The Shape of Liberal Arts at Hudson Valley
Staying Connected

“Friendship improves happiness and abates misery by doubling our joys and dividing our grief.” Joseph Addison, English essayist, poet, playwright and politician offered these words to the world in the late 1600s, but they still ring true today. There’s much to be said for keeping in touch with those who have played an important role in our lives.

Whether you’d like to get in touch with a long-lost classmate from your days at Hudson Valley or you’ve just graduated and are determined to maintain ties, you’ll be glad to know that the college makes it simple for you through its Facebook, LinkedIn and YouTube pages. Go to www.hvcc.edu to find these links. The Hudson Valley Alumni Association also operates its own Facebook page. See what people are saying and doing and get your information up there for others to see. It’s all about connecting with friends new and old.

Read below for information about the new alumni directory that the association will soon be creating through Harris Connect. Watch for notifications via mail or e-mail and submit your information to this valuable alumni resource.

Another way to find your way back to Hudson Valley and the people you knew here is by attending some of the many public events that the college offers.

- **Cultural Events.** All year long, the college hosts lectures, performances, plays and art exhibitions free of charge or at a low cost. Check out the Calendar of Events at www.hvcc.edu/culture, www.hvcc.edu/teachinggallery or www.hvcc.edu/voices. Events often take place in the famed Maureen Stapleton Theatre or the Bulmer Telecommunications Center.

- **Athletic Events.** Hudson Valley has 16 men’s and women’s teams—many of which have won conference and regional titles over the years. Come cheer for your favorite sport. Check out sports schedules at www.hvcc.edu/athletics.

- **Family Events.** Throughout the year, the Student Senate sponsors a number of family-oriented activities. Last October, a “Pumpkin Palooza” drew more than 450 individuals to campus to enjoy games, a costume parade, prizes and refreshments. Find more information about such events at www.hvcc.edu/calendar.

- **Ice Skate.** The Conway Ice Rink is open for public skating from October to March on weekday and weekend afternoons. Admission and skate rentals are priced reasonably, and lessons are available by arrangement. Admission is always free on opening weekend. Find more information at www.hvcc.edu/calendar.

Hudson Valley Community College Launches Alumni Directory Project

Our Alumni Association is creating an alumni directory, working with Harris Connect, a company that specializes in helping institutions and non-profit organizations to develop this type of resource.

In order for the directory to be a success, we need you! The association has provided a current alumni list to the company, and Harris Connect will also compile names and addresses for inclusion in the directory. Beginning this fall, you will receive a postcard from Harris Connect that includes a Hudson Valley logo. Some of you will also receive e-mail notification.

**HERE IS WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:**

- **Don’t want to be listed?** Return the postcard or respond to the e-mail to say “no.” Not responding will result in your inclusion.

- **Want to participate?** Submit current information about any aspect of your professional or personal life that you want published.

  - Write a message to your friends
  - Send in a recent photo
  - Send in an old photo from your Hudson Valley days

Here’s your chance to reconnect, network and check up on old friends! We hope you will choose to participate!
Hudson Valley Community College is one of 120 high-achieving two-year institutions in the country eligible for the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence. The eligibility puts Hudson Valley within the top 10 percent of the nation’s community colleges, based on metrics used by The Aspen Institute, which is offering the prize.

The Aspen Institute is a non-profit education and cultural think tank founded by Chicago businessman Walter Paepcke in the 1950s. One of its more recent efforts is The Aspen College Excellence Program, which identifies and aims to replicate campus-wide practices that significantly improve college student outcomes.

The first-round selection of 120 schools was developed based upon each college’s achievement in three broad categories: student success in persistence and completion; consistent improvement in outcomes over time; and equity in outcomes for students of all racial/ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds.

Other New York colleges named to the list are: CUNY Kingsborough Community College, Erie Community College, SUNY College of Technology at Canton, Corning Community College, Niagara County Community College and Onondaga Community College.

As one of the top 120, Hudson Valley is now eligible to reach the next level of the prize competition by providing further data about its performance and student outcomes. Eight to 10 finalists will be named in September and a final prize of $700,000 is expected to be awarded to the winner later this year, in addition to smaller prizes to several runners up.

“To be considered among the top ten percent of the nation’s community colleges is an honor,” said Hudson Valley Community College President Drew Matonak. “It recognizes the hard work and dedication of our faculty and staff, as well as our strong ongoing commitment to student success.”

Hudson Valley has been a leader in student persistence and success programs for decades and has been used as a model by other community colleges seeking to develop their own retention efforts.

For further information about the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, go to: www.aspeninstitute.org/policy-work/aspen-prize.

For a complete list of the 120 colleges named as finalists, go to: www.aspeninstitute.org/policy-work/aspen-prize/eligibleinstitutions.

Cross-Cultural Learning in Venice
This Summer for Sport Management Students

Assistant Professor John Meehan will travel with seven students to Venice this summer as part of a new sport management course offered by the Business Administration Department.

“The students will be working with the Settemari Rowing Club in Venice and helping them plan logistics for the club’s upcoming visit to the United States. That means a lot of event management, arranging the shipping of the boats, figuring out drop-in points on the water,” Meehan said. “While they’re in Venice this summer, they will be meeting with the members of the club and also learning more about the culture of traditional Venetian rowing.”

Sport management courses have been offered at the college since 2004 and have been growing in popularity ever since. Graduating students over the past few years have taken advantage of transfer agreements with UMass Amherst and SUNY Cortland, two colleges that have baccalaureate majors in the field.

This is the first year for the International and Intercultural Sport Management course, but faculty members are already seeking more international opportunities for students for upcoming semesters.

Richard Perks, a Liberal Arts major who hopes to go into sports journalism, is one student taking the trip. “When I was signing up for my classes, the advisor I met with was going through the different types of classes they were offering this semester. I was very interested in the International and Intercultural Sport Management course because I love everything about sports. When he mentioned the trip to Italy and our work with the Venetian rowing team, I was sold,” Perks said. “It will be my first time traveling to Europe, so I am very excited. I want to learn about the differences in customs between Italians and Americans.”
“The liberal arts are part of nearly every degree we offer at the college. They really round out your education and open you up to interests you might not have discovered otherwise.”

Dr. Margaret Goehan
Dean, School of Liberal Arts and Science

Picture the scene — a muddy, windswept campus on the outskirts of Troy in the early 1960s.

You’re a brand new faculty member at what’s now called Hudson Valley Community College, and though the majority of your students are in programs related to health science, engineering and construction, you’ve been asked to bring the liberal arts and humanities to life here.

Your charge is to take young minds and teach them about Chaucer, expose them to philosophy, and send them off a bit more curious and perhaps a little wiser.

Those first few years of the 1960s saw the birth of liberal arts on campus and the arrival of one man who eventually symbolized the evolution of Hudson Valley from a purely “technical institution” to one in which the liberal arts became the predominant field of study — Dr. Frank Morgan.

First as chair of the Liberal Arts department and eventually dean of the division, Dr. Morgan oversaw the rapid growth of liberal arts courses and, of equal importance, the college’s stature as a transfer institution. In 1963, 36 graduates moved on with a degree in liberal arts. By the end of the decade, that number would reach well into the hundreds, and nearly every one of those graduates continued on at a four-year school.

“From the beginning, Frank made an effort to connect with someone at each of the SUNY units, preferably a vice president he could call and make a personal connection with, to talk about a particular student looking to transfer,” said his wife, Anne Morgan, who also taught at the college for 30 years. “In those first few years, we sent a lot of students to Plattsburgh and Oneonta. Slowly, we started to get students into some of the private institutions, as well.”

Dr. Frank Morgan
“Hudson Valley Community College really allows students to find their path.”

As the decade continued, population in the Liberal Arts departments “exploded,” Morgan said, and it would often be a struggle to slot late-registering students into the program. By 1969, there were four departments in the Liberal Arts division – Rhetoric/English, Social Sciences, Modern Languages, and History and Classics. Remarkably, Dr. Morgan was still doing all of the transfer counseling himself.

“He wanted very much for every student to succeed, and he knew that the liberal arts education they received here would expose them to what they needed to move on,” said Ann Morgan.

Bill Muller was a Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute doctoral student when he began his 40-year tenure on the Hudson Valley faculty in 1968. He remembers an influx of young liberal arts faculty that was added to keep pace with the growing number of students. Maureen Hood, John Roy, Joe Cardillo, George Drew and Ted Weiland, to name a few influential teachers, exposed more than one generation to the beauty of the English language. For some students, it just meant finding the right teacher.

Initially a teacher of creative writing and English literature, Muller said he focused on helping students discover what he called “the light at the end of the tunnel,” a metaphor for self discovery. “When a student caught a glimpse of that light, things became a whole lot more focused for them. It could be just a glimmer, but if they saw it, each course after that became a function of getting to the light.”

By the late 1970s, Morgan, Muller and the rest of their colleagues were overseeing not only the Liberal Arts department, but also a new Individual Studies degree that was created as an offshoot of the department. Modern language offerings were flourishing. Studio art courses, under the direction of Peter Taylor, were well attended, and Dr. Morgan had already formed a relationship with the Rensselaer County Council for the Arts to provide a “Crafts for Credit” program that continues today.

In a period of 15 years, Liberal Arts at Hudson Valley had moved from a fledgling collection of courses to the largest department on campus. By the 1980s, just two programs – Liberal Arts and Individual Studies – accounted for 30 percent of Hudson Valley students, and that ratio holds true today.

Now, the liberal arts are entering a new phase at the college. An expanded Honors Advisement Track allows high-achieving students the opportunity to study in small group seminars and have more one-on-one interaction with faculty. New Fine Arts degrees and certificate programs have sprung up over the past several years, including Gallery Management, Theatre Arts and Digital Media. Languages have continued to flourish. This fall, the college will offer 11 different language options, including Latin, Arabic and Japanese.

Continues…

Liberal Arts Honors Day Set for Dec. 3

High-achieving high school students interested in pursuing the college’s Liberal Arts Honors Advisement Track will be invited to a special Honors Day this December.

The program, from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Dec. 3, will include a chance for students to interview with the college’s honors faculty and potentially walk away with a full- or partial-tuition scholarship to the college’s honors program.

Academic criteria such as SAT scores and high school grade point averages will factor into who gets invited to the inaugural Honors Day event, but local guidance counselors are also being asked to consider who might be appropriate for the program.

Invited students will go through two interviews with the college’s faculty and have the chance to meet students currently enrolled in the honors program. Ten or 11 full-tuition scholarships will be offered to the top candidates coming out of the interview process, and an additional 10 to 15 partial-tuition scholarships also will be available.

“The Honors Day should give students a good sense of the honors community here at the college,” said Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Development Alex Popovics, who is organizing the event.

About the Honors Program

The college’s honors program pairs select Liberal Arts and Humanities faculty with high-achieving and intellectually curious students in small, interactive classes. Since 2008, the college has offered an honors program for the Humanities and Social Sciences, and that same rigorous instruction will now be offered to students interested in pursuing the Liberal Arts and Science: Math/Science curriculum, which can funnel students into some of the top mathematics or science-based baccalaureate programs in the country.

Hudson Valley alumni have transferred to some of the top schools in the country, including Cornell University, Bennington College, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The college’s top transfer schools include the University at Albany, The College of Saint Rose, Siena College and Russell Sage College.

Continues…
With all the growth at the college over the past three decades, the core importance of a liberal arts education remains the same. Students often come to college searching for direction. Here at Hudson Valley, under the guidance of award-winning faculty, many find that “light at the end of the tunnel.”

A decade ago, Victoria (Politi) Molino was planning on attending a four-year college out of high school but changed her mind and enrolled at Hudson Valley instead. Her story reflects the “life changing” experience many students get when they find a subject to become passionate about or a teacher who sparks an interest.

“I had Michele Catone-Maitino for two classes, Psychology and then Abnormal Psych. At the time, I had thought I wanted to either go into law enforcement or become a psychologist, which is why I began taking psych classes,” Molino said. “Michele is completely responsible for why I am currently doing what I’m doing. I spent a good deal of time with her, understanding her career path, and she introduced me to the idea of a career in clinical social work.”

After completing a bachelor’s degree at UAlbany and taking a few years off from school, Molino is now finishing the first year of a Master’s in Social Work program at Columbia University. After she graduates next year, she hopes to work with survivors of crime and violence.

Molino’s story could reflect a thousand similar tales from the years that Hudson Valley has been influencing young lives and forging career paths.

“When I started I wasn’t aware of how fantastic the liberal arts program was,” she said. “I think it’s really important to give students a broad curriculum because it challenges them to experience a range of subject areas and test out their interests. A lot of people go to college not sure what they want to do. Hudson Valley Community College really allows students to find their path.”
New Programs Offered

Criminal Justice A.S. and Animal Advocacy Certificate

Two new academic programs related to criminal justice will be offered at the college this fall.

Long an associate in applied science degree (A.A.S.), Criminal Justice will now be offered as an associate in science degree to provide greater transfer options to some students. “We will still have the A.A.S. program, but this new program is really more writing- and research-based for those who know they really want to move in that direction,” said department chairperson Dr. Ann Geisendorfer.

Geisendorfer’s department – Criminal Justice, Forensic Science and Public Administration – also will be adding a new certificate program – Animal Advocacy. Those completing the certificate can pursue careers in humane law enforcement, animal control, humane education, shelter management, lobbying and policy making.

“We’re excited to be the only community college in the nation offering this type of academic certificate program in Animal Advocacy,” said Hudson Valley Community College President Drew Matonak. “It’s another example of our faculty seeing a need and finding a way to fill it.”

The new program got a boost from television icon and animal advocate Bob Barker, who donated $100,000 to create the Bob Barker Animal Advocacy Fund at Hudson Valley. The certificate program can be completed on its own or combined with the college’s Public Administration A.A.S. degree or Individual Studies A.A.S. degree.

Digital Media Certificate

With careers in media and advertising expanding to include more digital and web design, Hudson Valley is responding by offering a 31-credit certificate in Digital Media.

Students in the new program can gain artistic and technical skills to be used in the contemporary media design workplace. Working closely with faculty, those in the program assemble a digital portfolio that helps demonstrate their skills in design, digital imaging, animation, video editing and interactive media.

The program is offered by the Department of Fine Arts, Theatre Arts and Broadcast Communication, and the certificate program’s first graduating class crossed the stage at Commencement this spring.

For more information: www hvcc edu/ las/dmc.

Semiconductor Technology Certificate

In response to the expected employment needs of the Capital Region’s ever-growing computer chip manufacturing industry, the college will offer a certificate program in Semiconductor Technology beginning this fall. The program will be of interest to those who hold an associate in applied science (A.A.S.) degree in Electrical Engineering Technology, which is also offered at the college, and want to enhance their job skills to move into this new industry. Students of other disciplines who have a strong background in chemistry and physics also may qualify for admission to the program, and those with related experience or degrees can be admitted by permission of the department chairperson.

The 25-credit-hour certificate program provides specialized training in semiconductors and nanotechnology, digital electronics, electromechanical devices, semiconductor manufacturing and nanofabrication processes. Students will take some of their courses at Hudson Valley’s Training and Education Center for Semiconductor Manufacturing and Alternative and Renewable Technologies (TEC-SMART) facility in Malta and some at the college’s main campus in Troy.

Program graduates will be qualified to apply for entry-level employment at annual starting salaries of approximately $45,000. Among the companies that anticipate job openings is GlobalFoundries, located adjacent to the TEC-SMART facility.

Students from a dozen countries will graduate from Hudson Valley this year, including:

Canada  China  Cote D’Ivoire  Ghana  Guyana  Israel
Nigeria  Poland  Taiwan  United Kingdom  Uzbekistan
New Faces on Campus

Penny Hill / TEC-SMART

Penny Hill was recently appointed as associate dean for TEC-SMART (Training and Education Center for Semiconductor Manufacturing and Renewable Technologies), the college’s newest educational facility located in NYSERDA’s Saratoga Technology + Energy Park® (STEP®) in Malta. She will be providing leadership in developing industry partnerships and maintaining initiatives in workforce training.

Hill previously was regional director for The Workforce Development Institute in Troy where she worked to advance training and education programs in a wide variety of areas, including manufacturing, renewable energy and energy efficiency. She is an alumna of Hudson Valley Community College and has a B.S. in biology from the University at Albany and an M.B.A. from Russell Sage College.

Mike Muehling / Athletic Academic Coordinator and Head Football Coach

Mike Muehling, formerly with the Syracuse University football program, has been appointed athletic academic coordinator and head football coach.

Muehling served as the defensive quality control coach for two seasons at Syracuse University. Prior to joining the Syracuse coaching staff, Muehling spent four seasons at Indiana University where he served as the offensive quality control coach, assistant defensive line coach and assistant strength and conditioning coach. He also worked one season in the AF2 (Arena Football) as an assistant coach.

Muehling played intercollegiate football on an academic scholarship at Lindenwood University in Saint Charles, MO, where he received a bachelor’s degree in kinesiology/athletic training. He earned a master’s degree in kinesiology at Indiana University.

James Williams / Accounting and Marketing

James Williams was named chair of the Accounting and Marketing department in the School of Business.

In addition to overseeing the department’s daily activities, Williams will head the School of Business Advisement Center for students.

Williams comes to Hudson Valley from the Community College of Vermont, where he taught business subjects and oversaw the Computer Science and Math department. Previously, he was an adjunct instructor in business and marketing at Castleton State College in Castleton, VT, and Southern Vermont College in Bennington, VT.

An investment advisor, Williams is the owner of Williams Financial Management, LLC, based in North Bennington, VT. He received a B.S. in business from Southern Vermont College and an M.B.A. from the University of Massachusetts.

College Sees Wave of Faculty and Staff Retirements This Year

Over the last two semesters, the college has said goodbye to more than 40 respected campus colleagues. Our recent retirees range from front-line customer service staff to department chairs and faculty members with four decades of teaching behind them.

Each retiring faculty and staff member’s length of tenure is shown in parentheses.

- Mary Abbott, Professor, EOC (43 years)
- Carolyn Antonucci, Professor, Nursing (32 years)
- Janet Atwater, Director, Health Services (41 years)
- Dale Baxter, Assistant for Financial Analysis/Internal Auditor (19 years)
- Patricia Bodi, Assistant Director, Next Step/Verizon Grant (8 years)
- Michael F. Brown, Senior Television Center Technician, Viking Video Technologies (27 years)
- Eugene Cardamone, Professor, Accounting (29 years)
- Nancy Chesnut, Information Processing Specialist, Center for Careers and Employment (14 years)
- Virginia Cintron, Program Assistant I, Dental Hygiene (16 years)
- Kathleen Cogan, Associate Professor, Criminal Justice, Forensic Science and Public Administration (29 years)
- Stephen Cowan, Director of Physical Plant (23 years)
- Carol Dillon, Telephone Operator, Switchboard (28 years)
- John Fogarty, Associate Director of Computer Services, Computer Services (30 years)
- Mary French, Information Processing Specialist, Word Processing (25 years)
- Denise Friedman, Professor, Biology, Chemistry and Physics (22 years)
- Cynthia Galivan, Professor, English, Modern Languages, and English as a Second Language (32 years)
- Margaret Gilbert, Senior Clerk, Public Safety (28 years)
- Sylvia Intellisano, Food Service Manager, EOC (24 years)
- Frederick Kakumba, Professor, History, Philosophy and Social Sciences (40 years)
- Jeanne Kelleher, Assistant Professor and Department Chairperson, Medical Imaging (26 years)
- Neil J. Kelleher, Custodial Supervisor I, Physical Plant (23 years)
- Linda Kordana, Information Processing Specialist, Word Processing (28 years)
- Donna Milks, Coordinator of Computer Services Operations, Computer Services (22 years)
- Donna Montroy, Clinical Coordinator, Health Services (36 years)
- Richard Neimeyer, Laboratory Assistant, Engineering and Industrial Technologies (38 years)
- Cherie Pash-Corr, Department Chairperson, Mathematics and Engineering Science (31 years)
- Jeanne Petropol, Program Assistant, History, Philosophy and Social Sciences (24 years)
- David Quell, Senior Data and Voice Communications Technician, Computer Services (29 years)
- Kathleen Quirk, Associate Dean for Instructional Support Services and Retention, Academics (22 years)
- Maryanne Remarchuk, Information Processing Specialist, Word Processing (13 years)
- Mary Kate Robinson, Information Systems Manager, Financial Aid (16 years)
- Stephen Rouleau, Building Maintenance Worker, Physical Plant (19 years)
- Robert Ristau, Associate Professor, Building Systems Technology (29 years)
- Peter Sanzen, Professor, Criminal Justice, Forensic Science and Public Administration (37 years)
- Joseph Sarubbi, Executive Director, TEC-SMART (32 years)
- Joan Shack, Professor, Mathematics and Engineering Science (31 years)
- Marilyn Shapiro, Coordinator for Program Development and Research, EOC (24 years)
- Ernest Siew, Associate Professor, Biology, Chemistry and Physics (17 years)
- Walter Snyder, Custodial Worker, Physical Plant (39 years)
- Linda Stein, Assistant Professor, Mathematics and Engineering Science (20 years)
- Frederick Stefan, Assistant Professor, Medical Imaging (38 years)
- Howard Stoner, Assistant Professor, Mathematics and Engineering Science (25 years)
- Kathryn Sullivan, Professor, Criminal Justice, Forensic Science and Public Administration (28 years)
- Concetta Terranova, Counselor, EOC (19 years)
- Ellen Venson, Program Assistant, School of Business (17 years)
- Carol Wilbur, Associate Professor, EOC (20 years)
- Kathleen Woods, Stenographic Secretary II, Office of the VP for Administration (25 years)

If you would like to make a donation to the college Foundation in honor of any of these individuals, please use the enclosed envelope and specify the name of the retiree. We will share news of your gift with each honored retiree. Thank you for helping us to honor these colleagues and for your support of the Hudson Valley Community College Annual Fund.
General Electric Donates Wind Turbine Equipment to TEC-SMART

Alumnus Daniel Lance ’78 Facilitates Gift

Answers really are blowin’ in the wind at the college’s Training and Education Center for Semiconductor Manufacturing and Alternative and Renewable Technologies (TEC-SMART) facility in Malta.

This fall, students in the Wind Technician program will begin training on a new 1.5-megawatt wind turbine drive train thanks to General Electric and the efforts of a Hudson Valley alumnus.

Daniel Lance ’78, currently a global training leader at GE’s Energy Renewables, facilitated the donation of the GE gift along with a gearbox, generator, complete brake system and high speed coupler. And that’s not all. General Electric also is providing a 50-kilowatt wind turbine that accomplishes on a smaller scale all of the functions of the larger turbine. Access to this kind of equipment allows students to become familiar with the components and inner workings of actual wind turbines.

GE lined up local subcontractor BW Steel in May to manufacture the framing and install the equipment, and will provide ongoing operation assistance to Building Technologies Department Chair Richard Porter. The company estimates the total value of the equipment and service to be approximately $400,000.

With increasing government stimulus provisions for green initiatives, GE expects that up to 116,000 jobs will be generated in U.S. wind projects alone over the next ten years. Programs such as Hudson Valley’s are instrumental in meeting industry demands for qualified field service technicians.

Hudson Valley’s 25-credit-hour curriculum, resulting in a wind technician certificate, is for those who hold the Electrical Construction and Maintenance associate degree but need specialized skills to enter the wind turbine industry. Graduates are trained to be part of a wind turbine installation crew and to perform warranty and routine maintenance and troubleshooting.

GE hopes to remain active in the evolution of Hudson Valley’s wind program, and the college’s wind lab at TEC-SMART will be named in honor of the company. “GE Wind’s primary goal in supporting such college partnerships is to use available resources to work with college leadership to fully develop a wind program. This allows the college to produce entry-level technicians well educated in electrical and mechanical components, as well as wind theory and practice. With this foundation, graduates are positioned to be strong candidates for GE-specific wind technical training programs,” said Lance.

New Science Center  Plans are moving forward on a $35 million 100,000-square-foot science center with state-of-the-art laboratories and classrooms at the Troy campus. Construction will begin this summer near the intersection of South Drive and Vandenburgh Avenue and is expected to be completed in 2013. Nineteen million dollars in funding also was secured by the college to renovate several other academic buildings on campus when the science center is completed.
Hudson Valley Community College President Andrew J. Matonak, the sixth president of the college, recently completed his sixth year here. And, because six is known in mathematical circles as the perfect number, being both the sum and product of one-two-three, it seemed a fitting anniversary to observe. Drew, as he is known to faculty, staff and students, came to Hudson Valley in April of 2005 with nearly 30 years of experience in higher education.

As he goes forward into his seventh year, we asked Drew to speak about his vision for the college and to answer some other questions.

As Drew sees it:
Part of Hudson Valley’s vision is to deliver what the future demands. The college has always been innovative, looking to the future and creating programs and services that meet the needs of the students and the workforce. When I arrived in 2005, the college was recognized regionally as a very strong institution. My goal is for Hudson Valley to be recognized nationally as an exceptional institution based upon student outcomes and student success. Recently, the Aspen Institute did just that, naming Hudson Valley as one of only 120 institutions across the country that has excelled in the area of student success. While we are proud of what this college has accomplished, we can always improve.

What attracted you to Hudson Valley originally and is it what still holds you here?
What attracted me to Hudson Valley was the commitment to excellence and the student-centeredness that was exhibited by faculty and staff. We have top-notch faculty and staff at this college who have a positive impact on students every day. I can’t think of any other college where I would rather be than right here at Hudson Valley.

How has Hudson Valley changed in your time here?
Well... the parking is better! This really is important, because it’s been a source of frustration for students and staff for many years. We remodeled the campus center, built the administration building and made the campus a lot easier to navigate on foot by removing some parking areas in the middle of campus. We will break ground on the science center this summer and, of course, the TEC-SMART facility in Malta brings us into a whole new area academically. So, physically, the college has changed a lot.

We have grown significantly in student enrollment — from just over 12,000 in 2005 to more than 14,000 currently — launched new academic programs, including Theatre Arts, Disability Studies, Biotechnology, and worked to meet the needs of our business community, such as training a workforce for the green jobs expected in coming years at General Electric and GlobalFoundries. Yet, while we are larger, we still have that personal touch that is so important. I hope our commitment to students never changes at Hudson Valley.

Do you have any special way of starting your work day?
I often start my day with a Venti Starbucks, and when I get to the office I check the Pittsburgh Steelers news and the local and higher education news. I frequently have an early morning meeting and/or an evening meeting or function, so balancing my external and internal obligations is always a struggle.

Have you fully joined the technological world — Blackberry, Facebook, Twitter, etc. — and of what value is technology in your work world?
Thank God for technology! I am wired 24/7, so I can always be reached by phone, e-mail or text. While I have a Facebook page, I haven’t really been active with it. I haven’t gotten the social networking thing down. Who really has the time to do it? (Editor’s note: Please join us on Facebook! http://www.facebook.com/HudsonValleyCommunityCollege)

What value do you see in technology for today’s students?
I often tell our students that they are the best multi-taskers in the history of the world. You can’t walk five feet on campus without seeing students using some sort of technology. It is a way of life for them. They demand that a college be current with the latest technology, and I am proud to say that Hudson Valley is ahead of the curve and continually expanding the high-tech learning opportunities for students. Several of our certificates and degrees can now be completed online.

What do you most, and least, like to do as president of Hudson Valley?
I love for the students to know who I am and feel comfortable with me. That is why I insist that everyone call me Drew. I visit about 15 College Forum courses each semester to ensure that I maintain contact with students. However, with my schedule, it is tough for me to interact with students as much as I would like.

What do I like least? Well... money and politics. They go hand-in-hand. It takes a lot of resources to operate a great institution, and it is always more of a challenge when the local counties and state are experiencing difficult fiscal times.

What are your expectations for Hudson Valley staff?
Customer service and student success are job one. That is what makes Hudson Valley special. Everyone at this institution should be committed to these goals. I also think that all of us should be committed to excellence in everything we do.

What are your expectations for Hudson Valley students?
I encourage students to see their time at Hudson Valley as one of the best times in their lives and to take full advantage of all that the college has to offer. One of my goals is to increase participation in things like honor societies, clubs and student activities.

As the college has grown, the college has to offer. One of my goals is to increase participation in things like honor societies, clubs and student activities.

What advice would you give to today’s community college student?
I encourage students to see their time at Hudson Valley as one of the best times in their lives and to take full advantage of all that the college has to offer. One of my goals is to increase participation in things like honor societies, clubs and student activities.
As the spring 2011 semester at Hudson Valley Community College winds down, Nursing Department Chairperson Carol Bosco looks over some new state-of-the-art medication-dispensing monitors, IV pumps, mannequins and other equipment that she says will help students “keep their heads above technology” when it is first put to use this coming fall.

The Nursing program received a much-needed boost for equipment purchases, and in several other areas, during the past year with money raised through the college’s capital campaign, The Promise of Our Region. The campaign is the most ambitious fund-raising effort ever undertaken by the college’s Foundation.

“Hudson Valley Nursing graduates will encounter new technology on a daily basis in hospitals, nursing homes and other health care settings where they find employment. Our program needs to give them that experience before they leave, so they’ll know how to operate state-of-the-art equipment or learn it quickly. Without this exposure, Hudson Valley nurses would be lost in the work world,” Bosco said.

Newly purchased tools include mannequins with life-like functioning that can even be made to speak. These allow students to do procedures as though they are working with live patients. Currently under construction is a simulation room to house the mannequins, complete with hospital beds and other equipment, to provide a true hospital experience for students. One of the key components of this simulated setting, Bosco pointed out, is the chance for students to learn from errors in a positive way. Students will see first-hand what they are doing wrong and will know how to avoid those errors in real life. They can practice critical thinking in a room that eliminates distractions and interruptions. “The result should be an increase in safe procedures by our students,” Bosco said.

The Nursing department, which historically has enjoyed some of the highest average pass rates on National Council Licensure Examinations (NCLEX) in the state and the country (see accompanying chart), also looks to purchase new computers to aid in testing practice and review.

Not so visible is the increase in student retention rates that continues thanks to funding still coming in. There are many factors that go into high retention rates, according to Bosco, and one of the most important is a high professor-student ratio, creating individualized attention, extra assistance when needed and tutoring. “Additional funding will allow us to hire more professors,” Bosco reflected.

A week-long summer boot camp that provides an intense supportive curriculum of conferences, workshops, tutoring and extra study between sessions two and three of the Nursing program will also receive funding to beef up its offerings.

Publicly launched in 2008, The Promise of Our Region campaign has raised more than $7 million toward a $10 million goal from private corporations and foundations, families and individuals. It was undertaken in direct response to the workforce development needs of the region and allows contributors to fund new opportunities for students, and to provide deserving students the best equipment, faculty and educational environment possible at an affordable price.

The campaign goal for the Nursing program was $3.9 million and to date $2.7 million of that goal has been raised. Among the major contributors are Albany Medical Center, Charitable Venture Foundation, Cap Com, CDPHP, Equinox Foundation, the Hearst Foundation, Stewart’s Shops, SEFCU and the Arnold Cogswell Fund of the Community Foundation of the Capital Region.

To find out how you can make a contribution to The Promise of Our Region campaign, visit: www.hvcc.edu/campaign.

National Council on Licensure Exams (NCLEX): An average Pass Rate Comparison for First-Time Test Takers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>New York State</th>
<th>National</th>
<th>Hudson Valley Community College</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hudson Valley Community College Nursing students consistently score higher than their counterparts on state and national levels.
New Sculpture Becomes a Part of Campus Scene

If you attended Hudson Valley anytime during and after the 1970s, you know “the Orb,” that spherical Cor-Ten steel sculpture that dominates the entrance to the Siek Campus Center. What you might not know is where this piece of modernist art came from and the connection the college has with its creator.

“1971 AD,” as the piece is named, was a gift from the artist Antoni Milkowski, who maintained a studio for many years in Columbia County. Milkowski, who taught at Hunter College from 1966 to 1998, was friends with Hudson Valley faculty member Peter Taylor, and the artist made the donation in honor of the college’s 25th anniversary.

While a Fulbright Scholar in Poland during the mid 1960s, Milkowski began to develop his aesthetic of merging geometry and repetition. Over the years, he became interested in the concept of negative space and of the three-dimensional form in space. “1971 AD” is an apt representation of his work.

Some forty years after the gift of “1971 AD,” the college received a second piece from Milkowski. Hearing that his estate was looking for a permanent home for several sculptures, faculty member Tara Fracalossi was able to secure “Runner,” which is now located in the new quad located near the college’s Administration Building. The college Foundation paid about $5,000 to have it moved, prepped and installed on campus.

These sculptures are emblematic of the growing importance of the liberal arts and fine arts on campus. See inside for a more detailed history of the evolution of liberal arts on campus.