

SUNY Broome welcomes new Hornets during Orientation

August 7, 2015

A line of new Hornets snaked outside the Student Center doors, some accompanied by family members and most with somewhat nervous smiles.

Enter Executive Vice President and Chief Academic Officer Francis Battisti, who took the opportunity to welcome students into the SUNY Broome family – and make them feel more at ease.

“Good morning! I just wanted to say hello to folks,” he greeted students in front of the Baldwin Gymnasium before the start of Orientation. He asked students about their prospective majors and their interests, drawing forth more relaxed smiles and a bit of laughter.

Thursday, August 6, marked the last on-campus Orientation before the start of the Fall 2015 semester on August 31. The event drew a crowd of approximately 250, including about 180 students, according to Maureen Kollar, acting Staff Associate to the Executive Vice President and Chief Academic Officer, and a SUNY Broome graduate herself.

Before the start of Thursday’s program, Mikequan Brown was avidly reading informational brochures, and thinking about switching his major to Health Science, with the ultimate goal of becoming a nurse. From Brooklyn, he said he was familiar with the area and checked out other schools before applying.

Meanwhile, Zach Riley of Endicott checked out a line of information booths at the rear of the gym, featuring a variety of campus services, and perused a brochure for SUNY Broome’s new [Honors Program](#).

Why did he choose SUNY Broome? “It’s a good college and it’s rather inexpensive,” said the prospective Engineering Science major.

Kyla King of Apalachin agreed. “It’s close to home and it would give me a good foundation for a four-year college down the road,” said the Liberal Arts major.

During Orientation, students learned about topics ranging from Financial Aid and scholarships, Title IX and how to long onto the MyCollege interface, as well as student housing, academic success and the variety of support services the college offers. They were treated to lunch, a chance to win gift certificates to the bookstore in a raffle and campus tours, and ended the day registered for classes with a complete course schedule.

They also received some important tips from SUNY Broome President Kevin E. Drumm, who is a community college graduate. He divulged the three secrets to college success:

1. Get started. “Life gets in the way of college all the time,” he noted. Successful students find ways to balance their obligations – and make sure they always show up to class, except in cases of family emergency or illness.
2. “Keep on going until you finish,” he said. Get those assignments completed and, yes, keep on showing up to class.
3. “Don’t be afraid to ask for help if you run into obstacles.” SUNY Broome offers a wide range of services through its [Learning Assistance Department](#) that can help you achieve success – but only if you take advantage of them.

Another bit of advice from Vice President Debbie Morello: know yourself and your night-owl tendencies. Unless you’re a morning person, steer clear of 8 a.m. classes

Vice President Battisti, a SUNY Broome alumnus himself, noted that students should strive to start their semester on the right foot.

“What my students did the first week set the tone for the whole semester,” he noted.

While there are no more on-campus orientations scheduled for this summer, students can get up to speed with our Online Orientation here: <http://www3.sunybroome.edu/orientation/>

**Scenes from Orientation on Aug.
6, 2015**

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