

The Focus

faculty / staff e-newsletter

Posts published from January 1, 2017 to January 31, 2017, from news.sunybroome.edu/focus.

Need a laugh? Comedian Mike Paramore on campus Feb. 13

January 31, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Lighten your day with some laughs! Experience “Love and Comedy” with Mike Paramore from 1 to 2 p.m. Feb. 13 in Applied Technology Room 200.



Feb. 9 Common Hour: Scholarships for SUNY Broome students

January 31, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Join an administrator from the BCC Foundation at 11 a.m. Feb. 9 in T-102 to find out how you can become a candidate for one of the many scholarships offered by the college and its four academic divisions.

Eyes on the Prize: Becky Hopper pursues her degree, one class at a time

January 31, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Becky Hopper is on the five-year plan, but she's okay with that.

“When I get my degree, it's not going to say, ‘Becky Hopper did it in five years instead of two,’” she reflected. “It's just going to say: ‘Becky Hopper, you rock! Becky Hopper, you didn't give up.’”

A native of Orange Park, Florida, this is Hopper's first time in college. After graduating high school, “life happened,” as she put it: she married, had children and spent her days homeschooling them.

Then, about eight years ago, that life changed dramatically. Hopper headed north, where friends in Apalachin helped her start over. At the time, she had only \$200 to her name, no car and no job. Four months later, she landed an entry-level position at a local insurance company.

Through the years, she settled into life in the Southern Tier. She enjoys her job, and was promoted several times. But with her sons about to graduate high school, she began to turn her eye to the wider horizon and ponder her future. She had always wanted to go to school, but lacked a direction.

She asked a friend who works at a local school district for advice.

“I love people. What could I do for a living?” Hopper asked. “She told me, ‘This county needs social workers. You'd be a great social worker.’”

Last summer, at the age of 44, she signed up for her first college class at SUNY Broome: College Writing. She did well, following

it up with College Writing 2, psychology and philosophy. Most of her courses have been online, although she took psychology with Professor Courtney O'Hagen on campus, which she found to be an extraordinary experience.

One class per semester works well for this single mom, who juggles her studies with a full-time job and a healthy gym habit. She's expanding her horizons – and having fun at the same time. Thanks to a Pell grant, most of her costs are covered.

"I feel like God can't steer a parked car," the Human Services major said of her decision to enroll. "Five years is going to pass no matter what. What am I going to have to show for it? I'm creating options for myself."

Considering going back to school later in life, or for the first time? Take a step to reach your goal, Hopper advises.

"Take one class at a time, if that's all you can do," she said. "Once you have an education, no one can take that away from you."

March 2 Common Hour: Lebanese Red Cross and Syrian Refugees in Lebanon

January 31, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

Study Abroad Illustration



It's been five years since the beginning of the Syrian Civil War in March of 2011. There are around 13.5 million Syrians who are refugees; 50% of them are children under the age of 18, and about 5 million are in Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan and Egypt.

In 2011, the population of Lebanon was about 4.5 million. In 2016 the population increased to 6.5 million; 1.5 million are Syrian Refugees. Having about a quarter of the population relying on international aid gravely impacts the economy and the quality of life, not just for the refugees, but for the Lebanese as well.

At this Common Hour event **at 11 a.m. March 2 in Decker 201**, members of the Student Assembly will raise awareness on this topic and clear up any misconceptions about Syrian refugees. They will also collect donations to help the Lebanese Red Cross with their mission in Lebanon and help the Syrian refugees.

Update on immigration policy change and its impact on SUNY Broome Students

January 31, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



SUNY Broome's International Admissions office reached out to all of our international students and families regarding the recent immigration policy changes.

We asked them to communicate with us if they are having any problems traveling, or if they know of other students that are having difficulties due to the policy changes. We reminded them that the college highly values its international student community and we are here to support them.

Here are some details on our population:

- We have no current F1 status students from these 7 countries
- We have 40 students who are either refugees or permanent status (with Green cards), and *were* enrolled within the past year.
NOTE: only 2 of the following students are currently enrolled for the SPRING.

22 from Iraq
7 from Somalia
5 from Iran
6 from Sudan

- We have no reports, at this time, of these students being detained due to having traveled home during the break.
- Most of our international students were here early last week.

SUNY has developed a very helpful website regarding the recent changes in Federal Policies for students. –

<http://www.suny.edu/immigration/>

SUNY legal council has asked us not to issue any specific travel recommendations to students at this point... as the situation is in flux and they don't want create panic.

If you hear of any difficulties or concerns from our International Student community please advise them to connect with Susan Wellington, Assistant Director of Admissions/International Student Support Services, at (607) 778-5187 or wellingtonsl@sunybroome.edu

From the desk of Dr. Battisti: Welcome Back!

January 31, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

Colleagues,

As we begin our 70th spring semester, I want to take this opportunity to share my thoughts on where we are and where we want to go.

We have accomplished much over our long rich history and we will continue to do so, as we work together to meet our present challenges. Attached to this email is a copy of the bi-monthly Academic Affairs Board of Trustees Report which is an overview of some of the academic accomplishments of the past few months. This report is developed with the input from the academic Deans and other members of the CAO team, so please keep them posted on important initiatives and developments.

[BOT Report for Campus 1 30 17](#)

Along with celebrating our accomplishments, we will continue to meet the challenges that are presently impacting us. My sincere belief is that, as a community of educators, we need to take charge of our responsibility to maintain a quality, sustainable educational environment. Through tolerance for discomfort, creative/innovative thinking, collaboration and respect for differences we will meet these challenges and be better for it as educators and as an institution of higher learning.

Presently, we have all the ingredients to meet our challenges and enrich our educational experience. As a shared governance institution many individuals have chosen to be involved in various study/action initiatives. Some of these include: Academic Master Planning, Facilities Master Planning, Diversity and Inclusion Planning, Achieving Success Planning, Applied Learning Planning, and surveys measuring various attributes. All of this information will continue to be vetted by the campus and will culminate with inclusion into our Strategic Master Plan, charting our course for the coming five years.

Thank you to all the individuals who have already offered creative ideas, taken meaningful actions and are stepping forward to be a part of innovative solutions to address our immediate challenges. I look forward to continuing our collaborative work as we tackle the challenges before us.

In closing, I would like to share quote that seems relevant to our current situation at SUNY Broome:

“The formulation of a problem, is often more essential than its solution, which may be merely a matter of mathematical or experimental skill. To raise new questions, new possibilities, to regard old questions from a new angle, requires creative imagination and marks real advances in science.” ~Albert Einstein

Be well,
Francis L. Battisti, Ph.D.

Executive Vice President and Chief Academic Officer

SUNY Distinguished Service Professor

SUNY Broome Community College

Medical Assisting to offer blood pressure screening on Feb. 2

January 30, 2017

Categories: FOCUS on Wellness



About 85 million Americans — one out of every three adults over age 20 — have high blood pressure and nearly 20 percent don't even know they have it.

The best way to know if you have high blood pressure it is to have your blood pressure checked. Please stop by the Student Center on Thursday, Feb. 2, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. for a check by our SUNY Broome Medical Assistants!

TRC resources to get your semester started

January 30, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

Welcome back!

We wanted to take this opportunity to remind you of a few online resources that are available to you:

1. [Faculty Essentials](#) – The faculty essentials website provides up-to-date information for all of your teaching needs including the CAI-approved [Syllabus Template](#) .
2. [Online @ SUNY Broome](#) – The redesigned Online@SUNY Broome website has a new faculty resources area ([Blackboard Faculty Guides](#)) with important information and support/help documentation for faculty who are teaching online blended, or web-supplemented courses at SUNY Broome.
3. Professional Development – The Professional Development website offers a glimpse of the [upcoming workshops](#) and opportunities conducted through the TRC. It is also your go-to resource for information about [PDAP](#) and [Teaching Grants](#).
4. Don't forget our TRC Drop-In Lab Hours are Mondays 12-2 pm and Thursdays 9-11 am.

Please let us know if you have any questions or if you want to learn more about what we have to offer you in the TRC.

Mock Disaster: Save The Date!

January 30, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

Save the Date: The Mock Disaster will be held on at 2 p.m. **Friday, May 5, 2017**. More information to follow later in the semester.



Upcoming events at the Criminal Justice & Emergency Services Student Association

January 30, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

CRIMINAL JUSTICE &
EMERGENCY SERVICES



SUNY  BROOME

Check out these upcoming events from the Criminal Justice & Emergency Services

Student Association:

- CJESSA will be part of Student Activities Day on Thursday, Feb. 9, in the Baldwin Gym. New member signup runs from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Prior members may volunteer at the table.
- Police Appreciation and the Polar Plunge will take place at 11 a.m. Feb. 16 in the Quad. Law enforcement, CJES faculty and students may take a chilly dip. Contact Professor Kerry Weber in BB-104 if you're interested in participating.
- The first regular meeting will be held from 11 to 11:50 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 23, in Business Building 210. Pizza and soda will be provided, and the club will discuss St. Patrick's Day parade planning.

Questions? Please contact CJES Instructor Joe Julian, Club Advisor, in BB 230, at julianj@sunybroome.edu or 607-778-5620.

Dr. Bill Altman Leads National Discussion Panel on Sharing Psychology with our Communities

January 30, 2017

Categories: Focus on Accomplishments



SUNY Broome's Dr. Bill Altman (Psychology & Human Services Department), in his capacity as the chair of the Society for the Teaching of Psychology's Presidential Task Force: Psychology in Communities (STP is Division 2 of the American Psychological Association) chaired the Participant Idea Exchange: **Bringing Psychology to Our Communities with STP** at the 39th annual National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology (NITOP) on Jan. 5 in St. Pete Beach, Fla.

Dr. Altman led participants through ways to determine what information psychological scientists might share with their communities, how teachers of psychology can share their discipline with as many diverse communities as possible and what outlets are available or that psychology teachers might create. He also introduced the group to a wiki designed to help them connect with their communities, and give them the tools to do so. The wiki is available to anyone at <http://psychincommunity.pbworks.com>.

In addition, Dr. Altman provided access to an online tool for helping scientists in any field communicate better with local and national media. This tool is available at http://williamaltman.info/Bill_Projects/Working_with_the_Media/Psychologists_and_the_Media.htm.

SUNY Broome Student Leads Discussion Panel on Supplemental Instruction at the National Institute for the Teaching of Psychology

January 30, 2017

Categories: Focus on Accomplishments



Cassandra Domingo

Cassandra Domingo, a student at SUNY Broome Community College, led the Participant Idea Exchange: **How to Improve Supplemental Instruction/Group Tutoring** at the 39th annual National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology (NITOP) on Jan. 3 in St. Pete Beach, Fla. Her presentation included information from her ongoing research about successful techniques for supplemental instruction (SI), and helped participants develop their own ideas about SI.

Renovation and Repurposing of the Old Science Building

January 30, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



The first step in the renovation and re-purposing of the Old Science Building is now complete. Beginning this semester, the Criminal Investigation course (both the lecture and the Crime Scene Lab) of the Criminal Justice and Emergency Services Department will now be permanently housed in Rooms 210 and 211 of the Old Science Building.

Hungry? Blue Line cafe hours for February

January 30, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

Hungry? Check out the hours for the Blue Line concession stand in the Ice Center for the month of January. Remember: The Blue Line accepts cash, credit, flex and Buzz Bucks, but does not accept meal plans.

- Wednesday, Feb. 1: Main cafe open until 10 p.m.
- Thursday, Feb. 2: 5:15 to 9:45 p.m.
- Friday, Feb. 3: 5:15 to 10:15 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 4: 12:30 to 11 p.m.
- Sunday, Feb. 5: 8 to 11:15 a.m., 1:15 to 8 p.m.
- Thursday, Feb. 9: 5:15 to 9:45 p.m.
- Friday, Feb. 10: 5:15 to 10:15 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 11: 12:30 to 10:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Feb. 12: 8 to 11:15 a.m., 1:15 to 8 p.m.
- Wednesday, Feb. 15: Main cafe open until 10 p.m.
- Thursday, Feb. 16: 5:15 to 9:45 p.m.
- Friday, Feb. 17: 5:15 to 10:15 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 18: 1:30 to 10:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Feb. 19: 8 to 11:15 a.m., 1:15 to 8 p.m.
- Monday, Feb. 20: 12 to 2 p.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 21: Main cafe open until 10 p.m.
- Thursday, Feb. 23: 5:15 to 9:45 p.m.
- Friday, Feb. 24: 2 to 10:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 25: 12:15 to 11:15 p.m.
- Sunday, Feb. 26: 8 to 11:15 a.m., 1:15 to 8:15 p.m.
- Monday, Feb. 27: 6:45 to 8 p.m.

Add / Drop Transactions

January 30, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



As a reminder, classes for the spring, 2017 semester begin this Monday, January 30. Since the refund period for full-term classes begins next week, all add / drop transactions need to be conducted in the Registrar's office, Students Services Building Room 105. Students will need permission from the department chairperson to register for those classes that have already started. They will also need permission if the class is filled. Students will be able to register online for accelerated classes (late starting classes) until they begin.

Be the Change: Meeting on Feb. 2

January 29, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Looking to do something more than share posts on Facebook? Be the Change, a progressive coalition for students, faculty and staff, is holding its first Spring semester meeting at 11 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 2, in TH-209.

What's the group about? Organizers explained:

Want to make positive change in our community? Not sure how to get involved? Join other like-minded progressives on the SUNY Broome campus to organize and make some positive change. Let's be the change!

New York State Park Police Recruitment in February and March

January 29, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



The New York State Park Police provide essential police services consistent with the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation's mission to provide safe and enjoyable recreational opportunities for New York State residents and visitors.

A recruitment officer will be on campus in the Business Building Lobby, on February 2, February 8, February 21, March 15 and March 22 to speak with students about career opportunities as a New York State Park Police Officer. Please stop by between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. to learn more.

A Great Books Discussion: ‘All the Light We Cannot See’ and ‘The Hare with the Amber Eyes’

January 29, 2017
Categories: Uncategorized



[A Great Books Discussion](#)



This semester’s Great Books discussion will begin at noon Friday, Feb. 10, in the Liberal Arts Conference Room, T-210.

The books that will be discussed during the Spring 2017 semester are *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr (winner of the Pulitzer Prize) and *The Hare with the Amber Eyes* by Edmund de Waal. These books have earned acclaim as notable books of the 21st century.

For further information, contact I.J. Byrnes at byrnesij@sunybroome.edu. The event is sponsored by Phi Theta Kappa and the English Department.

Espere: Health and Hope in Haiti Art Exhibit this February

January 29, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



The Broome County Arts Council will host “Espere: Health and Hope in Haiti” during the month of February at their gallery at 81 State St. Suite 501 in Binghamton.

The exhibit celebrates the Health for Haiti course, which brings students, faculty, local professionals and community volunteers together to address some of the most pressing needs of our neighbors in Haiti.

The exhibit will be open from 6 to 9 p.m. Feb. 3 during the First Friday Art Walk, and will continue through Feb. 24.

For more information or to support Health for Haiti, please visit www.healthforhaiti.org.

The Monday Poem: ‘Biking to the George Washington Bridge’ by Alicia Ostriker

January 29, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

The Monday Poem is brought to you by Professor Jim Gormley of the English Department. Enjoy!

Biking to the George Washington Bridge

Alicia Ostriker

It sweeps away depression and today
you can't tell the heaped pin-white
cherry blossoms abloom along
Riverside Drive from the clouds above
it is all kerfluffle, all moisture and light and so
into the wind I go
past Riverside Church and the Fairway
Market, past the water treatment plant
and in the dusky triangle below
a hulk of rusted railroad bed
a single hooded boy is shooting hoops

It's ten minutes from here to the giant bridge
men's engineering astride the sky heroic
an animal roar of motors on it
the little red lighthouse at its foot
big brother befriending little brother
in the famous children's story
eight minutes back with the wind behind me
passing the boy there alone shooting
his hoops in the gloom

A neighborhood committee
must have said that space
should be used for something recreational
a mayor's aide must have said okay
so they put up basketball and handball courts
and if it were a painting or a photo
you would call it American loneliness



“Biking to the bridge is one of my favorite activities since becoming a permanent New York City resident for the first time since I was eighteen. The bike path has the Hudson River on one side, traffic on the other, and I can do the ride in an hour door to door. If the poem captures both the energy of the city and the sorrow and loneliness

threading through it, I'll be satisfied." —*Alicia Ostriker*

Spring special: Pick your team for the big game — at the Dining Hall

January 27, 2017
Categories: Uncategorized

PICK YOUR TEAM FOR THE

BIG GAME

1.30 2.03

NEW PICKS

*** UNDER 500 CAL ***

SWEET POTATO & BEAN QUESADILLA

473 CAL

WHITE CHICKEN CHILI

165 CAL

SOUTHWEST BLACK BEAN BURGER

336 CAL

CHICKEN PHILLY CHEESE STEAK

353 CAL

TURKEY MARGHERITA MEATBALL SUB

395 CAL

CLASSIC

*** FAVORITES ***

STEAK FAJITA QUESADILLA

TEXAS STYLE CHILI CON CARNE

TEXAS JALAPEÑO POPPER BURGER

JUNKYARD DOG

FIREHOUSE MEATBALL SUB

AMERICAN DINING CREATIONS

AMERICAN DINING CREATIONS

American Dining Creations is kicking off the start of the Spring semester a Big Game promotion, just in time for the Super Bowl!

The Saute & Sizzle grill station will feature classic favorites, such as the Firehouse Meatball Sub, Junkyard Dog and Steak Fajita Quesadilla. They'll also have "new picks" that highlight healthier dishes, such as a Sweet Potato & Black Bean Quesadilla, Chicken Philly and Turkey Meatball Sub.

PICK YOUR TEAM FOR THE

BIG GAME

1.30 2.03

NEW PICKS

*** UNDER 500 CAL ***

SWEET POTATO & BEAN QUESADILLA

473 CAL

WHITE CHICKEN CHILI

165 CAL

SOUTHWEST BLACK BEAN BURGER

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CHICKEN PHILLY CHEESE STEAK

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395 CAL

CLASSIC

*** FAVORITES ***

STEAK FAJITA QUESADILLA

TEXAS STYLE CHILI CON CARNE

TEXAS JALAPEÑO POPPER BURGER

JUNKYARD DOG

FIREHOUSE MEATBALL SUB

AMERICAN DINING CREATIONS

AMERICAN DINING CREATIONS

Nitro Cold Brew Coffee: Now in the Titchener Cafe

January 27, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

American Dining Creations has partnered with Finger Lakes Coffee Roasters in the heart of Central New York to offer **Nitro Cold Brew Coffee**.

Cold Brew coffee is the latest and greatest way of brewing a premium cup of iced coffee. Fresh-ground coffee beans are steeped in cold water for more than 18 hours to extract the purest and smoothest flavor in an iced coffee product. We then finish it off with a nitrogen infusion to give an incredible creaminess to an already fantastic product.

Visit the **Titchener Coffee Café** to be one of the first to taste this new product you are sure to fall in love with!

Updated Chairperson/Coordinator List

January 26, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Click below for the updated list of academic chairs and coordinators.

[Chair-Coordinator List 2016-2017](#)

Posting First Attendance: Spring Semester 2017

January 26, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

If you are teaching courses this spring, please read this message:

Please take attendance by the census date and be sure to post attendance on time (please see attendance due dates below).

After you post your attendance, please remember that you need to continue taking attendance through the entire semester.

The due date for posting first attendance, for full term classes, is Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 8 AM.

Please see below for more specific information.

Part of Term	Description	Start Date	Census Date	Attendance Due Date
1	Full Term	1/30/2017	2/21/2017	2/22/2017
A	First 5 Week	1/30/2017	2/6/2016	2/7/2017
AD5	Nursing 5 Wk	4/3/2017	4/11/2017	4/12/2017
B	Second 5 Wk	3/7/2017	3/14/2017	3/15/2017
D	Third 5 Week	4/12/2017	4/26/2017	4/27/2017
F	First Half	1/30/2017	2/8/2017	2/9/2017
F10	First 10 Week	1/30/2017	2/13/2017	2/14/2017
FF	Fast Forward	2/6/2017	3/2/2017	3/3/2017
FFP	Fast For Pt Tm	2/27/2017	3/9/2017	3/10/2017
HON	Honors	2/13/2017	2/21/2017	2/22/2017
L	Last Half	3/23/2017	3/31/2017	4/3/2017
PE1	Phys Ed Early	1/23/2017	2/2/2017	2/3/2017
PT2	PTA 2 Week	5/8/2017	5/10/2017	5/11/2017
PT3	PTA Sp Short	1/31/2017	2/9/2017	2/10/2017
PT5	PTA 5 Week	3/21/2017	3/28/2017	3/29/2017
PT6	PTA 6 Week	3/20/2017	4/13/2017	4/14/2017
R	Real Estate	2/28/2017	3/3/2017	3/6/2017
T	Trailer Last 10	3/7/2017	3/21/2017	3/22/2017
W	Weekend	2/10/2017	3/1/2017	3/2/2017

Department secretaries may use Argos to print class lists by subject to distribute to department faculty to be used for Attendance taking purposes.

It is important that attendance is posted accurately and on time. When attendance is not posted accurately, or on time, financial aid could be disbursed to students who should not be receiving it. If the attendance is posted after the deadline, after financial aid is disbursed, we cannot recover the funds from those students who should not have received it because of poor attendance.

Reporting official course attendance, including for the purpose of financial aid funding, is determined by a student's academic participation in the course.

Official course attendance is defined by any of the following activities:

- * Physically attending a class where there is an opportunity for direct interaction between the instructor and students
- * Submitting an academic assignment
- * Taking an exam, an interactive tutorial, or computer-assisted instruction
- * Attending a study group that is assigned by the institution
- * Participating in an online discussion about academic matters
- * Initiating contact with a faculty member to ask a question about the academic subject studied in the course

Official course attendance does not include activities where a student may be present, but not academically engaged, such as:

- Logging into an online class without active participation
- Participating in academic counseling or advisement
- Living in institutional housing
- Participating in the institution's meal plan

We will continue to use MyCollege to record attendance.

Say hello: Welcome Day on Feb. 9

January 26, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Welcome back! Welcome Day runs from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, in the Baldwin Gym and Student Center lobby.

Stop by to connect with faculty, staff and your peers. Student services will be tabling in the lobby and the campus clubs and organizations will be tabling in the Baldwin Gymnasium. This is the perfect opportunity for students to engage with all aspects of the campus!

Ride the bus: BC Transit adding express service to the No. 9 route

January 26, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Starting Monday, Jan. 30, 2017, BC Transit will add express service on the #9. From 8:25 a.m. through 11:55 a.m. the 9 Express will depart alongside the regular 9 BU SUNY Broome Advantage. The 9 Express will go directly between campuses with no stops.

The regular 9 BU SUNY Broome Advantage will continue to run scheduled service from 7:25 a.m. to 6:20 p.m. If you have questions, please [email BC Transit](#).

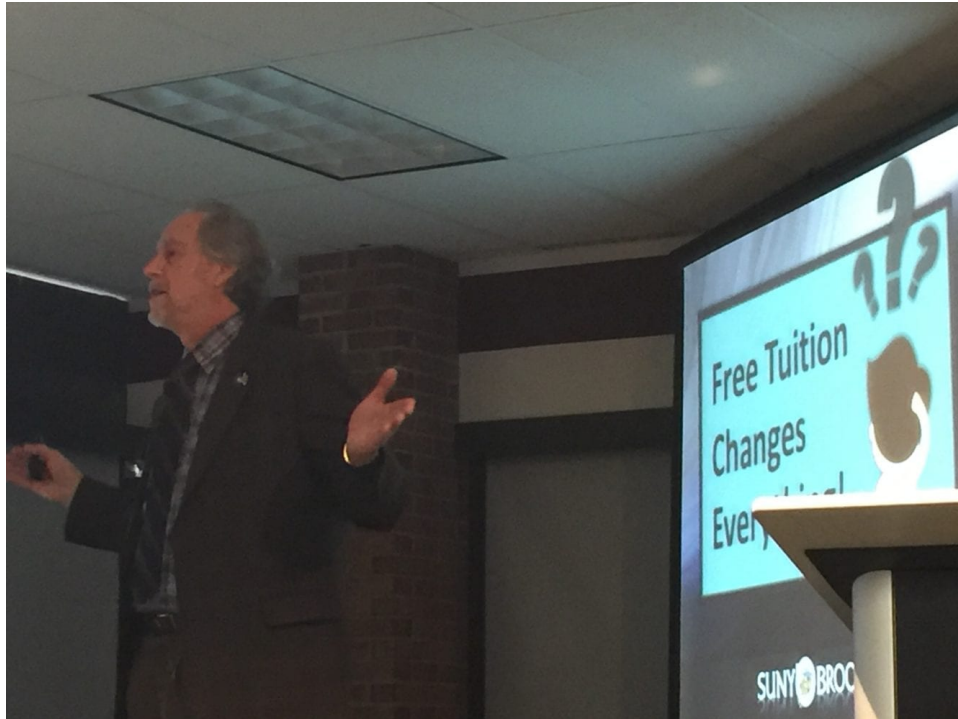
Remember: You can ride BC Transit for free with your student ID!

[9-BU-Express-v2](#)

Appreciation and Innovation: The Spring 2017 Faculty Staff Assembly

January 26, 2017

Categories: FOCUS on Finances



Jason Garnar

With a glance at his classmates, Jason Garnar just couldn't bring himself to jump down a ravine into a pile of trash.

Do it and you'll get an instant A in the class, Biology Professor Richard Firenze joked during that memorable trip to the Broome County landfill. And then there was that other "challenge" he issued at the sewage treatment plant: Drink this glass of water, and you'll get that A. Not surprisingly, there were no takers for that one, either, Garnar related as the audience chuckled.

These days, Garnar is actually running the landfill – as Broome's newly elected county executive. The son of acclaimed Professor Doug Garnar, Jason is a proud Hornet who went on to graduate from Binghamton University and serve in the county legislature. He lives in Port Dickinson with his wife Amanda and three sons.

A special guest at the Spring 2017 Faculty Staff Assembly on Jan. 26, Garnar shared memories of his alma mater – which also happen to be some of his earliest, such as accompanying his father to the Applied Technology buildings and on away meets for the cross-country team, which his father coached. An inconsistent student in high school (he did well in courses that interested him and enough to pass in those that didn't), Garnar ended up at SUNY Broome at the recommendation of his parents – where he found a second home.

"The experience I had at Broome Community College for two years was nothing short of amazing," he said. Professors reached beyond the classroom to bring their subjects to life, including Dr. Firenze and his landfill trip. In a class on the Vietnam War,

Professor Harold Koster brought in war veterans to share their experiences and discuss them with students, he remembered.

Garnar also played for two years on the baseball team, which broke records – all of the wrong kind.

“We had the greatest amount of losses we ever had on a baseball team here,” he joked. But he won in other ways, by making lifelong friends on the team, he said.

On a more serious note, he stressed the important role SUNY Broome plays in training the county’s work force, and looks forward to projects such as the [Culinary Arts Center](#) in downtown Binghamton. There are area jobs that go unfilled because candidates don’t have the necessary training or education, a situation that the college can address, he noted.

“I am so proud of the people that work here,” he said. “I am so proud of the students who go here. This is a jewel, and my commitment to you is to make investments in that jewel.”

Appreciation and Innovation



President Drumm

The Faculty Staff Assembly celebrates the start of each new semester, and highlights new initiatives, welcomes new employees and bids farewell to those retiring. It also traditionally has a theme, noted Vice President and Chief Academic Officer Francis Battisti. While “Student Success: Looking Beyond” provided the focus for the [Fall assembly](#), the theme for spring has shifted to “Appreciation and Innovation” – celebrating where we have been, but also plotting our course for a rapidly changing future.

And indeed, that future may change dramatically. Gone is the spectacled sloth with its message of “Slow down, you’re doing fine,” from the previous assembly. Instead, the college needs to shift into fifth or sixth gear – [thanks to Gov. Andrew Cuomo’s proposed Excelsior Scholarship Program](#), which would make both two- and four-year SUNY schools tuition-free for families and individuals making up to \$125,000 a year, noted SUNY Broome President Kevin E. Drumm.



Sorry, sloth!

If it’s approved, the program will change everything – but exactly what that future will look like is currently unknown, Dr. Drumm acknowledged. What college officials do know: If it’s enacted, they will need to respond quickly in accordance with the budget

process.

“It’s really going to be a game changer for community colleges,” he said. “We have to be prepared.”

President Drumm also took a pointed look at another unknown: what happened to the 2,185 students who disappeared from the college population between May 2016 and the following September. Why did they leave?

Most – 71% — were traditional students, and 67 percent earned a GPA of 2.5 or better, meaning that they weren’t academically struggling; 55 percent had more than 15 credits. Some may have left for the workforce, but many likely transferred – without choosing to receive the Associate’s degree they could have earned.



[Achieving the Dream](#), which SUNY Broome joined last summer, will help the college focus on student retention, which is becoming increasingly important as four-year public and private schools compete for students who would otherwise finish their Associate’s degree.

“We’ve got to figure out new ways to do this in our new environment,” President Drumm said.

Fiscal sustainability

As the Vice President for Administrative and Financial Affairs, Michael Sullivan aims for [sustainability – of the fiscal kind](#). Looking at the larger national climate, he has a new way of defining his role: “I’m the vice president of fact-checking,” he said.



Vice President Michael Sullivan

What the facts say: SUNY Broome has 310 fewer full-time equivalent (FTE) students than five years ago if you take Fast Forward students out of the calculation, a 6 percent decline. In terms of FTE student body size, 2016-2017 is comparable to the 2013-2014 year.

While revenues increase an average of \$1.1 million yearly, expenses have averaged increases of \$1.6 million, largely driven by payroll costs that comprise 88% of the college’s roughly \$50 million budget. Staffing has risen nearly 6 percent, driven by a 9 percent increase in course sections.

To right the course, the college will work on consolidating sections and thus addressing the additional payroll costs. Anticipating a \$1 million annual revenue increase, the goal is to limit any expense increases to \$950,000, resulting in a \$50,000 net income.

“We are very confident that we can have a sustainable budget, this year and in future years,” Sullivan said.

Moving forward



Vice Presidents Battisti and Morello

While college officials work on student retention and fiscal sustainability, SUNY Broome continues its progress on several economic development projects. A ribbon-cutting is scheduled for the [Southern Tier High-Tech Incubator](#) in April, with the anticipated move-in date this summer, said Vice President for Student and Economic Development Debra Morello. SUNY Broome has the entire top floor, which is dedicated to student entrepreneurship.

“We have so many tremendous entrepreneurs in every field,” she said. “This is for students of all ages.”

Still in its early stages, another project is a new controlled environment agriculture (CEA) facility here on campus, featuring a “smart” high-tech greenhouse, hydroponics and organic food production. In other economic development news, the college also received a \$330,000 grant from the Regional Economic Development Council for an [advanced manufacturing center](#), plus \$75,000 for workforce retraining initiatives. The college has its first Start-Up NY company, to be announced by Gov. Cuomo, Morello said.

Navigating a volatile world

Breaking from tradition, the assembly featured a guest speaker: Dr. Willard Daggett, a nationally renowned expert on the impact of technological and economic trends on the education environment. His message was both thought-provoking – and concerning.



Dr. Willard Daggett

America has changed, and continues to change as we enter the Fourth Industrial Revolution. The first Industrial Revolution saw steam power replace animal power, while the second saw the birth of modern industry and the factory line, he recounted. In the Third Industrial Revolution, which we are now leaving, the nation moved from mechanical jobs to information-based companies – and witnessed the decline and fall of its manufacturing base.

In the Fourth Industrial Revolution, more jobs will be replaced by machines and algorithms – including those normally held by the middle class.

Masons, housepainters and the building trades? Gone in three to five years, replaced by machines that can do the same jobs without the labor cost, predicted Daggett, showing a video of a masonry machine building a wall. Virtually all telemarketers, 94% of accountants and auditors and 43% of economists will be gone, replaced by computer algorithms, along with 65 percent of machinists. In three to five years, 5 percent of jobs will become automated, along with 30 percent of tasks in 60 percent of jobs, he said.



The takeaway: There will be more high-skill and more low-skill jobs, but fewer and fewer of those in the middle as time goes by.

“Is it worth going to college?” Daggett questioned. “My answer is yes it is, depending on what you major in.”

The five fastest-growing two-year degrees – management information systems, electrical and chemical engineering, occupational health and safety, diagnostic medical specialist and computer programming – are all technical in nature, and lead to a starting salary nearly \$10,000 higher than the five fastest-growing degrees at four-year schools.

Technology is, in short, the future – if we know how to adapt. The future will likely rely more on open educational resources showing the most innovative best practices; digital textbooks; augmented reality, in which virtual reality overlays the external environment; and gamification as a means to teach educational concepts.

Some of these innovations are already disseminating through the K-12 level. If public colleges don’t adapt, they could be replaced by private entities more eager to experiment, Daggett warned. He recommended that colleges unleash the experimental and innovative members of their faculty to try new methods of teaching, while the more reticent can take adapt as they become more familiar – or at least stay out of the way.

Community colleges need to abandon practices and ways of thinking stemming from the Second Industrial Revolution, and reinvent themselves for the realities of the Fourth. Otherwise, they may end up shutting their doors.

“At some point, you have to say, ‘I have to stop building from the past and put a stake in the ground three to five years from now and build for the future,’” he said.

Student performances



Wilson Chen and Dr. Battisti

Attendees at the Faculty-Staff Assembly were also treated to an alto-saxophone performance by student Maleah Farr,



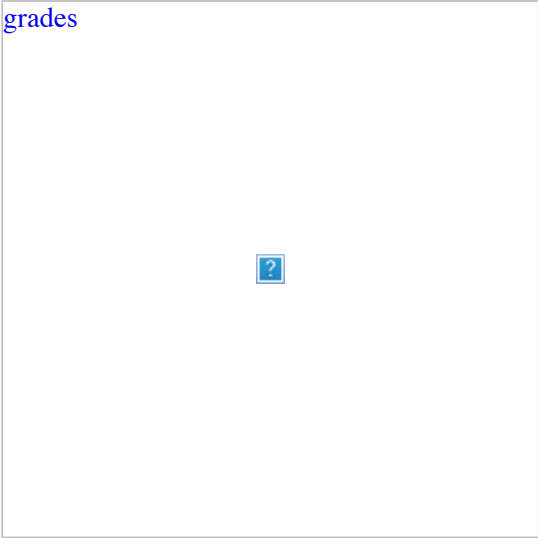
Maleah Farr performs

accompanied on keyboard by Professor Margaret “Peij” Reitz. Dr. Battisti also introduced [Wilson Chen](#), an Engineering Science student who created a panoramic video of campus using a drone.

Final Grades Due by 5pm for the Winter 2017 semester

January 25, 2017
Categories: Uncategorized

Final grades are due for the Winter 2017 semester by 5pm on January 30.



Top Hornet: Farahane Earns Region III Player Of The Week Honors

January 25, 2017

Categories: Focus on Accomplishments



Congratulations to Ana Farahane, who earned Region III Player of the Week honors for her performance in last week's basketball games against Onondaga and Cayuga community colleges. In addition to her Region III accolades, she was also named the Mid-State Athletic Conference Player of the Week.

Farahane led Broome to a 66-62 win over Cayuga on Thursday. Her collegiate-best 39-point night included 76% shooting from the field (13-17), 100% from the arc (6-6) and 100% from the charity stripe (7-7). In addition to her impressive stats from the field, she also notched her 10th double-double in 14 games with 13 boards. She also posted a double-double against Onondaga; she had 10 points and 12 boards with six assists.

A freshmen guard, Farahane is originally from Maputo, Mozambique, and graduated from Binghamton High School.

Great job, Ana!

Explore COIL: Program highlights work of two faculty members

January 25, 2017

Categories: Focus on Accomplishments



SUNY Broome is proud to highlight the work of two faculty members who are engaged in Collaborative Online International Education (COIL). In the Fall, Marcia Blackburn and Alice Caroompas traveled to Egypt and also to Morocco and Lebanon respectively to meet colleagues at partner institutions and to join them for workshops in COIL pedagogy. The process includes online workshops in which the in-person training is embedded.

In the last 18 months, the SUNY COIL Center has been awarded more than \$1,000,000 in grant money to facilitate such educational programs. Other beneficiaries of SUNY COIL grants include Lynda Carroll, Myriam Stanton, Jan McCauley, Gina Eckert, and Kathleen McKenna. This particular grant is funded by the Stevens Institute, the Bezos Foundation, and the US Department of State. This program is known as the Stevens Initiative.

The end result of COIL training is an online international collaboration between a faculty member and students here at SUNY Broome and their peers in another nation. That might involve work in Blackboard or Facebook, or on Skype, for example. With only 10% of all college graduates studying abroad (the number is much lower among community college students), COIL offers an inexpensive way of offering students the opportunity to work with international partners, and to increase their technology skills and their cross-cultural communication skills.

There will be a similar opportunity in Summer 2017. Interested faculty members should contact SUNY Broome's COIL Coordinator, Kathleen McKenna, at mckennakm@sunybroome.edu. SUNY Broome particularly encourages faculty members who have not been beneficiaries of COIL grants to consider exploring COIL and applying for a grant.

Step One is to enroll by February 20 in an online COIL Course Orientation workshop which will run from February 27 to March 27 and require 3-4 hours per week. After completing the COIL Course Orientation, faculty members will be eligible to apply to participate in the next round of the Stevens Initiative.

[Cairo Workshop Newsletter](#)

Kathy Ryder Memorial Scholarship Painting Fundraiser on March 1

January 25, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Friends and family would like to announce the Kathy Ryder Memorial Scholarship for Health Studies. Kathy was a dedicated and gifted HS Advisor and Adjunct Instructor in Reading for many years.

Please join us for a painting fundraiser on March 1! Please contact Erin O'Hara-Leslie at oharaleslieek@sunybroome.edu by Feb. 27 include which painting you choose: sunflowers or champagne

The event runs from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. March 1 at Uncorked Creations, located on the second floor of 205 State St. in Binghamton. The cost is \$35 per person, paid via cash or credit card the night of event.

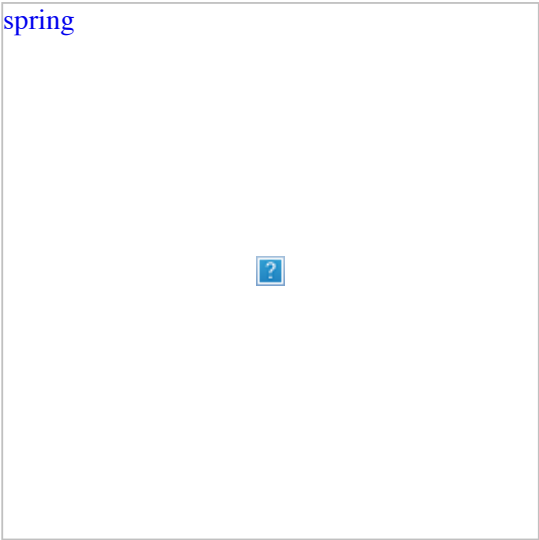
Not a painter? Give online www.broomeccfoundation.org and designate your donation to the Kathy Ryder Memorial Scholarship. Or mail your check to the BCC Foundation, designate for the Kathy Ryder Memorial Scholarship, at Mailstop #4



Spring 2017 Classes Start January 30

January 24, 2017
Categories: Uncategorized

Classes start on January 30 for the Spring 2017 semester.



Buzz photos: Winter wonderland on campus

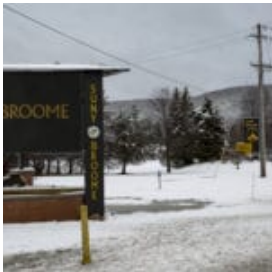
January 24, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



SUNY Broome turned into a winter wonderland on Tuesday, Jan. 24! Enjoy these photos from MarCom's Sara Forbes.









In the Community: Hearts for Hope on Feb. 10

January 24, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Hearts for Hope, a fundraiser to benefit A Room to Heal, will run from 7 to 10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 10, at the Holiday Inn — Binghamton.

Tickets are \$40 per person, \$75 per couple and limited to guests age 21 and up. The event features live music by the Rum Runners, tapas-style appetizer stations with wine tasting pairings, a silent auction, raffles, raffle baskets and more!

[Purchase tickets here.](http://heartsforhope.kintera.org)

Faculty Staff Assembly on Jan. 26

January 24, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



President Drumm gives his message during the Spring 2016 Faculty Staff Assembly

SUNY Broome will hold its Spring 2017 Faculty Staff Assembly from 8 to 11 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 26, in the Student Center Dining Hall.

Presentations will begin at 8:45 a.m. In addition to President Kevin E. Drumm, Broome County Executive and SUNY Broome alumnus Jason Garnar will speak, followed by Bill Daggett, a nationally renowned expert on the impact of technological and economic trends on the education environment.

A twice-yearly tradition, the Faculty Staff Assembly welcomes the college community back to campus. Spring 2017 classes begin Jan. 30.

Espere: Health and Hope in Haiti Art Exhibit Opens February First Friday at the Broome County Arts Council

January 23, 2017
Categories: Uncategorized



Espere: Health and Hope in Haiti opens First Friday, February 3, from 6 to 9pm at the Broome County Arts Council, 81 State Street, 5th floor, Binghamton. The art exhibit celebrates the Health for Haiti course at SUNY Broome Community College, which brings students, faculty, local professionals and community volunteers together to address some of the most pressing needs of our neighbors in Haiti.

Members from the Broome Health for Haiti Team will be available to discuss their experience and explain the program. Some of the pictures on display will include the different projects the Team worked on in January 2017 including:

1. *Bridging the Digital Divide to Haiti.* A unique collaboration between SUNY Broome, Binghamton University, and Health for Haiti that strives to increase access to technology. The goal of the Bridge to Haiti project is to set up solar powered computer labs and provide basic computer literacy training for children and young adults in Haiti. The computer lab in Grande Saline currently consists of about 200 children and 45 young adults working on twenty computers powered by solar power.
2. *Clean Water.* The families who live in remote areas have very few resources and lack even the most basic necessities, including access to clean water. At this time, residents of Grande Saline obtain their water from the local river which is contaminated by waste and garbage. Clean water will help to prevent a host of diseases that are caused or exacerbated by ingestion of dirty and contaminated water.
3. *Health Clinics and Education.* SUNY Broome Health for Haiti students work with Professor Hankin to provide free medical and dental services in rural and urban areas in Haiti. Students also provide education on personal hygiene, oral health,

nutrition, malnutrition, cholera, clean water, sanitation and reproductive health and safety.

4. *Community Garden/School Lunch Program.* The children who attend school in Grande Saline do not have adequate access to good food. Health for Haiti has supported the creation of a community garden that will be used to grow healthy food that can provide a school lunch for the children.

Espere: Health and Hope in Haiti exhibit is open to the public at the Broome County Arts Council thru February 24, 2017, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Travel around the world with PTK's international film series

January 23, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Travel around the world this semester with the silver screen!

In an effort to encourage cross-cultural understanding and global adventures right here on campus, the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society is offering a series of six exciting international films. This semester's theme is *action and adventure*, and the films reflect that excitement as they take you to mountain-climbing expeditions in the Alps, murder investigations in Sweden and road-trips across Europe.

Our campus chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society brings this series to you as part of its participation in the honors study topic *How the World Works: Global Perspectives*. The film series is open to all members of the campus and local community, and is free of charge. **Special incentive:** Attend five or more films in this series and earn a certificate!

Important note: Films may feature adult themes, adult language, nudity or violence.

Film schedule

All films start at 6 p.m. Wednesday nights in Titchener Hall 102.

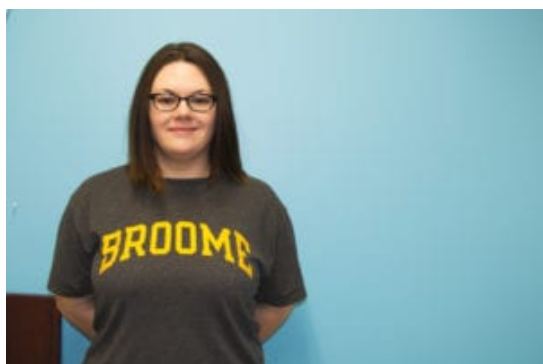
- **Feb. 15:** *The Great Beauty* (Italian, 142 minutes) It might be cold and snowy in the Northeast, but it's warm and sunny in Rome, which is the focus of the film *La Grande Belleza*. Join our narrator, Jep, as he takes us through a tour of Rome's outrageous nightlife, bizarre performance art and encounters with strippers and saints. This film took home a 2014 Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film and is featured on the BBC's list of best films of the 21st century.
- **March 1:** *The Robber* (German, 102 minutes) Imagine you have two obsessions: running and robbing banks. This film, based on a true story, features a record-breaking marathon runner in Vienna who just can't seem to stop knocking over banks. You will never forget Hands as he literally runs from the law, and from whatever is driving him to an inevitable confrontation with forces that threaten his freedom and sole relationship.
- **March 15:** *Le Grande Voyage* (French, 103 minutes) Millions of people will go on a pilgrimage this year. Now you can join them by jumping into a car with a father-son duo who are traveling across Europe on a spiritual journey/road trip to Mecca that has many surprises in store for both of them as money disappears, hitchhikers turn up and lessons are learned.
- **March 29:** *North Face* (German, 127 minutes) You won't wonder why the North Face of the Alps, the Eiger, is known as the Ogre after watching this edge-of-your-seat climb by an intrepid team of mountaineers. Battling storms, equipment failures and an unforgiving wall of rocks against the background of Nazi ascendancy, this team is fighting odds that no one before them has surmounted. Will they summit the Eiger or will the Ogre enjoy another grim victory?
- **April 12:** *Tell No One* (French, 132 minutes) This great French thriller is based on a novel by American writer Harlen Coben. A grieving widower is confronted with his worst nightmare after he has already survived a murderous night at his vacation home. Nothing and no one in his life can be trusted. The chase scenes in Paris and the surrounding *banlieus* are unforgettable and the twist at the film's end is guaranteed to take you by surprise.
- **April 26:** *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* (Swedish, 147 minutes) This is the original Swedish version of the book by Swedish writer Stieg Larsson. This is a gritty, acclaimed action move that is about as relaxing as drinking three espressos in a row. Featuring an award-winning lead performance, this film hurtles you from prison to mansion, by motorbike and high-speed train as our unlikely team of punk-computer hacker and disgraced journalist struggle to solve a murder case that the murderer is determined they will not solve. This unforgettable film won the BAFTA for best foreign language film. If the British gave this thrill-ride the equivalent of their Oscar, you know it's going to be good.

For more information on the film series, visit www.sunybroome.edu/ptkfilmfest

Applying for scholarships? Get all the tips you need from a fellow Hornet

January 23, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Heather Coggin

Applying for scholarships through the BCC Foundation? SUNY Broome student Heather Coggin has you covered! Read her blog for insightful tips on the scholarship application process.

[Click here.](#)

A Musical Celebration: Faculty take the stage at Feb. 4 concert

January 23, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Join the SUNY Broome Performing Arts Department for *A Musical Celebration* at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 4 in The Angelo Zuccolo Little Theatre, located in the Student Center.

This concert will feature Music Program faculty members who are also among the area's most talented and beloved musicians. Faculty will perform a varied and collaborative program and celebrate the joy of making music together.

Featured performers include violist Marisa Crabb, soprano Brenda Dawe, jazz pianist and singer Laurence Elder, tenor Gerald Grahame, mezzo soprano Julia Grella O'Connell, trumpeter Tony Godoy, alto saxophonist April Lucas, pianist Pej Reitz, pianist Peter Sicilian, cellist Stephen Stalker and guitarist Paul Sweeny.

Tickets are available at the door for \$10 General Admission and free for all students.

Don't get taken: College Employment Scam

January 23, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



The Federal Bureau of Investigation recently released a public service announcement regarding an employment scam targeting college students:

College students across the United States continue to be targeted in a common employment scam. Scammers advertise phony job opportunities on college employment websites, and/or students receive e-mails on their school accounts recruiting them for fictitious positions. This “employment” results in a financial loss for participating students.

How the scam works:

- Scammers post online job advertisements soliciting college students for administrative positions.
- The student employee receives counterfeit checks in the mail or via e-mail and is instructed to deposit the checks into their personal checking account.
- The scammer then directs the student to withdraw the funds from their checking account and send a portion, via wire transfer, to another individual. Often, the transfer of funds is to a “vendor,” purportedly for equipment, materials, or software necessary for the job.
- Subsequently, the checks are confirmed to be fraudulent by the bank.

The following are some examples of the employment scam e-mails:

- “You will need some materials/software and also a time tracker to commence your training and orientation and also you need the software to get started with work. The funds for the software will be provided for you by the company via check. Make sure you use them as instructed for the software and I will refer you to the vendor you are to purchase them from, okay.”
- “I have forwarded your start-up progress report to the HR Dept. and they will be facilitating your start-up funds with which you will be getting your working equipment from vendors and getting started with training.”
- “Enclosed is your first check. Please cash the check, take \$300 out as your pay, and send the rest to the vendor for supplies.”

Consequences of participating in this scam:

- The student’s bank account may be closed due to fraudulent activity and a report could be filed by the bank with a credit bureau or law enforcement agency.
- The student is responsible for reimbursing the bank the amount of the counterfeit checks.
- The scamming incident could adversely affect the student’s credit record.
- The scammers often obtain personal information from the student while posing as their employer, leaving them vulnerable to identity theft.
- Scammers seeking to acquire funds through fraudulent methods could potentially utilize the money to fund illicit criminal or terrorist activity.

Tips on how to protect yourself from this scam:

- Never accept a job that requires depositing checks into your account or wiring portions to other individuals or accounts.
- Many of the scammers who send these messages are not native English speakers. Look for poor use of the English language in e-mails such as incorrect grammar, capitalization and tenses.
- Forward suspicious e-mails to the college’s IT personnel and report to the FBI.
- Tell your friends to be on the lookout for the scam.
- If you have been a victim of this scam or any other Internet-related scam, you may file a complaint with the FBI’s Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.IC3.gov and notify your campus police.

Welcome back, Student Village Resident Assistants!

January 23, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Welcome back to our Student Village Resident Assistants (RAs) Tony, Kayla F., Will, Seth, Alexis, Kayla H., Bianca, Wilson, Lola and Quincy! Enjoy training, and we wish you a wonderful semester inside and outside the classroom.

Explore your inner artist this spring with ART 116: Beginning Painting

January 23, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Explore your inner artist: Take ART 116: Beginning Painting with Professor David Zeggert this Spring semester! The class meets from 12:30 to 3:20 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays in Mechanical Building Room 109.

You'll learn how to paint classical realism, and explore still life, figure and portraiture working with a live model and more! Learning how to classically paint will be a major help if you decide to pursue art education, animation, fashion design or related careers.

In just 15 weeks, you really will learn how to oil-paint. Enroll today, and unleash your inner artist: www.sunybroome.edu/apply.

Last Day of Classes for Winter 2017

January 22, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

The last day of classes for the Winter 2017 semester is January 27.



The Monday Poem: ‘Age of Beauty’ by Emilia Philips

January 22, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

The Monday Poem is brought to you by Professor Jim Gormley of the English Department. Enjoy!

Age of Beauty

Emilia Philips

This is not an age of beauty,
I say to the Rite-Aid as I pass a knee-high plastic witch
whose speaker-box laugh is tripped by my calf
breaking the invisible line cast by her motion
sensor. My heart believes it is a muscle

of love, so how do I tell it it is a muscle of blood?

This morning, I found myself
awake before my alarm & felt I’d been betrayed

by someone. My sleep is as thin as a paper bill
backed by black bars of coal that iridesce
indigo in the federal reserve of

dreams. Look, I said to the horse’s
head I saw severed & then set on the ground, the soft
tissue of the cheek & crown cleaved with a necropsy
knife until the skull was visible. You look more
horse than the horses

with names & quilted coats in the pasture, grazing unbothered

by your body in pieces, steaming

against the drizzle. You once had a name
that filled your ears like amphitheaters,
that caused an electrical

spark to bead to your brain. My grief was born
in the wrong time, my grief an old soul, grief re-
incarnate. My grief, once a black-winged

beetle. How I find every excuse to indulge it, like a child
given quarters. In the restaurant, eating alone,

instead of interrogating my own
solitude, I’m nearly undone by the old
woman on her own. The window so filthy,

it won’t even reflect her face, which must not be the same
face she sees when she dreams

of herself in the third person.



“ I wrote this poem by speaking it aloud over and over until I remembered it on a drive from Pittsburgh back to New Jersey. I have long interrogated the America one can see along the highways—its extremes manifesting in billboards, bumper stickers, and political campaign signs—and that America always lonelies me.” — Emilia Phillips

Be the Change: Meeting on Feb. 2

January 20, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Looking to do something more than share posts on Facebook? Be the Change, a progressive coalition for students, faculty and staff, is holding its first Spring semester meeting at 11 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 2, in TH-209.

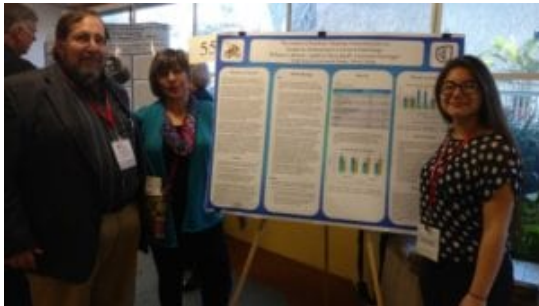
What's the group about? Organizers explained:

Want to make positive change in our community? Not sure how to get involved? Join other like-minded progressives on the SUNY Broome campus to organize and make some positive change. Let's be the change!

SUNY Broome Research on Student Outcomes Presented at National Institute for the Teaching of Psychology

January 20, 2017

Categories: Focus on Accomplishments



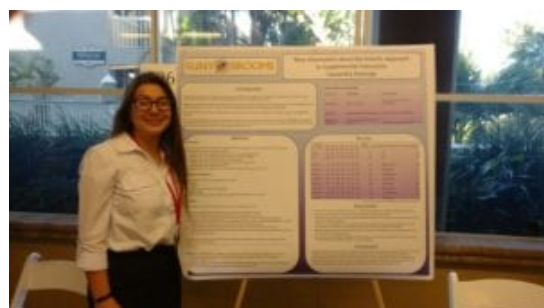
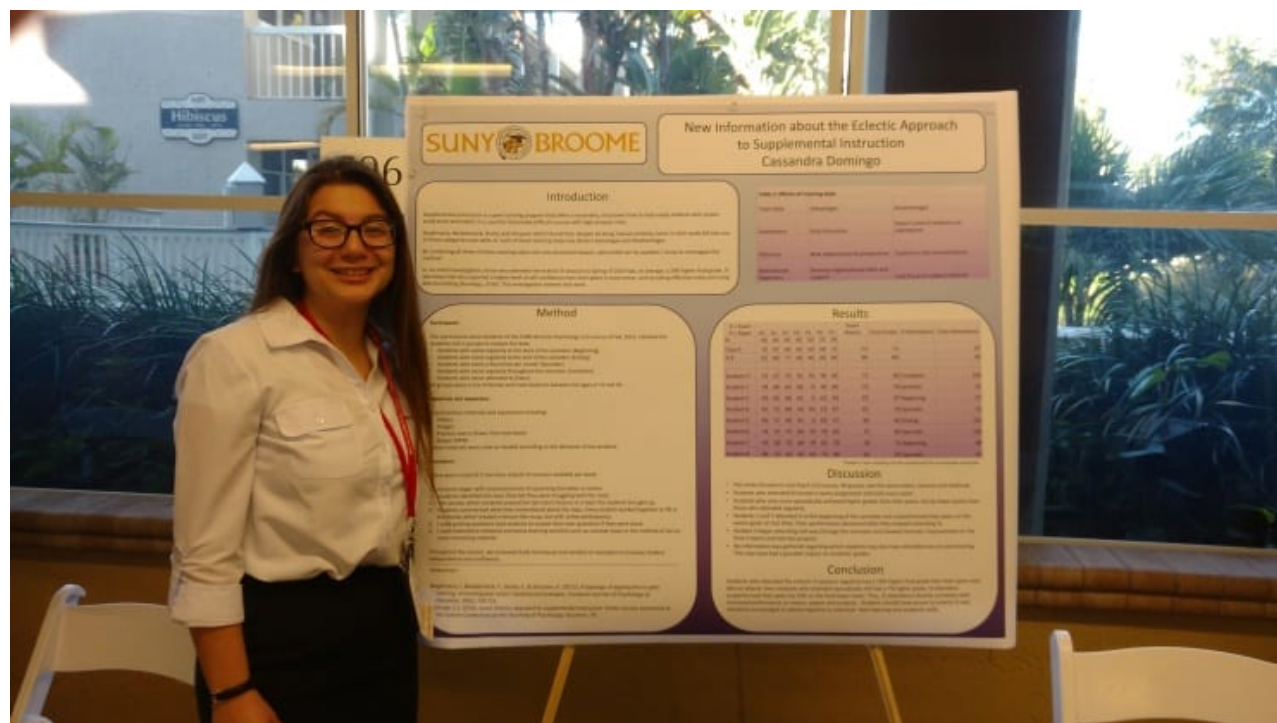
Dr. Bill Altman (Psychology & Human Services), Dr. Judith Pena-Shaff (Ithaca College) and SUNY Broome Community College Student Cassandra Domingo presented their research, **The Impact of Students' Reading Comprehension on Academic Achievement in General Psychology**, at the 39th annual National Institute for the Teaching of Psychology in St. Pete Beach on Jan. 4, 2017.

They found that students who were not proficient in reading and writing ability were less likely to successfully complete the course in General Psychology, but that students who received remediation *while taking the General Psychology course* were much more likely to achieve grades of A, B or C. This research has important implications for how remediation is delivered at SUNY Broome.

SUNY Broome Student Presents Research on Supplemental Instruction at the National Institute for the Teaching of Psychology

January 20, 2017

Categories: Focus on Accomplishments



Cassandra Domingo, a student at SUNY Broome Community College, presented her research, **New Information on the Eclectic Approach to Supplemental Instruction**, at the 39th annual National Institute for the Teaching of Psychology in St. Pete Beach on Jan. 5, 2017.

Her work, which was both well-received and heavily discussed, evaluates a particular approach to supplemental instruction that she developed for use with Dr. Bill Altman's General Psychology classes. Ms. Domingo was able to show that by combining elements from several different Supplemental Instruction techniques, she was able to greatly enhance the academic achievement of students attending the sessions. Her findings have important implications for SUNY Broome's SI program, and for SI programs in general.

As several colleagues at NITOP noted, very few undergraduates engage in research and presentations at this level, so Ms. Domingo's achievement is especially worthy of praise.

SUNY Broome Financial Trends & Budget Forecast (2015-17)

January 20, 2017

Categories: FOCUS on Finances

Click below for SUNY Broome's financial trends and budget forecast for 2015 through 2017.

[SUNY Broome Financial Trends & Budget Forecast \(2015-17\)](#)

A-Buzz with Caring: Student Assembly runs campus food pantry

January 19, 2017

Categories: Focus on Accomplishments



Student Assembly's Heather Coggin and Orion Barber in the Food for Thought pantry, which is run by students for students in need.

Cans and boxes pack a back room in the SUNY Broome Student Assembly office, their orderly rows bearing witness to both need and generosity.

Run by student volunteers, SUNY Broome's Food for Thought Pantry aids fellow Hornets in need. Up to twice a month, students can visit the pantry for a bag of supplemental food; hygiene products are also available.

"Within a semester, we get easily 50 students here. Some are repeat people," explained Heather Coggin, student volunteer coordinator for the project, chair to the Food Pantry Committee and Vice President for Financial Concerns in Student Assembly. "They don't have the means that someone like me has."

Last semester, the college won a grant through the MLK Day of Service Community Partnership Project to upgrade the pantry and support a December donation drive. Members of the Student Assembly – which took over the pantry last spring – worked with students in the Food Pantry Committee to collect donations from December 2016 to January 2017.

"Our campus community is deeply proud of our Student Assembly for taking on such an important task: Helping fellow students in need," said SUNY Broome President Kevin E. Drumm. "The project is a prime example of service learning, which comes natural to so many of our students."



Some of Student Assembly's decorated donation boxes

The second annual [Hunger Banquet](#) kicked off the MLK project on Dec. 6, raising awareness about the realities of food and economic insecurity in communities around the world – including our own. Sponsored by Student Activities and the President's Task Force on Diversity and Inclusion, [the banquet](#) brought together faculty, staff, administrators and students for a free meal divided by assigned social class, part of a larger educational presentation. The event also provided information about local resources and volunteer opportunities on- and off-campus.

Upgrades to the pantry funded by the grant include new shelving, a table and containers, which will help with inventory control and ultimately with distribution. For the food drive, Student Assembly placed colorfully decorated boxes in strategic locations throughout campus to collect non-perishable items. At the final tally, donations weighed in at 780.8 pounds – significantly over the 630-pound goal, Coggin noted.

As all Hornets know, helping hands are essential to success. Hornets not only generously donated food, but their time as volunteers for the service project. The project also wouldn't have been possible with the Student Assembly adviser Jason Boring, who serves as the primary contact for the grant, Coggin said. She also thanked Director of Sponsored Programs Shelli Cordisco for handling the financial information and managing the grant.

What motivates Heather, Student Trustee Orion Barber and other Student Assembly members to take on a project such as a food pantry?

"We're for the students, by the students," said Coggin, who manned the pantry one morning with Barber. "It's really important that we make sure the students are taken care of."

Want to help?

Student Assembly is always looking for volunteers and donations on non-perishable food for the Food for Thought Pantry. Email StudentAssembly@acad.sunybroome.edu for more information, or stop by the Student Assembly office in Science Building Room 107A.



Student Assembly's Heather Coggin and Orion Barber in the Food for Thought pantry, which is run by students for students in need.

Spring Faculty/Staff Assembly on Jan. 26

January 18, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



President Drumm gives his message during the Spring 2016 Faculty Staff Assembly

A message from SUNY Broome President Kevin E. Drumm:

Hard to believe that my 8th year with you is fast approaching. I hope the winter break provided you an opportunity for some rest and also some fun time with your family and friends.

As I hope you do, I look forward to our Faculty/Staff Assembly scheduled for Thursday, January 26. We have few occasions to gather as nearly an entire academic community, so when we do it is always an important occasion.

This year, we are breaking with tradition. We will have a very special guest address us: our new County Executive, alumnus Jason Garnar, will kick-off our new year. Then Bill Daggett, nationally renowned expert on the impact of technological and economic trends on the education environment, will talk with us about our fast-changing world. I hope you will join us for this unique Faculty/Staff Assembly.

Not breaking with tradition, the day will begin with a continental breakfast at 8:00 a.m. in the Student Center Dining Hall with presentations beginning at 8:45 a.m.

Again, I look forward to seeing you on January 26th and best wishes in advance for a successful Spring 2017 Semester.

Click the following file for the complete schedule of events:

[Spring Faculty-Staff Assembly Schedule](#)

Weigh in: Your Voice Matters for Faculty and Staff on Feb. 16

January 18, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

Let your voice be heard! Come to Your Voice Matters, faculty and staff edition, from 11 a.m. to noon Feb. 16 in Decker 201.

This is a forum for faculty and staff to express concerns and make suggestions about major issues that affect our campus. Hot topic issues may include the budget, Achieving Success, applied learning, facilities improvements and more.

Can't make it? There will be the option for participants to submit their concerns anonymously via the Shared Governance website. Issues and concerns at the forum will be forwarded as appropriate for consideration.

Hornet sports: Men Upset Nation's Top Ranked Basketball Team

January 18, 2017

Categories: Focus on Accomplishments



The men's basketball team upset Onondaga Community College 88-85 on Tuesday night at home. The Lazars hold the #1 spot in the latest NJCAA Division III Men's Basketball Poll. The first half was a back and forth affair that was slowed by fouls. Broome overcame their foul troubles with the help of the reserves. [Jared Conklin](#) scored all 6 of his season-high total in the first 20 minutes which helped the Hornets to a 39-39 tie at the break.

[Sean Webb](#) led the Hornets with 24 points which included a furious run of 4 straight 3 point shots that opened up the largest lead of the night for Broome at 67-53 with about 12 minutes to play. The top ranked Lazars would not go away though, as they closed that gap to 3 within the next 4 minutes, 71-68. Both teams would make some big plays down the stretch, but the Hornets held their lead and eventually closed the door with late free throws by Rahiem Grant, [Adolphus Butts](#) and Webb. When it was all said and done, Broome overcame 31 fouls and 44 free throw attempts by the Lazars, who are a 70% team from the line this year.

Webb's 24 came on 8-16 shooting from the field, making 5 of 8 three pointers. He would also add 5 rebounds and 4 assists. Butts contributed a double-double with 17 points on 8-12 shooting and 10 boards to go along with 7 assists. [Anthony McNeil](#) also hit double figures with 15 points, [Matt Bowman](#) and Rahiem Grant were both strong contributors as well with 9 points and 6 boards each.

SUNY Broome will host MSAC opponent Cayuga Community College on Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. following the women's game which is scheduled for a 5:30 p.m. tip.

‘Ask!’ to showcase campus diversity on Feb. 16

January 18, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

Don't know much about veterans, the learning disabled, different religions, different ethnicities and more? Here's your chance to ask: from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 16, in the Baldwin Gym.

A fun, interactive and informative event, ASK! will feature all different types of people and interests, all eager to answer your questions. You'll be issued a passport; after you ask a question and get a number of stamps on your passport, you will be entered into a drawing for a fabulous prize. Plus, the event features food, DVDs, gift cards, the famous ball pit and more!

Participants will include veterans, athletes, Muslims, people with learning disabilities, international students, artists, atheists, faculty/staff, Blacks, Whites, Latinas, Asians, people with Asperger's, Pagans, LGBTQIA students, bodybuilders, Christians, non-traditional students, Jews, Africans, Buddhists, people with mental illnesses and more. Contact Leslie Apacible if you are interested representing any of these groups at the event at lapacib1@binghamon.edu.

Ask the questions you want to know about but didn't know who to ask – or use the questions posted at each person's table. It's important *and* interesting to educate ourselves about our human differences.

The passing of Robert Petrus: Funeral on Jan. 18

January 18, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

The funeral for Robert “Bob” Petrus, husband of Library director Robin Petrus, will be at 7 p.m. **tonight, Jan. 18**, at at the Hopler & Eschbach Funeral Home, 483 Chenango St. Binghamton. The family will receive friends from 5 to 7 p.m. tonight at the funeral home.

A homebuilder and carpenter for many years, he is survived by his wife Robin, four daughters — Catherine (Jason) Coleman of Ponchatoula, Louisiana, Nicole Petrus of Binghamton, Jessy Petrus of Columbus Ohio and Patricia Petrus of Windsor — and grandchildren Ayden, Avery, Trenton and Noah.

Read a complete obituary and sign his guestbook at www.HEFUNERALHOME.com. In lieu of flowers, consider a donation to the American [Cancer Society](#) or American [Heart Association](#).

SUNY Broome dean, instructors are part of the Broome County Arts Council

January 17, 2017

Categories: Focus on Accomplishments

Did you know SUNY Broome faculty and staff are an integral part of the [Broome County Arts Council](#)?

Instructor Laura Knochen-Davis is the BCAC's executive director, while Dean of Liberal Arts Michael Kinney and Instructor Marcia Blackburn serve on the Board of Directors. Thank you for keeping the arts alive in Broome County!



Approved 2016-2017 Tech Fee

January 17, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

Attached, please find the approved Tech Fee purchases for 2016-2017.

Please be sure to follow the guideline procedures for all purchases and coordinate them through Randy Campbell. After coordinating your Tech Fee purchases with Randy Campbell, Rhoda Neal will then transfer Tech Fee funding to cover all approved purchases.

[Approved 2016-17 Tech Fee](#)

Geothermal system: Work slated for this week in Quad

January 17, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Left to right: Students Morgan Wood, Kenyatta Torrence, Director of Sponsored Programs Shelli Cordisco, Student Trustee Tom Flynn, student Sohaid Reid

Work will continue this week on SUNY Broome's new geothermal heating system, which will be installed under the Quad and heat the Mechanical Building and the Business Building.

A contractor will be setting up equipment in the Quad on Jan. 18 and drilling a test well Jan. 19 and 20. **Heavy equipment will be located in the Quad area near the Mechanical and Business buildings. Please avoid this area while work is being done.**

The well will ultimately become one of the more than 30 wells used in the geothermal system. Large-scale drilling for the remainder of the wells is slated to begin in May.

Last year, the college received a [\\$1 million grant](#) from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) to build a [Geothermal Learning Laboratory](#) that will not only show students how the underground system harnesses energy stored in the earth, but save a surprising amount of money – an estimated \$200,000 to \$300,000 a year in energy costs.

The project, which is part of the complete renovation of the Mechanical Building slated to take place this year, is expected to result in the avoidance of 135 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions annually.

New York State Park Police Recruitment in February and March

January 17, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



The New York State Park Police provide essential police services consistent with the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation's mission to provide safe and enjoyable recreational opportunities for New York State residents and visitors.

A recruitment officer will be on campus in the Business Building Lobby, on February 2, February 8, February 21, March 15 and March 22 to speak with students about career opportunities as a New York State Park Police Officer. Please stop by between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. to learn more.

Everglades course ‘markets’ SUNY Broome

January 17, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



This year's Winter Term course BIO 200 Ecology: the Everglades did much more than just educate 24 SUNY Broome students about ecology and one of America's most threatened wilderness areas. It used the Biology Department vans to market the college.

The new graphics (see picture) "prompted myriad comments from here to South Florida and back again," said Dr. Rick Firenze, Biology Chair. "We had several wonderful comments relating to the terrific opportunities SUNY Broome is offering our students in participating in such outstanding and unique educational endeavors. I also have no doubt that as we take our numerous field trips around Broome County in particular and across the country this summer, these rolling billboards will draw even more positive reviews."

Weigh in: All citizens invited to Jan. 19 Public Voice event

January 15, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



SUNY Broome will host a Public Voice event from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, 2017, in Decker Health Sciences Building Room 201. **All citizens are invited to attend.**

The Center for Civic Engagement wants to hear what our local community members think the top **three** legislative priorities at both the county and state levels should be. In addition, we are asking our local New York State legislators as well as the County Executive and the Chair of the Broome County Legislature to provide us with their top three legislative priorities. Since jobs creation is so important, it doesn't need to be included as one of the top issues. During the event, we will list the priorities that have been articulated by our elected officials.

The ground rules are as follows:

- Each citizen is encouraged to bring a written list of their top priorities.
- Each citizen will be given up to one minute to identify their NYS Legislative priorities and one minute to identify their Broome County Legislative priorities.
- Elected officials or their designees are invited to attend the event to listen to citizen input but will not be asked to comment; likewise, citizens are not to engage legislators/or their designees in any conversation during the event about the issues.
- A copy of citizens' views on the legislative agendas for both the local and state bodies will be recorded and given to appropriate elected officials.
- If a citizen is unable to attend the event but wishes to contribute input, they may mail their issues to Lisa Strahley, Civic Engagement Coordinator, SUNY Broome Community College at strahleyla@sunybroome.edu

This type of event was pioneered at Panama City Community College and has been endorsed by elected officials. They see citizens coming out to offer their ideas for legislative agenda items as a sort of public opinion poll on what is deemed important.

Co-sponsors for this event include the League of Women Voters, Broome County Chamber of Commerce and the Press & Sun-Bulletin.

The Monday Poem: ‘I Ride Greyhound’ by Ellie Schoenfeld

January 15, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

The Monday Poem is brought to you by Professor Jim Gormley of the English Department. Enjoy!

I Ride Greyhound

Ellie Schoenfeld

because it’s like being

in a John Steinbeck novel.

Next best thing is the laundromat.

That’s where all people
who would be on the bus if they had the money
hang out. This is my crowd.

Tonight there are cleaning people appalled
at the stupidity of anyone
who would put powder detergent
into the clearly marked LIQUID ONLY slot.
The couple by the vending machine
are fondling each other.
You’d think the orange walls
and fluorescent lights
would dampen that energy
but it doesn’t seem to.

It’s a singles scene here on Saturday nights.

I confide to the fellow next to me
that I suspect I am being taken
in by the triple loader,
maybe it doesn’t hold any more
than the regular machines
but I’m paying an extra fifty cents.
I tell him this meaningfully
holding handfuls of underwear.
He claims the triple loader
gives a better wash.

I don’t ask why,
just cruise over to the pop machine,
aware that my selection
may provide a subtle clue.
I choose Wild Berry,
head back to my clothes.



Grand Opening of Applied Learning and Career Center on Feb. 2

January 13, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Join us at 10 a.m. Feb. 2 for the grand opening of the SUNY Broome Applied Learning and Career Center, located in Applied Technologies Building Room 101.

A partnership between SUNY Broome and the New York State Department of Labor, the ALCC first opened in Fall 2016. Services include resume creation and development, interview coaching, mock interviews, job search assistance and more.

This resource is available to students and SUNY Broome alumni, as well as members of the surrounding community.

Learn more about the center at <http://www2.sunybroome.edu/careercenter/>.

Volunteer to attend SWE career fair for free

January 13, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

Attention, students: The Society of Women Engineers (SWE) Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference will be held at the Syracuse Downtown Marriott from Feb. 24 to 26. The event also includes a career fair.

Students who aren't attending the conference can still attend the Saturday engineering career fair for free by doing two volunteer shifts. The volunteer shifts are one to two hours long between Friday afternoon and Sunday morning.

The career fair runs from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Saturday, Feb 25. The free admission applies only to the career fair and not to the overall conference. Information on the conference can be found at <http://sweregioneconference.org/>. Students do not need to be SWE members to attend the conference, career fair or to volunteer.

Interested students can go directly to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054baea92da5fc1-sweregion> to sign up.

From the Desk of Dr. Battisti: David Ligeikis to coordinate master plan process

January 12, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

Colleagues,

Since Dr. Kelli Ligeikis left to accept her new position as Provost at SUNY Delhi, please be informed that David Ligeikis, will be coordinating the final stages of the Campus Master Academic and Facilities Planning process.

Any questions about the process should be directed to David.

Thank you,

Francis Battisti

Author of ‘Waking Up White’ to speak Jan. 12 at BU

January 11, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Debby Irving

Debby Irving, author of *Waking up White*, is coming to Binghamton to speak from 7 to 9 p.m. Jan. 12 in Binghamton University Downtown Center Room 220 A/B, located at 67 Washington St., Binghamton. This is a FREE event and open to the community.

In her talk — titled “I’m a Good Person! It’s That Enough?” — Irving will examine how she used her white-skewed belief system to interpret the world around her. Socialized on a narrow worldview, she explores how she spent decades silently reaffirming harmful, archaic racial patterns instead of questioning the racial disparities and tensions she could see and feel.

Seating is limited. For more information or to reserve your seat, please email Jennifer Lesko at jlesko@bcu.org.

Bio:

Debby Irving brings to racial justice the perspective of working as a community organizer and classroom teacher for 25 years without understanding racism as a systemic issue or her own whiteness as an obstacle to grappling with it. As general manager of

Boston's Dance Umbrella and First Night and later as a classroom teacher in Cambridge, Massachusetts, she struggled to make sense of tensions she could feel but not explain in racially mixed settings.

In 2009, a graduate school course, *Racial and Cultural Identities*, gave her the answers she'd been looking for and launched her on a journey of discovery.

Debby now devotes herself to working with white people exploring the impact white skin can have on perception, problem solving and engaging in racial justice work. A graduate of the Winsor School in Boston, she holds a BA from Kenyon College and an MBA from Simmons College. Her first book, *Waking Up White*, tells the story of how she went from well-meaning to well-doing.

SANS OUCH! Jan. 2017: Social Engineering

January 11, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

Happy New Year! SANS is excited to announce the first issue of OUCH! for 2017. This month, led by Guest Editor James Lyne, we focus on Social Engineering.

We wanted to kick off the new year with the review of the basics. By understanding how social engineering works, people will be far better prepared to stop many of today's latest online attacks. Share OUCH! with your family, friends, and coworkers.

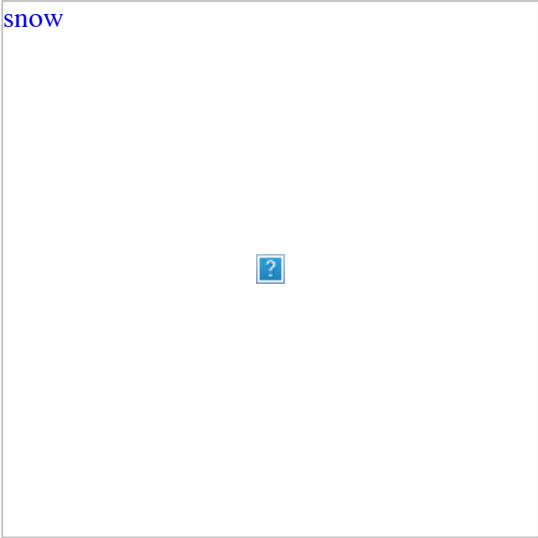
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Martin Luther King Day – No Classes

January 10, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

In observance of Martin Luther King Day, there are no classes on January 16.



January 9, 2017
Categories: Uncategorized

January 9, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

Save the Date
5th Annual SUNY Broome
Teaching Conference

Keynote Address 9-10 am
The SUNY OER Story: Grassroots success
meets system-wide sustainability
Mark McBride, OLIS at SUNY System

Morning Session 10:15-12:30
OER Success & Faculty to Faculty OER Workshop
Mark McBride & SUNY OER Faculty

Afternoon session 1:30-3 pm
Seeing through smoke and mirrors: the power of
skepticism in assessing magical data
Dr. Tamara Filmer, Ithaca College

 **January**
13th, 2017
9am-3pm
D201 

The Monday Poem: 'Music at My Mother's Funeral' by Faith Shearin

January 8, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

The Monday Poem is brought to you by Professor Jim Gormley of the English Department. Enjoy!

Music at My Mother's Funeral

Faith Shearin

During the weeks when we all believed my mother
was likely to die she began to plan
her funeral and she wanted us, her children,
to consider the music we would play there. We remembered
the soundtrack of my mother's life: the years when she swept
the floors to the sound of an eight track cassette called Feelings,
the Christmas when she bought a Bing Crosby album
about a Bright Hawaiian Christmas Day. She got Stravinsky's
Rite of Spring stuck in the tape deck of her car and for months
each errand was accompanied by some kind
of dramatic movement. After my brother was born,
there was a period during which she wore a muumuu
and devoted herself to King Sunny Ade and his
African beats. She ironed and wept to Evita, painted
to Italian opera. Then, older and heavier, she refused
to fasten her seatbelt and there was the music
of an automated bell going off every few minutes,
which annoyed the rest of us but did not seem to matter
to my mother who ignored its relentless disapproval,
its insistence that someone was unsafe.



New SUNY Broome Security Awareness Training

January 6, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

On Friday, Jan. 6, the SUNY Broome Security Awareness Training went live. Many people have called to see if this was a legitimate email from IT Services.

Yes, This is a new program sponsored by the same organization that brings us the monthly Securing the Human SANS OUCH! articles featured in the Focus and Buzz.

Enjoy the videos and please give us your feedback.

John C. Petkash, Director

Information Technology Services

From the Desk of Dr. Battisti: Welcome, Winter Term students

January 6, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

Please note that today, January 9, marks the first day of the winter term. You may see some more new faces on campus; please welcome SUNY Broome's winter term students and help anyone who seems lost.

Health for Haiti: Food distribution, water filtration and more in Grande Saline

January 6, 2017

Categories: Focus on Accomplishments



The 2017 Health for Haiti students raised enough money to purchase rice, beans, fish and oil for 200 families! Read more about their distribution efforts, as well as Health for Haiti's clean water and community garden initiatives on their website and blog: <https://healthforhaiti.org/>



Tuition-free college: Gov. Cuomo's proposal, how it works and what it could mean

January 6, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



What if you didn't have to worry about paying college tuition?

Even at a low-cost high-value institution such as SUNY Broome, many low- and middle-income students face financial burdens as they pursue their educational goals, SUNY Broome President Kevin E. Drumm acknowledged. Many don't start college at all because they believe they can't afford it. Consequently, taking that tuition bill immediately off the table would make a college education far more attractive—and keep students focused on what's most important: their education.

“Imagine removing the financial pressure of attending college for many thousands of students,” President Drumm said. “Then they would only have to worry about the pressures college itself, studying, and that's really the way it should be.”

Sound far-fetched? It may not be. On Jan. 3, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo unveiled his first proposal of the new year: A plan to make all SUNY and CUNY two- and four-year schools tuition-free for families and individuals making up to \$125,000 per year. Called the Excelsior Scholarship, the program is the first of its kind in the nation. The Governor's proposal would level the playing field for all students regardless of family income.

SUNY officials voiced their support for the plan Tuesday.

“Governor Cuomo's Excelsior Scholarship Program takes college affordability to a dramatic new level. This plan positions New York State as the first in the nation to not only provide free tuition for students from low- and middle-income families pursuing two- and- four-year degrees, but to also go a step further, incentivizing full-time enrollment and college completion – both of

which are proven game changers in students success,” said SUNY Chairman H. Carl McCall and Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher in a joint statement.

Nationally, student debt has continued to soar, reaching \$1.2 trillion nationwide; it’s considered the second largest source of consumer debt. In 2015, the average student loan debt in New York amounted to \$29,320. In the SUNY/CUNY system, annual tuition ranges from \$4,350 to \$4,800 annually for an associate’s degree and \$6,470 to \$6,330 annually for a bachelor’s degree.

Why go to college? According to New York State Department of Labor projections, about 3.5 million jobs statewide will require an associate’s degree or higher by 2024. People who earn college degrees also enjoy increased earning power over their lifetime; those who earn an associate’s degree can expect to earn 24 percent more than a person with a high school diploma, while those who continue on to their bachelor’s will earn 66 percent more over the course of their working lifetime than someone without a college degree.

“A college education is not a luxury. It is an absolute necessity for any chance at economic mobility, and with these first-in-the-nation Excelsior Scholarships, we’re providing the opportunity for New Yorkers to succeed, no matter what zip code they come from and without the anchor of student debt weighing them down,” Cuomo said at a press conference with U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders.

How would it work?

To be eligible for the Excelsior Scholarship, students must be enrolled full-time; according to the governor’s office, this is intended to improve graduation rates and alleviate student debt by encouraging more students to graduate in two to four years, depending on their degree.

While New York would be the first to cover both two- and four-year state schools, a handful of states already fund free community college programs, President Drumm noted. The idea of free community college also has reached the federal level but was thought dead based on the national election results.

During his time in office, President Barack Obama proposed a federal-state partnership to provide tuition-free access to community college, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. Tennessee, Oregon and Minnesota have created free community college programs since 2014; Kentucky passed a bill to do the same in 2016, although that state’s governor delayed the start of the program until 2017-2018. At least 10 additional states – including New York – had legislation under consideration in 2016, according to NCSL.

To take effect, Cuomo’s proposal would need to be approved by the state legislature.

According to the governor’s office, about 80 percent of New York households make \$125,000 or less annually; an estimated 940,000 households in this bracket also have college-age children. Based on enrollment projections, the plan will cost approximately \$163 million annually once fully implemented, although many are suggesting this number is far too low, which spells trouble for the reality of funding such a bold proposal.

It would be phased in over a three-year period: New Yorkers making up to \$100,000 annually would be eligible in Fall 2017, those making \$110,000 in 2018 and those making up to \$125,000 in 2019.

The initiative would work by leveraging both state and federal aid programs already in existence. Eligible students would still receive Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) grant funds as well as any applicable federal grants such as PELL; additional state funds would have to be appropriated to cover the remaining tuition costs.

The role of community colleges

SUNY Broome President Kevin E. Drumm viewed Cuomo’s proposal as an exciting look at public policy that would dramatically change the value proposition for higher education across the entire spectrum of New York’s colleges and universities.

On the up side, New York, like California years ago, could become a national destination for young families looking for an affordable college education in two of the very best public university systems in the nation: SUNY and CUNY.

On the down side initially, however, some community colleges might take an enrollment hit in the first few years, he acknowledged. Students who today attend community colleges as a more affordable option before transferring to baccalaureate institutions may apply directly to a bachelor’s degree program. Then again, if more New Yorkers decide to go to college who have not previously, especially those from lower income households, enrollments could level out among community colleges and senior colleges and universities. It’s hard to tell, as no other state has implemented such a sweeping plan.

Dr. Drumm, however, expects the impact on community colleges to be positive over the long run. As many baccalaureate colleges reach capacity, they are likely to raise the bar for competitive admissions. Additionally, some senior SUNY colleges and universities are already at capacity, while others will be able to accept thousands more students over time. Students interested in transfer might then have to start at community colleges – as they often do now, and is the case in other states such as California and Massachusetts.

If the comprehensive plan can't gain enough traction in Albany, the state may want to consider following the lead of states such as Oregon and Tennessee, starting with free community college tuition, Dr. Drumm noted, adding in four-year schools when it becomes financially feasible. The cost would be less than half to taxpayers, and still the senior colleges would benefit from a resulting higher number of transfer students across the state.

Overall, however, the proposal would be a boon for students and their families – and likely keep many young New Yorkers in the state to attend college.

“That would be fantastic,” Drumm said.

Dr. Drumm can relate to the financial pressures that community college students face. Long before becoming president, he was a student too – back in the days when the cost of college was far lower than it is today, and he was able to work his way through college. Unfortunately, that economic model no longer exists, although that could change overnight if Cuomo's proposal becomes reality.

“This will dramatically lower the stress level for poorer and middle class students,” he reflected. “It's really stressful wondering how to pay the bill for college.”

Apply for scholarships starting Jan. 9

January 5, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Scholarships help students achieve their goals at SUNY Broome. They can help you, too!

You can apply online for scholarships at www.sunybroome.edu/scholarshipsonline beginning Jan. 9. Don't wait! The deadline is Feb. 20.



Weigh in: All citizens invited to Jan. 19 Public Voice event

January 5, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



SUNY Broome will host a Public Voice event from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, 2017, in Decker Health Sciences Building Room 201. **All citizens are invited to attend.**

The Center for Civic Engagement wants to hear what our local community members think the top **three** legislative priorities at both the county and state levels should be. In addition, we are asking our local New York State legislators as well as the County Executive and the Chair of the Broome County Legislature to provide us with their top three legislative priorities. Since jobs creation is so important, it doesn't need to be included as one of the top issues. During the event, we will list the priorities that have been articulated by our elected officials.

The ground rules are as follows:

- Each citizen is encouraged to bring a written list of their top priorities.
- Each citizen will be given up to one minute to identify their NYS Legislative priorities and one minute to identify their Broome County Legislative priorities.
- Elected officials or their designees are invited to attend the event to listen to citizen input but will not be asked to comment; likewise, citizens are not to engage legislators/or their designees in any conversation during the event about the issues.
- A copy of citizens' views on the legislative agendas for both the local and state bodies will be recorded and given to appropriate elected officials.
- If a citizen is unable to attend the event but wishes to contribute input, they may mail their issues to Lisa Strahley, Civic Engagement Coordinator, SUNY Broome Community College at strahleyla@sunybroome.edu

This type of event was pioneered at Panama City Community College and has been endorsed by elected officials. They see citizens coming out to offer their ideas for legislative agenda items as a sort of public opinion poll on what is deemed important.

Co-sponsors for this event include the League of Women Voters, Broome County Chamber of Commerce and the Press & Sun-Bulletin.

Health for Haiti has landed — with 2,400 pounds of luggage

January 5, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



After seventeen hours, two buses and an airplane, SUNY Broome's Health for Haiti global service learning class made it to Haiti — along with 2,400 pounds of luggage!

Their work began in earnest today. [Follow their progress on the Health for Haiti blog.](#)

National Pizza Week in the Dining Hall from Jan. 9 – 13

January 5, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Celebrate National Pizza Week at the SUNY Broome Dining Hall from Jan. 9 through 13!

Each day features a different pizza, including Chicken Bacon Ranch, the Caprese, Hawaiian SPAM, BBQ Chicken and Fresh Garden. They're available by the slice, or as part of a \$3.99 two-slice and fountain drink combo.

Also featured all this month are two featured menu items on the Grill station: a steak, egg and cheese wrap and a Southwest turkey wrap.

Mangia!

Applications for 2017 Newman Civic Fellowship Now Being Accepted

January 5, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Karryann Kohlbeck

The SUNY Broome Center for Civic Engagement would like to assist President Kevin E. Drumm in identifying and nominating a student for the Newman Civic Fellowship. Last year, SUNY Broome student [Karryann Kohlbeck](#) was awarded this honor.

If you know a student who fits the criteria, please contact Lisa Strahley (strahleyla@sunybroome.edu) no later than Feb. 1, 2017. In general, Campus Compact seeks "nominations of undergraduate or graduate students who engage in collaborative action with others in order to create long-term social change, take action in addressing issues of inequality and political polarization, and demonstrate the motivation and potential for effective long-term civic engagement" ([see link for further details](#)).

Campus members who identify potential students will need to work with Lisa Strahley to complete the application process. In the event that more than one student is identified, members of the Civic Engagement Board in consultation with Dr. Drumm will select the student whose application will be put forth.

Hungry? Blue Line cafe hours for January

January 5, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

Hungry? Check out the hours for the Blue Line concession stand in the Ice Center for the month of January. Remember: The Blue Line accepts cash, credit, flex and Buzz Bucks, but does not accept meal plans.

The main cafeteria will open for limited service Monday through Friday from Jan. 3 through Jan. 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Blue Line hours for January

- Sunday, Jan. 1: 12 to 2 p.m.
- Monday, Jan. 2: 12 to 2 p.m.
- Wednesday, Jan. 4: 5 to 9 p.m.
- Thursday, Jan. 5: 5:15 to 9:45 p.m.
- Friday, Jan. 6: 5:15 to 10:15 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 7: 1:30 to 10:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Jan. 8: 8:15 to 11:15 a.m., 1:15 to 8 p.m.
- Thursday, Jan. 12: 5:15 to 9:45 p.m.
- Friday, Jan. 13: 5:15 to 10:15 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 14: 1:30 to 11 p.m.
- Sunday, Jan. 15: 8:15 to 11:15 a.m., 1:15 to 8 p.m.
- Monday, Jan. 16: 12 to 2 p.m.
- Tuesday, Jan. 17: 5 to 9 p.m.
- Thursday, Jan. 19: 5 to 9 p.m.
- Friday, Jan. 20: 5:15 to 10:15 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 21: 1:30 to 10:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Jan. 22: 8:15 to 11:15 a.m., 1:15 to 8 p.m.
- Thursday, Jan. 26: 5:15 to 9:45 p.m.
- Friday, Jan. 27: 5:15 to 10:15 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 28: 1:30 to 9 p.m.
- Sunday, Jan. 29: 8:15 to 11:15 a.m., 1:15 to 8 p.m.

Spring 2017 Orientation Dates

January 5, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

There will be two orientation programs welcoming new students for the Spring 2017 semester. The first is on Wednesday, Jan. 18, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. This program is intended to support adult learners. The second is on Friday, Jan. 27, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is a more general program.

Students can sign up for orientation online by visiting <http://www.sunybroome.edu/web/events/orientation> or by contacting Maureen Kollar at 778-5648. There is also an online orientation available for anyone who cannot make it to campus.



Spread the word: Tell your students about reverse transfer!

January 5, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Do you know of any students who are transferring to a SUNY college? Please let them know about SUNY's new reverse transfer tool!

www.suny.edu/reversetransfer

Student transferring to other colleges can take advantage of this opportunity as well. Please direct students here for more information: www.sunybroome.edu/reversetransfer

In Memoriam: Remembering Diana Pellegrino Roberts

January 5, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

Diana Pellegrino Roberts, a generous scholarship donor of SUNY Broome Theater since 2004, passed away on Dec. 1.

Diana took an acting class in 2002 and became an enthusiastic student in a number of theater classes, graduating with an AA degree in 2005. She and her husband at the time, Jerry Roberts, made it possible for a number of graduating theater students to receive a substantial scholarship.

Even in her last days, Diana still managed to make a donation to the Pellegrino Scholarship for Excellence in Theater. Diana will be remembered too for the unusual items she donated to the theater in the form of props, costumes, theater books and offbeat theatrical memorabilia.

Professor Katherine Bacon will be forever grateful to her for her magnanimous spirit, how she inspired the other students, her great sensibility for all of the arts and how she made it possible for deserving theater students to be recognized for their work.

[Diana's obituary is linked here.](#)

Speakers of the House welcomes you! Check out a January meeting

January 5, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Want to communicate with confidence? Become a better speaker and presenter? Learn to listen effectively while developing your leadership skills and helping others reach their goals? Join Speakers of the House, SUNY Broome's chapter of Toastmasters International!

You're invited to attend any of their meetings, which take place at 3:10 p.m. on the following Fridays this month: Jan. 6, 20 and 27. Meetings are in Wales 203B.

For more information visit <http://speakersofthehouse.toastmastersclubs.org/> or find us on Facebook: Speakers of the House.

Upcoming Board of Trustees meetings

January 5, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

The Board of Trustees of SUNY Broome Community College have scheduled the following meetings:

- **January 17, 2017 (Tuesday)** — Monthly meeting of the Finance and Facilities Committee, 8:00 a.m., Wales Administration Center Conference Room 107.
- **January 19, 2017 (Thursday)** — Monthly meeting of the Board, 5:00 p.m., Decker Health Science Building Libous Room D117.

All meeting sites are on the SUNY Broome campus and open to the press and public.

Drilling for geothermal heating system to begin Thursday on the Quad

January 3, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Left to right: Students Morgan Wood, Kenyatta Torrence, Director of Sponsored Programs Shelli Cordisco, Student Trustee Tom Flynn, student Sohaid Reid

Initial work will begin Thursday and Friday on SUNY Broome's new geothermal heating system, which will be installed under the Quad and heat the Mechanical Building and the Business Building.

Contractors will be drilling a geotechnical test well in the Quad, which will ultimately become one of the more than 30 wells used in the geothermal system. **Heavy equipment will be located in the Quad area near the Mechanical and Business buildings. Please avoid this area while work is being done.**

A contractor will also be on site Jan. 17 to drill a geothermal test well. Large-scale drilling for the remainder of the wells is slated to begin in May.

Last year, the college received a [\\$1 million grant](#) from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) to build a [Geothermal Learning Laboratory](#) that will not only show students how the underground system harnesses energy stored in the earth, but save a surprising amount of money – an estimated \$200,000 to \$300,000 a year in energy costs.

The project, which is part of the complete renovation of the Mechanical Building slated to take place this year, is expected to result in the avoidance of 135 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions annually.

Limited Asbestos Removal in the Science Building

January 3, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

Over the next two weeks, there will be a very limited and confined asbestos removal contract in the Old Science Building. Please follow any construction directives near the site of the work.



The passing of Gary Finch

January 3, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

We are saddened to hear of the passing of Gary Finch on Jan. 1, 2017. Gary dedicated his entire career as Executive Director of the Faculty-Student Association to improving the lives of those who attended and worked at SUNY Broome.

A memorial service for Gary will be held on Jan. 14, 2017, at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Binghamton, New York. Complete details will be available in his obituary that will be published in the Press and Sun-Bulletin on Jan. 8.

Register Now: January Teaching Conference

January 3, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized



Join us on Friday, January 13, 2017 for an illuminating discussion of Open Educational Resources (OERs) and the art of being “Data Informed”.

- **8:00-9:00 am** Coffee/tea and pastries
- **9:00-10:00 am** Keynote Address: The SUNY OER Story: Grassroots success meets system-wide sustainability
- **10:15 am – 12:15 pm** OER Success & Faculty to Faculty OER Workshop
- **12:15-1:30 pm** Complimentary Lunch for full-day participants
- **1:30-3:00pm** Afternoon Session: Seeing through smoke and mirrors: the power of skepticism in assessing magical data

Seating is limited, so register early!

When: Friday, January 13, 2017

Time: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Where: D201

Presenters: Mark McBride & Dr. Tamara Fitzwater

Register: [Register Here](#)

First Day of Classes for Winter 2017

January 2, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

The first day of classes for the Winter 2017 semester is January 9.



The Monday Poem: ‘A Perfect Mess’ by Mary Karr

January 1, 2017

Categories: Uncategorized

The Monday Poem is brought to you by Professor Jim Gormley of the English Department. Enjoy!

A Perfect Mess

by Mary Karr

I read somewhere
that if pedestrians didn't break traffic laws to cross
Times Square whenever and by whatever means possible,
the whole city
would stop, it would stop.
Cars would back up to Rhode Island,
an epic gridlock not even a cat
could thread through. It's not law but the sprawl
of our separate wills that keeps us all flowing. Today I loved
the unprecedented gall
of the piano movers, shoving a roped-up baby grand
up Ninth Avenue before a thunderstorm.
They were a grim and hefty pair, cynical
as any day laborers. They knew what was coming,
the instrument white lacquered, the sky bulging black
as a bad water balloon and in one pinprick instant
it burst. A downpour like a fire hose.
For a few heartbeats, the whole city stalled,
paused, a heart thump, then it all went staccato.
And it was my pleasure to witness a not
insignificant miracle: in one instant every black
umbrella in Hell's Kitchen opened on cue, everyone
still moving. It was a scene from an unwritten opera,
the sails of some vast armada.
And four old ladies interrupted their own slow progress
to accompany the piano movers.
each holding what might have once been
lace parasols over the grunting men. I passed next
the crowd of pastel ballerinas huddled
under the corner awning,
in line for an open call — stork-limbed, ankles
zigzagged with ribbon, a few passing a lit cigarette
around. The city feeds on beauty, starves
for it, breeds it. Coming home after midnight,
to my deserted block with its famously high
subway-rat count, I heard a tenor exhale pure
longing down the brick canyons, the steaming moon
opened its mouth to drink from on high ...

Mary Karr on *The Perfect Mess*

“The city obsessed me even before I lived in one. As a kid, I imagined Eliot’s “unreal city” — a paradigm of the dehumanized in some way, bodies and souls deformed by the mangle of traffic and noise. In reality, it’s a daily spiritual exercise not to want to mow down my fellow citizens with a machine gun. Ever notice how only other people are traffic? One prayer of mine is to try to imagine myself inside the face of every single person who passes. A Buddhist pal told me that’s a Tibetan exercise for compassion. It makes people’s facial features very particular ... Pound’s petals on a wet, black bough. The Brooklyn of Whitman and Crane, the New York of Lorca, parts of Howl all feed me.”

