

 **President's Report**

TO: Atlantic Cape Community College Board of Trustees
FROM: Dr. Barbara Gaba
DATE: November 28, 2023
(Mays Landing Campus)

Recruitment

- Atlantic Cape hosted its Early College Program's Annual *Media Day* at the Mays Landing campus on October 27th under the leadership of Bojan Zilovic, Professor of Computer Science and Media Studies. Students from six local high schools learned about the latest technological media and communication innovations, trends and educational opportunities available to them at the college. The event also featured a keynote speaker, Scott Grayson, the sports anchor from *Fox 29 Philadelphia* news channel, who spoke about how he parlayed his love of sports into his career in the media industry. The students also attended workshops focusing on creative writing, social media mastery, photography, Steadicams, on-air radio production, news writing, drone flight operations and digital media production.
- Atlantic Cape's Student Affairs and Enrollment Management team participated in the Atlantic City Youth Service's *Viking Week: College and Career Week* at Atlantic City High School from October 23rd-27th. This included a long week celebration in which Atlantic Cape hosted several career and information workshops, instant decision, as well as panel discussions. Some of the departments represented included Center for Student Success, Recruitment, and Athletics.
- Atlantic Cape's Recruitment team hosted an information table at *Borgata's Employee Benefit's Event* on October 30th, to share all educational resources and opportunities available through Atlantic Cape from Workforce training programs to two-year degree programs.

- The Center for Student Success hosted a *Registration Prep Rally* on Tuesday, November 14th. Sponsored by the Student Support Services Program, this rally allows students to meet with student navigators to pre-register for Winter/Spring 2024 courses.

Community Outreach – Atlantic County

- Atlantic Cape's Public Safety department hosted a free workshop "JUST IN CASE: Free Opioid Awareness & Narcan Training" on October 24th. The workshop was presented by the Atlantic County Division of Public Health, Substance Abuse Services at both our Atlantic City and Mays Landing campuses. Students, faculty, staff, and community members who attended the event learned how identify the signs and symptoms of an opioid overdose and how to administer Narcan. Atlantic County has the highest opioid overdose death rate (per capita) in New Jersey. In response, Atlantic Cape Community College now has Narcan available, through the public safety office, on all three campuses.
- Atlantic Cape partnered with the Family Success Center and HOPE Exist to host the *Veterans Resource Fair and Mini Stand Down* on our Worthington Atlantic City Campus on November 8th. This event played an active role in helping Veterans obtain crucial resources, goods and services. Captain Jerome Ingram, Student Service Navigator, also presented at this event and hosted a veterans informational table for Atlantic Cape. Over hundred veterans were serviced at the event.
- In partnership with the Southern Jersey Family Medical Center and the Atlantic City Board of Education, Atlantic Cape hosted a *Thanksgiving Family Meal Kit* food distribution on our Worthington Atlantic City Campus on November 18th. We provided over 300 Atlantic City families with a turkey, fresh produce, and a box with sides to accompany their Thanksgiving meals.

Community Engagement – Atlantic County

- Lizbeth Castro and Jean McAlister represented Atlantic Cape and congratulated the Board President of the *New Jersey Hispanic Leadership*

Association at their 10th Anniversary Gala on October 28th. Also, in attendance were Atlantic Cape Foundation Board Trustees Jonathan Diego and Christian Ragland, as well as Atlantic Cape Distinguished Alumni James Sarkos and Adalberto Lopez.

Community Engagement – Cape May County

- Atlantic Cape STEM Professors Dr. Chris Carbone and Richard Perello presented a *Guided Beachcombing Walk* at the Cape May Point Science Center on November 4th. Thanks to the generosity of Robert Mullock, over thirty participants got to explore the Cape May Point Science Center after their guided beachcombing walk, where they got to examine the natural treasures they found on the Jersey shore under microscopes and magnifying glasses.

Cape May County bizHub

- The *bizHub* held amazing an “Financial Resources and Small Business Lending” seminar on October 26th. The seminar was joined by representatives from Study Savings Bank and the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) to discuss all the financial lending options and resources available to small business owners in Cape May County.

Student Success

- Atlantic Cape’s Alpha Delta Mu chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) International Honor Society officially swore in its 2023 inductee class, a total of 24 students, during its 45th *Annual Induction Ceremony* on Tuesday, November 14th in the Walter E. Edge Hall Theater on the Mays Landing campus. **Dr. Gaba** spoke at the event and recognized the PTK Advisor and English Professor, **Stephanie Natale-Boianelli**, as well as the commitment shown by the chapter’s students to their studies.

Student Engagement

- Student Engagement, the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and the Student Government Association (SGA) hosted the inaugural *International Student Day Celebration* on October 24th. Ten international students

performed with songs, poetry, and dance representative of their native culture and countries. Students, faculty and staff sampled foods and desserts from China, the Philippines, Japan, Haiti, Mexico, India, Italy, Poland, and France.

- The Center for Student Success cosponsored the *First-Generation Celebration Week* on Tuesday, November 7th through Thursday, November 9th. This celebration included free campus resources to help students succeed and connect with First-Gen faculty and staff. Food, activities, and entertainment were offered every day.

Athletics

Basketball

- Men's basketball ranked top 20 in the national NJCAA polls on October 24th.

Volleyball

- Angeliza Disla made the Region 19 Women's Volleyball All-Region Team and the Garden State Athletic Conference team. Both the All-Region Team and the Garden State Athletic Conference team consists of the top 10 women's volleyball student athletes in this region. Angeliza led the Buccaneers to their third straight playoff appearance this season. Our women's' volleyball team made the playoffs for the third straight year under Coach Karla Maisto.

University Partnership Update

- Fairleigh Dickinson will no longer offer degree-completion and graduate programs in-person at New Jersey Community Colleges. Atlantic Cape Community College has been part of this program since 2002. Fairleigh Dickinson cited declining enrollment in recent years as the reason for ending these programs. However, Atlantic Cape will maintain its transfer agreements with Fairleigh Dickinson for our Culinary Arts and Hospitality programs.

Foundation

- In recognition for their outstanding contributions and for helping to serve others in the community, the Atlantic Cape Community College Foundation and the Cape May County Women's Commission honored Tracey Boyle-

DuFault, Sandra Lockhart, Terri Mascione and Jennifer Shirk at the 2023 *Women of Wonder Luncheon* on Thursday, November 2nd at The Flanders Hotel in Ocean City. This year's Women of Wonder event raised \$14,150, topping last year's \$12,100 amount, in scholarship funds for young Atlantic Cape female students who wish to attend college and who otherwise may have been unable to afford to do so.

Staff Spotlight

- **Dr. Gaba** was named the *2023 National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) Pacesetter of the Year* for demonstrating leadership and support of college communications and marketing at the annual district conference Awards Dinner on November 3rd at the Boston Park Plaza in Boston, MA.
- In addition to this prestigious honor, Atlantic Cape's Marketing and College Relations Department, under the leadership of Chief Marketing Officer, **Laura Batchelor**, earned 10 Medallion awards (three gold and seven silver) at this year's conference.