Commencement celebrates record 871 graduates

Gateway Community College’s Class of 2011, which celebrated its commencement on May 26, included a record 871 graduates.

The keynote speaker, Raymond L. Torres (photo), vice president of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, one of the nation’s top charities, congratulated the graduates on their hard-earned achievements. He also shared his family’s story of moving to the United States from Puerto Rico when he was 12 and seldom seeing his father who worked multiple jobs, including migrant farm work, to make sure his children received the best education possible.

“What are you going to do with the degree you’ve earned?” Torres asked. “The door to your future is in front of you. Before you open that door, this momentous occasion, I think, bears reflection. Because the truth is, no matter what your individual story, you’re here, at least in part, because others have paved the way and made sacrifices. We all stand on the shoulders of those who came before us and opened doors of opportunity that might at one time have been locked to us.”

The ceremony at Yale University’s Woolsey Hall also included giving out an honorary degree and the Board of Trustees (BOT) Merit Award from the Connecticut Community-Technical College System.

The honorary degree went to Dr. James Hogan, retired chief of environmental chemistry and biochemistry at the Connecticut State Laboratories, for his service to the greater New Haven community and to the college. An invaluable advisor and friend to the college, Hogan was a member of the Gateway Community College Regional Advisory Council for more than a decade and served for several years as the chair.

The BOT Merit Award, which recognizes extraordinary service or lifetime commitment to GCC and the state’s community-technical college system, went to Dr. Cynthia Farrar, a longtime friend to GCC, as well as research fellow at the Institute for Social and Policy Studies at Yale, and founder of Purple States, a video production company that specializes in distilling the experience and concerns of ordinary people to supplement reporting on politics and policy by major news organizations.
Technical, Business Divisions 1st in readers’ poll

GCC’s Technical and Business Divisions were recently awarded first place in the New Haven Advocate Best Of Readers’ Poll for the best Local Technical/Business School. Our congratulations go to the respective Department Chairs, Paul Silberquit and Richard Rees, and their faculty and staff who very much deserve the recognition!

New Student Advising and Registration Launched

GCC’s new New Student Advising and Registration (NSAR) Program began June 1 and will continue with sessions this month and throughout the summer.

NSAR is designed to assist new students in understanding the academic world and to register them for their first semester of courses. Students attending the program will register for their courses, receive advising to begin their college career, understand the nature of college instruction, learn how to navigate student services and enrollment and learn the electronic self-service tools for advising and registration.

Two types of sessions will be offered throughout the summer: general sessions and program specific sessions. All summer sessions will be held on our Long Wharf campus in room 205. Only students who have signed up in advance will be allowed to participate. For more information or to sign up in advance, visit the NSAR home page.

GCC ‘hub’ college in FEMA preparedness program

As this month’s tornado in western Massachusetts showed us so clearly, New England is not immune from natural disasters. Because these, and other emergencies, are often random, unpredictable and unexpected, an informed and prepared citizenry is vitally important to residents’ ultimate survival and well-being.

That’s why GCC applied to become a “hub” college under the Partnership for Environmental Technology Education (PETE)/Federal Emergency Management Administration’s (FEMA) Community College Citizen Preparedness Program (3CP2). And the college is pleased to announce that it has received notification from PETE, an affiliated council of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC), that it has achieved this designation. It will allow two staff members to participate in a 2½-day “Train-the-Trainer” program.

The program will involve at least 80 staff members from 40 colleges each year. Upon completion, participants will be qualified to teach a FEMA-approved two-hour 3CP2 Citizen Preparedness Course to students, faculty, employees and their families, as well as local businesses, community organizations and local governments served by the college and the public at large.

The opportunity for academic institutions to apply for hub college status is a result of a partnership between FEMA’s Citizen Corps and the AACC, the goal of which is to promote and improve community emergency preparedness, disaster response and
training for the public and volunteer service.

The Citizen Preparedness Course curriculum will help participants learn how to preserve life and minimize injuries during and following a disaster. It will cover a wide variety of topics, including threat awareness and assessment and how to prepare for and recover from natural and man-made disasters. GCC students and staff will participate in the course during fall and spring orientation each year. Other target groups in the college’s service area are families from economically disadvantaged neighborhoods, families of first-generation college students, and English language learners.

In addition, 3CP2 training will enable hub colleges to perform a number of key tasks, including:

- Assess local disaster emergency needs;
- Review community capabilities to deal with disasters; and,
- Develop partnerships with other community emergency preparedness organizations

“We believe becoming a PETE 3CP2 hub college clearly supports Gateway’s educational mission,” said Vicki Bozzuto, Dean of Continuing Education and Workforce Development. “It also underscores our commitment to strengthen our community, engage our students and our fellow citizens and make Greater New Haven a better — and safer — place to live and work.”

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LEEDing the Way: Using local, regional materials

The shorter the distance between a construction site and the places where the construction material is collected, processed and manufactured, the less time trucks spend on the road transporting it, burning fuel and adding emissions to the atmosphere.

That's why one of the components of the LEED scorecard is dedicated to local/regional materials. Our new downtown campus expects to achieve this goal by having at least 20 percent of the total cost of its materials come from materials that are extracted, processed or manufactured within 500 miles.

Right now, according to Dimeo Construction Co., the campus’ construction manager, the project is tracking at 28 percent of the total material value for the project within the LEED local/regional boundary of 500 miles.

The biggest contributor toward this goal is the project’s concrete, which is used in the campus’s foundations (photo), slabs and garage. The concrete alone accounts for an estimated 11 percent of the project’s total material cost. The materials for the concrete come from a plant in Ravena, N.Y., and a quarry from Meriden, Conn., and are delivered to the Suzio York Hill concrete company in New Haven, where it is combined and delivered the short distance to the construction site.

Each concrete truck carries about 10 cubic yards of concrete, which translates into more than 2,000 trips if it meant delivering all 24,000 cubic yards used in the project by truck.

The red field brick in the project is also a
local/regional material. Its components come from Pennsylvania to Westbrook Concrete Block Co. in Westbrook, Conn. And the 600,000 square feet of drywall and all the metal studs used in the interior framing are also local/regional materials, with the drywall manufactured by United States Gypsum Co. in Aliquippa, Penn., and the studs coming from Dietrich Metal Framing in Lunenburg, Mass.

Our new “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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Official from India visits our North Haven campus

On May 10, India's advisor to the prime minister of skill development visited Gateway Community College's North Haven campus where he learned about the college’s technology, health care, sustainability and workforce development programs.

S Ramadorai, who retired as CEO of information technology giant Tata Consultancy Services in 2009, was welcomed by GCC President Dorsey L. Kendrick during a reception that was also attended by Chancellor of Connecticut Community Colleges Marc Herzog.

The visit was arranged by Dr. Murali Aturu, a trustee of the Connecticut Community-Technical College System and founder of Diversified Technology Consultants, one of the state’s largest engineering consulting firms.

During his visit, Ramadorai was briefed on GCC’s professional development, automotive and nursing programs, as well as its Center for a Sustainable Future and its SOAR certificates.

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Spring events at ELC embraced reading, music, fun

GCC’s Early Learning Center (ELC), a fully licensed and nationally accredited lab school for children aged 3 to 5 located on the college’s Long Wharf campus, hosted a variety of events this spring that featured reading, music, dance and family interaction.

On April 19, Arshia Puri (photo left) performed a series of classical Indian dances representing life stories at the ELC and a concluding folk (Bollywood) dance for fun.

On April 20, GCC Instructor Masnoh Wilson (photo below right), read and discussed her book “Father” with the ELC children. And then, on April 21, the center presented a family literacy program called “The Little Read” where every child received a copy of Mem Fox’s book, “Whoever You Are,” compliments of the New Haven Early Childhood Council. GCC students Hanan Elkanah and Ingrid Hurtados
read the book aloud, and shared their native cultures of Egypt, Honduras, and Peru with the families (photo below left). Each family was invited to share their culture with the group, and individual parents spoke in turn. “The Little Read” was presented in School Readiness programs in the New Haven community, and each center designed an activity for their center.

On May 12, Charlie Diaz, and ELC parent and gifted musician, taught the children about drumming with different cultural rhythms. He brought 20 large and small drums for the children to use, and worked with one class at a time. Diaz leads a salsa band, and plays locally. The activity combined musical, mathematical, and literacy concepts. “The children enjoyed the activity, especially when they were encouraged to express their own rhythms,” said ELC Director Marge Weiner.

On May 17, by ELC teacher Helene N’Guessan presented “I Am Moving, I am Learning,” a family program that stressed the importance of sound nutritional choices and physical activity through music and movement.

On May 19, GCC early childhood education (ECE) students represented the ELC and the ECE Department with Marge Weiner at the United Way Success by Six Breakfast, which promoted initiatives to better the lives of young children and families, to assure children success as life-long learners.

And on May 31, ELC families enjoyed the magic and antics of the master magician Amazing Andy following a pizza party for the center’s end of the year celebration.

### Rep. Willis visits with The Sages senior citizen group

State Rep. Roberta Willis, D-Lakeville, met with members of The Sages, the senior citizens’ group at GCC, during a visit to our Long Wharf campus on Seniors Day on May 13, an event organized by GCC professor Dr. Kerin Lee-Kelsey.

Willis is co-chair of Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee and a member of the Appropriations Committee and the Environment Committee. She discussed the future of higher education in Connecticut as well as the state budget and other issues. In photo, from left, Rep. Willis, GCC President Dr. Dorsey L. Kendrick and Dr. Kerin Lee-Kelsey.

### Calendar Highlights

**August: New Student Orientation format debuts**
GCC’s Office of College Life will debut a new format for its New Student Orientation (NSO) in August with a shorter program and separate sessions for transfer students and parents/spouses.

There will be three New Student Orientation sessions in August on Aug. 16 from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m., Aug. 18 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and on Aug. 23 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. All of the sessions will be in the cafeteria on our Long Wharf campus.

The Parent/Spouse Orientation will be Aug. 18 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in room 160 on our Long Wharf campus. And the new Transfer Student Orientation will be Aug. 23 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in room 160 on our Long Wharf campus.

To learn more about the new NSO format or to sign up for a preferred NSO date, click here. For more information, contact the Office of College Life at 203-285-2208 or gw-collegelife@gwcc.commnet.edu.

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Sept. 14, 21: Entrepreneur workshops offered

GCC’s Small Business Center and the New Haven chapter of SCORE will be offering two workshops in September for entrepreneurs interested in starting a business.

The first workshop, a pre-business seminar, will be Sept. 14 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on our Long Wharf campus in room 160. The seminar will cover writing a business plan, insurance, financing, bookkeeping, state taxes, legal issues, marketing and creating a web site. It is free and participants can register on-site beginning at 8:15 a.m.

The second workshop, “Dare to Start a Business – Becoming a Successful Entrepreneur,” will be held Sept. 21 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at our Long Wharf campus in room 207B. No registration is required and walk-ins are welcome.

For information about either workshop, contact SCORE at 203-865-7645 or visit www.NewHavenSCORE.com.

GCC’s Small Business Center includes the academic office for GCC’s Entrepreneurial Studies degree and certificate programs, the administrative and counseling office for the New Haven chapter of SCORE, an organization of retired executives that offers advice to local entrepreneurs, as well as other federal and state small business assistance resources and Students in Free Enterprise.

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Faculty, Staff Highlights

Faculty and Staff Appreciation Awards for 2011

The Faculty and Staff Appreciation Awards were given out May 19 during the 2011 Awards Convocation in the auditorium of our North Haven campus.
Rev. John H. Scott III (left in photo) received the ninth annual Faculty Appreciation Award. And the fifth annual Staff Appreciation Award was given to Luis Melendez (right in photo), director of the Center for Educational Services (CES).

Scott, a pastor with the Dixwell Avenue Congregational United Church of Christ, one of the oldest African-American congregations in the United States, was honored for his many contributions to GCC, including his status as a "master" teacher, particularly in business law. He negotiated GCC’s articulation agreement with UConn’s School of Business, coordinates end-of-semester study workshops for business students, is our pre-law advisor, and serves on our Academic Standards Committee, our Tenure Committee and in our Center for Teaching.

Melendez was nominated by his co-workers for always being there to help and never expecting anything in return, except for the hope that the recipient will do the same for someone else. “Through a mixture of nurturing, encouragement and high expectations, many of the student workers from the CES graduate from Gateway and move on to earn degrees at four-year institutions,” Mike Heaphy said of Melendez’s work. “They then return to Gateway as tutors, happy to give something back, creating a self-sustaining cycle of learning.”

Social Sciences chair retires, new chair named

GCC Professor Dan Courcey, who has served with distinction as Social Sciences Department chair for 37 years, is retiring.

To honor Courcey, Paul Silberquit, division director of Engineering and Applied Technologies, presented him with a letter from President Bill Clinton congratulating him on his retirement and many contributions to GCC.

“America’s tradition of hard work has made our country strong, and you can be proud of your contribution to that legacy,” Clinton wrote. “Your dedication to the public is an inspiration to others. On behalf of all those who have benefited from your service, I thank you for a job well done.”

GCC Professor Victor Medina has been appointed to succeed Courcey effective in August.

“Victor brings extensive experience as a faculty member in Sociology who has consistently demonstrated strong support for collegial governance and, perhaps most of all, his unqualified support of student success,” said Dean of Academic Affairs Mark Kosinski.

Buccilli among Leadership New Haven graduates

Michael Buccilli, GCC’s director of career services and our veteran’s certifying official, graduates tonight with the rest of the Class of 2011 from the Greater New Haven Leadership Center’s Leadership Greater New Haven (LGNH) program.

LGNH is a 10-month community leadership development program offered by the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce for professionals in the corporate,
government and not-for-profit sectors. Its mission is to identify aspiring community leaders and support their growth through leadership training and community education. Now completing its 25th year, LGNH has more than 600 alumni.

Buccilli was also elected the Class of 2011’s speaker. Congratulations Michael!

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Art instructors’ work featured in magazine, exhibit

GCC Adjunct Art Instructor Susan Reinhart, who teaches sculpture, was featured recently in an article in the New York edition of the arts and culture magazine Venû. In addition to an article, the magazine featured several photos of her sculptures.

Also, Arts Adjunct Professor Margot Rocklen has a woodblock print, two years in the making, that has been accepted into a traveling exhibit that is going to Japan.

Congratulations Susan and Margot!

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GCC team raises $440 for Heart Association

GCC’s team of walkers that participated May 21 in the American Heart Association’s 2011 New Haven Start! Heart Walk at Savin Rock in West Haven raised $440 for the cause.

Our thanks go out to those employees and nursing students who participated in the 5K walk: Susan Levine, Barbara McFarland, Patricia McGrath, Thomas McGrath, Linda Scott, Kim Shea, Sheila Solernou, Elizabeth Vega, Lalida Long, Rebecca Moyer, Sarah Olmstead and Carl Wright. In photo, from left to right are Susan Levine, Kim Shea and Elizabeth Vega.

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Student Highlights

Graduate earns degree 42 years after enrolling

Hamden resident Dora Anne Council, 76, graduated from GCC during our 2011 commencement with an associate degree in general studies 42 years after first enrolling.

Several media outlets covered Dora’s story. To see NBC Connecticut’s piece, click here. To see Fox Connecticut’s piece, click here. To read the New Haven Register article, which is accompanied by the Register photo of Council (below), click here.
Council first enrolled in 1969 when she was 34, had three children and GCC was South Central Community College. The New Haven native was the only one of the eight children in her family to graduate from high school, so when she scored in the top three on a test for a full-time job at the phone company in 1971, she couldn’t say no to the opportunity for such a well-paying position.

Thirty years later, in 2001, she came back to GCC to take a computer class offered free to senior citizens. For Council, a lifelong learner who has had a library card since she was 8, it ended up bringing her focus back to her goal of getting a college degree.

“Too many grandmothers say to their grandchildren, ‘You should go to college and get a degree. I don’t have one because, well, it was a different time when I was your age,” Council said. “I didn’t want to be that way.”

She credited Dr. Kerin Lee-Kelsey, a GCC professor and leader of The Sages, a senior citizens’ group on campus, and other faculty and staff with helping her achieve her goal.

“Dora epitomizes the spirit of the community college student,” said GCC Counselor John Mullane, who has known Council for years. “She’s all about perseverance. She’s a student we can look to and say, ‘This is why we do our jobs.’ Education has always been important to her. Throughout her life after marriage and kids and everything, she always kept coming back to school.”

An energetic person who you’ll seldom find at home, Council was active in The Sages and helping out at senior citizen registration every semester, Mullane said. In the 2010-11 academic year, more than 230 senior citizens were enrolled at GCC as students. Seniors can enroll for free at GCC in the fall and spring a few days before classes start. “She’s very outgoing and always one of the first to register and she’s referred friends to the college as well,” Mullane said.

Council has had brushes with fame. In 1967, she testified before a Senate committee in Washington, D.C., that included Robert F. Kennedy about her life in New Haven and the government pre-K program attended by her children.

Council overcame her share of challenges to make it to the podium Thursday. After being married, she became a single mother and was on welfare for a time. “Back then there were always bills past due,” she said. “Gateway has been a life saving organization for me as a senior citizen,” Council said.
Qualifications for the award include demonstrated leadership and mentoring, personal achievements, career goals, a commitment to service, participation in community and student activities, employment accomplishments and a minimum cumulative GPA of at least 2.5.

Charles (photo), 21, received an associate degree in liberal arts and sciences. He is a first-generation college student who will transfer to the University of Connecticut in Storrs and will begin studying nutrition there in the fall with the intention of going on to become a physician. He spent two years at GCC, interrupted by a year off to enter the Army National Guard. He is graduating with a 3.16 grade point average.

"In addition to patriotism, Patreese was led to service in the Guard as he recognized the educational benefits," said GCC Psychology Professor Lauren Doninger, who nominated Charles for the award. "He is a self-starter who is focused on his long-term goal of studying medicine and was willing to delay a year for service in order to help ensure his long-term success. This type of foresight and discipline is unusual in a traditionally aged student. Immediately following boot camp and his initial service, Patreese was back at Gateway working on his degree."

Charles, who is a medic in the Guard, said he wanted to go to UConn straight from high school, but he fell short academically. So he enrolled at GCC and joined the Guard, in part because in doing so the GI Bill would cover his college costs. He quickly joined GCC’s Guaranteed Admissions Program (GAP). The GAP provides GCC students the opportunity for guaranteed admission to any UConn campus once they have completed an associate’s degree in participating transfer programs.

He has also been active in student activities on campus, becoming a People to People student ambassador and a student representative on the Advisory Board for Liberal Arts & Sciences and General Studies. He also has his EMT license and volunteers with the American Red Cross. "He is outgoing and inquisitive and takes an interest in his fellow students," said Doninger, who is also coordinator of the Liberal Arts & Sciences and General Studies programs at GCC.

Charles said he wants to become a physician because, through his work as a Guard medic and Red Cross volunteer, he has seen what a positive impact the health care field can have on communities.

"You can help more than just one person," he said. "I really want to go into the nutritional field and, in particular, work with children because this country has such a problem with obesity and nutrition and if you start with the children, you can get them on the right track. I just want to really help people."

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Many from Class of 2011 will transfer to new schools

Among this year’s graduates are many students who will be transferring to four-year colleges, including 19-year-old West Haven resident Doreen Danso who will be transferring to Southern Connecticut State University, and 25-year-old New Haven resident Shane Feyers who will be transferring to the University of Connecticut in Storrs.
When Danso (photo, right) accepted her diploma, she became the first one in her family to earn a college degree. She earned an associate degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences and will begin at Southern in the fall as a biology major. She hopes to later move on to Quinnipiac University and become a physician's assistant.

“When I came to Gateway, I thought, ‘this is it’ because my sisters and brothers came here but they didn’t graduate and went on to working full time instead,” Danso said. “But there are so many people at Gateway from so many different places and they were so focused, so I started focusing, too.”

Feyers (photo, left) also graduated with a Liberal Arts and Sciences degree, but wasn’t able to attend Thursday’s commencement because he’s at his parents’ home in Pennsylvania recovering from a recent motorcycle accident. But he’ll be there in spirit.

In the fall, he’ll start in UConn’s environmental conservation degree program that he hopes will lead to a master’s and doctorate degrees and possibly someday teaching at the college level.

“Two years ago, after finishing my tour with the U.S. Coast Guard, I moved to Connecticut with plans to go to UConn, but my high school transcript wasn’t that good, so I figured I would take the basic courses at Gateway and then transfer,” Feyers said.

He enrolled in Gateway’s Guaranteed Admissions Program (GAP) to make sure the transfer would go smoothly. The GAP provides students the opportunity for guaranteed admission to any UConn campus once they have completed an associate’s degree in participating transfer programs.

During his time at Gateway, Feyers also helped revive the college’s Environmental Concerns Club and eventually became its president. “The educational aspect of Gateway was great,” he said. “The teachers are personable, interested and fun and constantly push for interaction.”

PTK chapter president selected for national honors

GCC student Ashley Blasczyk, president of our Phi Theta Kappa honor society chapter, was nominated by GCC for the All-USA Community College Academic Team and Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team.

These teams are a collaboration of USA TODAY, Follett Higher Education Group, the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, The Coca-Cola Foundation, American Association of Community Colleges and the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society that lead to students being featured in an April issue of USA TODAY and the awarding of nearly $350,000 in stipends to outstanding community college students.

The All-USA/All-State Community College programs share a common application and eligibility criteria. Connecticut is one of 37 states that hold All-State Academic Team recognition ceremonies sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa. Special recognitions are
presented to All-State Team winners. GCC President Dr. Dorsey L. Kendrick presented Blasczyk, who is transferring to Amherst, with her recognition on April 29 at our State Capitol in Hartford (photo).

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Awards Convocation: Academic Achievement Honors

GCC conferred its 2011 Academic Achievement Awards during its Awards Convocation event on May 19 in our North Haven campus auditorium. This year, more than 40 students received Academic Achievement Awards from more than 30 disciplines at GCC.

The event was moderated by Mark Kosinski, GCC’s dean of academic affairs, and GCC President Dr. Dorsey L. Kendrick gave the welcoming remarks. The recipients were:

**Allied Health**
Diagnostic Medical Sonography: Lauren Rumi
Clinical Excellence – Diagnostic Medical Sonography: Annamaria Cerreto
Nuclear Medicine Technology: Michael Riley
Dietetic Technology: Karina Freschlin
Dietetic Technology – Field Experience: Tara Mossberg

**Business**
Business Administration: Kimberly Grant
Business Administration – Accounting: Nicholas Naclerio
**Business Office Technology Degree:** Amanda Negri

**Business Office Technology Certificate:** Ana Sanchez

**Computer Science:** Jeremiah Stewart, Timothy Whitfield
Computer Science – Networking:
Ryan Dymarczyk, Phillip Turpin

**Drug & Alcohol Recovery Counselor:** Scott Tordoff
DAR* 251/252 – DARC Internships: Robert Girard

**Early Childhood Education:**
Karyn Hansen, Ying Wang

**Engineering Technologies**
Biomedical Engineering Technology: Robert Boynton
Computer Engineering Technology: Harvey Handy
Computer Servicing Certificate: Danovan Thorpe
Electrical Engineering Technology: Braden Mellin
Electronics Technician Certificate: Sami Al Hamzawi
CET* 116, Computer Applications for Technology: Yapi Adouka
CET* 126, Computer Servicing: Sami Al Hamzawi

**Fire Technology and Administration:** Pawel Glinka

**Water Management:** Daniel R. Sullivan

**English as a Second Language:** Mohamed Aboutalib,
Shahinaz Yassin Awad

**Entrepreneurial Studies:** Timothy Dixon

**Fashion Merchandising/Retail Management:** Cassandra Froehlich

**Foreign Languages Intermediate Spanish I:** Anne Rathey

**General Studies:** Alan Goldfinger

**Liberal Arts & Sciences:** Naa Lomokey Sahin

**Human Services:** Amy Kolpinski

**Human Services – Therapeutic Recreation:** Angela Vera Skibitcky

**Mathematics**
MAT*075, Pre-Algebra: Jerome B. Smith III

**Nursing:** Jennifer Green

Introduction to Nursing Practice: Jennifer Green

Family Health Nursing: Jennifer Green

Nursing Care of Individuals & Families I: Jennifer Shelton

Nursing Care of Individuals & Families II: Christopher Begin

**Physics**

Physics for the Life Sciences: Belinda Petrovic

Physics for Today: Zach Sturgill

**The Sages:** Dora Council

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### 2011 Student Leadership and Athletic Awards

GCC held its 2011 Leadership and Athletic Awards Banquet on May 4 at Anthony's Ocean View in New Haven to honor the best among its student leaders and athletes for the integrity and prestige they bring to the college.

Wade Moore, Student Government Association (SGA) secretary, delivered welcoming remarks for the event, which spotlighted the good works of GCC's student organizations and athletic teams, along with their leaders and advisors (photo of women's basketball team). This year's award recipients were:

- **SGA Student Recognition Award:** Symphany Joseph
- **SGA Non-Student Recognition Award:** John Desrosiers
- **Student Organization Advisor of the Year:** Richard Palinko
- **Student Employee of the Year:** Sandi Merchant
- **Student Leader of the Year:** Kimberly Grant
- **Community Service Program of the Year:** Student Nurses' Association (SNA) Breast Cancer Walk
- **Fundraiser of the Year:** Phi Theta Kappa rose and candy sale
- **Philanthropic Fundraiser of the Year:** SNA's Heart Walk
- **Student Organization Program of the Year:** International Club Little Italy/Chinatown Walking Tour
- **Student Organization of the Year:** Art Club
- **Most Valuable Player Awards:** Cynthia Stancil (women), Kwamaine McCarter (men)
- **Good Sportsmanship Award:** Shannon Brackeen (women), Mario Darden (men)

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**Nursing, allied health hold May pinning ceremonies**
GCC’s nursing and allied health programs held their pinning ceremonies May 17 and May 24, respectively, to mark the transition from student to professional for the programs’ graduates.

Both events were held in the auditorium at GCC’s North Haven campus. A time-honored tradition, pinning ceremonies trace their origins to nursing pioneer Florence Nightingale, who received the Cross of St. George from Britain’s Queen Victoria in 1855 for her service in caring for injured British soldiers. When special nursing schools were later founded using Nightingale’s principles and practices, the awarding of pins and medals to outstanding graduates became increasingly common until it was eventually established as a right of passage from student to practitioner.


The graduates of GCC’s allied health class of 2011 earned associate of science degrees and Health Career Pathways certificates:

**Diagnostic Medical Sonography:** AnnaMaria Cerreto, Alicia M. CeMarco, Carl D. Glennon, Monica E. Herr, Jetlira Islami, Caitlin D. Pirreca, Ashley D. Reboira, Lauren B. Rumi and Agnes K. Targonski

**Nuclear Medicine Technology:** Rudolph Dominick, Tasnuba Hoque-Ahmmmed, Joanna Kulinska Burkacka, Sara Lord, Michael Riley, Phillip Searcy and LaMeisha Sherman

**Radiography:** Stefanie Acampora, Alyssa Brooks, Helen Chin, Ashley Collins, Joseph Cornish, Cynthia Figueroa, Rebecca Isacson, Yvette Johnson-Petrie, Sarah Kostyszyn, Helena Lockhart, Lakeisha Massenburg, Victoria Monks, Kathy Tatiana Mota, Nancy O’Brien, Martha Restrepo, Melissa Reynolds, Stacey Rodowicz and Edward Wadden

**Radiation Therapy:** Joseph LaDuke, Nichole Tommasino, Daniel Longo, Maya Dissanayake and Michael Tift
Dietetic Technology: David Barnaby, Justin Blancato, Liliam DeMacedo, Eileen Flaherty, Karina Freschlin, Jessica Landis, Annie Ko, Tara Mossberg, Lisa Schmitt, Sarah Spaulding

Exercise Science and Wellness: Heather Warren

Fitness Specialist Studies: Amanda Scalzo Bailey

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