REDEFINING TEACHING AND LEARNING:
2019-2020 DONOR IMPACT REPORT
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A MESSAGE
FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

The past year has been full of unexpected changes for all of us. The onset of a global pandemic and the challenges it brought about was something that none of us could have anticipated. Still, the generosity of the many donors and friends of the Hudson Valley Community College Foundation shined through, even in the most difficult of times.

To our donors and supporters, thank you. During this unprecedented year, you never wavered in showing your commitment to our students and the future of our college through your continued support—support that, now more than ever, has made a tremendous difference in the lives of so many of our students. I want to take the opportunity to express my gratitude to you for your generosity. On behalf of all of us at the Hudson Valley Community College Foundation, as well as the students we serve—thank you.

The 2019-20 fiscal year was one of many ups and downs. We endured the changes brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the loss of former Hudson Valley Community College President Drew Matonak and Hudson Valley Board of Trustees member Joe Kapp. But despite our losses and setbacks, with your support, we have continued to focus on projects that foster student success and positively impact our college and our region. Once again this year, donors established a number of new scholarships that will help our students succeed. We welcomed a new Chief Advancement Officer, Allison Collins-Schroeder, and new Board of Trustees members Phillip Danaher and Flora Fasoldt; their work will help continue to advance the college. We were able to continue to raise funds for our students through in-person events in 2019, and virtual events in 2020; expand our international outreach initiatives with an eye toward the future; and adapt to the circumstances of the pandemic to continue to deliver financial support to students in need. Please know that none of this would be possible without the generosity and support of donors like you. Once again, thank you.

I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude to our Board of Directors and volunteers, and to the leadership and staff of the Foundation and the Office of Institutional Advancement. With your collective support, we look forward to another year of growth and excellence in supporting Hudson Valley Community College.

Thank you!
Sincerely,

Frank C. Sarratori, Chair
Hudson Valley Community College Foundation
Board of Directors
**U.W. MARX 25TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC**

The Hudson Valley Community College Foundation held its 25th annual Golf Classic, sponsored by U.W. Marx, at The Country Club of Troy on Monday, July 15, 2019. The event was supported by dozens of local businesses and raised more than $84,000 in unrestricted revenue to provide funding for scholarships, programs, student services, facilities, and other areas of need at the college.

U.W. Marx Construction has been the lead sponsor for the annual golf tournament since the event’s inception and has been a supporter of the Hudson Valley Community College Foundation for more than 25 years. In addition to his involvement with the Golf Classic, Peter Marx was responsible for establishing Hudson Valley’s Construction Technology program fund, and has continued to provide top quality construction services to the college throughout the years. Hudson Valley Community College thanks Marx for his continued generosity and ongoing investment in the college, and as an expression of gratitude, honored him with the Outstanding Philanthropist Award in 2017.

**2019 OUTSTANDING PHILANTHROPIST AWARD AND LEADERSHIP DONORS RECEPTION**

The Hudson Valley Community College Foundation named Center for Advanced Manufacturing Skills Campaign co-chairs Dave Davis and Marty McGill as the recipients of its 2019 Outstanding Philanthropist Award. Davis and McGill accepted the award during the college’s annual Leadership Donor Reception on Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at the Franklin Plaza Rooftop Terrace in Troy.

The Outstanding Philanthropist Award is presented to an individual, couple or family foundation who has shown exemplary leadership through their own charitable giving, while motivating others to emulate their role in philanthropy and support of the Foundation’s initiatives.

**2019 Recipients: David W. Davis, Irene Davis and Marty McGill**

David and Irene Davis have focused on philanthropy for years. The couple run Simmons Machine Tool, Inc., a Menands-based company that is part of the NSH Group, a global manufacturer of machine tools for the aerospace, automotive and railway industries.

David and Irene have focused their philanthropy on vocational education needed to develop the highly-skilled manufacturing workforce. They routinely mentor youth interested in international manufacturing occupations and encourage Simmons employees to give back to their communities.

Over the past nine years, Simmons Machine Tool has provided corporate sponsorships for more than 20 students in the college’s Advanced Manufacturing Technology program. David’s service as co-chair of the Gene F. Haas Center of Advanced Manufacturing Skills capital campaign committee was instrumental in making CAMS a reality.

**Marty McGill** is vice president of Allendale Machinery Systems, located in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. This multigenerational family business is known throughout the manufacturing industry for its foundation of values and business practices.

Allendale has for decades taken a great interest in educational programs for manufacturing careers, and prides itself in supporting colleges that support bringing new workers into the manufacturing sector. Marty became involved in fundraising efforts to create the Gene F. Haas Center for Advanced Manufacturing Skills and his work as co-chair of the CAMS capital campaign committee was key in making the new facility a reality.
NEW SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

ART FOR GOOD SCHOLARSHIP
The Art for Good Scholarship was established by alumnus Garry Polmateer ’99 to support students enrolled in the Fine Arts, Theatre Arts and Digital Media department. This scholarship was created in the spirit of an ongoing effort to be better listeners, learners and helpers, and is meant to help those who experience unanticipated hardships that cause a financial burden, or who simply need additional support to purchase supplies for studio art courses. Preference will be given to underrepresented ethnic and racial groups, with first preference to new students and second preference to returning students.

COVID-19 STUDENT EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUND
The COVID-19 Student Emergency Support Fund was created to support students who face emergency situations due to the COVID-19 pandemic and need funds in order to continue their education.

THE CHARLES BESSEY FUND
The Charles Bessey Fund was established in memory of World War II surgeon Dr. Charles E. Bessey and is meant to provide training to individuals who are entering, or have established careers, in health care fields and who whose care and expertise will benefit individuals living in the Capital Region.

T.L. LONGE FOUNDATION ONLINE COURSE DEVELOPMENT FUND
The T.L. Longe Foundation Online Course Development Fund was created to support activities within the Biology, Chemistry and Physics Department at the college. The purpose of the fund is to facilitate development of new online credit-bearing courses, and/or adaptation of existing courses conducive to an online or remote model, through professional development and curriculum writing.

T.L. LONGE FOUNDATION ONLINE LEARNING SCHOLARSHIP
Inspired by Dr. Michael Shea’s initiatives in transitioning to remote learning and his development of online course plans, the T.L. Longe Foundation created the T.L. Longe Foundation Online Learning Scholarship to support deserving students who are working full-time while enrolled in online courses at Hudson Valley.

KAREN ANN O’SULLIVAN WOMEN IN BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP
Established in memory of Karen Ann O’Sullivan, this scholarship will be awarded to a female business student from a non-traditional background with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, with first preference given to single mothers.

RYAN CONNELLY HVAC TOOLKIT FUND
The Ryan Connelly HVAC Toolkit Fund was established in memory of Ryan Connelly, Class of 2021, by his friends, family and professor, Michael Anderson. The fund will provide a set of tools, annually, to a deserving student in the HVAC program in the college’s Department of Applied Technologies.

NEW YORK CAPITAL REGION HISPANIC CHAMBER MENTORSHIP AWARD
The New York Capital Region Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is committed to the advancement of Hispanic individuals in the Capital Region and to supporting the next generation of business managers, company owners and organizational leaders throughout our community. The New York Capital Region Hispanic Chamber Mentorship Award was created to support and guide recipients through a one-year mentorship.

WALTER D. KARPIAK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
This scholarship was established in memory of HVCC Professor Walter D. Karpiak, a U.S. Army veteran who served in World War II. Karpiak had a passion for teaching, which led to a career in education that lasted more than 50 years. His loved ones created this scholarship to honor his legacy of a lifetime of teaching. It will be awarded to second year student in the Liberal Arts program who is facing financial need.

PTK PROGRAM SUPPORT FUND
The PTK Program Support Fund was established to support the activities of Hudson Valley’s Alpha Xi Sigma chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international academic honor society for two-year colleges. Phi Theta Kappa recognizes and promotes scholarship, develops leadership, encourages service and cultivates fellowship among qualified students of the college. PTK initiatives to benefit from this fund include, but are not limited to programming, conferences, professional development, community outreach, student activities, student awards, and the purchase of equipment and supplies.

DAVID ALLARD & MARJORIE SAWYER SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIP
2019 Distinguished Alumnus David J. Allard ’75, CHP and his wife Marjorie Sawyer established this scholarship as part of Allard’s ongoing commitment to Hudson Valley. This scholarship offers financial assistance to students in the Environmental Science and Radiologic Technology academic programs, with an emphasis on encouraging students from diverse backgrounds to enter STEM fields.

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SECOND CHANCE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

ABOUT TALIA: I started attending classes at Hudson Valley in 2020. I am currently majoring in Criminal Justice. I am an international student from Jamaica. Thanks to Hudson Valley, I feel welcomed and have been given vast support. I participate in clubs such as the Student Senate, Black and Latino Student Union and the Criminal Justice Club. I plan to transfer to a four-year college to continue my education.

WHAT MAKES TALIA BOLD? My family and background make me bold. I come from a background where I do not feel judged and have been given the space to be who I am without discrimination.

FUN FACT ABOUT TALIA: I like doing fun things that intimidate me. I feel a sense of accomplishment when I overcome my doubts.

TALIA’S FAVORITE INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE: “No matter what you’re going through, do not give up or stop trying.” – Jamaican artist.

TALIA’S DREAM CAREER: Since I was a little child, I always wanted to become a lawyer, but college helped me to see other areas. I am interested in communications also!

EMPIRE STATE DIVERSITY HONORS SCHOLARSHIP

ABOUT TASHONA: I am currently enrolled in the Nursing program at HVCC. I would like to purse my education for my bachelor’s, master’s and doctorate. I enjoy spending my time with my friends and family. I look forward to seeing them again once COVID is over.

WHAT MAKES TASHONA BOLD? I am a fearless, outgoing leader. I am not afraid to take a risk.

FUN FACT ABOUT TASHONA: I enjoy cooking, dancing and laughing.

Tashona’s Favorite Inspirational Quote: “Treat people how you want to be treated.”

TASHONA’S DREAM CAREER: One day I would love to teach at HVCC.

CORNELIA A. BREGMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOR WOMEN RETURNING TO EDUCATION

ABOUT CHRISTINE: I am enrolled in the Forensic Science Studies program. I plan on attending SUNY Albany after graduation to pursue a master’s degree in Forensic Biology. My dream is to one day be working in a lab with DNA. Outside of school, my life is mainly consumed by my children. Their happiness is my happiness. I’m a hands-on-mom, so we do Boy Scouts, hiking and swimming, among other things.

WHAT MAKES CHRISTINE BOLD? I think my perseverance makes me bold. I don’t know how to quit at anything – even if it takes me longer than someone else, I still achieve my goals.

FUN FACT ABOUT CHRISTINE: I used to be a pastry chef and sometimes I still create wedding cakes for friends and family.

CHRISTINE’S FAVORITE INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE: “You only fail when you stop trying.”

CHRISTINE’S DREAM CAREER: Working in a lab conducting DNA analysis.
The Annual Fund plays a pivotal role in the Foundation’s efforts to support the college. Through donations to the Annual Fund, we are able to support:

- Student Success
- Diversity Efforts
- Academic Programming
- Enrollment
- Faculty and Staff Development
- International and Community Engagement
- Campus Renovations and Enhancements
- Scholarships
- Student Emergency Fund
- Student Honors Program
- Second Chance Scholarships
- International Initiatives
- Enrollment Initiatives

Our Giving Priorities for 2020-2021 include:

- Advanced Manufacturing Program
- Day Care Student Support Fund
- PTK Student Membership Support Fund
- Campus Food Pantry
- Automotive Department
- Digital Media and Fine Arts Department
- COVID-19 Student Emergency Fund
- Pride of Our Nation

WAYS TO GIVE

ONE-TIME GIFT: Your participation matters. Every gift, no matter its size, makes a difference in our students’ lives.

RECURRING GIFT: Show your ongoing commitment to the college with a recurring gift, which will allow you to continue to support Hudson Valley automatically with gifts that add up over time.

PLANNED GIFT: A planned gift is an opportunity to leave a legacy with a charitable contribution to the Hudson Valley Community College Foundation. Your gift will create a lasting effect, enabling the college to sustain educational excellence well into the future. If you are interested in making a planned gift or including Hudson Valley in your estate plans, contact foundation@hvcc.edu or (518) 629-8012.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Aside from financial gifts, there are other ways you can show your support for the college:

- Refer a high school student to the college
- Help students and alumni with career networking
- Offer student internship opportunities
- Host an alumni gathering
- Update your contact information

If you are interested in more information about these opportunities, please contact foundation@hvcc.edu or (518) 629-8012.
THE CORNELIA A. BREGMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOR WOMEN RETURNING TO EDUCATION

Cornelia A. Bregman, past member of the Capital Region Women’s Network, was a loyal advocate for women returning to college to complete their education. Her goal was to aid women who are changing, starting, or advancing careers due to underemployment, lack of appropriate education, disruption of their household finances, or other circumstances which hampered or delayed their earning capacity or job stability.

Thanks to community leaders like Bregman, the Capital Region Women’s Network is well known today for supporting and guiding women returning to education through personal and professional development. The Hudson Valley Community College Foundation is proud to assist in honoring her legacy with the Cornelia A. Bregman Memorial Scholarship for Women Returning to Education, established in her memory through the Greater Capital Region Endowment Fund.

The award will be given to female students in the capital region who are 21 years of age or older, demonstrate financial need, and have chosen a career path. The awardees must be enrolled at or accepted to Hudson Valley in a program leading to an academic, technical or vocational degree. Through this scholarship, Bregman’s legacy will continue to help women in need create brighter futures for themselves and their families through the power of higher education.

Robin R. Burton ‘62 Accounting Scholarship

Professor Emeritus Robin R. Burton ‘62 was a revered faculty member in the college’s Accounting department for more than 35 years. Burton grew up in a family of educators; born in Amsterdam, he moved to Rensselaer as a child when his parents both took jobs teaching in the Rensselaer School District, and their work inspired his lifelong passion for education.

That passion was evident to his students, many of whom remember him fondly for his unique humor and wit, as well as his ability to present material in an engaging way and make accounting a fun subject to learn. He was fully committed to the success of his students, both in the classroom and in their professional careers, and was noted for his entrepreneurial spirit, which inspired him to teach with an eye toward helping his students go on to create businesses that would boost the community’s economy.

Burton’s final wish was to support Hudson Valley students in pursuit of education and opportunity. The Robin R. Burton ‘62 Accounting Scholarship, established with a gift from Burton’s estate, is awarded to students pursuing accounting degrees who exemplify this spirit of education, entrepreneurship and commitment to giving back to their community. Preference will be given to applicants with demonstrated financial need and community service contributions.
The Hudson Valley Community College Foundation would like to express its pride and gratitude for the elite members of the President’s Circle, leaders in giving who are committed to student success.

With leadership level gifts of at least $1,000 to the Annual Fund, our President’s Circle members give the college the opportunity to enhance scholarship opportunities for students, purchase vital classroom equipment, provide funding for innovative academic initiatives and curriculum development, and fund other important initiatives for our students. Thank you for providing endless opportunities to our students, faculty and staff. Your generosity will help Hudson Valley to continue to create educational excellence for generations to come.

PRESIDENT’S CIRCLE SOCIETY: “LEADING THE WAY”

CAKE, CANDLES AND CONFETTI, INC. BRINGS JOY TO KIDS, CREATES STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

Seven years ago, Hudson Valley Community College Foundation partner Christine Wheat, founder of Christine A. Wheat Special Events Firm, LLC, was inspired to use her expertise in event planning to give back to the community and help create smiles and celebrations for those in need.

Through her creativity and innovation, she created Cake, Candles and Confetti, Inc., a grassroots charity that provides birthday parties for homeless children in the Capital Region. The organization’s mission is to celebrate every child on their special day, with family, friends and the community around them, regardless of their family’s financial circumstances. The non-profit organization has since received the Champion of Compassion Award from the Homeless and Travelers Aid Society (HATAS), awarded to organizations who stand with HATAS in their commitment to put the community first.

But Cake, Candles and Confetti, Inc.’s impact doesn’t stop at birthday parties. A champion for education, of education, the organization has partnered with Hudson Valley Community College and the Foundation to sponsor five first-time college students, providing laptops and funds for them to purchase school supplies.

“Connection is why we’re here,” said Wheat. “Connection is what gives purpose and meaning to our lives.”
COLLEGE GIVING HELPS STUDENTS DURING COVID-19

Members of the college community came through in many ways to support the successful completion of the spring 2020 semester. Here are just a few examples:

RESPIRATORY CARE STUDENTS ON FRONT LINES
Because of COVID 19’s impact on the respiratory system, the college’s senior Respiratory Care students became a vital part of the effort to serve patients during the spring of 2020. The seniors were allowed to continue their clinical rounds through the end of the spring semester at Albany Medical Center, St. Peter’s Health Partners and the Northeast Center for Rehabilitation.

At least 75 percent of the region’s respiratory therapists were educated in the college’s A.A.S. program.

SENATE DONATES CLASS GIFT TO SUPPORT STUDENTS WITH FOOD INSECURITY
The college’s Student Senate met virtually on April 6, 2020 and voted to create an $8,000 class gift that was used to make $50 grocery e-gift cards available to current students who were experiencing hunger and food insecurity. The senate also voted to add $1,000 from its current yearly budget to the figure and the Faculty Student Association, which oversees auxiliary services on campus, also added $1,000.

The college quickly turned around a process where current students could request the cards for either Hannaford or Price Chopper supermarkets.

In the first week the gift cards were offered, nearly $6,000 was distributed.

COVID-19 EMERGENCY FUND
When the coronavirus hit, the college Foundation quickly created a COVID-19 emergency fund to support critical student needs. The funds were initially used to purchase technology for students to borrow for the remainder of the semester. Emergency grants also help address additional emergency needs for current students: e-gift cards for food and assistance with unexpected educational and personal expenses.

An easy online application was developed and the campus student emergency committee evaluated each application and helped the students within 24 to 48 hours.

COLLEGE’S MANUFACTURING PROGRAM PRODUCES FACE SHIELDS
In March, the college’s Advanced Manufacturing Technology program took the initiative to manufacture plastic face shields for the staff at St. Peter’s Health Partners to help address a critical shortage of PPE. Components were created in the college’s Center for Advanced Manufacturing Skills building.

PPE EMERGENCY POINT OF DISTRIBUTION ON CAMPUS
When the Rensselaer County Emergency Operations Center was activated in March, the college became an official Point of Distribution (POD) for emergency medical supplies and personal protective equipment (PPE) needed by public safety departments and other agencies in the county. Police, fire and EMS departments within the county received these essential supplies. The college’s Nursing and Dental Hygiene programs supported the county with donations of PPE. Equipment donations included 200 surgical gowns; 37 boxes of gloves; 24 goggle frames with disposable lenses; six protective eyewear sets with side shields; and 10 boxes of face masks.

HEALTH SCIENCES DEAN DEPLOYED AS NAVY NURSE IN NYC
Dean of Health Sciences Patricia Klimkewicz was deployed as part of the COVID-19 response in New York City in April 2020. A registered nurse and a captain in the United States Navy Nurse Corps, Klimkewicz served at the Javits Convention Center, which was temporarily set up to treat COVID-19 patients in New York City, and was promoted to captain in the Naval Reserves on April 1. Prior to becoming dean, she was a professor in the Nursing department for 19 years. She has previously been deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan and Landstuhl, Germany.
The mission of the Foundation is to help secure funds to support both short-term and long-term initiatives of Hudson Valley Community College. The Base Fundraising component of $600,000 in consistent annual support (chart 1) aligns with signature scholarship and program funding, as well as unrestricted monies that allow for flexibility in the college’s response to other ever-changing needs.

The notable increase in funds raised in Fiscal Years 2016-2018 represents $1.4 million directed to the Gene F. Haas Center for Advanced Manufacturing Skills (CAMS) capital project. In addition, advocacy led by the Office of Institutional Advancement was essential in the more than $4.5 million in additional state and federal resources secured for the CAMS building campaign.

It is important to note that over the past decade, the Foundation’s endowment has experienced significant growth (chart 2). New gifts combined with appreciation provided a robust market value of $5.6 million.

As we lay the groundwork for another vital campaign, the generosity and foresight of individual and corporate donors will be integral to continued progress. On behalf of the Board of Directors’ Finance and Investments Committee, I would like to share our sincere gratitude, and look forward to continued partnerships and the vibrant growth of our college community.

Sincerely,

Richard Amadon, Jr. ’87

Richard Amadon, Jr. ’87, Treasurer
Hudson Valley Community College Foundation
Board of Directors
Hudson Valley celebrated the inauguration of Dr. Roger A. Ramsammy on Oct. 25, 2019. Dr. Ramsammy is the college’s seventh president.

A native of Trinidad, Dr. Ramsammy is a first-generation college student who has enjoyed a successful career as a researcher, professor and academic leader at some of the nation’s most prestigious community colleges. His teaching and leadership are guided by his own experience as a student who found a path to a brighter future through higher education.

President Ramsammy has worked to establish relationships in the greater Capital Region community and lead positive campus-wide change and strategic planning efforts that will set the college on the path to continued fiscal, academic and student success.

Under the leadership of President Ramsammy, Hudson Valley has completed an ambitious strategic plan to guide the college into the future. By inviting the entire campus community to share their views and opinions through multiple listening sessions, all-college meetings and surveys throughout the process, the committee has crafted a document that captures the perspectives of the college’s many internal and external stakeholders. In total, the planning process provided more than 1,500 students, faculty, staff, community leaders and education partners with the opportunity to participate. From this process emerged the college’s official mission, vision, core values and priorities, along with hundreds of specific goals and objectives.

INAUGURAL GALA AND PRESIDENT’S INNOVATION FUND

The Foundation’s 2019 Gala, held on Oct. 24, 2019, also celebrated President Ramsammy’s inauguration, with $10,000 in proceeds benefiting the President’s Innovation Fund.

Under Dr. Ramsammy’s presidency, gifts to the President’s Innovation Fund are being used to support the initiatives surrounding the college’s 2019-2024 Strategic Plan. The President’s Innovation Fund was established in 1999 to support the efforts of the college and reward excellence throughout the college community. During Dr. Ramsammy’s tenure, contributions to the fund have totaled more than $41,000.

INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT ROGER A. RAMSAMMY

STRATEGIC PLAN

OUR MISSION
Hudson Valley Community College provides transformative, student-centered and high-quality educational opportunities that address the diverse needs of local and global communities.*

*Pending approval by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education

OUR VISION
Deliver what the future demands.
Hudson Valley Community College will meet the educational needs of a rapidly transforming world by leading today and anticipating tomorrow.

OUR CORE VALUES
Leadership, Excellence, Accessibility, Diversity, Service

PRIORITIES

- Commit to Student Success, Inclusion and Equity
- Enhance Academic Excellence
- Optimize Enrollment
- Encourage Faculty and Staff Excellence
- Expand Partnerships and Community Engagement
- Reinvigorate Campus Culture and Infrastructure
Hudson Valley Community College’s sixth president, Andrew J. Matonak, passed away on Saturday, November 7, 2020 following a courageous battle with cancer.

Better known on campus and in the greater community simply as Drew, President Matonak became president of Hudson Valley in April 2005 and retired in June 2018. He led the college during a 13-year period of impressive growth and innovation in academic programming and student services, as well as a striking transformation of the college’s 120-acre campus and its technological infrastructure.

“Drew’s remarkable career in higher education spanned more than four decades, with countless contributions at several colleges and universities. As he retired, he said that Hudson Valley Community College will always be in his heart. We will hold him in ours as well, and recall him as a genuine, caring and compassionate leader, mentor, colleague and friend,” said Dr. Roger Ramsammy, who succeeded Matonak as president.

“Drew provided remarkable leadership for Hudson Valley, and we’re extremely grateful for his many years of dedication to the college and also for his commitment to partnership and service within the greater community,” said Neil Kelleher, chairman of the college’s Board of Trustees.

Under President Matonak’s leadership, the college introduced more than 25 new degree and certificate programs while significantly expanding online offerings and high school pipeline programs such as the Clean Technologies & Sustainable Industries Early College High School. In addition, President Matonak led the expansion of progressive student support services including the creation of the Center for Academic Engagement, the Marvin Library Learning Commons and the Wellness Center.

President Matonak guided a $200 million facilities master plan and the construction of a pedestrian-friendly, high technology campus with several new, state-of-the-art buildings including the $47.4 million Science Center; $13.5 million Training and Education Center for Semiconductor Manufacturing and Alternative and Renewable Technologies (TEC-SMART) in Malta; $9.4 million Administration Building; as well as the $4.5 million parking garage and $4.5 million Outdoor Athletic Complex.

Another hallmark of President Matonak’s tenure was the campus visit of United States President Barack Obama and Dr. Jill Biden in 2009. President Obama and Dr. Biden discussed the importance of community college economic development and workforce training initiatives similar to those developed at Hudson Valley. Recognizing the vital role Hudson Valley plays in economic and community development, President Matonak took on leadership positions with numerous organizations and boards, including the Capital Region Economic Development Council, the Capital Region Chamber, Center for Economic Growth, Saratoga Economic Development Council and Troy 2020 to name a few.

Prior to joining Hudson Valley, President Matonak served as president of Northwest Iowa Community College. He also served in leadership positions at Lakeland Community College in Kirtland, Ohio; Horry-Georgetown Technical College in Conway, South Carolina; University of Houston; Lee College in Baytown, Texas; and Eastern Iowa Community College District.

President Matonak earned an associate degree at Butler County Community College in Butler, Pennsylvania, an experience that shaped his personal and professional life. He continued his education at The College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology, followed by a master’s degree in student personnel administration from Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan, and a doctorate in higher education administration from the University of Houston in Texas.

The President Andrew J. Matonak Student Leadership and Scholarship Fund at the Hudson Valley Community College Foundation was established upon Drew’s retirement from the college in 2018 and has received contributions totaling $14,171 to date in honor of Drew’s life and service to the college. Contributions to the fund can be made through the Foundation’s Make A Gift webpage.
ALUMNI

HOMECOMING 2019

The college hosted its 2019 homecoming festivities on Saturday, September 21, 2019. Students, faculty, staff and alumni came together to honor distinguished alumni, view the college’s Alumni Archives at the Marvin Library Learning Commons, tour the campus and the new Gene F. Haas Center for Advanced Manufacturing Skills, and cheer on the Vikings’ tennis team in a match against Mohawk Valley Community College, and men’s and women’s soccer teams in games against Erie Community College. There was also a tailgate party and barbecue, and a carnival with games, activities, face painting, caricatures and entertainment.

The homecoming celebration marked the third annual Distinguished Alumni Awards since the program returned from a decade-long hiatus. The Saturday morning brunch ceremony honored alumni David J. Allard ’75, Cynthia Doring Hollowood ’77 and Malcolm S. Field ’79 for notable contributions within their career fields and communities.

The college closed out homecoming weekend with the 11th annual Race Away Stigma 5K Race and Fun Walk to raise awareness of the stigma surrounding mental illness.

THREE HONORED AT 2019 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

DAVID J. ALLARD ’75, CHP

David J. Allard, CHP is a nationally and internationally recognized expert in radiation protection. He began his career as a medical health physicist at Albany Medical Center, and has been involved in the various aspects of governmental, industrial, rector, medical and academic radiation protection for over 40 years. He serves as the acting deputy secretary for the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)’s Office of Waste, Air, Radiation and Remediation.

CYNTHIA DORING HOLLOWOOD ’77

Cynthia Doring Hollowood is a Rensselaer County native who has spent most of her more than 40-year career in the hospitality industry serving as the general manager and partner of the Holiday Inn Saratoga Springs. She has also served in leadership roles in many business and trade organizations, including the Saratoga Convention and Tourism Bureau, the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce and the New York State Hospitality and Tourism Association.

DR. MALCOM S. FIELD ’79

Dr. Malcom S. Field holds the titles of senior research hydrogeologist for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and editor-in-chief of the Journal of Cave and Karst Studies, a publication of the National Speleological Society. He is a recognized international expert on karst, underground landscapes that are formed by erosion.
COLLEGE CONTINUES EXPANSION OF INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

In February of 2020, as part of the college’s continuing outreach efforts in Costa Rica, Hudson Valley President Roger Ramsammy and Executive Director External Affairs & Government Relations/College Foundation Regina Scarano LaGatta ’73 visited Costa Rica for a highly productive trip to explore international partnership opportunities. In a relatively short amount of time, the college has seen significant interest from Costa Rican colleges, universities and private high schools that have the funding and the infrastructure to support a partnership with the college. There is strong demand for partnerships to deliver instruction in business, cybersecurity and English as a Second Language right now, with more program areas to follow.

During the visit, the two Hudson Valley designees attended the Costa Rica Services Summit 2020, organized by PROCOMER, Costa Rica’s trade promotion agency. They also met with many education officials interested in partnering with the college. One highlight of the visit was President Ramsammy’s signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Cámara Nacional de la Educación Privada (CANAEP), a consortium of educational institutions in Costa Rica, along with signing MOUs with several with Costa Rican high schools. These MOUs formalize the college’s plans to provide education services and program delivery through various modes of instruction, and represent an important step toward continued collaboration.

In June of 2019, the Corporacion Educativa Automotriz (CEA), in Costa Rica, requested the college develop an Electric Vehicle Train-the-Trainer Program, for their automotive mechanics instructors, in cooperation with CEA faculty and administrators. The curriculum for this program was finalized in the fall of 2019, with participants scheduled to attend the inaugural session in June of 2020. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this has been postponed until January of 2022.

With the support and assistance of the College Foundation, Hudson Valley Community College launched the Global Classroom High School Program (GCHP), in Costa Rica in July of 2020. Through the GCHP, high school students outside the United States can register to take college-level courses delivered asynchronously online, and upon completing the courses successfully, will receive college credit. Credits can be applied to Hudson Valley Community College programs or transferred to most four-year colleges and universities in the United States. Additionally, depending on the school, students may be able to transfer fifteen (15) credits or more. The program has been a success, and the college plans on expanding it in the future.

Costa Rica is just one place that the college is expanding or planning to expand international outreach efforts. In 2018 and 2019, college representatives visited the Philippines and Trinidad and Barbados to explore partnership opportunities, and President Ramsammy met with United Nations ambassadors from the Caribbean and Latin America at the SUNY Global Center in New York City to discuss opportunities as well. Prior to the pandemic, Hudson Valley hosted delegations and international leaders from Germany, Ireland and China, all focused on finding a way to work together to create opportunity for students. Discussions have taken place with Ecuador and Northern Ireland about developing articulation agreements, and potential partnership opportunities with Hungary, Nicaragua, Israel, the CARICOM nations of the Caribbean, the Ivory Coast and Ghana are being explored. In fact, college representatives were scheduled to participate in a trip to Ghana—led by Father Kofi Ntsifulamissah of the St. Joan of Arc Church and the Black Catholic Apostolate in the Diocese of Albany, and Capital Region Liaison to the Ghana Initiative Michael Conners—in March of 2020 to explore partnership opportunities and the potential construction of a Learning Center in Ghana. The pandemic put those plans on hold, but the trip will be rescheduled when circumstances allow.
BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Hudson Valley Community College Foundation Board of Directors approved its 2020 officers, including Chairperson Frank C. Sarratori; Vice Chairperson Kelly Klopfer; Vice Chairperson, Mark Mitchell ’74; Treasurer, Rich Amadon, Jr. ’87; and Secretary Tony Carnevale ’85.
- Dominic Bizzarro, senior vice president and chief of innovation at MVP Health Care; and Jordan Steller, senior director of human resources at GLOBALFOUNDRIES, joined the Foundation Board of Directors.

COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The college’s 10-member Board of Trustees is appointed by the governor, who names four members, and the Rensselaer County Legislature, which names five members to serve seven-year terms. One member is elected by the student body for a one-year term.

IN MEMORIAM: BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VICE CHAIRMAN
JOE KAPP

Our great friend and colleague, Joe Kapp, passed away on Wednesday, August 5, 2020 after being involved in a tragic accident at the Schenectady-based Innovative Test Solutions. Joe was Vice Chairman of the Hudson Valley Community College Board of Trustees at the time of his death.

Once a student at Hudson Valley, Joe went on to achieve great things and give back to the college and the community in so many ways. Both a true friend and a remarkable leader, Joe was appointed to the college’s Board of Trustees by the Rensselaer County Legislature in 1999, and served on the board for more than two decades, most recently as vice chairman. His legacy of service to the college is marked by the sense of pride and commitment he showed for our students and our mission. Joe will greatly be missed by the entire college community.

APPOINTMENT OF PHILIP J. DANAHER

The Rensselaer County Legislature has appointed Philip J. Danaher of East Greenbush to the Hudson Valley Community College Board of Trustees. An attorney and lifelong Rensselaer County resident, Danaher currently serves as counsel to the Rensselaer County Legislature as well as corporation counsel for the City of Rensselaer and Grafton town attorney. He was elected to the county legislature from 2010 to 2018, representing East Greenbush. Admitted to the New York State Bar in 1986, he has operated a private law practice with an emphasis on family law, bankruptcy law, and municipal law since 1991. Danaher received his juris doctorate degree from Albany Law School in 1985 and completed a B.A. in political science at Siena College in 1982. Danaher fills the board seat of Joseph Kapp, Ph.D., who passed away on Aug. 5, 2020. He will serve the remainder of the late Joe Kapp’s term, which runs through June 30, 2022.

APPOINTMENT OF FLORA FASOLDT

New York State Governor Andrew M. Cuomo has appointed Flora Fasoldt of Averill Park to the Hudson Valley Community College Board of Trustees. Fasoldt occupies the seat previously held by board member Catherine Conroy, whose term expired in 2018. Fasoldt retired from a 35-year career as a speech and language therapist at Capital Region BOCES in 2018, then worked as a special education intake team coordinator for Capital Region BOCES until 2019. She has served as a consultant for Leavy Educational Consultants in Slingerlands since 2019. Previously, Fasoldt held the positions of town supervisor and town councilwoman for Sand Lake, in addition to serving as a member of the Rensselaer County legislature. She also has volunteered for several community and professional organizations, serving as a member of the Commission on Economic Opportunity’s board of directors; as faculty association vice president of the teacher’s unit for the New York State United Teachers; and as second vice chair of the Rensselaer County Democratic Committee, to name a few. Fasoldt holds a Bachelor of Science in Communication Disorders and Master of Science in Education from The College of Saint Rose.
LEADERSHIP

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Regina M. LaGatta ’73, Executive Director of External and Government Affairs and College Foundation
Lucille A. Marion, Ph.D., Vice President and Executive Director of Capital District Educational Opportunity Center
Kathleen Petley, Executive Director for Institutional Effectiveness
Ainsley Thomas, Chief Diversity Officer
Ronayln Wilson, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs

COLLEGE ANNOUNCES NEW CHIEF ADVANCEMENT OFFICER
Hudson Valley Community College announced in April 2020 that Allison L. Collins-Schroeder will be the college’s new Chief Advancement Officer. This position is responsible for working with the college’s Foundation and the Executive Director of External and Government Affairs to facilitate fundraising and other philanthropic efforts to support the college.

Collins-Schroeder joins the college after serving as a donor relations officer at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute for five years. Prior to that, she worked at the Albany Academies as both the associate director of institutional advancement for special events and stewardship and assistant director of alumni relations and annual giving. She has also worked as an English teacher and held several positions as an anchor, producer, news director and reporter for various TV news stations.

Collins-Schroeder holds a Bachelor of Arts in English and Secondary Education from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

STAFF
REGINA M. LAGATTA ’73, Executive Director of External and Government Affairs and College Foundation
ALLISON L. COLLINS-SCHROEDER, Chief Advancement Officer

JODY LITTLEFIELD, Technical Assistant
LISA MATTES, Technical Assistant and Executive Assistant
JANET MCCART, Finance Manager

ANGELA O’NEAL, Major Gifts and Planned Giving Officer
JANA PUTZIG, Alumni Relations and Special Events Coordinator
A BOLD VISION:
TRAINING THE ESSENTIAL WORKFORCE AT HVCC NORTH

Hudson Valley Community College is expanding in southern Saratoga County to meet increasing educational demand in our region’s fastest growing labor sectors. The HVCC North project seeks to broaden education and workforce training opportunities in the highly specialized and growing fields of healthcare, STEM, and skilled trades—all of which are experiencing an urgent shortage of qualified workers and a skills gap that continues to widen exponentially with time.

By renovating and expanding existing college facilities in Malta through the HVCC North project, the college will be positioned to train hundreds of graduates to enter in-demand fields and address urgent industry needs each year, creating a direct positive impact on our region’s workforce and economy. The project is expected to allow in-demand programs to expand by 10 to 20 percent, and provide closer-to-home educational opportunities for the more than 1,700 students from Saratoga, Hamilton, Fulton, Warren and Washington counties who currently commute to Hudson Valley’s main campus in Troy.

NEW CONSTRUCTION:
• 14,500 square foot, two-story building
• Four science laboratories, three classrooms

TEC-SMART RENOVATION:
• Upgrades to four classrooms, six applied technology labs
• Upgrades to Computer laboratory (virtual reality, artificial intelligence, machine learning)
• Class 10,000 Clean Room

Stay tuned for information on HVCC North’s groundbreaking, planned for November 2021.