



Aviation Open House a Success

The Office of Admissions, and faculty and staff from DCC's aviation programs held a very successful Aviation Open House on Saturday, Oct. 11. Hosted at DCC @ HVR Airport, the event drew over 105 prospective students interested in our Aviation Maintenance, Pilot and Aviation Management programs. Attendees came from as far as Hawley, PA, Herkimer, Warrensburg, New York City and Long Island. Fifteen of the students in attendance took advantage of a scheduled residence hall tour immediately following the event. Kudos to a wonderful event and thank you to everyone who dedicated time to make this event a success!

"It was great to see so many prospective students excited about our aviation opportunities at DCC," said Mike Roe, associate dean of enrollment. "We love to showcase this facility, our DCC aviation programs, and the career opportunities available upon graduation."



DCC Awarded \$150,000 in State Funds for Students in Need

Dutchess Community College has received a grant of \$150,000 to assist students struggling with housing and food insecurity. The funding, secured by New York State Assemblymember Didi Barrett and the Dutchess Community College Foundation, and administered by DCC CARES, will help alleviate homelessness and hunger for young, low-income DCC students.

"We are so appreciative of the support Assemblymember Barrett is providing to these students with limited resources yet unlimited potential," said DCC President Peter Grant Jordan. "This kind of investment can have a life-altering impact on these young individuals, changing their career and income trajectories in ways they've only dreamed."

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Human Resources Checkup

In an effort to ensure that DCC's Office of Human Resources has the systems and processes in place to meet the needs of the DCC community, we have enlisted the help of Evergreen Solutions. Evergreen Solutions is a nationally recognized expert in higher education providing human resources management expertise.

Evergreen will assess the strategic objectives, needs and direction of the College and determine the role of the Human Resources (HR) Department in meeting the objectives of the College. Evergreen will review all policies, procedures, workloads and job descriptions to identify current operational requirements for the HR Department and its functional areas and make recommendations.

"We are excited to partner with Evergreen Solutions," explained Marc Bowman, associate vice president of Human Resources.

"With the institutional changes and alignment at the College, we want to ensure we are addressing the College community effectively and efficiently, as well as supporting the Strategic Plan."

California Dreamin'

Dr. Jordan and DCC Foundation Executive Director Diana Pollard traveled to California in late October to attend a Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) conference and meet with major donors. Diana served on the planning committee for the conference and co-presented two sessions – "Introducing your New President to Engage the Community" and "Navigating Ambiguity and Accountability: How Foundations and Colleges Partner to Achieve Sustainable Impact."

While in California, President Jordan and Diana also met with major supporters of our College – Vernon Jones, Daniel Curtin and Maureen Curtin (Daniel is a co-trustee on the Louis Greenspan Trust). Both Jones and the Curtins made pledges to the Foundation at the time of the visit.

"I am grateful for Dr. Jordan's collaboration and support in advancing our mutual fundraising initiatives and professional development activities," noted Diana.



Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

This Thanksgiving season let's take a moment to be thankful for all the good in our lives, our families and our community. And let us reflect and be mindful of those less fortunate in our community and what we can do to help. For families struggling to put food on the table, the expectation of providing a turkey, five sides and pie may feel completely out of reach.

"While DCC CARES serves students year-round, the Thanksgiving season always brings our attention to food insecurity," said Whitney Morris, student resource navigator.

"Adding runaway inflation to the mix has only increased the burden this year."

That is why The Pantry is preparing to distribute Thanksgiving Meal Baskets this fall. They are partnering with the Think Ahead program to set up donation boxes around campus. To find out how you can help, or to sign up for a basket, please email thepantry@sunydutchess.edu or dcccares@sunydutchess.edu.

Middle States Update

After two years of preparation for the Self-Study process, DCC took a major step toward reaffirmation of its accreditation by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) at the end of October. Dr. Quintin Bullock, president of the Community College of Allegheny County, visited campus and provided feedback on the draft report of DCC's performance on the MSCHE Standards and Requirements of Affiliation. Dr. Bullock met with the leadership of the College as well as those key to construction of the Self-Study document.



Reflecting on the experience, the three Self-Study co-chairs were positive about the path ahead.

"We are so fortunate that Dr. Bullock was selected as the chair of our Visiting Evaluation Team," stated Dr. Susan Rogers, chief of staff & vice president for Institutional Effectiveness. "Dr. Bullock's experience as a community college leader both in and outside of SUNY is both inspiring and reassuring."

Scott Schnackenberg, acting vice president for Enrollment & Student Success, said, "Dr. Bullock's comments and suggestions were extremely useful and we will be able to use them as a guide as we finish up the Self-Study."

"It was exciting to share with Dr. Bullock the breadth and depth of participation on campus," commented Professor Michael Hall, Behavioral Science department chair. "I believe he left with an appreciation of the work already accomplished and was confident the campus was aware of the work necessary to have a successful visit by the full MSCHE Team in April 2023."

Shared Governance Wellness Check

Dr. Jordan, FCCC Delegate Margeaux Lippman and PSO leadership are exploring the possibility of bringing the Faculty Council of Community Colleges (FCCC) Wellness Check to campus. "The FCCC Wellness Check is a service offered by FCCC as a collaborative process between administration and the governance body to assess the strengths, weaknesses, pain points and blind spots in a campus' governance system. It's literally like a checkup," said Margeaux Lippman.



Community Engagement

Dr. Jordan was the keynote speaker at three presentations in the Hudson Valley area in October. At a Fishkill Town Board meeting, Dr. Jordan, Susan Rogers and Dan Barbuto introduced DCC's plans to expand DCC @ Fishkill's offerings to include a new Mechatronics lab next fall. Also Dr. Jordan spoke to the Rhinebeck Chamber of Commerce and Thriving in Rhinebeck, where he detailed DCC's mission to provide "Cradle to Cane" educational opportunities to the communities of the Hudson Valley. "It is important that we continually engage our surrounding communities so that they are aware of the educational and life-enriching opportunities that DCC can provide all residents," explained Dr. Jordan.

Volleyball Team Heads to Nationals

After winning their first Region XV Division III championship, DCC's volleyball team "dug" deep and "spiked" its way to the NJCAA National Tournament in Rochester, Minnesota! The tournament starts on November 11.

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A Spooky Good Time

On Sunday, October 30, DCC held the first Fall Family Festival, attended by over 200 students, staff, alumni and their families. It was a scary good time with games, music, food and trick-or-treating. Captain Jack Sparrow even made an appearance and invoked a "parlay" – providing protection and good fun for all.

