More than 200 attend campus ‘topping-out’ ceremony

GCC and Dimeo Construction Company held a “topping-out” ceremony Jan. 20 to celebrate the symbolic placement of the final beam for our new $198 million campus in downtown New Haven.

The topping-out ceremony is a long-standing tradition in European and Native American cultures. In addition to speakers, guests to the event were invited to all sign the symbolic final beam, which was then raised to its place on the north section of the site with an evergreen tree placed on it to symbolize growth and attract good luck.

More than 200 people attended the ceremony, including GCC students, faculty and staff, as well as local and state officials, representatives from the project’s contractors and workers from the site itself.

“While this represents a physical structure, it means much more to our community,” said GCC President Dr. Dorsey L. Kendrick. “When this project is completed in less than a year and half, we will provide the citizens of the New Haven Region with a world-class, LEED Gold, comprehensive community college.”

“In short, taking shape behind us is our gateway to the future to life-long learning for so many people who would otherwise be locked out or their dreams deferred,” she said. “This new campus will help our community meet today’s educational needs and be ready to help meet the many workforce challenges of tomorrow.”

In addition to Kendrick, speakers included Chancellor of Connecticut Community Colleges Marc Herzog; Michael P. Meotti, state commissioner of education; and Stephen F. Rutledge, executive vice president of Dimeo Construction Company, the project’s construction manager. Kelly Murphy, New Haven’s deputy mayor for economic development, is education market leader for the project.

Herzog said he was delighted to see how much progress had been made on the project since its
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groundbreaking one year ago. He said it was appropriate that the event took place just a few days after the commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King’s birthday. “As we look at the ideals that were central to his life, like opportunity and equity, they are certainly central to the mission of Connecticut community colleges,” Herzog said.

Rutledge thanked all the site’s workers in attendance and everyone else who has had a hand in the construction of the project to date. “Dimeo Construction Company is proud to be a part of helping lead the team of professionals in construction of this very important educational facility for the regional community,” Rutledge said.

Evelyn Gard, GCC’s director of public relations and marketing, sends out a special thank you to all the students, staff and faculty who helped make the day such a success.

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Campus Transition Team starts college-wide effort

GCC President Dr. Dorsey L. Kendrick’s Cabinet has created a Campus Transition Team (CTT), which has launched a series of task-specific teams to smooth the transition to our new campus downtown.

The CTT has identified six initial teams to oversee various areas and these teams will be chaired by members of the Cabinet. Dean of Continuing Education and Workforce Development Vicki Bozzuto said there was “terrific” response from faculty and staff for participation in the teams when the issue was discussed at Professional Day on Jan. 19.

“We know there is excitement and interest in being a part of this important project,” Bozzuto said. “It doesn’t matter what your background or experience is, the more diverse we can make our teams, the more positive the results will be.” The teams are:

The Telephone System Team. This team will work with the state contractor to review and select the electronic voice communication system with the features and capabilities best suited to meet the college’s needs now and into the future within the specified budget requirements that meets the timeline for installation and implementation;

The New Campus Tours Team. This team will schedule guided tours of the new campus building when it is safe, feasible, and permitted to do so. This team will have team-developed routes and scripts, will be available to conduct the tours and answer questions, provide marketing material to tour guests and will make special arrangements for VIP or short-notice tours;

The Communication Team. This team will work to publicize and market our new facility and engage internal and external stakeholders as well as the whole region in the progress of the consolidated campus;

The Transportation Team. This team will review the schedule of classes in regard to peak traffic. They will look at and work on all aspects of how faculty, staff, students and the public will get to and from the new campus, where they will park, how to encourage the maximum long-term use of public transportation, and how to best establish working
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.

President’s Corner

Click here to see list of events on our web site.

College showed perseverance with snow issues

GCC President Dr. Dorsey L. Kendrick sends her appreciation to all faculty, staff and students for their perseverance and patience as the college worked to overcome a variety of challenges associated with this winter’s historic snowfall.

GCC had to close early or entirely on several occasions. Because of the disruptions, the college had to extend registration for the spring semester through Jan. 28. And it’s already difficult beginning-of-the-semester parking situation was made even more arduous as towering piles of snow eliminated parking spots and significantly impaired visibility.

“I believe that everyone will agree with me that this has been an unusual winter to date,” Kendrick said. “It has also been a challenge for me in terms of assessing and reassessing the decision to remain open or to close the college campuses on days when the weather is bad or unpredictable. These decisions take into consideration the safety of the faculty, staff and students and it is one that is made with great care and thoughtfulness, taking all stakeholders that are involved into consideration.”

The record snowfall also led to increased attention to the accumulation of snow on GCC’s rooftops due to safety concerns. At our North Haven campus, heavy accumulations of snow and ice were removed from sections of the main roof and the canopy room to minimize potential risk. At our Long Wharf campus, crews discovered that 40 percent of roof did not have any snow at all and the remaining portion had normal amounts of snow on it. We take this safety risk very seriously and will do everything we can to reduce the risk,” said Dean of Administration Lou D’Antonio. “We will continue to monitor the roofs and take whatever action necessary until all potential risk has passed.”

March 18 deadline to apply for scholarships

Students who will be continuing at GCC this fall have until Friday, March 18, to apply for one or more of the 127 scholarships being offered this year by the Gateway Community College Foundation. Altogether, the scholarships are valued at more than $87,000.
Applications are available inside a brochure explaining all of the scholarships and their requirements. In addition to being available in the Foundation Office, room 130 on the Long Wharf campus, the brochure is now 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' 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 2010 semester that shows a student's cumulative GPA.

A committee made up of donors, faculty and staff will meet in April to make award decisions. Students will be notified of the committee’s decisions in early May and those who receive scholarships will be invited to attend a donor/student luncheon.

For more information, contact Susan Swirsky at 203-285-2617 or sswirsky@gwcc.commnet.edu.

Radiography Program earns JRCERT accreditation

GCC’s Radiography Program has earned full continuing accreditation from the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT).

Program Director Julie A. Austin, M.A., R.T., said the accreditation was based on the submission of a five-year interim report and the college’s next self study and site visit from JRCERT will be in 2013.

“I would like to thank everyone involved with maintaining program accreditation, especially Jaye Viola, Julie Perego-Mangini, Gina Finn and all the program’s clinical Instructors and affiliates,” Austin said. “I would also like to thank Shelly Frosolone, whose clerical skills and attention to detail was nothing less than exceptional.”

GCC’s Allied Health Department offers programs in four areas of radiologic technology: radiography, diagnostic medical sonography, nuclear medicine technology and radiation therapy. The field of radiologic technology includes some of the most rapidly advancing careers in modern medicine. Recent changes in technology, the ever-increasing use of highly sophisticated equipment, and the expansion of radiology departments throughout the nation have created a large demand for individuals educated in this field.

Top Chef All Stars contestant visits GCC students

Angelo Sosa, a Durham native and contestant on Bravo TV’s Top Chef All Stars, visited with GCC hospitality students on Friday, Feb. 4.

Sosa (center in photo) attended Manchester Community College and later the Culinary Institute of America. He conducted a cooking demonstration for GCC students and had a discussion about the hospitality profession, according to
Stephen Fries, professor and coordinator of GCC’s Hospitality Management Programs.

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‘Keeping the Child in Childhood’ workshop

An author and professor from Wheelock College, an institution known for its outstanding Early Childhood Education and Social Services programs, held a workshop on “Keeping the Child in Childhood” on Feb. 8.

Diane Levin is a professor of education, longtime activist in ending commercial exploitation of children and the author of eight books, including “Teaching Young Children in Violent Times.” Her presentation was based on her newest book “So Sexy So Soon: The New Sexualized Childhood and what Parents Can Do to Protect Their Kids," which she co-authored with Jean Kilbourne.

Levin discussed what teachers and parents can do to promote healthy play and counteract an increasingly sexualized culture, and how that culture affects girls and boys. The audience included teachers, students, parents, grandparents and GCC staff. Her presentation was sponsored by GCC’s Early learning Center and made possible through the School Readiness Grant.

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New campus steel work is nearly completed

Work crews in January completed all the structural steel erection for the north building at our new downtown campus, except the George Street Bridge, and added snow removal to their list of tasks for the month as the state grappled with historic snowfalls.

Scott Eaton, project manager at Dimeo Construction, gave this summary of work last month:

On the south site: With structural steel completed in December, workers began installing temporary roofing and finished placing the majority of the concrete slabs on decks. Work began on the second-level mechanicals above the ceiling while spray fireproofing continued. Exterior masonry began on the east elevation facing Church Street. This masonry is the supporting wall for the brick façade.

On the north site: Workers placed a portion of the first-level concrete slab last month. Work continued on the masonry walls within the lower level of the building and installation of weather protection.

On the George Street Bridge (photo): The first two levels of steel were erected in January for the bridge. Steel work there will continue through February.
Like everyone in Connecticut last month workers also had to deal with repeated snowstorms that left several feet of snow behind. “After each storm, we had to clear all of our entrances and pathways by putting the snow into dump trucks and carting it away because on a site like this, there is no place to put it,” Eaton said.

The construction site is made up of two parcels, one located north of the other, on 3.7 acres at 2-20 Church Street. The state Department of Public Works is administering the project, which will include two four-story buildings totaling 360,000 square feet. The $198 million campus is one of the largest construction projects the state has ever undertaken and its first public building designed to be gold-certified in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, also known as LEED.

In the Media: Topping out, federal grants, chili recipe

GCC was in the media in a variety of ways in recent weeks, from our topping-out ceremony to federal grants for community colleges and even a cooking segment on WTNH-TV.

Several media outlets covered our topping-out ceremony on Jan. 20. To read the New Haven Independent’s article, click here. To see WTNH’s coverage, click here.

Dean of Continuing Education and Workforce Development Vicki Bozzuto was featured in a New Haven Register article about new federal community college grants. To read that article, click here.

Stephen Fries, professor and program coordinator for GCC’s hospitality programs (photo), was featured on WTNH’s Connecticut Style on Jan. 19. He shared a Five Way Chili recipe from a cookbook co-authored by Jane Stern, who will be a special guest at a GCC Foundation fundraiser April 3 (see article in Calendar Highlights). To see Fries’ segment, click here.

And GCC’s Step Forward program’s “Mix It Up Day” was mentioned on the Teaching Tolerance web site blog, a project of the Southern Poverty Law Center. To read it, click here.

Spotlight: SOAR Clean Water Management Certificate

Students who are interested in science and the environment and looking for a stable career with better-than-average employment opportunities, can now consider GCC’s new SOAR Clean Water Management Certificate Program.

Launched this semester, the program is designed to help fill the need for Connecticut DEP-certified wastewater treatment plant operators. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics says job opportunities in this area are excellent.
because of anticipated above average employment growth coupled with a significant
number of expected retirements and a lack of trained replacements. There are more
than 100 public and private plants in Connecticut that require these kinds of positions.

This new program is one of three new certificate programs 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, said Carla
Roehrich, SOAR regional coordinator at GCC.

The first program, the SOAR Alternative Energy Transportation Technology Certificate
Program, was launched in the fall of 2010. And a new SOAR Solar Technology
Certificate Program also began this spring semester.

Like the other two SOAR programs, the SOAR Clean Water Management Certificate
Program is part of the college’s division of Engineering and Applied Technologies. Its
classroom and laboratory courses are largely offered on GCC’s North Haven campus,
but some are taught on-site at municipal wastewater treatment facilities throughout
the state.

With full-time attendance, students can complete this 30-credit certificate in one year
and be prepared to take the Class I, II, III, and IV Wastewater Treatment Plant
Operator Certification Examinations administered by the Connecticut Department of
Environmental Protection.

“This new program is designed to quickly prepare students for employment in this
growing ‘green’ industry,” Roehrich said. “‘Students will learn about environmental
regulations, operation of waste water treatment plants, industrial-waste treatment,
pretreatment facility inspection, treatment of metal waste streams, the operation and
maintenance of waste water collection systems and procedures and other related
issues.”

For more information about GCC’s new SOAR Clean Water Management Certificate
Program, contact Carla Roehrich at (203) 285-2324 or
croehrich@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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Friendly Reminders

Wanted: New Student Orientation Leaders

The Office of College Life is looking for well-qualified students to serve as New Student
Orientation Leaders for the fall semester. Applications are available in the Office of
College Life on our Long Wharf campus in room 138. Applications are due April 1.

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Community outreach opportunities in February

Students looking for information on how or where they can volunteer in the greater
New Haven area are encouraged to reach out to the Office of College Life.
The Student Community Outreach Program has added another “Warming Up America” knitting program on the North Haven campus on Wednesdays from 12:30pm to 1:30pm in room 211. For further information, please contact Jennifer Rivera at gw-cloutreach@gwcc.commnet.edu.

There are also a variety of one-time volunteer opportunities available in February, including volunteering at the New Haven Pride Center on Feb. 21, literacy tutoring and volunteer work at the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen. For information on these and other community outreach opportunities, contact Jamicia Lackey in the Office of College Life at 203-285-2622 or via e-mail to gw-jlackey@gwcc.commnet.edu.

Calendar Highlights

Feb. 16 and 23: Black History Month events

There are two Black History Month events on campus this month. The first, “Celebrating the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.”, is sponsored by the Black Student Association and will be at 12 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 15 on our Long Wharf campus in room 160. The second will be a showing of the film “Sankofa” at 2 p.m. on our Long Wharf campus in room 160, an event that is co-sponsored by the Black Student Association and the Office of College Life.

Feb. 16: Yale Ensembles Lunchtime Series begins

The Esther Haseltine Schiavone Endowment for the Arts at GCC and the Office of College Life are co-sponsoring a new Yale Ensembles Lunchtime Concert Series that will launch Wednesday, Feb. 16, on the Long Wharf campus in room 160.

The concerts will all run from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. The first concert on Feb. 16 will feature The Elm City Trio with Alexandra Detyniecki on oboe, Sara Wollmacher on clarinet and Jennifer Hostler on bassoon. The trio was formed in 2010 to explore the unique combination of these three woodwind instruments. It has a diverse repertory of classical music, ranging from the standard French works of Poulenc and Bozza to Mozart arrangements and the complex works of Francaix and Villa Lobos.

The series will continue on March 30 with the Yale Trombone Quartet, on April 14 with Chilled Water Supply and 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 Spinach. Spinach 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. 26: Free Amistad lecture at Long Wharf campus

The Amistad Committee, Inc., will present a free lecture on Saturday, Feb. 26, by Joseph Y. Yannielli on “The Amistad Captives Return to Sierra Leone: The Unraveling of the Historical Lie” at our Long Wharf campus in room 160.
April 3: Foundation Kitchen Tour, Tapas Reception

The Gateway Community College Foundation will be holding two fundraising events on April 3, an afternoon tour of six fabulous kitchens in greater New Haven and an evening Tapas Reception at Delia, the Viking Center of New England in Wallingford.

Net proceeds from the events will go toward supporting the needs of GCC students.

The Kitchen Tour will take place from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. It will include 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, enjoy a beverage or local food treat. Each participant will also receive a program book with information about the kitchens, delicious recipes from well-known area chefs and culinary trivia. Tickets are $65 per person.

The Tapas Reception will feature Jane Stern (photo), co-author of dozens of cookbooks and best known for her “Roadfood” series and “Roadfood” column in Gourmet magazine, who will be on hand to sign copies of her book “Two for the Road,” which will be given out free to each guest attending the reception. Emmy-winning TV journalist and author Diane Smith will emcee the event, which include 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. Tickets are $85 per person.

Combination tour and reception tickets are $135 per person. To make a reservation for either or both events, please contact Susan Swirsky at 203-285-2617 or sswirsky@gwcc.commnet.edu.

April 5: 2nd ‘Building Religious Tolerance’ panel event

GCC will host an interfaith panel discussion on “Building Religious Tolerance in Our Community” on April 5, the second such event since November.

The event is free and open to the public. It will take place from 3:45 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on our Long Wharf campus is room 160. It is sponsored by GCC’s Women’s Center and its Humanities Department. Refreshments will be served.

GCC students offered free tax preparation help

GCC, in collaboration with the IRS Stakeholder Relationship Division’s Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program and the New Life Corporation of New Haven, will once again offer Gateway students free, personal income tax preparation and electronic filing assistance throughout the 2011 tax-filing season.
The program, which was launched in 2010, offers free tax-preparation help on Wednesdays and Saturdays through April 15 (with the exception of March 23). The Wednesday events are from 7:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. and the Saturday events are from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Long Wharf campus cafeteria. The service is available to students only; it is not open to faculty or staff.

Faculty & Staff Highlights

Building Programmatic Campaign progress report

Gateway Community College Building Programmatic Campaign has been underway for three months and is already at 33 percent of its goal of 100 percent participation from faculty and staff, according to the Faculty/Staff Campaign Steering Committee.

To date, 81 members of GCC’s faculty and staff have either given a one-time donation or made a multi-year pledge with total gifts and pledges to date at $70,096.

The state of Connecticut is paying for the construction of the new $198 million campus and for some, but not all of its furniture and fixtures. The foundation’s campaign plans to raise $10 million to outfit the new campus and $1 million for the creation of an endowment through a combination of large corporate donations, donations from the larger New Haven community and employees.

Interest earned off the $1 million endowment goal would be used by the foundation board to fund any items or initiatives useful to the faculty and staff at the college. The campaign has already garnered more than $1 million in community support. In addition to showing employee support for the campus, the campaign goal of 100 percent participation by faculty and staff will also help when applying for a grant through the Kresge Foundation.

“We are truly grateful for the generosity shown by those who have already donated and hope those who have not will soon join them,” said Susan Swirsky, one of the three chairs of the campaign. “We know that everyone here at Gateway community supports this new campus, but the best way to show the community how deep that support runs is to demonstrate that the staff and faculty at the college are willing to be the first to step up to donate.”

The following Q&A answers some frequently asked questions about the campaign:

**Question**: Is my pledge and gift tax deductible?
**Answer**: Yes, all gifts and payments toward pledges are tax deductible within the calendar year that they are given.

**Question**: Are we the only community college in Connecticut that has had to raise private funds to meet our students’ needs?
**Answer**: No, a recent example of another Connecticut community college is Northwestern whose $2 million campaign was to support equipment and supplies for a nursing lab, purchase computers, hire tutors, renovate a child-care center and a student center, landscape, pave and build a foot bridge.

**Question**: Can we modify our pledges if we experience a family emergency or find ourselves in a situation where we want to give more?
**Answer**: Yes, absolutely. Pledges may be decreased and increased based upon personal circumstances. The Development Office will work with each donor on a confidential basis during this process.
If you have any other questions, or need a pledge card, please contact one of the trio-chairs for the campaign: Susan Swirsky, administrative assistant in the Office of Development & Community Partnerships, GCC Instructor Dr. Mark Lynch, and Director of Admissions Kim Shea.

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**Faculty, staff honored for their work, service**

Twenty-one members of the faculty and staff at GCC received 2010 full-time service awards for 10, 15, 20, and 25 years of service to the state of Connecticut. The awards ceremony was held on Professional Day Jan. 19

Those who received awards for 10 years of service were: Julie Austin, Claudia Bedoya-Rose, Sansanee Bijananda, China Byrd, Jonah I. Cohen, Michael W. Heaphy, Valerie Hylas, Joseph P. Maynard, Cathy G. Mebane, Leasa Moon, Dr. Mark Kosinski, Vincent Tong and Carmelita Valencia-Daye

Those who received awards for 15 years of service were: Claire Hendricks, Clara Ogbaa, and Rose Ann Spagone. Those who received awards for 20 years of service were: Stella Okparanta, David Pettigrew, and John A. Vincze. And those who received awards for 25 years of service were: Anthony Benoit, Wilson Luna, and Cyprian Ukah.

GCC President Dr. Dorsey Kendrick also recognized the entire faculty at GCC for their dedication to their profession and to students, and singled out some faculty members who have distinguished themselves for their extraordinary efforts in that regard. Those faculty were: Barbara Rudolph, Barbara McFarland, Suzanne Conlon, Susan DeBarge, Todd Degree, Anne Williams, Doree Robinson, Kathy Murphy, Louise Petroka, Heidi Ryden, Norman Abell, Nick Halko, Susan Logston, Cathy Mebane, Carmelita Valencia-Daye, Cher Shannon, Saverio Perugini, Dan Sullivan, Rachael Schettenhelm, Michelle Breaker, Rich Halkyard, Kerin Lee, Victoria Morse, Lucille Flores, Rose Bednarz-Luglio, Andrew Randi, Stephen Fries, John Scott and Lynn Roller.

Our congratulations go out to all those who were honored.

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**GCC participates in Go Red for Women Day Feb. 4**

On Friday, Feb. 4, faculty and staff showed their support for women’s heart health by participating in National Wear Red Day.

Across the country people wore red to encourage women’s heart disease awareness as part of the American Heart Association (AHA) 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.

“The Gateway faculty and staff have gathered every year since 2007 to take our picture ‘wearing red’ to bring attention to the issue of women and heart disease and
"stroke," said Director of Admissions Kim Shea, who helped organize the day’s event. “This is a cause that is close to the heart of many of us here in the Gateway family and that shows each year by the number of people who participate. I want to send my thanks out to everyone who helped us show how important it is for women to take care of their heart health."

GCC plans to send a team for the third consecutive year to the American Heart Association’s Heart Walk this spring. It is being held May 21 in West Haven.

GCC’s diabetes fundraising honored by ADA

GCC was honored recently for its fundraising in the American Diabetes Association’s 2010 Greater New Haven Step Out Walk to Fight Diabetes, which was held last fall in West Haven.

GCC teams were ranked No. 1 and 2 for club/organizational team fundraising with the “Gateway Cares” team raising $2,746 and the Gateway Student Nurses Association team raising $330. GCC President Dr. Dorsey L. Kendrick was the corporate recruitment chair for the event.

GCC faculty member Richard Halkyard (center, photo) attended the event to receive the award. Halkyard also received an award for being a top fundraiser in the ADA’s Tour de Cure last summer and for being the tour’s most improved rider.

The American Diabetes Association is the only non-profit organization supporting all 23.6 million Americans living with diabetes—including type 1 and type 2 diabetes; children and adults.

Douskey’s poetry, radio broadcasting honored

Author and GCC Professor Franz Douskey’s work as a poet and radio broadcaster has been recognized by the University of Arizona and Quinnipiac University.

UA recently requested permission from Douskey to digitize a reading of his poetry so that it could be included in its Poetry Center’s library collection of contemporary poetry. “The audio archive will be an important resource for our students and writers alike,” the university said in its letter of request. “This collection has become one of the greatest literary treasures in the country.”

Quinnipiac President John L. Lahey sent Douskey a letter in December thanking him for his “remarkable and continuing support” of AM 1220 WQUN, which serves Hamden and many of the surrounding towns. Lahey said that WQUN General Manager Ray Andrewsen calls Douskey his “secret producer” and that the staff marvels at his “selfless contributions of countless hours of music, materials and good humor.” Douskey co-hosts a weekly radio show, “Once Upon a Bandstand,” on WQUN with Bud Finch, a member of the Connecticut Broadcast Association’s Hall of Fame.
Douskey is also the driving force behind The Esther Haseltine Schiavone Endowment Fund, which was established in 2006 through the Gateway Community College Foundation by Schiavone’s daughter Jennifer Schiavone Spinach. Spinach set up the endowment in her mother’s memory to help support the arts programs that Douskey, her longtime friend, organizes here at GCC.

Fries named to board of The Elm City Market co-op

Stephen Fries, professor and coordinator of hospitality management programs at GCC, has been named to the board of directors at The Elm City Market, a cooperatively owned market set to open in downtown New Haven later this year, giving downtown it’s only full-service grocery store. Fries is also quoted on the back cover of a newly released cookbook, “More Recipes Worth Sharing,” a collection of more than 500 time-tested, family-favorite recipes by Sheila Thomas.

Retired professor’s black history column in Register

Ann Garrett Robinson, EdD, a GCC professor emerita, authored a column that was featured in the Jan. 27 New Haven Register about Black History Month. To read the column, “Celebrating black history spurs change,” click here.