Hudson Valley stories: celebrating extraordinary accomplishments and enriching and supporting our community.

Darnell Stapleton ‘05

Fall and Winter Sports Wrap-up

Hudson Valley Breaks Ground on New Facility

An Evening with Cleve Jones

Why is Hudson Valley Community College so critical to the Capital Region’s Health Care Community?

INSIDE:
Special Commemorative Insert: President Obama’s visit to Hudson Valley Community College.
Dear Alumni and Friends,

It has been an exciting year for me since I joined Hudson Valley Community College as director of annual giving and alumni affairs. It is truly a privilege to be associated with the alumni of this impressive institution. And it has been great getting to know so many of you, working with you and hearing about your Hudson Valley experience.

No matter where I am or what I’m doing I either come in contact with one of our graduates or hear stories about friends and family who are. These stories, about your extraordinary accomplishments, enrich and support the Hudson Valley story. I hope you will use the alumni association to stay connected with your alma mater and toot your own horn! Each issue of The Valley View features “Class Notes” where you can tell us about your new job, promotion, award, wedding, new baby—anything you wish to share. Simply go to www hvcc edu/alumni. Your stories will provide current and future students a sense of the endless opportunities a Hudson Valley education can bring.

As alumni, you are part of the Hudson Valley family. Families need to stick together and support each other—so we are calling all alumni to get involved. After all, you are 65,000 alumni strong—imagine the impact you can and do have on your communities and this institution.

I look forward to hearing from you. And if you would like to tell me your story directly I can be reached at alumni@hvcc.edu or (518) 629-8012.

Laurel Colasurdo
Director of Annual Giving and Alumni Affairs

Reconnect with Old Friends on Facebook!
Darnell Stapleton Day

Pro athlete is pro Hudson Valley

This fall, Darnell Stapleton ’05 will be focused on winning back-to-back Super Bowls as a starting offensive lineman for the Pittsburgh Steelers.

The Hudson Valley Community College alum admits he’s sometimes in awe of the success he’s had in the National Football League. That’s understandable; just two years ago he signed as an undrafted rookie and didn’t play in a single game all year.

But last year, a month into the season, Stapleton got an opportunity to play after guard Kendall Simmons was lost for the season after injuring his Achilles tendon. Stapleton stepped in, helping his team to come from behind with an overtime win against the Baltimore Ravens. He started every game for the rest of the season, including a thrilling 27-23 win over the Arizona Cardinals in Super Bowl XLIII.

“I just wanted the opportunity to play in the NFL,” Stapleton said. “I knew if I had an opportunity, I could contribute.”

The opportunity to excel

It was an opportunity at Hudson Valley Community College that started Stapleton’s path to the NFL. A standout high school athlete in Union, New Jersey, Stapleton found himself unable to get a scholarship to a Division I school after not applying himself academically.

His high school football coach suggested Hudson Valley, which had an up-and-coming football program, as a possible next step. Stapleton enrolled at the college and had success not only on the field — where his teams won two Northeast Football Conference championships and appeared in a bowl game — but in the classroom, where he repeatedly earned a place on the Dean’s list.

“Hudson Valley gave me an opportunity,” Stapleton said. “I got along great with the students and everyone. The classes were good and not too crowded. And the teachers were great; really friendly. I enjoyed the whole experience.”

Staying focused

Oji Fagan, head coach of the Hudson Valley Community College football team, recalls how focused Stapleton was on and off the field. “He was a student of the game, and very athletic. As coaches we were able to shore up the offensive line by playing him at center or guard while running for 170 yards a game.”

But for all the athletic ability Stapleton displayed at Hudson Valley, Fagan noted it was his determination to take advantage of his opportunities that helped Stapleton have such success at the college and in the NFL.

“He did everything the right way, going to class, getting help, taking care of his grades,” Fagan said. “He put himself in the position he’s in. Because of what he did academically, he’s where he’s at now. Darnell is in the NFL because he made the right choices.”

Stapleton’s favorite memories of playing at Hudson Valley include appearing in a bowl game and the camaraderie of his teammates, many of whom he still stays in contact with. The team was so close off the field that it helped them have success on it, Stapleton said.

That and the tremendous running ability of Emmanuel Marc, Stapleton noted, who often bustled off 50-yard touchdown runs.

“It was a team effort that made us successful. It was never one person who took over as an individual,” Stapleton said. “We were like brothers, everyone coming from different places and away from home but having the same goal.”

Success on and off the field

Academically, Stapleton was focused on a Liberal Arts degree so he could transfer to a four-year university and follow his football dream. He succeeded, transferring to Rutgers University.

“Hudson Valley did a great job preparing me,” Stapleton said. “When I got to Rutgers, I was well prepared to balance my time as a full-time student and athlete. Education was a big thing for my family. They always wanted me to get my degree and I was determined to get my degrees at both schools.”

Stapleton did just that and in 2007, he watched the NFL Draft with much anticipation. When the last two rounds came, he started getting calls from interested teams. He decided to sign with the Pittsburgh Steelers, seeing that the team needed an offensive lineman.

While not playing at all in his first year, Stapleton still worked hard in practice. He took to heart the advice of coaches who reminded backup players they were one injury away from playing, a lesson that served him well.

But despite his success last year, Stapleton will approach this season just as he did a year ago. Playing in a division against players like Ray Lewis and Terrell Suggs, Stapleton knows he needs to continue to stay focused.

“You have to be hungry every year. The NFL is a league of competition and someone wants your job,” Stapleton said. “You have to bring your ‘A’ game everyday.”

Reuniting with his alma mater

In March, Stapleton returned to his alma mater when Hudson Valley Community College honored him with Darnell Stapleton Day. The day was a memorable one for Stapleton as he had his number retired, caught up with former teammates, signed autographs, and had lunch with college President Andrew Matonak, a Pittsburgh Steelers fan.

“That was something special that I’ll remember for the rest of my life,” Stapleton said. “It shows the class of the college to celebrate the accomplishments of its alumni like that.”

Stapleton also got an opportunity to talk with current Hudson Valley football players. That’s something he’s done along with other former players each year as he shares some of the advice he’s learned.

“It’s rewarding to help someone reach their goals. I just feel like I’m doing my part,” Stapleton said. “I just talk about my time there and how the college gave me an opportunity. I tell the players you can be a gifted athlete but to accomplish your dreams you need the grades too. It’s the whole picture.”

After this story was published, Darnell was injured and will be out for the season, but we wish him well.

President Matonak, the Viking and Cheerleading Club celebrate Darnell Stapleton Day.
Two years ago, Rashad Barksdale ‘04 became the first Hudson Valley Community College alum drafted by an NFL team since 1994 when the Philadelphia Eagles selected him in the sixth round. He didn’t make the team but was quickly picked up by the Kansas City Chiefs, playing six games at defensive back. Last year Barksdale signed with the New York Giants practice squad and this year signed with the New York Jets. “It’s awesome,” Barksdale said of playing in the NFL. “The intensity level; playing in huge stadiums. I’m just happy to be a part of that and hopefully continue to get an opportunity to play.”

Barksdale’s favorite Hudson Valley Community College memories include his team finishing 42-10 his sophomore year and his overall college experience. “It was a nice little campus that felt more like a university,” Barksdale said. “The classroom sizes were perfect. It was easy to converse with your teachers.”

In 1995, Christine Kelly ‘90 was inducted into the Hudson Valley Community College Athletic Hall of Fame for her two years as a two-sport star in basketball and volleyball. Finishing with 502 points and 540 rebounds as a forward/center in basketball, she also was a formidable blocker and powerful hitter in volleyball. Off the court she also excelled, graduating with a 3.28 GPA and transferring to SUNY Brockport. “I grew a lot here and I’m really glad to have gone to Hudson Valley,” Kelly said. “I really learned that life is what you make it.”

The Hudson native played left field for Hudson Valley Community College’s baseball team in 2003 and 2004. He transferred to The University at Albany, playing baseball then one year of football. “I grew a lot here and I’m really glad to have gone to Hudson Valley.”

—Christine Kelly ‘90

Kristan Pelletier of Troy was named director of athletics at Hudson Valley Community College, distinguishing her as the first female to be appointed to the position in the college’s 56-year history. Her appointment took place in June.

Pelletier has served as Hudson Valley’s assistant director of athletics since 2008, also becoming the first female in the college’s history to hold that particular post.

As director of athletics, Pelletier will oversee 16 NJCAA Region III varsity sports, intercollegiate activities, coaches, staff and over 300 student-athletes in the athletic program. Her responsibilities will include administering the athletic program’s annual budget and supervising the campus’ athletic facilities and summer athletic camps.

“I am very fortunate and grateful for the opportunity to take a leadership role in the athletic department and I also want to thank the Hudson Valley community for the tremendous support I have received,” Pelletier said. “The academic and athletic opportunities we can provide our student-athletes are second to none at the junior college level and I am committed to ensuring our student-athletes are successful at Hudson Valley and beyond.”

As Hudson Valley Community College continues to grow and flourish, so does the athletic program. With the recent addition of two NJCAA Division III programs, men’s cross country and women’s golf, the college now fields a total of 16 teams.

“It is important that students have the opportunity to experience a well-rounded collegiate experience—and participating in sports can add to that,” said Drew Matonak, president of the college.

Athletic offerings now include: men’s and women’s cross country; men’s football; men’s and women’s soccer; women’s volleyball; women’s tennis; men’s and women’s basketball; men’s ice hockey; men’s and women’s bowling; men’s baseball; men’s lacrosse; women’s golf; and women’s softball.

Go Vikings!
The old adage, “necessity is the mother of invention,” rings true for Eloise Trainor, founder of the FUTURES Tour for women golfers, the official developmental tour of the Ladies Professional Golf Association or better known as the LPGA. She was an aspiring young professional who didn’t quite have the skills to play the LPGA Tour, but knew she could never improve her skills without competition.

Fortunately for today’s FUTURES Tour members, Trainor was undeterred back in the fall of 1980, when she organized a competitive schedule of 12 events and no one entered the first 11 tournaments. It was the 12th event; however—the one right before the LPGA Qualifying Tournament—that made the difference. At that event, 54 players registered to play as a warmup for LPGA Q-School. Trainor’s tour was born.

Trainor was first introduced to golf at the age of 12. Her parents were caretakers on an estate in Canaan, NY, where the owner had a small golf course. She and her friends had full use of the course and she instantly loved it—she didn’t even mind the responsibility of mowing the greens.

Trainor attended Hudson Valley Community College a few years after finishing high school. She golfed, studied, graduated and moved to Florida.

“I wanted a career in professional golf, but I needed experience,” she said. “I was becoming more competitive, but I found there was nothing there for me or for any professional woman golfer, so I chose to organize tournaments.” According to a feature piece in Golf World (Jan. 21, 2000), Trainor and an early partner turned a mini tour into a developmental tour, basically running the tour from the trunk of Trainor’s Volkswagen—which she once parked beside a par-3 green as a hole-in-one prize (nobody won).

Trainor admits getting the program off the ground meant around-the-clock work, but that was fine with her, she loved what she was doing. After nearly 20 years, Trainor sold her shares in the tour in 1999, when more than 160 FUTURES alums had moved on to the LPGA Tour, winning more than 200 LPGA events and 21 major championships, according to Golf World.

“I loved working with the players and getting to know them before their professional careers began. I believe the tour has made a difference in the lives and careers of many young women, and I feel fortunate and proud to have been a part of that.”

Since retiring, Trainor moved back to the Canaan area in which she grew up and loves. She spent some time running a coffee house and now is back to the business of golf, helping run eduKAYtion Golf with her friend Kay McMahon. The two provide high-tech and expert golf instruction from the beginner to the avid golfer, juniors to adults.

From the days when she was mowing the greens at the age of 12 to today, Trainor knows that golf was the answer for her. It made her who she is and helped guide her career and personal growth.
Alumni Night at the Joe
On Aug. 30, over 500 alumni and their family and friends headed for the “Joe” (Joe Bruno Stadium) for a night of rooting on the ValleyCats and catching up with former classmates. This popular event—sponsored by the Hudson Valley Community College Alumni Association—is growing in numbers each year. Who knows, maybe next year we will have to rent the whole stadium!

Homecoming Weekend
On Sept. 25 and 26, Hudson Valley welcomed back to campus alumni and their family and friends for a fun-filled Homecoming Weekend.

Friday kicked off with a Battle of the Bands and some finger-licking-good barbecue from Giffy’s. The Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company performed “A Dragon’s Tale”—a series of dances inspired by traditional Chinese festivals and rituals. Through fantastic props, colorful costumes and ingenious choreography, these dances displayed the excitement of Chinese celebrations and the beauty of the Chinese-American heritage.

Homecoming continued on Saturday with the Second Annual 5K Alumni Race followed by a finish-line breakfast courtesy of President “Drew” Matonak. While the runners were racing to the finish line, the campus was busy setting up for a fun-filled day. Craft and food vendors were setting up their stands, bounce rides were going up and the face painters were setting out their paints. The campus was full of activities for the whole family to enjoy and to top it all off, the annual Homecoming Weekend football game got underway and quickly filled the stadium with Viking pride!

A lot of fun was had by all. If you didn’t make it this year—we hope you join us for the next Homecoming Weekend!

If you are interested in helping plan Homecoming Weekend and/or have suggestions for activities, please contact alumni@hvcc.edu.

Two Popular Alumni Association Events Held

Baseball
The baseball team qualified for post-season play, reaching the semi-finals of the Region III Tournament and finishing its season 25-12 overall.

Mike Guillod (Northern Valley/ Closter, NJ) led the team in batting average, runs scored and was second in homeruns. Mike leaves Hudson Valley as the all-time leader in stolen bases and in runs scored, is third in home runs, and in the top five in hits. He received first-team All Conference honors.

Men’s Lacrosse
The men’s lacrosse team captured the Mountain Valley Conference Championship including a victory over perennial power Herkimer Community College. The team reached the semi-finals of the Region III tournament, and was ranked as high as sixth in the nation. The team ended with a 12 - 2 season.

Sean O’Connell (LaSalle/ Troy) was Hudson Valley’s leading scorer with 92 points which was second best in the country.
Upcoming Events

The Hudson Valley Community College Foundation has planned a variety of events for alumni throughout the year to ensure they can stay connected with their alma mater. Keep your eyes open for postcards and invitations to these events:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, Feb. 18, 2010</td>
<td>Shakespeare &amp; Company “Julius Caesar” Noon at Maureen Stapleton Theatre, Siek Campus Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, April 15, 2010</td>
<td>Arn Chorn Pond Noon at Maureen Stapleton Theatre, Siek Campus Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, May 7, 2010</td>
<td>Spring Scholarship Reception 3 p.m. at McDonough Sports Complex</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, May 27, 2010</td>
<td>Keepers of the Flame/Retiree Reunion &amp; Recognition Luncheon Noon BTC Meeting Rooms #1 – 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, July 19, 2010</td>
<td>16th Annual Golf Classic 11 a.m. The Country Club of Troy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 2010</td>
<td>President’s Circle Reception 5:30 p.m. Location TBD</td>
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If you would like additional information on any of the Foundation’s upcoming events, contact the Foundation at (518) 629-8012 or alumni@hvcc.edu.

An Evening with Cleve Jones

On World AIDS Day – December 1 – Hudson Valley Community College welcomed Cleve Jones, international activist and founder of the AIDS Memorial Quilt. His talk in the Bulmer Telecommunications Center Auditorium was preceded by a slide presentation of photographs by Dona Ann McAdams and a performance by Brian Mellick on Udu drum.

Jones’s career as an activist began in San Francisco during the turbulent 1970s. He worked as a student intern for pioneer gay rights leader Harvey Milk following his unprecedented election to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. (Jones is portrayed by Emile Hirsch in “Milk,” the 2008 Academy Award-winning film.)

Jones conceived the idea of the AIDS Memorial Quilt at a 1985 candlelight memorial for Milk, who was assassinated in 1978, and created the first quilt panel in honor of a close friend, Marvin Feldman, in 1987. Since then, the AIDS Memorial Quilt has grown to become the world’s largest community arts project, memorializing the lives of more than 85,000 American AIDS’ victims. Independent affiliates of The NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt now operate in 50 countries around the world.
We asked three health science graduates:

“Why is Hudson Valley Community College so critical to the Capital Region’s Health Care Community?”

Kari Perrine Roe ’97, Nursing
Family Nurse Practitioner, Center for Disability Services; Adjunct Faculty, Excelsior College

“We are constantly reminded of the health care crisis and nursing shortage. Hudson Valley sustains a reputable associates degree Nursing program, facilitated by seasoned nursing faculty who prepare and train students to meet the demands of the shortage, to care for the high level of patient acuity in the community, and, most important, to promote professionalism, safety and competence as a Registered Nurse. The two-year program is critical for the Capital Region’s health care community as budgets continue to be cut, downsizing continues to happen and the needs of the typical patient continue to increase.”

What are some of the positive memories you have from your years at Hudson Valley Community College?

“It’s a user-friendly campus; playing sports in their great athletic program (soccer, basketball and softball) with the support of academia; great hospital rotations as a nursing student; approachable faculty.”

Terri Lewis RDH ‘74, Dental Hygiene
President/CEO, Select Dental Staffing LLC, Germantown, NY

“With more than 16 years in the dental placement industry and 30-plus years involvement in the dental field, it is my opinion that there is a shortage of dental hygienists in the Capital Region and other areas throughout New York State. Dental hygienists provide a valuable service: they help the community to maintain their oral health. Hygienists are instrumental in educating and motivating patients and the public on how to keep their mouths healthy. Hudson Valley Community College has an excellent program that prepares the hygienists to serve the needs of their patients. They also prepare them to participate in much-needed community dental health programs.”

Recall some of the positive memories you have from your years at Hudson Valley Community College.

“One of my most positive memories I have of my education at Hudson Valley is the ‘big sister’ program they had for new students in the Dental Hygiene program. I remember feeling really overwhelmed and anxious about succeeding in the program and it was so comforting to have someone support you and be available to speak with about any problems or concerns. My ‘big sister’ also helped by giving me her books after she was finished with her studies each semester.”

“The instructors had high standards for the work we were expected to do and it has given me an ability to perform at my highest level in the field of dental hygiene. Even though it was challenging, the experience was very rewarding and it has helped me to be successful in the field of dental hygiene and, over the last 16 years, in the dental employment/placement industry.”

“Also, because of the strong camaraderie the dental hygiene students felt with each other, I made friendships that have lasted throughout my lifetime. I consider that to be a gift that is priceless!”

Patty Nazarko ’73, Radiologic Technology
Director of Medical Imaging for Seton Health overseeing Seton Imaging Services in three locations: St. Mary’s Hospital in Troy, Adirondack Diagnostic Seton Health Imaging in Clifton Park, and Women’s Imaging at the Massry Center in Troy.

“Being very familiar with the high-quality program at the college, I have a high comfort level with hiring a graduate from either the Radiologic Technology or Ultrasound programs. We have worked with and helped train potential employees who did their clinical rotation as a student with us.”

“Having a local base of potential applicants, with good clinical experience at both big and small facilities, is a big help in our ability to maintain needed staffing levels in the many local imaging entities and so the program supplies an important resource to our community.”

What are some of the positive memories you have from your years at Hudson Valley Community College?

“I formed some close relationships with classmates and the faculty during the two-year program. We shared a common purpose. I still am grateful that during my senior summer rotation, I was allowed to change my hospital affiliation to finish off my clinical hours in the hospital that was hiring me when I graduated. This allowed me to have a great extended orientation period to start my career.”
Ryan Smithson ’07
Serving his country and sharing his story

It wasn’t long before Ryan Smithson ’07 knew he needed a way to sort through his one-year Army Reserve tour in Iraq—a way to communicate what he’d seen and been through. Like some vets, that outlet came in the classroom, a year removed from the poverty, death and destruction of war.

Soon after returning from his Reserve deployment in 2006, Smithson entered the Criminal Justice program at Hudson Valley, a returning vet ready to move on with life and yet still sometimes troubled by the memories of what he’d experienced in the war zone.

In an English Composition class taught by Assistant Professor Maria Pollack, Smithson wrote an essay about an ambush on a troop convoy he was in. The piece clearly touched a nerve, both with Smithson and his instructor.

“For this portfolio project, each student does a classroom reading and at first Ryan was hesitant to read the piece he had written, but when he did, it was obvious to him and the rest of the class how powerful it was,” Pollack said. “The students, especially the veterans in the class, were so moved.”

The writing experience
The experience of writing and reading his work was an epiphany for Smithson.

“I realized that this was one way I could deal with and communicate what I had seen,” the East Greenbush native said. “They were straight narratives, but I would write something and show it to (wife) Heather, and it was a way for me to tell her about the experience. Writing became my outlet.”

Smithson admits he never set out to write a book-length memoir of his experiences as a 19-year-old soldier, but with encouragement from his family and Professor Pollack that’s exactly what happened. With the help of a literary agent, he eventually sold his manuscript to Harper Collins, one of the largest book publishers in the country.

This April, they released Ghosts of War: The True Story of a 19-Year-Old GI. The book is aimed at the teen market, but Smithson hopes it can reach a broader audience. He’s particularly interested in connecting veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan with those surviving veterans from Vietnam. In fact, the writing project he’s currently working on is a fictional dialogue between Iraq and Vietnam era veterans.

The turning point
Smithson clearly points to the events of Sept. 11, 2001 as a turning point in his life and a major reason for his decision to join the military. Then a Columbia High School junior, the attacks on the World Trade Center had a profound effect on what he freely admits was a pretty mundane, middle class existence. The jacket fly of Smithson’s novel reads “If I don’t do something, who will?” That phrase sums up the reckoning of the young man who became an Army Reservist at 17.

“I guess I felt a sense of duty. I was doing my little part for the bigger effort,” he said.

Smithson, who joined the reserves in 2002, before the war began, also was looking at the practical benefits of his decision. He could hold down a full-time job, even get money to pay for college tuition. About a year after he enlisted in the Reserves, he was married to his high school girlfriend and began training to go overseas as a heavy equipment operator. The war was on, and he was headed straight for it.

Smithson spent about one year on active duty in Kuwait and Iraq working as a heavy equipment operator in hostile areas around the country. The experience (“pushing dirt” as he calls it) fills the middle section of Ghosts of War, as Smithson retells the mixture of tragedy, boredom and humor that accompanied his days and nights in Iraq.

After returning home in December 2005, he went through the same adjustments many veterans deal with—a sense of isolation and a lack of comfort in talking about his time in the war zone. Smithson said being back in America was “almost surreal,” and it really wasn’t until he started writing about his experiences that he began to overcome the isolation and post-deployment stress.

The logical choice
College was a “must” almost immediately after his return to the United States and Hudson Valley was the logical choice because of the Criminal Justice program he wanted to pursue. Smithson said he really wasn’t a big fan of English classes in high school, but his writing belies an innate talent that Pollack picked up on and helped nurture. “Every essay I would write, she would read it and give honest feedback,” he said of his instructor. “I mean, even in classes where she wasn’t my teacher…”

Smithson logged many an early morning and late night writing and rewriting his manuscript. After graduation from Hudson Valley, he continued his higher education at Empire State College. While attending college he also works full time for the American Red Cross, setting up the daily blood drives around the region.

Although he continues to write, his ultimate goal may be teaching others to write.

“I think what makes Ryan special is that he is incredibly generous and hard-working,” said Pollack. “He will make a difference in others’ lives. He’s already doing that for the people who read his book. I think he will make an amazing teacher.”

Published? Let us know!
If you’re a Hudson Valley alumnus and a published author, we’d like to know. Tell us (and the rest of the Hudson Valley alumni community) about your children’s books, academic texts, novels and non-fiction.

We know there are dozens of published authors among the alumni and we’d like to shine a light on your accomplishments.

Contact Paula Monaco, director of communications and marketing, at p.monaco@hvcc.edu.
Educational Opportunity Program Alumni Needed!

Want to be a professional mentor? Want to share your story with current EOP Students?

Hudson Valley Community College would like to reconnect with former Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) students. Your experiences and stories are the perfect tool to demonstrate to current EOP students that success, both academically and professionally, is attainable.

Since 1970, thousands of students have benefited from Hudson Valley’s EOP. The educational and financial assistance students are provided can only be enhanced by hearing directly from you, our EOP alumni. A new EOP Alumni Speakers Bureau and Professional Mentors Program have been established to connect EOP alumni with current students. The speakers bureau would include a core group of EOP alumni who would be available to speak to students about their experiences and the path their lives have taken since being a part of the program. Professional mentors would be paired with current students who are facing similar obstacles as the EOP alumni.

We also need your support for the EOP Scholarship and Emergency Funds which were established to provide EOP students additional funding opportunities. The scholarship is awarded to the EOP student who earns the highest GPA upon graduation. The Emergency Fund is given to a student who is no longer in good academic standing and thus forfeited financial aid. The fund will assist the student with tuition. Both funds are in need of contributions to ensure they can continue to help the students. We need your support!

If you are interested in making a contribution to the above funds or joining Hudson Valley’s EOP Mentor or Speakers programs, please contact the EOP at eop@hvcc.edu or (518) 629-7325.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Nominating a Fellow Alum or Community Partner!

On September 23, 2009, Hudson Valley Community College recognized five individuals and one local hospital for their loyal dedication and service to the college and the community.

Hosted by the Hudson Valley Community College Foundation and the college’s Alumni Association, these annual awards identify people and organizations who distinguished themselves because of their service to the college or the greater community.

The award winners were:

- Steven B. Bouchey, CFP ’78, president and CEO of Bouchey Financial Group, Ltd, received the Otto V. Guenther Career Achievement Award.
- Debra Jean-Lashwa ’96, director of activities and volunteer services at the Eddy Heritage Nursing Center, received the 1953 Award for Distinguished Service to Hudson Valley Community College by an Alumnus;
- Dr. Richard H. Alfred is a Board Certified Orthopaedic Surgeon, specializing in sports medicine at the Capital Region Ambulatory Surgery Center, received the 1953 Award for Distinguished Service to Hudson Valley Community College by a Non-Alumnus;
- Steven P. Boyle has been president and chief executive officer of St. Peter’s Health Care Service, received the Corporate Excellence Award in recognition of the hospital’s commitment to the college, its alumni and the Capital Region.

We will be looking for new nominations soon — if you know of a worthy person or company — please visit www hvcc edu/alumni/distinguished ed for award criteria and nominations form.

CLASS NOTES

William F. Fagan ’73 of Troy has been appointed by Governor David Paterson to a seven-year term as a member of the college’s Board of Trustees. Fagan is president of the William J. Fagan & Sons, Inc. insurance agency located in Troy. He is a long-time member of the board of directors of the Hudson Valley Community College Foundation. He joined the board in 1994 and served as president or chairman from 1997 to 2006. Under his leadership, the Foundation experienced tremendous growth. He was recognized for his leadership in 2005, when he received the 1953 Award for Distinguished Service to Hudson Valley Community College by an Alumnus.

Howard Tanner ’88 is the owner of two businesses located in Guilderland, NY. Tanner started his first company, Patriot Glass, from scratch in 1992 and today it is one of the largest commercial contractors in the Northeast. His company specializes in commercial contract glazing as related to larger commercial projects. Three projects completed by this company on Hudson Valley’s campus were the Joe Bruno Stadium, Siek Campus Center renovations and the new Administration building. His company also has a contract for the college’s new TEC-SMART facility in Malta. His secondary business is Redline Motorsports, a high performance fuel injection shop that specializes in the modifications of new Corvettes, Camaro/ Firebirds, GTO’s and other domestic fuel injected cars. Tanner said, “This business was fueled from my 1986-88 stint at Hudson Valley Community College through the Automotive program. This business has been growing at an astounding rate due to the special nature of what we do.”

Timothy Molchany ’88 was promoted to assistant professor of Communication/Theatre at Northampton Community College.

Danielle Adriance ’06 was promoted to outreach representative and sales associate at Senior Whole Health of New York. Adriance received an associate’s degree in Business Administration from Hudson Valley and is currently pursuing her bachelor’s degree in Business Administration at Sage Colleges.

Joe Pardi ’85 works as an electronic engineer for the Naval Undersea Warfare Center in Newport, RI, designing and testing the next generation of submarine sonar. Pardi earned a bachelor’s degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Clarkson University in 1987 and a master’s degree in Electronics, majoring in electromagnetic, from the University of Connecticut in 1990.

Charlene Deno ’87 works as the director of Business Affairs at SUNY Potsdam. Deno earned a bachelor’s degree in Accounting and Economics from Russell Sage in 1990 and a master’s degree in Education from Potsdam in 1999.

Joe Formichelli ’62 earned a degree in Electrical Engineering while at Hudson Valley. Since receiving his MBA from MIT’s Sloan School of Management in 1984, he has worked at IBM as the vice president of World Wide Systems Operations and the general manager and vice president of the ThinkPad Product line. Formichelli also has been the CEO and president for Hayes Modem; president of Clear Cube Corp in Austin, TX; executive vice president of Computer Group at Toshiba; executive vice president of Operations at Gateway Computers; executive vice president of Operations at RadioShack Corp and the senior partner for Core Strategies in Irvine, CA. He and his wife, Kelly, have lived in Laguna Niguel, CA for the past 12 years. They have a daughter and two young grandchildren. “Through all of this, I constantly think about my days at Hudson Valley, the people I met there and how far the school has come since the first time I tramped through the mud to get to our very first class on the brand new campus way back in 1961.”

Eric Fillion ’96 worked as the sales and marketing informatics program manager for MVP Health Care in Schenectady. Fillion was an Individual Studies major while at Hudson Valley and went on to earn a bachelor’s degree in Marketing Management from Siena College in 1998. He is married with two children.

Michael Mansion ’83 works as a principal at the Mansion Law Firm in Albany. He earned a JD degree at the Thomas M. Cooley Law School in 1993. He is married to Jodi Mansion.

Jeff Keenan ’81 is currently living in Central Square, NY and works as a CAD technician specialist for C&S Companies in North Syracuse, NY.

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Hudson Valley Breaks Ground on New Facility
New site will offer “green jobs” training and geographically expand academic offerings.

This spring Hudson Valley Community College broke ground on a new facility to be located in Malta, NY. TEC-SMART (Training and Education Center for Semiconductor Manufacturing and Alternative and Renewable Technologies) will be a state-of-the-art education facility that will allow Hudson Valley Community College to train the 500 to 600 technicians that the Capital Region’s growing Tech Valley is expected to need over the next five to 10 years.

The facility, which will start offering classes in January 2010, is being constructed at the Saratoga Technology and Energy Park (STEP), which is next to the Luther Forest Technology Campus, a 1,350-acre campus designed for nanotechnology manufacturing and research and development. TEC-SMART will provide skilled technicians for these plants as well as the growing renewable energies field, helping to accelerate the economic growth of both industries by providing the trained workers they require.

TEC-SMART will feature more than a dozen state-of-the-art classrooms and laboratories to train workers in semiconductor manufacturing and clean energy technologies, including alternative fuels, photovoltaic, geothermal and wind energy. It will provide energy efficiency training for building trades and will be a showcase for energy efficient technology, incorporating “green-build” techniques. TEC-SMART also will serve as a central location where the community can learn about energy issues and emerging technologies, helping to increase community awareness of the need for and availability of alternative energy sources.

In addition, courses will be offered at the facility in Business and the Liberal Arts and Sciences area, including English, psychology, math and more.

For more information on TEC-SMART visit www.hvcc.edu/tecsmart or e-mail tecsmart@hvcc.edu.

Faculty Retirees 2008-2009

The following faculty members announced their retirement during the 2008-2009 academic year.

Professor Sally McLaughlin Bauer, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics
Professor Leona A. Bishop, Nursing
Assistant Professor Barbara C. Coon, Nursing
Professor Marlene A. DeFeo, Dental Hygiene
Associate Professor Katie Dermott, Mathematics and Engineering Science
Assistant Professor Roswitha G. Dorr, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics
Assistant Professor Margaret A. Fiset, Nursing
Professor Alden P. Gaudreau, Civil, Construction, Industrial and Mechanical Technologies
Assistant Professor Robert B. Genthner, Automotive, Manufacturing and Electrical Engineering Technologies
Professor Deborah Halacy, Biology, Chemistry and Physics
Professor John R. Lupe Jr., Electrical Construction and Maintenance
Professor Ronald S. Shelli, Accounting

40th Anniversary of Groundbreaking for New Campus

Ground was broken on April 29, 1959 for “Hudson Valley Technical Institute’s” new campus on Route 4. Construction began on Buildings A, B, C, D and E. All five of these buildings were built on the new 70-acre campus and were expected to accommodate 1,200 students. The name was then changed to Hudson Valley Community College to reflect the wider area the school hoped to serve as the school’s educational mission broadened. The college now sits on 120-acres with 14 buildings and serves over 13,000 students.

Hudson Valley Community College Foundation Awards More than $45,000 in Scholarships

42 students receive scholarships

In May, the Hudson Valley Community College Foundation awarded more than $45,000 in scholarships to 42 Hudson Valley students who are pursuing degrees in a variety of programs, including Nursing, Early Childhood Education, Civil Engineering Technology, Business Administration, Dental Hygiene and Physical Education.

Hudson Valley Community College Foundation scholarships are awarded based on a variety of criteria, including need, academic performance, civic involvement and academic program; the awards ranged from $200 to full tuition, books and fees. The awards will be put toward the students’ fall semester educational expenses.
History of Hudson Valley Athletics

Hudson Valley's athletic teams have formed a long, proud history both regionally and nationally. The storied history includes conference, regional and national championships in both men’s and women’s sports.

Men’s basketball, bowling, golf and tennis were the first sports introduced at Hudson Valley Technical Institute in the 1950s. The college made a more significant commitment to athletics when it moved to the new campus in 1961. Hudson Valley’s new gymnasium, baseball and soccer fields were the envy of other community colleges in the 1960s. Baseball, men’s soccer, cross country, wrestling and skiing were added during the campus expansion years.

In 1969, football arrived at Hudson Valley and quickly became a popular event for faculty, staff, students and community members. A unique sport for a two-year college athletic department, Hudson Valley has served as a model for other two years schools in New York State looking to begin football, and the college is one of the founding members of the prestigious Northeast Football Conference.

Women’s athletics made its first appearance at the college in 1972 with volleyball and basketball. Women’s sports quickly made up for lost ground in the 1970s and 1980s with the addition of softball, soccer, bowling, tennis and cross country.

Today, over 300 Hudson Valley student-athletes compete on 16 varsity teams. Women compete in basketball, bowling, cross country, soccer, softball, tennis, volleyball and golf. Men participate in baseball, basketball, bowling, football, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer and cross country.

INSIDE: Special Commemorative Insert: President Obama’s visit to Hudson Valley Community College.