

*Creating Futures,  
One Student at a Time*



**Annual Report to the Community  
July 2011 - June 2012  
Mercer County Community College**

*Creating Futures, One Student at a Time*

## **The Strategic Plan Year Two**



**A vital college, engaged with its community,  
and dedicated above all else to student success.**

Mercer County Community College is accredited by  
the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle  
States Association of Colleges and Schools.



## Message from the President



In the past year, Mercer County Community College has taken major steps forward. Completing the second year of our three-year Strategic Plan, we continue to implement several key initiatives.

In our commitment to learning and student success, we have focused on systemic changes that support students during the “First 30,” those critical first 30 credits that students earn as they proceed towards an associate degree that will provide employment or help them transfer to complete a bachelor’s degree. Academic and advisement support at this stage can make the key difference between success and failure in college.

We also moved ahead on facilities projects including major renovations at both campuses and the purchase of Trenton Hall, located across the street from our existing buildings in Trenton. With enhanced learning environments and an investment in our capital city, we will reach a larger population of students and help them achieve their goals.

In addition to student achievement, this report highlights the stellar accomplishments of faculty and staff. When we speak of community colleges, we acknowledge that our college is itself a community, made up of dedicated staff members who work at all levels to help our students thrive.

As the college strives to provide students with education for the 21<sup>st</sup> century economy, I have been actively engaged with decision makers in business and industry. Now serving my second year on the New Jersey Technology Council’s Board of Directors, I am able to stay apprised of advances in the field and ensure that our students are equipped with technology skills that will be valued in the workplace. I was also appointed chair of the New Jersey Community College Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development, an organization that is central to our mission as we work with the business community to provide an educated workforce to help companies stay competitive.

I reflect with deep gratitude on the contributions of Mercer’s dedicated Board of Trustees, our Foundation Board members, and others in the community who support our investment in student success. Here at Mercer, we are all united by that goal. The success of our students truly spells success for us all.

Sincerely,

Patricia C. Donohue, Ph.D.

President, Mercer County Community College





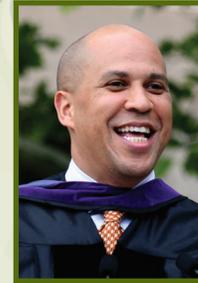
## Strategic Vision I:

### Excellence and vitality in teaching and learning

The college prepares all students for academic, professional and personal success. It provides a stimulating learning environment that offers multiple approaches to learning and helps all students realize their unique potential. The college's broad range of programs engages students through challenging curricula that respond to an ever-changing world.

#### Students Achieve Their Goals

This year 978 students earned 1,029 associate degrees and certificates. Newark Mayor Cory Booker inspired MCCC's 2012 graduates at Commencement ceremonies



Newark Mayor Cory Booker was keynote speaker at Commencement.



May 24 as he told dynamic stories from his own history and described his experience of becoming the mayor of Newark. "There is one choice we have in every second of our existence: to accept things as they are, or to take responsibility to change them," Booker said. Additional spring awards ceremonies recognized students who served in leadership roles, student athletes, and graduates of credit and noncredit programs at the Trenton campus.

#### Honors Convocation Rewards Excellence

During Mercer's Honors Convocation that preceded Commencement, the college recognized the academic achievements of top students from the Class of 2012. Faculty and administrators were on hand in full regalia to present a total of 121 academic certificates and scholarships to this special group of students before a capacity crowd of family and friends at Kelsey Theatre. Among the honorees were 21 members of Alpha Theta Gamma, MCCC's chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, 15 NJ STARS graduates, and eight Honors Program graduates.



The Mercer Honors Program recognized eight graduates. From left are MCCC President Patricia C. Donohue, grads Amanda Knoblock, Erin Smith, Kate Kingsley, Ayodele Kanyako, Amber Hinshaw, Ashleigh Donaldson and Karen Acquah, Honors Program Coordinator Gianna Durso-Finley, VP for Academic Affairs Guy Generals and Honors Program Coordinator Carol Bork. Not pictured: Heather Johnson.



## New Degree Programs



*Pictured in the new Fashion Lab in Trenton Hall are, from left, Fine Arts Professor Mel Leipzig, Fashion Design Program Coordinator Allegra Ceci, Advertising/Graphic Design Coordinator Tina LaPlaca, and Fashion Design Adjunct Professor Kate Pinner.*

Responding to an increased global focus on alternative energy and conservation, MCCC began an A.S. degree program in Sustainability. With a curriculum that includes natural sciences, environmental issues, ethics and economics, students will be prepared for transfer into a variety of bachelor's degree programs.

Fashion Merchandising, a complement to the Fashion/Apparel Design program introduced last fall, focuses on the business of fashion and apparel sales, marketing, buying, and merchandising in a global economy. Graduates will be prepared for entry-level positions and transfer to four-year fashion schools.

The Occupational Therapy Assistant program offers academics and fieldwork for a career that helps clients with disabilities enhance their skills for daily living. Students complete the Liberal Arts component at MCCC and specialized courses at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey School of Health Related Professions.

## Dr. Jill Biden Visits MCCC for “Community College to Career” Tour

“Not only can community colleges change lives, they can change America,” said Dr. Jill Biden, wife of Vice President Joe Biden, who led a panel discussion at MCCC in March. The visit highlighted the federal “Community College to Career” initiative, which encourages community college partnerships with employers who offer on-the-job training.

Panelists included alumni and employed students from four New Jersey colleges. Among the MCCC representatives were Raoul Momo, co-owner of the Terra Momo Restaurant Group, who provides work experience and jobs for MCCC students at his four restaurants in the Princeton area, and Frank Caponi, who completed certificates of proficiency in Cooking and Baking at Mercer and now works as a chef at Momo’s Mediterra Restaurant. The other participating colleges were Raritan Valley, Essex and Brookdale.



*Second Lady Jill Biden, at podium, spoke during an event that highlighted the unique role of community colleges in preparing students for the workforce. Also pictured, from left, are MCCC culinary grad Frank Caponi, President Patricia C. Donohue and Seth D. Harris, Deputy Secretary for the U.S. Department of Labor.*

## Student Honor Societies Established in Psychology and Human Services



*Pictured are students in the Psi Beta Psychology Honor Society, front row, from left, Carol Baillie, Stephanie Marraffa, Christina Aponte, and Shane Wojecichowski; back row, from left, Psi Beta faculty advisor Karen Bearce, and students Pamalli Prather, Paul Jones, Ayodele Kanyako, Jared Albrecht, Michelle Smith-Griffin, Katie Soto, Justine Nazarethian, and Selina Rivera.*

Two new honor societies were established this year: Psi Beta for students studying psychology and Tau Upsilon Alpha for Human Services students. Both groups provide students with leadership and academic activities related to these disciplines, and offer networking opportunities in the field.

## Study Tours Expand Horizons

Mercer's Study Abroad program led two Study Tours this year. Sociology and Spanish students, with their faculty leaders, studied in Costa Rica in March. Students lived with host families to improve their Spanish language skills and learn more about the local culture. The itinerary included an organic coffee farm, a residence for senior citizens, an arts festival, the Metropolitan Cathedral, a teen pregnancy center, and the world's largest crater.

Thirteen MCCC travelers headed to South Africa in July for a 10-day tour of the nation. Destination cities included Cape Town and Johannesburg, and many cultural, historical and natural sites such as the Apartheid Museum, Slave Lodge, Robben Island Prison, Johannesburg and Western Cape universities, Table Mountain, the Nelson Mandela House, an HIV orphanage, Pilanesburg

Game Reserve and Cape Point. Students described their experience as awe-inspiring -- from their interactions with local people and the historically significant sites they visited, to the beauty of the countryside and the thrill of seeing wild animals in their natural habitat.

**Coming in 2013 are Study Tours to Costa Rica, Poland and Amsterdam.**



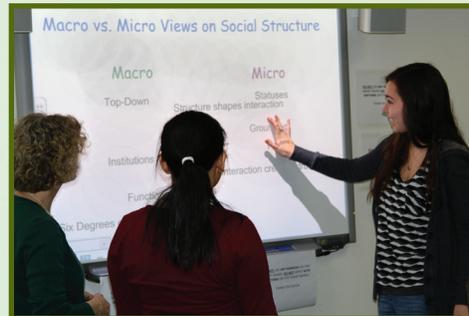
*The view of a lifetime: MCCC faculty and students prepare for a zipline tour in Costa Rica.*

*The South Africa tour group members are pictured outside the University of Western Cape, where they spoke with faculty and students about sociological and historical issues affecting their lives.*

## Annual Campaign Funds Innovative Academic Projects

With funding from the MCCC Foundation, Academic Affairs has offered "Student Learning Improvement Grants" for the past three years. Due to the generosity of individual, corporate, and organizational donors, this year's competitive program was expanded from three to five projects developed by faculty and staff. These included:

- A "smart" classroom with the latest technology.
- Interdisciplinary learning through a new course called "Computational Chemistry: An Intersection of Mathematics and Chemistry."
- New software programs and computer apps to serve highly mobile students.
- An interactive website to improve the academic experience for Education majors.
- An online version of the noncredit course "Foundations of Clinical Development," part of a certificate program in Clinical Development and Regulatory Affairs offered through the Center for Continuing Studies.



*A classroom has been equipped with "smart board" technology, thanks to the Annual Campaign grant program. The new room provides a stimulating, interactive environment for Liberal Arts classes and also serves as a meeting room for new student orientation and other activities.*



*Faculty and staff who pursued special projects provided through the Annual Campaign included spring recipients, front row, from left, Carol Clark, Jennifer Cook and Theresa Capra; back row, from left, Vice President for Academic Affairs Guy Generals, Savita Bambhrolia, LaTonya Ashford-Ligon and Laurene Jones.*

## New Kitchen Is Recipe for Growth



*Students at work in the new kitchen in the MCCC Culinary Center.*

With the addition of a third fully-equipped professional kitchen at the West Windsor campus in fall 2011, MCCC's hospitality programs offered 14 new courses this year – an increase of 73 percent. Enrollment in the A.A.S. Culinary Arts program has increased by 32 percent and new sections have grown by 26 percent.

Mercer's three kitchens also add to the number of noncredit courses offered through the Center for Continuing Studies and "Kids in the Kitchen" workshops offered through Camp College.

Students may earn degrees in Hotel, Restaurant and Institution Management, Culinary Arts and Culinology, as well as certificate programs in Catering Management, Professional Baking and Professional Cooking.

# MercerOnline

## Mercer County Community College

Enrollment in online classes continues to grow. This year the number of students (unduplicated) pursuing "virtual" learning numbered 4,099, a 10 percent increase over the previous year. Several key initiatives have made online learning an attractive option for greater numbers of students.

### MercerOnline Now Offers Degree Programs

Students who seek the flexibility of web-based learning can now complete three associate degrees fully online through MercerOnline — in Liberal Arts, Business Studies and Criminal Justice/Corrections.

### Online Tutoring Enhances Accessibility

MercerOnline is now part of a consortium pilot project that offers online tutoring, enabling students to get questions answered in real time, or to submit questions and essays for review. Students have responded enthusiastically to the new service, which supplements academic support at Learning Centers on both campuses.

### High School Dual Enrollment Boosts Opportunities

This year MercerOnline offered sections of online courses to high school students in the Lawrence and Hightstown districts — in Communication, Philosophy, Psychology, and Biology. This effort is part of the MCCC Jump Start program that has offered high school dual enrollment for many years. Last year 128 high school students got a head start on earning college credits while they completed their high school requirements.

### Students Cook for TV Chef Lidia Bastianich

Students from the Career Training Institute's food service program and credit culinary programs took on a high profile assignment when they assisted TV Chef Lidia Bastianich as part of her visit to the War Memorial in Trenton in November. After several weeks in the kitchen practicing recipes provided by the famed chef, under the direction of MCCC Chef Jorge Maldonado, they prepared a full-course buffet meal for 75 VIP guests and assisted Chef Lidia during her presentation.



*TV Chef Lidia Bastianich, second from left, gets assistance on stage from culinary students, from left, Jeff Johnson, Roosevelt Smith, Takako Cusack and Angel Mitchell.*



## Strategic Vision II:

**An inclusively welcoming and nurturing college, focused on student engagement and success**

The college welcomes all potential students, recognizing and addressing all student concerns and needs as it seeks to promote student learning, academic success and overall well-being.

### New Initiatives to Bolster Student Success

Taking a fresh look at student services to bolster success rates is the key to MCCC's "First 30" initiative and new Foundations Department. Both follow President Obama's Completion Agenda.

Under the direction of Assistant to the President Amy Vondrak, the First 30 initiative was established after a year of self-study under the Gardner Institute's Foundations of Excellence Program and named in recognition of the vital importance of success as students complete their first 30 credits. It examines the ways that various areas of the college interact with students, with the goal of increasing the numbers who continue their education, earn their associate degree, or meet their other goals.

Orientation for new students has been redesigned, and a College Success seminar has



Staff members Savita Bambhroliya, Amy Vondrak and Nicole Hover lead a new student orientation session.

been revamped to provide additional strategies for academic success. The Advisement Center has improved phone services through a new call center and enhanced student tracking using updated software.

The Foundations Department is implementing research-based best practices in developmental education, including modularized, self-paced, and contextualized learning experiences, to help more students achieve in pre-college classes and develop an individualized path to college success. Extra support in introductory English (ENG 101) allows more students to place directly into college-level classes.



Allison Noll, two-time national tennis champ.

### Athletes Score in Sports and Academics

MCCC's 126 student athletes met with success in both sports and academics this year. Twenty-one athletes will transfer to four-year schools, many with athletic scholarships. Twenty-one students were named to the All-Region 19 Academic Team and 13 were named to the Garden State Athletic Conference's All-Academic Team.

MCCC finished second nationally in women's tennis, with no. 1 singles player Allison Noll in the record books for earning the title for the second consecutive year. The men's tennis team took fourth place nationally, and the baseball team advanced to the Region 19 championship game. Men's soccer also advanced to the Region 19 final, with three players named to the Top Ten. Second-year softball player Angela Marinos was named the no. 2 player in Region 19.



Angela Marinos, all-time offensive leader in softball.

## Students Grow Through Leadership and Community Service Projects

Students assumed leadership roles outside the classroom through participation in 57 clubs and organizations facilitated by the Student Life and Leadership office. Their community service projects raised more than \$5,000 for charities such as the American Heart Association, American Cancer Society, Trenton Area Soup Kitchen and Alex's Lemonade Stand. Students also collected food for area food banks.

Additional student community service initiatives included the Photography Club's Mother's Day photo shoot for mothers and children served by HomeFront and a daycare center performance by The Mud Pie Players, MCCC's public speaking troupe. The Trenton Animal Shelter benefitted from the creativity of Advertising Design students, who developed full marketing campaigns for the organization's "Furry Feet Fete" fundraiser. Jazz Band students performed at the MCCC

Foundation Board's major fundraiser "Spring Into Student Success" and the college's spring Open House.



Groups at the West Windsor and Trenton campuses led successful drives to assist those in need at Thanksgiving. Student government leaders are pictured with food baskets.



Photography majors donated their time and talent to make family portraits for about 25 mothers with their children. The photographs were printed using materials supplied by the students and given to HomeFront, an organization that supports homeless families in central New Jersey.



Student winners (seated) for the best ad design proposal for the Trenton Animal Shelter are pictured with the panel of judges and MCCC President Patricia Donohue, far right.



In May, MCCC's Mud Pie Players donned animal costumes for an interactive performance at The Cherry Tree Club, a pre-school serving homeless and at-risk children in Mercer County. The MCCC students, who presented the show as a service learning component of their Oral Interpretation class, made children's picture books come alive as they sang, danced and presented positive messages for their eager audience.

## Students Win National Awards

This was a banner year for students competing at the state and national levels. Student journalists for *The College VOICE* won 11 awards from the New Jersey Collegiate Press Association in the two-year division, including six first-place awards. In addition, three students received national finalist honors from the Society of Professional Journalists in its Mark of Excellence Awards competition.

Three students earned National Awards of Excellence at the National Leadership Conference of the Future Business Leaders of America - Phi Beta Lambda (FBLA-PBL), held in San Antonio, TX, in June. The six-member Mercer team placed third in Business Decision-Making, while individual students placed fourth in Retail Management, sixth in Public Speaking and ninth in Sports Marketing and Management.

Nearly 20 Television program volunteers earned a national Telly Award for their work on a live cable telecast of the Mercer County High School Basketball Finals. Telly Awards honor the very best local, regional, and cable television, video and film productions.



Award-winning journalism students with co-advisors Holly Johnson, standing left, and Michael Dalton, standing right.



Telly Award winners with Assistant Professor Steve Voorhees, standing left.



Two students who won awards at the FBLA-PBL national conference.

## MCCC Partners with High Schools for Teen Arts and Horticulture

The college hosted two major events for high school students at the West Windsor campus this year. For three days in March, Mercer hosted the New Jersey Horticulture Expo, drawing over 500 students from 28 high schools across the state. Hundreds of floral entries were displayed in college hallways as students were judged in 30 categories.

In May the college played host to the annual Mercer County Teen Arts Festival. Middle and high school students and a staff of professional artists participated in performances, critiquing seminars, master classes and workshops in creative writing, dance, media arts, music, theater, and visual arts. MCCC professors, including Fine Arts Professor Mel Leipzig, led several workshops.

## Trenton Campus's Youth College Prepares Students for Success

Middle and high school students who participate in MCCC's Youth College programs received special recognition at an awards ceremony in May, when 66 received scholarships for academic achievement. In addition to MCCC, Youth College graduates are heading to colleges including Brown, Princeton, Rider, Rutgers, Villanova and New Jersey Institute of Technology.

Offered at the Trenton campus, Youth College's grant-funded programs include SMILE/GEAR UP, Upward Bound, Educational Talent Search, and the Urban Academic Academy. This summer, Youth College held a special four-week pilot program with 23 rising 9th graders participating in a math and science project designed to help them make a successful transition from middle to high school. Test scores at the conclusion of the program showed a 20 percent improvement.



Recipients of the Upward Bound Parent Association Scholarship are pictured during a spring recognition ceremony. At the ceremony's conclusion, Errol Bruce, state director of SMILE/GEAR UP, announced that funding for the program has been renewed by the NJ Department of Education for an additional six years.





## Strategic Vision III:

### Research, planning and assessment that ensure institutional effectiveness

The college creates and sustains a culture of assessment and evidence-based planning for improvement in all academic programs, student services and administrative functions. It supports effective teaching and learning, student achievements, excellence in educational service areas, and improvement in professional and process development. Planning and decision-making are characterized by data-driven analyses and goal-directed purposes.

#### What's the Big Idea? MCCC Leads in Statewide Initiatives

President Patricia C. Donohue, Vice President Guy Generals and many other college faculty and staff members have taken on leadership roles as part of the New Jersey Council of County Colleges' Big Ideas Project, a joint effort of all 19 New Jersey community colleges. Dr. Generals will lead a Big Ideas conference in November 2012, with a focus on developmental education and improving student success. Part of an effort involving more than 150 educators over 18 months, the project's working groups were co-chaired by the state's community college presidents.

#### Self Study Focuses on Transfer

For the second year of MCCC's participation in the Foundations of Excellence self study, the focus was on making the transfer process even better for students whose goal is to continue their education after Mercer. The college community investigated policies, procedures and philosophies that shape student success, and broadened the focus to look at both transfer and other completion goals.

#### Adjuncts: You've Got E-Mail!

This year, Information Technology Services created MercerMail email accounts for all adjunct instructors. Connecting these instructors to the MercerMail system improves their ability to communicate with their colleagues and students, as well as receive timely college-wide communications.

#### "We Have Liftoff" for New ERP

All systems are go for MCCC's Enterprise Resource Management (ERP) system, called Colleague, adopted last year and going live according to a carefully planned schedule. Dubbed "Project NASA," the system will allow for more efficient access to college services for both students and staff. The system encompasses finance, human resources, student tracking, web self services and college advancement. Thus far, staff members have received more than 200 hours of implementation training.



MCCC's Colleague team leaders are pictured with Information Technology Services Executive Director Susan Bowen, front row, right.

#### Mercer Goes "Smoke-Free"

In June, the Board of Trustees approved a new smoke-free college policy, set to begin in January 2013, as MCCC joins the trend at colleges nationwide to ban smoking and create a healthier and safer environment for all. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, secondhand smoke is a "Group A" carcinogen, which means there is no safe level of exposure. Smoking cessation classes will assist faculty, staff and students as they prepare for the transition.





## *Strategic Vision IV:*

### **I**nstitutional resources for emerging educational needs

The college effectively and efficiently supports student learning through excellent staff, facilities, and technology and ensures the necessary financial base to continuously develop these resources.

#### **MCCC Foundation – A Commitment to Giving**

Cultivating a culture of philanthropy within our community, the MCCC Foundation and college raised \$723,561 this fiscal year, receiving 963 gifts or pledges from 721 donors.

The Annual Campaign, which raises unrestricted dollars for learning and teaching, totaled \$43,592, with generous support from MCCC trustees, Foundation Board members, faculty, staff, alumni, community members and corporate partners.

A Major Gifts Campaign is under way to raise money for continued expansion at MCCC's Trenton campus, and for programs at both campuses that prepare students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM programs). The initiative is an important supplement to state funding, which has been significantly reduced over the past decade, and county funding, which has remained flat.

Of special note was a \$35,000 donation for the Mary Hayes Tribute Memorial Garden and Gazebo, to be designed by MCCC Horticulture students. Hayes was a long-time professor of mathematics and computer science who retired in 2006 after 26 years at Mercer.

The MCCC Foundation's dedicated volunteers spearheaded major fundraising events this year, including Spring Into Student Success, the Golf Classic, Floyd Fete for Education, and an art unveiling hosted by Fine Arts Professor Mel Leipzig. (See the MCCC Foundation Annual Report for details.) More information about supporting student education at Mercer is available by calling the Foundation office at 609-570-3607 or by emailing [foundation@mccc.edu](mailto:foundation@mccc.edu).

#### **Fifteen Complete Leadership Academy**

Funded through the President's Leadership Fund, this year Mercer's Leadership Academy focused on enhancing services to students. Fifteen faculty and staff members bolstered their skills and benefitted from intensive training that aligns with leadership competencies established by the American Association of Community Colleges. Over the past three years, 43 faculty and staff members have enhanced their skills at the academy. This year's projects include:

- "Your Mercer on YouTube," three videos that help new students navigate through a day at MCCC.
- "A Semester in the Life of an Online Student," a study that analyzes how students adapt to online learning.
- "The Mercer Knowledge Base," a project to help educate students about various areas of the college.
- "An Analysis of Two Surveys," one for students and one for employers, to gain insight on students' employment readiness.



## MCCC Expands and Improves Learning Environments

More educational choices and enhanced learning environments were made possible by ambitious construction and renovation projects completed in 2012 as part of MCCC's long-term Facilities Master Plan.

The college's existing buildings in downtown Trenton have added a Student Commons, offering credit and noncredit student registration and advisement and an attractive meeting and study area. Also new are a Career Center, two science labs with state-of-the-art technology, a student activities room and a "smart" classroom.

With the help of two generous donors, the college purchased and renovated a building across the street from its existing buildings on North Broad Street. Trenton Hall houses new classrooms, a study lounge, an art studio, a Fashion Design laboratory with sewing and design equipment, and space for future expansion.



Construction projects at the West Windsor campus included renovating three science labs and two prep rooms, and replacing tennis courts, a synthetic turf field, and some HVAC equipment. The Conference Center has new flooring and a more welcoming entrance from the campus side of the building.

In preparation for the Trenton campus expansion, MCCC reached out to the community in a variety of ways, with President Patricia C. Donohue, Executive Dean Diane Campbell, Trenton campus Provost Monica Weaver and Assistant Dean Barbara Jefferson speaking about the project at many Trenton civic group meetings in the Trenton area.



*Students at work in one of three renovated science labs at the West Windsor campus.*



*The new Student Commons serves as a meeting and study destination at the Trenton campus.*

*At left, Trenton Hall houses the new Fashion Design and other arts programs.*

## Renewable Energy Project To Provide Learning and Savings

Construction is under way on the eight-megawatt solar installation, on approximately 45 acres of open field on the West Windsor campus owned by the college. Students in MCCC degree programs including Solar/Energy Technology, Sustainability, Engineering Science, and Horticulture will benefit from learning opportunities afforded by the project.

A partnership between the college, the Mercer County Improvement Authority (MCIA), SunLight General LLC and Mas-Tec Inc., the installation will have major environmental, academic, financial and operational benefits. The energy it produces is expected to meet approximately 70 percent of the college's needs on the West Windsor campus and will help to stabilize the college budget. Estimated savings will be approximately \$15 million over 15 years.

Environmental benefits estimated by project engineers include the reduction of annual atmospheric carbon dioxide emissions equivalent to the benefits of a forest containing over 1,500 acres of pine or fir trees. The electricity generated is equivalent to what's needed to power over 850 homes annually. The project will reduce the burden on the electricity grid, especially critical during peak usage periods.

MCCC is joining other area colleges and schools in tapping into solar power, including neighboring Princeton University and the Lawrenceville School. Detailed information is available on the MCIA website at [www.mcianj.org](http://www.mcianj.org).



## Strategic Vision V:

**A** college culture marked by celebration of diversity, effective communication and institutional pride

The college maintains a community culture that embraces the values and experiences of staff, students and all those potentially served by the institution. Communication within this diverse community utilizes a variety of modes that operate top-down, bottom-up and laterally, and reach all individuals affected.

### Community Joins in MLK Day and African American History Celebrations

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was remembered at Mercer's Trenton campus Jan. 16. Music, dance, poetry, and a keynote address delivered by John E. Harmon, Sr., president of the African American Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey, inspired an audience of more than 75 students and community guests. An MCCC alumnus, Harmon spoke about his own climb from poverty into a successful career in banking.

A series of events for African American History Month in February began with a spirited opening ceremony that featured a youth African dance and drum troupe and guest speaker, Dr. Raymond Broach, an MCCC alumnus and former superintendent of the Ewing Public Schools. Events included a celebration of "Africans in America," with speakers from several African countries, a

"Caribbean Carnival Fete," and an "Evening of Praise Gospel." A festive closing ceremony featured guest speaker Dr. Glenn Lang, whose career with the NJ Department of Education has spanned more than three decades.



*MCCC's Brothers of Faith Mime Team performed as part of the college's Martin Luther King Day celebration.*

### "Pipeline Initiative" Reaches Out

MCCC has been engaged in ongoing efforts to begin dialogues with immigrant communities in Mercer County. This year the "Pipeline Initiative" brought members of the Haitian community to a breakfast discussion at the Trenton campus. The college also reached out to ex-offenders at Clinton House and the Albert M. "Bo" Robinson Assessment and Treatment Center.

### International Students Share and Educate

The International Student Organization was active this year. During International Student Week, students shared customs, clothing, music and art from their native countries. A highlight was the International Student Fashion Show. The group also presented the popular "Latin Music Thursdays" at lunchtime on the West Windsor campus.

*International students showcased fashions from their countries during a Women's Month Fashion Show.*



## Diversity Highlighted at MCCC Events

The power of education, the importance of mentoring, the drive to succeed, and a passion for one's work were major themes of discussion at both campuses as MCCC celebrated its diversity and its successful alumni at a variety of events.

*Pictured are panelists at a West Windsor campus Women's Month event hosted by the American Association for Women in Community Colleges. From left are MCCC Board member Gwendolyn Harris; Biology Professor Diane Hilker; Director of Advisement and Enrollment Services Latonya Ashford-Ligon; Student Activities Events Coordinator Tina Young; Associate Athletics Director Lisa Camillone; Associate Professor of Business and Technology Andrea Lynch; and Work Study Coordinator Jean Falvo.*



*A Trenton campus alumni event featuring inspirational women was hosted by the Division of Student Affairs. Speakers included, from left, Director of the Mercer County One-Stop Career Center Virgin Velez; MCCC Executive Dean Diane Campbell; The Islamic School of Trenton's Administrative Director Bayyinah Muhsin; MCCC Learning Center Coordinator Joann Mia; and Administrative Specialist Ayodele Kanyako. An additional event brought Pat Budd, Esq. of Mercer County Legal Services, to speak.*



*In March, students at the Trenton campus heard words of wisdom from six male alumni during a special panel discussion. The guest speakers included, from left, Javier Cubano, Fabio Iucolino, Mel Weldon, Aaron Watson, Harry Luna and Pedro Medina. Assistant Dean Barbara Jefferson, right, was credited by several panelists as being the kind of caring staff member who made a difference in their success.*



*In May the college hosted a speaking engagement by professor and author Anita Hill, Esq., center. Addressing a packed crowd at the MCCC Conference Center, Hill discussed the impact of the housing crisis on women and the impoverished, the subject of her new book "Reimagining Equality." Hill is a professor at the Heller School of Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University. She is pictured with staff and clients from HomeFront.*



## Strategic Vision VI:

### Community engagement, outreach and partnerships

The college reaches out to employers, organizations and individuals and establishes partnerships and collaborations that improve learning and services for learners throughout the community.

#### MCCC Successfully Competes for Grant Funding

This year the Grants and Special Projects office successfully partnered with faculty and staff to secure grant funding in the amount of \$3,314,307. Major government grants continue to fund Youth College programs in Trenton that provide college preparatory services. Government funding for ESL and Adult Basic Education programs enable county residents to prepare for employment and further education. Examples of grant support included:

- A Bristol-Myers Squibb grant of \$30,000 will help to purchase a Mobile HazMat Tanker Fire Trainer for use in educating firefighters. Additional funding is now being sought for the Mercer County Fire Academy at the MCCC Dempster Center location.
- A Bristol-Myers Squibb grant of \$20,000 helped to renovate biology and chemistry labs at the Trenton campus. Also at the Trenton campus, a \$20,000 grant from Ortho-McNeil Janssen Pharmaceuticals has provided funding for equipment and classroom renovations to offer caregiver training for the Certified Nurse Assistant and Home Health Aide programs.
- Provident Bank has funded MCCC's Urban Pre-College Academy to enable 10 Trenton Central High School students to become mentors to their peers.
- Dow Jones has granted \$10,000 to MCCC's Annual Campaign, demonstrating yet again its ongoing commitment to the success of Mercer students.
- The Cone Foundation has increased its grant to WWFM this year – from \$15,000 to \$20,000.
- The New Jersey Department of Education has again funded MCCC for Career and Technical Education, which helps high schools align their curriculum with career fields in business and better prepare students for career success.

*The new biology lab at the Trenton campus was made possible in part through funding from Bristol-Myers Squibb. Pictured are biology faculty members Linda Gaylo and Ellen Genovesi.*



## MCCC Partners with CVS Pharmacy

A grant from CVS Pharmacy provides Pharmacy Technician Apprenticeship training to students through the Center for Continuing Studies. The grant covers tuition, some fees, and books for those who enroll in 12 credits annually. Apprentices are also eligible to participate in CVS's tuition remission program when they matriculate into an



MCCC associate degree program. Ten students completed the program in its first year, and each is now a "certified" pharmacy technician with CVS.

*Student Maryam Rowneki, left, participated in the Pharmacy Technician Apprenticeship at CVS. She is pictured with Marsha Lynch, CVS area manager.*

## Programming Increases for Noncredit Courses

MCCC's Center for Continuing Studies (CCS) offered an array of courses throughout the year designed to give adults a convenient, concentrated route to enhanced skills and new careers. Taught by experts in their fields, the center's popular programs include business management, computer technology, health care certifications, continuing education for educators, and certifications for the construction field. Classes for personal interest range from cooking and fitness to writing, languages, personal finance and more.

Based on requests from working professionals, the CCS added 30 new classes for fall 2012. Hundreds of classes are also offered online for professional development and

## MCCC Expands Transfer Opportunities

Six new agreements with baccalaureate colleges expand the options for MCCC's graduates who wish to transfer and continue their education. The colleges include Drexel University for Nursing graduates, The College of New Jersey for Education graduates, Rutgers Business School for Honors Business graduates, Rowan University for Engineering graduates, and the University of Maryland and Holy Family University for Fire Science Technology graduates.

A new online degree completion program was made possible through an agreement with Saint Joseph's University (SJU). MCCC students in Liberal Arts or Business programs can transfer and complete a bachelor's degree through SJU's online program in Professional and Liberal Studies, with a concentration in Organizational Development and Leadership.

The Career and Transfer office hosted 14 transfer workshops and 16 career work-

shops and presentations this year, attended by hundreds of students. A job fair attracted 25 employers and approximately 200 students. The Trenton campus hosted its first transfer fair, with eight colleges and universities participating.

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The University Center at Mercer, which enables MCCC and other associate degree graduates to pursue their bachelor's degrees on the West Windsor campus, has been embraced by students. This year 142 students enrolled in bachelor's degree programs offered by William Paterson University in the fall and 148 took classes in the spring. Students studying for their degrees with Fairleigh Dickinson University numbered 80 in the fall and 75 in the spring. Fifteen Nursing graduates pursued their B.S.N. through Felician College in the fall and continued their studies in the spring.

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shops and presentations this year, attended by hundreds of students. A job fair attracted 25 employers and approximately 200 students. The Trenton campus hosted its first transfer fair, with eight colleges and universities participating.



*Eleven students are pictured with their Veterinary Assistant certificates following the eight-month program offered through the Center for Continuing Studies.*

## MERCER INSTITUTE

of Management & Technology Training

### New Name, More Clients Served

A new name and identity better reflect the full range of custom training and development services offered by The Mercer Institute of Management & Technology Training, formerly the Center for Training and Development at MCCC.

Mercer Institute builds on more than 30 years of experience designing and delivering customized training and development programs that address a wide range of strategic challenges. The Institute's business professionals design a plan, develop the programs, and deliver customized training to employees at client sites or at the Conference Center at Mercer. In 2011-12 the Institute increased the number of employers served from 50 to 58.

## Distinguished Lecture Series Adds to Learning at MCCC

This year MCCC hosted 10 lectures through its Distinguished Lecture Series, presented by Mercer's own faculty, as well as professors from other universities and representatives from governmental agencies and nonprofit organizations. Speakers provide students, staff and community members with new and real-world perspectives on science, art, politics, health and public policy, the environment and technology.



*Marc Rogoff, of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection, spoke on community practices that can help protect the environment for future generations.*



*NJ Assistant Attorney General Wanda Moore, third from right, is pictured following her lecture on community-based crime prevention strategies that provide incarcerated youth with the tools necessary to succeed once they re-enter the community.*

## State Museum Donates World Trade Center Steel Beams

MCCC collaborated with Mercer County in the Tenth Anniversary Remembrance of the September 11, 2001 attacks. This year the New Jersey State Museum donated two pieces of steel cut from the impact zone at the World Trade Center. The beams have been installed at both campuses.



## WWFM Expands HD Radio in New York City and Philadelphia

With music education as the heart of its mission, WWFM The Classical Network began its partnership with WKCR-FM, the legendary student station at Columbia University, enabling New Yorkers to gain access at 89.9 HD2. The station also extended its reach into the Philadelphia market at 89.5 HD2.



With its greater reach has come a wider variety of programming. In addition to works of famed composers, WWFM showcases the talents of approximately 50 regional groups. WWFM also launched "A Tempo," a public affairs program that examines the impacts of the economy, technology and society on the performing arts.

## Holocaust/Genocide Resource Center Expands Programming

The Mercer County Holocaust/Genocide Resource Center, housed on the West Windsor campus, hosted 16 events to educate students, teachers and community members. A new blog received more than 1,400 hits from around the world.

Events included a talk by Rwandan Genocide survivor Eugenie Mukeshimana, a workshop for educators entitled "Echoes & Reflections," a workshop on the film "War Horse," a professional development seminar for teachers, a lecture on the book "Night" by Elie Wiesel, and a lecture on "South Sudan: Destruction and Rebirth."

A Torah housed at the center was moved to the Princeton Jewish Center to be reunited with six other Torahs from Czechoslovakia that were separated during the Holocaust in Europe.



*Co-Directors Elizabeth DeGiorgio, left, and Susan Goldberg*

## Mercer Open House Welcomes Community; Honors Three Partners in Education

MCCC's Board of Trustees provided an opportunity for prospective students, parents, educators and community members to learn about the college at its annual Open House and Report to the Community in November. The Open House showcased the college's programs and services and celebrated academic achievement. As part of the program, President Donohue presented her annual report to the community, highlighting the year's successes and major accomplishments.



During the Open House, MCCC's Board of Trustees honored three community partners. Pictured are, from left, MCCC President Patricia C. Donohue, Partner in Learning awardee Greg Zanoni of WZBN-TV, Corporate Partner Awardee Douglas Clayton of SES, Alumni Leader Awardee Jeff Callahan, and MCCC Board Chair Mark Matzen.



Criminal Justice faculty member Elizabeth Bondurant, left, describes the program with a potential student and his mother.

## Children and Teens Learn at MCCC's Summer Camps

Mercer's youth camps brought close to 2,000 children to campus to enjoy a variety of stimulating programs this summer. The largest program, Camp College, offered nearly 100 class selections – from academics to juggling – for more than 1,300 campers, who created their own personalized schedules. Specialty Camps and Friday Fun Days offered additional activities such as cooking, science topics, computer classes, biking, hiking, ice skating, and off-campus excursions.

MCCC's Tomato Patch Visual and Performing Arts Workshops, the longest-running multidisciplinary summer arts program in central New Jersey, spent its 39th season enriching the lives – and potential arts careers – of 347 fifth through twelfth graders pursuing studies in theater, dance, vocal music and the visual arts.

In Sports Camps, almost 250 young athletes worked on their skills and enjoyed friendly competition in weeklong camps that focused on 10 different sports.

Tomato Patch



Camp College

Sports Camp





## Strategic Vision VII:

# Marketing programs and services to a diverse and dynamic community

The college vigorously and persistently markets the value of its programs, services and staff. The college promotes particular services after assessing the needs of the designated target audiences.

### MercerOnline – A New Identity



MCCC's Virtual College has been renamed and rebranded as MercerOnline, more closely identifying the college's rapidly growing online programs as distinctly Mercer.

### Digital Message Boards Highlight Events and News

Communicating with students and the public took a giant leap when MCCC's digital entrance signs went live at both entrances to the West Windsor campus in March. A new digital sign was also installed this spring inside the main entrance to the Trenton campus, and plans are in place for a large outdoor sign there when construction projects are completed.

The signs communicate information about credit and noncredit registration dates, new programs and services, special events such as job fairs, transfer fairs, lectures, Kelsey Theatre productions, Art Gallery exhibits, and events at the Trenton campus.



### MCCC Marketing Staff Wins National Paragon Award

Mercer's Marketing and Communications team won a prestigious Paragon Gold Award from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations for the 2011-12 College Catalog. The catalog's design includes 59 unique academic program icons similar in appearance to those used for cell phone apps.



The design team included, from left, Marketing Director Lynn Holl, Francis Paixão, Brad Kent, Lori Diecidue and Edyta Kuciapa.

### Introducing MOX, the MCCC Mobile App

MCCC has introduced a mobile app that can be downloaded free from app stores for those with Apple, BlackBerry, or Android mobile devices.



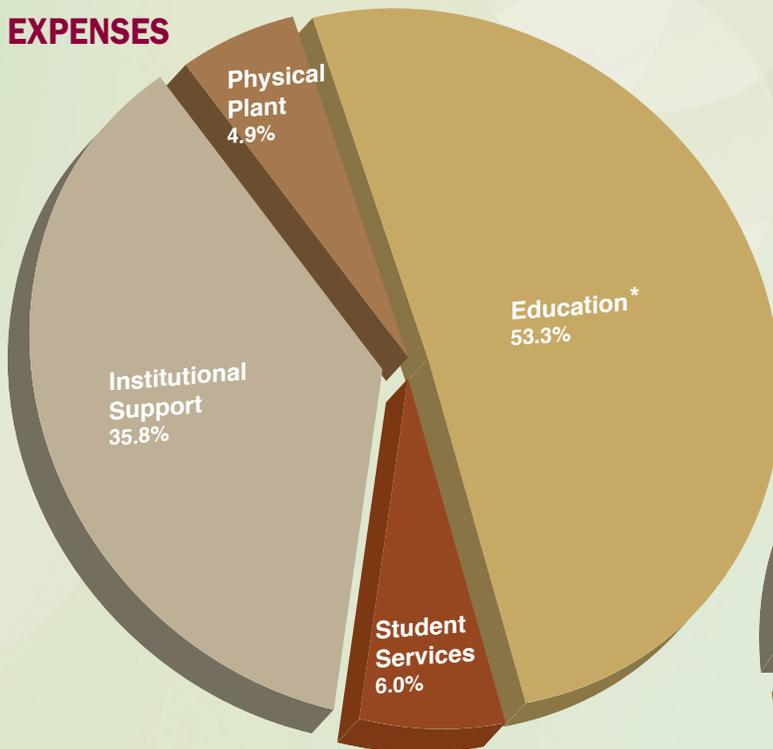
The MOX app gives anytime, anywhere access to information, including campus maps and college contacts. Recently added features are MCCC news and events listings.

After downloading and opening the app, users select "Mercer County Community College" from the list of options to begin enjoying the benefits.

# Overview: July 2011 - June 2012

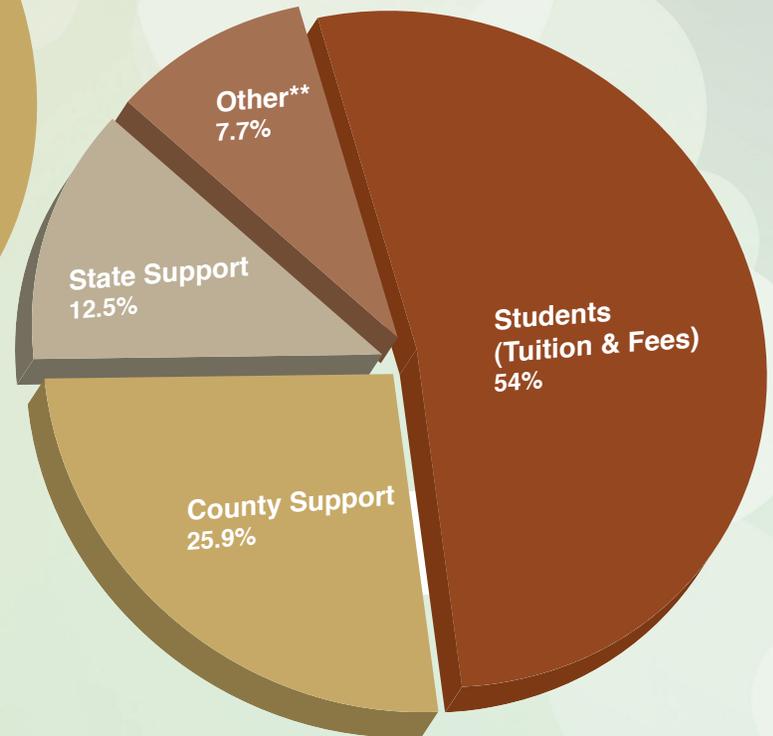
**Total Budget \$60,031,000**

## EXPENSES



\*Includes credit and noncredit programs, learning centers, testing centers and libraries.

## REVENUE



\*\* "Other" category includes Conference Center, Kelsey Theatre, WWFM, etc.

Unaudited figures. Audited reports available upon request.

## Board of Trustees



Seated, from left, are David Applebaum, Dr. Gwendolyn Harris, Mark Matzen and Dr. Patricia C. Donohue; standing, from left, are Dr. Samuel Stewart, Robert Di Falco, Rev. William E. Coleman Jr., Marvin Gardner, Esq., Pam Hersh, Kevin Drennan, Shamil Rodriguez and Anthony Inverso.

### Board of Trustees

Mark Matzen (Chair)	Marvin Gardner, Esq.
Dr. Gwendolyn Harris (Vice Chair)	Anthony Inverso
Pam Hersh (Treasurer)	Shamil Rodriguez
David Applebaum	Dr. Samuel B. Stewart
Rev. William E. Coleman Jr.	Kristen Vincent
Robert Di Falco	(Alumni Trustee)
Kevin Drennan	

## County Officials

### Mercer County Executive

Hon. Brian M. Hughes

### Mercer County Freeholders

Hon. Pasquale Colavita Jr. (Chair)	Hon. Samuel Frisby
Hon. Ann M. Cannon	Hon. Andrew Koontz
Hon. Anthony P. Carabelli	Hon. Lucylle R. S. Walter
Hon. John A. Cimino	(Vice Chair)

## Executive Officers



**Patricia C. Donohue, Ph.D.,**  
*President*



**Guy Generals, Ed.D.,**  
*Vice President for Academic Affairs*



**Mellissia M. Zanjani, M.S., CFRE, Ph.D.,**  
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**Jacob Eapen, M.S.W., M.B.A.,**  
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**José Fernández, J.D.,**  
*Executive Director for Compliance and Human Resources*



**L. Diane Campbell, Ed.D.,**  
*Executive Dean for Student Affairs*

# Statistical Overview 2011-2012

## College Degrees and Certificates

- 13,568 students served
  - Graduates: 978      Degrees: 1,029
  - NJ STARS: 91
  - Honors Program: 150
  - Student Athletes on MCCC Teams: 126
  - Special Services: 578

## Non-Degree Programs

- Center for Continuing Studies Enrollments: 6,503
- The Mercer Institute (formerly Center for Training and Development)
  - Employers Served: 58
  - Students: 2,278
  - Enrollments: 3,133
- The Conference Center at Mercer
  - Companies Served: 119
  - Guests Served: 81,199
- Career Training Institute (TC): 51
- Adult Education and English as a Second Language (TC): 586
- GED Testing Center (TC): 453 Examinees
- Mercer County One-Stop Center Contract for GED/ESL: 116
- Fire Training Programs (Dempster): 1,452

## Programs for Children and Youth

- Year-round Youth College (TC): 1,157
  - Educational Talent Search: 693
  - SMILE/GEARUP: 336
  - Upward Bound: 73
  - Urban Academic Academy: 45
- Summer Camps (WWC):
  - Camp College Students: 1,352  
Enrollments: 3,580
  - Sports Camp Students: 232  
Enrollments: 373
  - Tomato Patch Visual and Performing Arts Students: 347
- Kelsey Kids Playshops Participants: 121

## Cultural Offerings for Campus and Community

- Kelsey Theatre Events Staged: 38
  - Performances: 175
  - Attendees: 40,928
  - Performances for School Children: 18
  - College Functions Hosted: 26
- Guest Lectures through the Distinguished Lecture Series: 10
- Art Gallery:
  - Exhibitions: 6
  - Artists Represented: 182

WWC: West Windsor Campus

TC: Trenton Campus



*Fine Arts Professor Mel Leipzig demonstrates portrait painting techniques during the Annual Teen Arts Festival in May.*

## The MCCC Foundation Annual Report

For information about MCCC's Foundation and its important fundraising efforts for student scholarships, facilities and programs, we invite you to consult our 2011-12 Foundation Annual Report.

Visit [www.mccc.edu/foundation\\_reports](http://www.mccc.edu/foundation_reports), or call 609-570-3608



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