a.m., Woolsey Hall, Yale University;
- May 17: Evening Awards Convocation, North Haven auditorium;
- May 24: Graduation, 6 p.m., Woolsey Hall, Yale University;
- June 8: Deadline to apply for summer graduation – no exceptions.

Through April 14: Free student income tax prep help

GCC will be hosting free income tax preparation workshops for GCC students on Wednesdays and Saturdays from Jan. 18 through April 14.

The Wednesday workshops will be held from 7:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. and the Saturday workshops will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. They all will be held in the Long Wharf cafeteria. Workshops will not be offered March 21, March 24 or April 7 because the college will be closed on those dates.

The workshops are open only to GCC students with an annual income under $50,000. Workshop volunteers can assist with 2011 federal and Connecticut income tax preparation and e-filing.

Workshop participants must bring the following with them to the workshop of their choice: a government-issued photo ID; original social security card or individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers for everyone being claimed; all income forms including W-2s, 1099s and other pertinent income information; last year’s tax return if available; list of deductions, including medical expenses, donations, taxes, interest and miscellaneous expenses; and bank account information for refund direct deposit by the IRS.

The workshops are being offered by GCC in partnership with the IRS Stakeholder Relationship Division’s Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program and the New Life Corporation of New Haven.