

Annual Report 2015-2016



Fulton-Montgomery
Community College



President's Message

I am pleased and proud to present the Fulton-Montgomery Community College Annual Report for the 2015-2016 Academic Year. Each year we help students grow as scholars, as a current and future workforce, and as citizens of our community and world. A very rewarding part of working at FM is interacting with our students and watching them mature as learners.

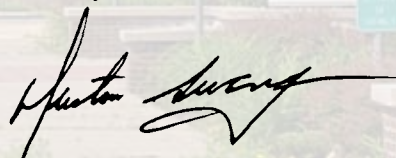
As you look through this year's Annual Report, what you will see is the leadership and recognized success that FM has experienced throughout the year. Our College is seen as a leader in education, in student success, and as colleagues with our sister institutions in higher education. From faculty presentations at conferences to congressional representatives visiting our campus and students; from awards for our work in diversity and inclusion to the success of our students in Phi Theta Kappa; from our student taking the national award in Radiologic Technology to our athletes named to All-Region teams, FM is staking out a place on the State and National Stage.

This year has also been a year of fiscal recognition. FM received two major bequests from local residents; a gift of over \$2 million from Donald and Violet O'Connell to establish permanent scholarships for students and a gift of \$2 million from Frances Allen that will be used for campus facilities. Both families recognized the great work that FM is doing for students and our community. Additionally, FM received several long-term grants that are targeted toward student success and completion.

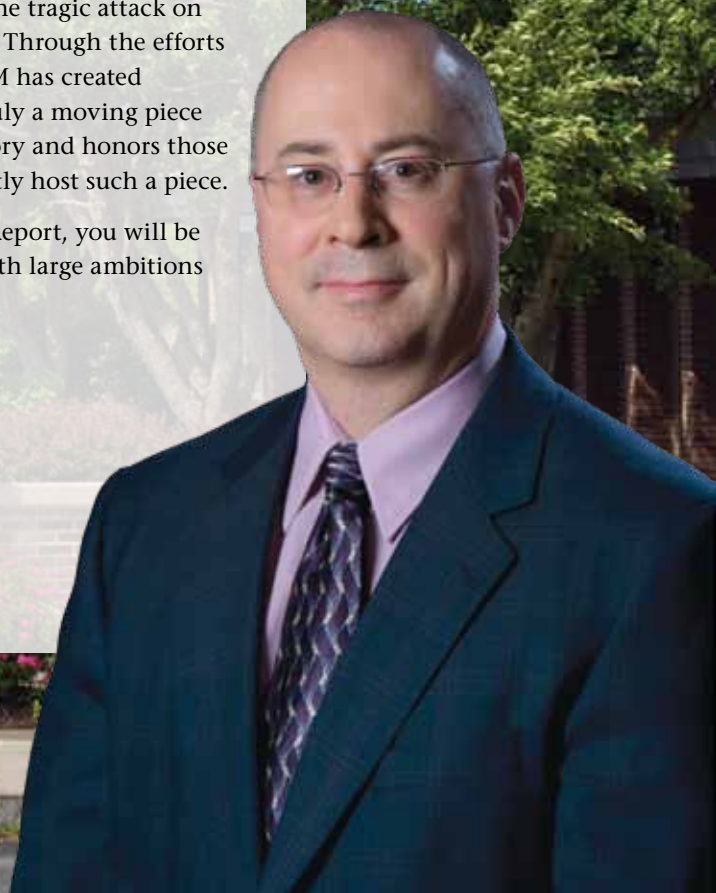
Finally, FM has paid tribute to the memory of the tragic attack on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Through the efforts of a student (Louis Pabon), faculty, and staff, FM has created a permanent 9/11 Memorial on campus. It is truly a moving piece that marks such a significant event in U.S. history and honors those who lost their lives. We are proud to permanently host such a piece.

I'm sure that as you look through this Annual Report, you will be as proud of FM as I am. FM is a small college with large ambitions and extensive impact.

Sincerely,



Dr. Dustin Swanger
President



About Us

Vision

Fulton-Montgomery Community College strives to be an innovative leader in higher education.

Mission

Fulton-Montgomery Community College provides accessible higher education and quality programs with a focus on student success. FM partners with the community through engagement in economic development and by providing cultural and intellectual opportunities.

Values

FM is guided by the following values:

- Excellence in education and teaching
- Student learning and scholarship
- Caring personalized service
- Innovation
- Civility
- Integrity
- Quality facilities
- Diversity
- Accessibility
- Community engagement
- Continuous improvement
- Leadership

Civility Statement

FM is committed to fostering an environment of civility. All members of the FM community and visitors have the right to experience and the responsibility to create and maintain an environment of mutual respect and support that is civil in all aspects of human relations. Civility facilitates professional growth and achievement and promotes an environment where each person can reach his or her full potential.



Board of Trustees 2016-2017

Edmund C. Jasewicz, *Chair*

Jennifer Gardella, *Vice Chair*

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James Landrio

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Sandra Littlejohn, *Student Trustee*



Celebrating Excellence



Earning Commendation

The Middle States Commission on Higher Education reaffirmed FM's accreditation and recognized the institution for progress to date in meeting the standards of accreditation. Upon request, the final team report is available for review.

Embracing Diversity and Inclusion

The Northeast Region Five Jewel Category for Best Practices in Diversity and Inclusion awarded Chartwells Food Services second place. Chartwells Higher Education Dining Services recognized teams that embrace diversity and inclusion on a daily basis, ranking FM's Chartwells at the top.



Chartwells Food Service Staff

PTK All-New York Academic Award Recipient

Skylar Swatt was awarded the 2015-2016 Phi Theta Kappa All-New York Academic Award.

Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in higher education, serving nearly 1,300 colleges in all 50 states and nine sovereign nations. Members of the All-New York Academic Team are recognized for their academic achievements, leadership accomplishments, and engagement in community service.

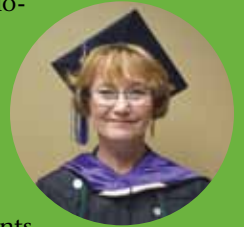


(L-R): FM's Vice President for Student Affairs Jane Kelley, SUNY Senior Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges and the Education Pipeline Dr. Johanna Duncan-Poitier, President Swanger, award recipient Skylar Swatt, Skylar's parents Chris and Raquel Swatt, and PTK Advisor and FM Campus Activity Assistant Charles Beekman

SUNY Chancellor's Award Recipients

Faculty

Cindy Close, Assistant Professor and Director of Radiologic Technology, and Mary-Jo Ferrauilo-Davis, Director of Advisement, Counseling and Testing, were named this year's SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence recipients.



Cindy Close

Instituted in 1972 by the State University of New York, the Chancellor's Awards for Excellence are System-level honors conferred to acknowledge and provide system-wide recognition for consistently superior professional achievement and to encourage the ongoing pursuit of excellence.



Mary-Jo Ferrauilo-Davis

Students

SUNY's Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence acknowledges students who have received recognition for student excellence. It is the highest honor bestowed upon a student by the University. This year, 248 students from 64 campuses received this award including FM students Winnie Blackwood and Taiwo Ekundayo.



President Swanger, Taiwo Ekundayo, and Winnie Blackwood

Distinguished Alumni

This year's Distinguished Alumni Awards were presented to graduates Susanne Guttenberg '77 and David Northrup '66.

"Every one of my children, grandchildren and presently my great granddaughter have attended FM. It was certainly the foundation for my career and the genesis of my Master's degree from Sage College."

–Susanne Guttenberg

"Because of the school's size, the faculty and the students had a sense that the educational program was very much a shared experience. When June 1966 came around we all took a lot of pride in the sense of accomplishment that went with that first graduation."

–Dave Northrup



Susanne Guttenberg and Dave Northrup



FM Named "Gem of Distinction"

FM was named one of six recipients in the 2016 "Gems of Distinction – Six County Regional Showcase" by The Genesis Group.

This Award is presented to companies and organizations in the Mohawk Valley Region that have demonstrated leadership for the Region and contributed toward community and economic development of the area.

(L-R): FM Board of Trustees Chair Edmund C. Jasewicz, FM Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Greg Truckenmiller, Gems Along the Mohawk President Dr. Renee Scialdo Shevat, and The Genesis Group Executive Director Raymond J. Durso, Jr.

Multicultural Service Award

Director of International Student & ESL Programs Arlene Spencer was awarded the 2015 Leadership Council on Inclusion (LCI) Multicultural Service Award. The Council serves as a resource, advocate, and catalyst for the implementation of institutional change related to local and national issues of inclusion in education.



(L-R): JeanMarie Reinke, Outreach and Retention Coordinator and LCI Board Member, Arlene Spencer, and Jane Kelley, Vice President for Student Affairs

Nursing Graduates Earn Highest Pass Rate

The 2016 nursing graduates earned a higher first-time pass rate on the nursing licensing exam than all other area nursing programs (with a 96% pass rate, NYS Education Department, Professional Education Program Review).



(L-R): 2016 Nursing program graduates Courtney Quackenbush, Alison Swartz, Nicole Rider, Karly Vdoviak, and Dianna Hime

Celebrating Excellence

Trustee Service Award



Michael J. Pepe

Michael J. Pepe, Trustee from 2008-2015 and FM alum, was awarded the New York Community College Trustees' (NYCCT) Marvin A. Rapp Award for Distinguished Trustee Service in recognition of his dedicated and effective service as a community college trustee.

The Marvin A. Rapp Award was established in 1986 to recognize longstanding and exemplary trustee service.

Trustees who receive the award must have provided significant leadership on their boards, participated in state and national activities benefiting community colleges, and demonstrated a commitment to innovation in community college programs.

PTK Academic Awards

At the 42nd Annual Phi Theta Kappa Academic Awards Ceremony, Alpha Alpha Upsilon (FM's Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa) inducted over 50 new members. To become eligible for membership, students must have completed at least twelve credit hours at FM and have obtained a minimum of 3.50 cumulative grade point average.



Award recipient Chantel Vactor with her mom at the award reception



Award recipient Joshua Menconi with his dad after the ceremony



New members line up prior to the Awards Ceremony

Student Captures 1st Place in National Conference

Rachel Shannon, second year Radiologic Technology student, won first place at the national student challenge competition at the Association of Collegiate Educators in Radiologic Technology (ACERT) Annual Conference in Las Vegas.

Unlike the New York State team competition, the ACERT hosted an individual challenge that encompassed at least 450 students from a variety of colleges. Students are disqualified in single elimination when a question is missed. Rachel was the first out of four finalists to answer every question correctly, thus earning first place.



Rachel Shannon (circled) with classmates and Assistant Professors Cynthia Close and Karlyn LaBate celebrating at the ACERT Conference

Recognizing Top Area Students

FM, in partnership with Hamilton-Fulton-Montgomery BOCES, hosted a dinner to recognize the top five students from high schools in the Fulton and Montgomery County Regions. Students were recognized for their academic and personal achievements during their high school career.

"We are continually impressed – as school leaders – by the academic and extracurricular excellence we see in our region's students, but we rarely gather together to celebrate the effort local students have made toward their futures, and the contributions made to their individual schools," said President Swanger.



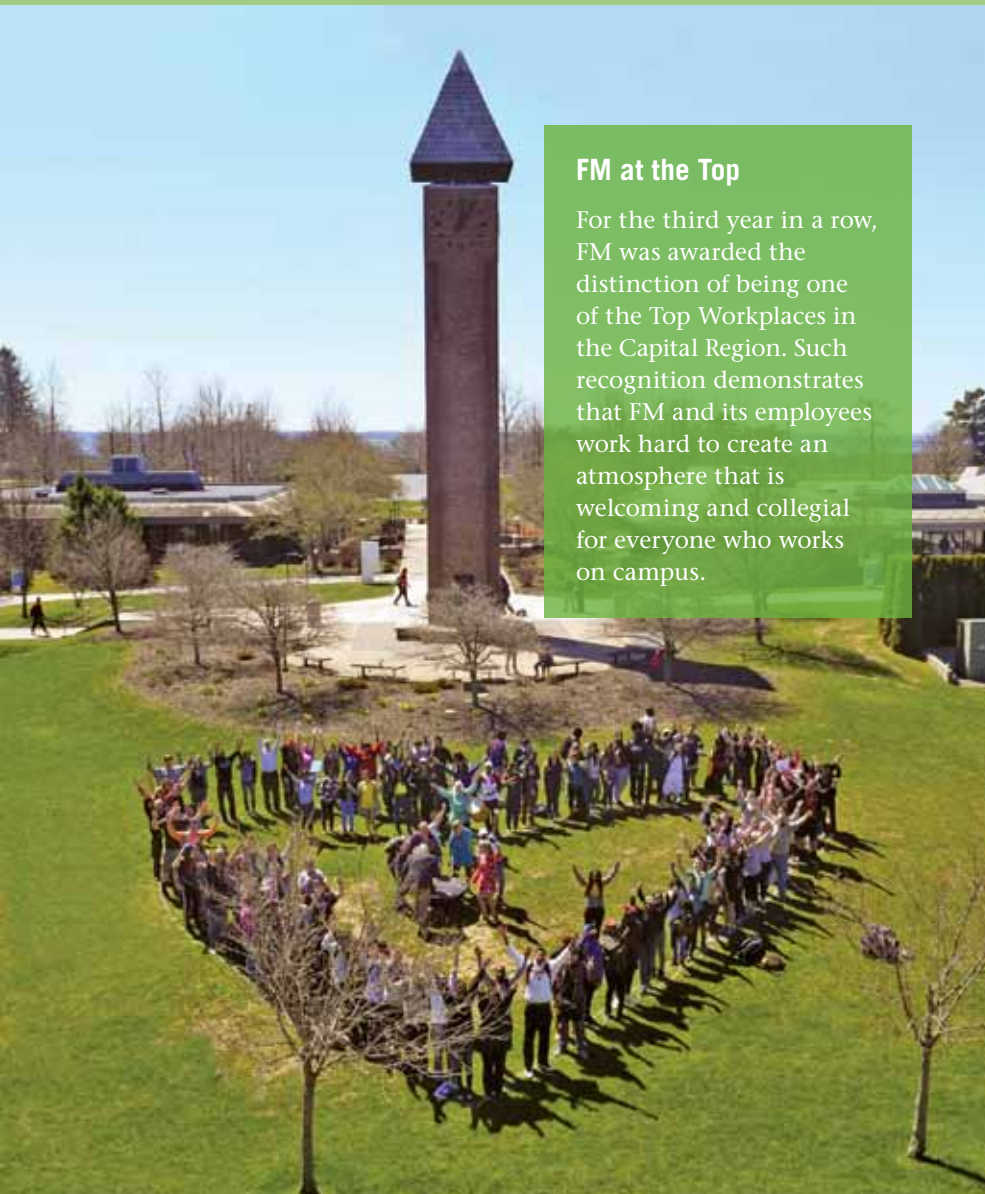
President Swanger with students Lauren Blanchard (Gloversville High School), Cynthia Smith (Oppenheim-Ephratah-St. Johnsville High School), and Shelby Baker (Mayfield High School). All three top graduates will be attending FM.

United Way Award

FM was presented with a Corporate Award by the United Way of Montgomery County. Corporate Awards are presented to businesses, corporations, and their employees who continue to invest in the health and human service needs of the residents of Montgomery County through their significant donations to United Way.



Diane C. Boslet, FM Foundation Administrative Assistant/United Way of Fulton County Board Member; Fred Quist, United Way Director; Pat Beck, United Way President; and Lesley Lanzi, FM Foundation Executive Director/United Way Board of Director's Secretary. Diane and Lesley accepted the award on behalf of FM.



FM at the Top

For the third year in a row, FM was awarded the distinction of being one of the Top Workplaces in the Capital Region. Such recognition demonstrates that FM and its employees work hard to create an atmosphere that is welcoming and collegial for everyone who works on campus.

Barceem was named to the 3rd Team All-Conference.

- Four Student-Athletes and one team earned academic achievement awards from the NJCAA. The individual awards went to: Zachary Hughes (Superior Academic Achievement, Business Administration – Baseball); Jenna Putnam (Superior Academic Achievement, Health Science – Volleyball); Kaylee Robinson (Superior Academic Achievement, General Studies – Volleyball); and, Riley Yager (Exemplary Academic Achievement, General Studies – Men's Soccer).
- The NJCAA team award nomination was for Volleyball. The NJCAA requires a 3.0 team-cumulative GPA for the nomination. Their GPA for fall '15 and spring '16 was a 3.15.



Volleyball Champions top row (l-r): Head Coach Rachael Salvione, Emily Ormski, Carly Howe, Miranda Eagan, Brittany Ormski, Assistant Coach Tina Oyler
Bottom row (l-r): Jordyn Hale, Jenna Putnam, Kaylee Robinson, and Assistant Coach Nicole MacGregor.

Athletic Accomplishments

- Women's Volleyball finished strong boasting an overall record of 22-9 and 10-0 in the Mountain Valley Conference, making them the 2015 Mountain Valley Champions. Coach Rachael Salvione was named Mountain Valley Conference Coach of the Year.
- Kevin Jones, Women's Basketball Head Coach, was named Mountain Valley Coach of the Year. Lady Raiders Basketball Student-Athlete My'eesa Grant was named to the 1st Team All-Region and All-Conference teams; Lady Raiders Basketball Student-Athlete Abby Boyer was named to the 3rd Team All-Region as well as 2nd Team All-Conference; and Lady Raiders Basketball Student-Athlete Moet Jenkins was named to the 3rd Team All-Region and 3rd Team All-Conference.
- Men's Basketball Student-Athletes Ayodele Akinmola and Barceem Dukes were honored for their 2015-2016 basketball campaign. Ayodele was named to the All-Region 2nd Team and the All-Conference 1st Team while



Coach Jones, President Swanger, Barceem Dukes, My'eesa Grant, Moet Jenkins, Ayodele Akinmola, and Board Chair Edmund Jasewicz

Creating Opportunities

Visits from Congress

Congressman Paul Tonko met with students and faculty of the Smart Scholars and TRiO SSS programs while on another occasion, Congresswoman Elise Stefanik met with President Swanger and members of the Board of Trustees. Both visits included discussion on the important issues facing education today and what government can do to help.



President Swanger shows Congresswoman Stefanik FM's Nursing Lab including the high-tech computerized simulator patients



Smart Scholar student Amea Hammonds introduces herself to Congressman Tonko



Congressman Tonko with Smart Scholar students, staff and administration along with FM staff and administration.

Students in the photo all graduated from Amsterdam High School in June 2016 with as many as 41 college credits. Most plan to continue their college education at institutions such as FM, Fordham University, Northeastern University, Siena, SUNY Oneonta, SUNY Oswego, The College of St. Rose, and Utica College, to name a few.



New Day Care

The Playmates Daycare Center at FM, operated by the Fulton County YMCA, provides campus-based child care to serve the needs of the local community. The Daycare was given a complete makeover and, for the first time, is accepting infants from the age of six weeks old allowing for more students to take advantage of the on campus day care.

Major Gifts

The Foundation received two major donations this year; a gift to exceed \$2 million generously given by the late Donald and Violet O'Connell and \$2 million from the Estate of Frances Allen.

The O'Connell's donation is the largest private donation in the history of the institution; the money will be utilized for student scholarships. To honor the O'Connell's, the College's Classroom Building has been named O'Connell Hall.

The gift from the Estate of Frances Allen is the largest unrestricted gift ever received by the Foundation. The monies will be used to build the new Allen House (a campus Welcome Center) and fund extensive renovations to the locker room facilities.



Members of the O'Connell family stand in front of what is now known as O'Connell Hall



(L-R) John Lesniewski, Foundation Board Treasurer; Ed Jasewicz, Trustee Chair; Lesley Lanzi, Foundation Director; Del B. Salmon, Esq., Foundation Chair; President Swanger; Geoff Peck, Trustee; Taiyebah Moghadam-Ghazi, Trustee; Chris Swatt, Trustee; James Landrio, Trustee; Lee Hollenbeck, Trustee; James Hinkle, Foundation Board member

Golf Classic



FM's 23rd Annual Golf Classic, held at Rolling Hills Country Club, raised over \$30,000 to support scholarships and capital projects through the Foundation of FM.

Student Opportunity Grants

Fulton-Montgomery Community College has secured three new grant funded outreach and retention programs this year; adding to the current four already in place, these seven programs will bring close to \$8 million in funding to support student success and completion.

The grant funded programs already in place, TRiO Student Support Services, Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), Science Technology Entry Program (STEP), and Liberty Partnership Program (LPP), provided a total of \$740,000 for the 2015-2016 academic year.

The new programs, TRiO (Quest), Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP), and Health Profession Opportunity Grants (HPOG 2.0), provided an additional \$796,000, for a total opportunity program fund of \$1.5 million for 2015-2016.

All programs, which will help more students to succeed, have secured appropriated funds for five years, which will bring a total of \$7.6 million to the College through 2020.



42 CSTEP students along with faculty and administration at the CSTEP Banquet held in FM's Raiders Cove.

CSTEP Program Celebrates First Year

The Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP) celebrated its first year with a completion banquet for the 120 students who took part in the program.

CSTEP, a New York State Department of Education grant program, is a response to a pervasively low number of students from under-represented groups who are pursuing professional licensure and careers in mathematics, science, technology and health-related fields. FM was awarded a five year CSTEP grant.

Creating Opportunities

TRiO Program Recognizes Grads and Transfer Students



TRiO students and staff

TRiO participants, most of whom are first generation college students, received academic and personal support through the U.S. Department of Education federally funded program throughout the year.

At both the end of the fall and spring semesters, graduates and/or transfer students were celebrated at

recognition ceremonies, allowing for students to share their experience with the program. One student said she had been out of school for 35 years and everything seemed foreign – she was ready to drop out, but then discovered the TRiO program and could not thank the staff enough for being there for her, while another student-athlete said he thought he could juggle sports, college, and a social life but soon realized it was all too much for him to handle. He thanked TRiO for putting him on the right path.

Summer Bridge Program

FM hosted a Summer Bridge program for incoming freshman. The program included academic, social, and residential experiences showing students what to expect when they begin their college experience at FM. The program's goal is to bridge the gap between high school and college.

Some background: In 2015, TRiO piloted a "blended" Summer Bridge program for 11 local and New York City students – one week of residential living and learning and four weeks of virtual learning. This past year, the program was expanded. TRiO focused exclusively on NYC students while Quest and CSTEP had both local and NYC students. In total, 24 students participated this year.



Summer Bridge students enter FM's Raiders Hall residential facilities.

Financial Literacy

The Evans Library, in conjunction with Financial Aid, launched the \$mart Money project with the debut of the website smartmoney.fmcc.edu. This grant-funded program provides financial literacy resources and expertise to Fulton and Montgomery county communities.

Student Tim Dempsey visits Senior Library Clerk Stephanie Price to sign a pledge to commit to change and be "willing, ready, and able to take financial responsibility."



Partnering for Technology Training

After receiving a state grant for The New York State Balancing Incentive Program from The Office for People with Developmental Disabilities, Liberty ARC worked with FM to use technology as a means of support to work on skill development and achieve goals.

FM offered two non-credit courses: Introduction to iPad Technology training (for beginners), and iPad Technology training (for more advanced users). The goal of the program in general is to increase skills, set and achieve goals with the use of assistive technology, and work towards transitioning to successful competitive employment opportunities in the community.



Liberty ARC staff and the students who took part in the training courses

New York Space Grant Awards

Five STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) students were amongst 26 community college students from all over New York State selected for the 2016 cohort of the New York Space Grant Community College Partnership Program (NYSG-CCPP) summer internship fellowship. The NYSG-CCPP fellowship is very competitive. FM students had an 83.3 percent selection rate; this places FM first amongst all New York community colleges.



(L-R): Students selected for the fellowship included Matthew Kinney, Deep Mohan, Merida Rodriguez, Kimane Patterson, along with Physics Instructor Gilbert Ayuk. Missing from photo is Rebekah Rorric.



Students Jacqueline Sokunbi (front) of Brooklyn, NY and Tamara Vannostrand of Mayfield, NY explore the New York State Police helicopter.

NYS Police Provide Hands-On Opportunity for Health Studies Students

As part of the Health Care Provider CPR 1-0-1 course, students had the opportunity to witness the New York State Police helicopter land on campus where flight crew met with local emergency personnel to discuss landing zone procedure, approaching the helicopter, and loading a patient.

“This kind of hands-on learning experience is invaluable to our students. We hope this type of activity will empower students that much more to pursue a career in healthcare,” said President Swanger.

Giving to Our Veterans

Members of the Veteran’s Club, along with FM advisors, visited Gloversville’s Girl Scout Troop #2142 at Boulevard Elementary to personally thank them for a \$600 donation the Scouts made to the Clubs’ efforts of bringing the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall to the College in September 2016. The Girl Scouts held a spaghetti dinner fundraiser at Pine Tree Rifle Club.



Gloversville's Girl Scout Troop #2142 with members of the Veteran's Club and FM advisors.



The College’s Clerical Union, ESP (Educational Support Personnel), made a donation to the Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall Committee as well.

“We made this donation not only to recognize our local Veterans but also to show our continuing support of events that take place at the College,” said ESP co-chair Cathi Willette.

Funds for Backpack Program

Fulmont Association of College Educators (FACE), the faculty union of the College, raised \$1300 for the Amsterdam School District Weekend Backpack Program which sponsored 7 children for an entire school year. The Weekend Backpack Program provides food to students in need on the weekends when they are not able to receive a nutritious breakfast and lunch like the ones they receive in school.



Members of FACE along with Amsterdam Backpack Program volunteers.

Demonstrating Leadership



Michael V. Daly
Instruction/Public Services
Librarian & Assistant Professor

Assistant Professor Daly co-presented with Michael Youngs, English Assistant Professor, at the First Annual Learning with Innovative Technology Conference at Empire State College in Saratoga Springs, NY. Their topic was: "Slouching Toward Technophilia: The long slow slog toward digital stories in a decidedly low-tech environment."

He also co-presented at the SUNY Conference on Instruction & Technology, "Can We Afford Not to Listen?: Textbook Affordability From Users' Perspectives, Based on Findings from Surveys Related to Textbook Affordability and OER on Three SUNY Campuses," and served as a co-workshop leader at the same conference on "Open Your Course with Ease: Tips, Advice and Exercises for Smoothly Transitioning Your Course Toward OER" at Potsdam College.

Assistant Professor Daly was the Keynote Presenter at Monroe Community College's LeRoy V. Good Library Development Day.

He also Co-Presented at the 15th Annual International Open Education Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, "SUNY Libraries and Open Educational Resources: Our Evolving Plan of Action."



Mary Donohue
Library Director/Professor

Professor Donohue was awarded a *Certificate of Completion with Distinction* upon the successful completion of the Institutional Effectiveness Certificate Program offered by SUNY Center for Professional Development. The program consisted of three courses in the series: *Introduction to Institutional Effectiveness, Research Methods for Institutional Effectiveness, & Championing Change: Applying Institutional Effectiveness on Your Campus*. These classes are designed to prepare participants to contribute to institutional level assessment and accreditation committees, assist their institution and respective departments in the assessment of strategic objectives, and assist in the advisement and instruction of others in developing cycles of goal setting, measurement, data collection, process review and evaluation.

She also received a certificate of completion for DACUM training at Ohio State University which consisted of 40 hours of instruction in the skills required to coordinate and facilitate the DACUM occupational analysis process. She will be working with the Academic Dean's office in co-facilitating occupational reviews and contributing to the development and revision of FM's applied sciences/technologies curriculum.

Laurie Freeman
Science Professor

Professor Freeman was published in a peer-reviewed journal "Teaching for higher levels of thinking: developing quantitative and analytical skills in environmental science courses." *Ecosphere* 7(4):e01290. 10.1002/ecs2.1290.



She also spoke to the Scleroderma Support Group at Sunnyview Hospital on "Yoga and Scleroderma."



Professor Jones (far right) with students on Certificate Day

Robert Jones
Foreign Language Professor

Professor Jones hosted and presented at the Annual NAACLT (North American Association of Celtic Language Teachers) Conference at the Desmond in Albany. The conference was co-sponsored by FM.

Professor Jones also taught for Cymdeithas Madog's annual residential Welsh language course – Cwrs Cymraeg. He was one of six instructors hailing from Canada, the U.S. and Wales and was reappointed to his position as Curriculum Coordinator for Cymdeithas Madog. Robert was awarded the bid to bring the course to Albany in 2017. It will be held July 16-23 at Siena College.

Karlyn LaBate

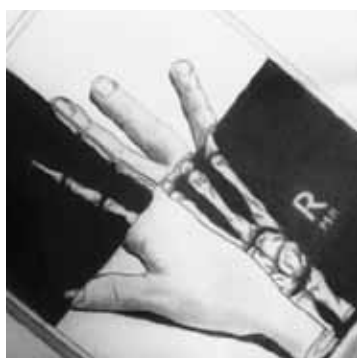
Director of Radiologic Technology

In two separate issues of Radiologic Technology (an official scholarly journal of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists which

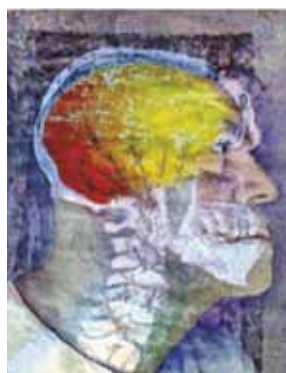


circulates to more than 145,000 readers worldwide), students of Karlyn LaBate, Director of Radiologic Technology, were the featured cover artists. Michael

G. Rooney, R.T.(R) of Gloversville, NY was inspired to draw "The Dichotomous Hand" while studying how to obtain the posteroanterior projection of the hand using art as a tool (November/December 2015; 87), while Ed Nicosia, R.T.(R), of Amsterdam, captured what he experiences during a migraine headache by creating a mixed media piece incorporating a photograph of himself, a radiograph, paint, and pen and ink (May/June 2016; 87).



The Dichotomous Hand by Michael G. Rooney



Migraine by Ed Nicosia

Laurie Lazinski

Chemistry Instructor



Instructor Lazinski attended the NSF-funded cCWCS mini-workshop: "Implementing iPads in the Chemistry Curriculum" at the Texas A&M University.

She presented an ignite session, "Bye-Bye Ball and Sticks – A New Way to Learn and Understand Molecular Geometry" at the CIT conference at SUNY Potsdam.

Laurie participated in a lab session and was the cap-note speaker for the Tech Savvy Summit held at FM for 200 local middle school girls.

She attended the NSF-funded cCWCS "Workshop in Forensic Science" held at Williams College.



Elizabeth Press

Media Communications Instructor

Instructor Press was a filmmaker on the series called *The Fixers* – a collaborative artwork asking people from Cleveland what they could tell RNC delegates about how public policy impacts the lives of urban Americans.

This project was on display at SPACES from May 20 – July 21, 2016, along with public dialogues hosted at venues around Cleveland. The Fixers was also on display at Smack Mellon in Brooklyn, NY from June 18 – July 31, 2016 (www.thefixerscleveland.com).

John van Bladel

Psychology Assistant Professor

Assistant Professor van Bladel presented "Mindfulness, Contemplation, and



Civility: Building Just Learning Communities" at Howard University, Washington D.C., in which he discussed constructing learning communities that

invest students in the classroom in a shared compassionate exploration of the class topics while developing the academic and relational skills necessary to achieve their academic and professional goals.



Ken Vennette

English Assistant Professor

Assistant Professor Vennette had three poems published in an anthology of poetry titled, *The Red Wheelbarrow #9*, A White Chickens Press publication.

The poems, "First Kiss," "Night Talkers," and "Combat" are written in narrative free verse form. The publication is assembled and edited by a society of poets based in Rutherford, New Jersey, in the hometown of William Carlos Williams. The society, The Red Wheelbarrow Poets, was formed several years ago to promote and foster the writing and presentation of poetry. Eligibility requirements include public reading in either of the society's venues, The Williams Center or The Gainville Café, both located in Rutherford.

Opening Minds

9-11: FM Will Always Remember



In December 2015, a piece of history was delivered to the College's campus – a 33-foot tall section of the television antenna that stood at the top of the north tower of the World Trade Center.

FM graduate Louis Pabon was a key player in bringing this piece to the College. Lou worked construction in New York City and after the events of 9-11, was placed on the clean-up crew. Through his personal experience of viewing the aftermath and his love of the arts, Lou's mission was to secure a piece and bring it to FM to be displayed in an artistic way.

Design and construction of the 9/11 Memorial was completed in the summer with a formal dedication to occur the weekend of 9/11/16 – 15 years after the tragic attack that has defined a new era in world terrorism against the United States.



Commitment to Internationalization

The fall of 2015 marked a new record for International students; FM welcomed over 150 international students, enrolling 70 new students from over 30 countries and 6 continents. FM holds the number one spot for international enrollment among the two-year colleges and ranks in the top 7 overall in the College's Congressional District.

FM was also recognized in SUNY's Data Brief: SUNY's Commitment to Internationalization, March 2016, where FM came in second in the entire SUNY system in International Student Enrollment Percentages with a 5.8 percentage. The community college average is 1.5 percent.



Fiber Currents/Current Fiber Exhibition

Twenty-one artists from across the United States were represented in the Perrella Gallery for the Fiber Currents/Current Fiber exhibition. This was the first time that such an accomplished group of fiber artists exhibited in Fulton and Montgomery counties; all of them had exhibited in major national and international venues, garnering honors, awards, and recognition for their personal creative approaches.

Artists incorporated diverse and innovative studio techniques including new digital and industrial technology; and, processes from weaving to constructing, collaging and printing. The show was curated by Judith Plotner of Bleecker, NY.



Fine Arts Professor Joel Chapin with Judith Plotner.

Expert on Extreme Violence

Students filled the Theater for a free Student Activities Board-sponsored presentation by Dr. Jack Levin on understanding serial and mass murder. Dr. Levin has been featured on NBC Nightly News, ABC World News Tonight, CBS Evening News, 20/20, 48 Hours, and Dateline NBC and most national talk shows including Today, Good Morning America, Oprah, Larry King Live, and The O'Reilly Factor.

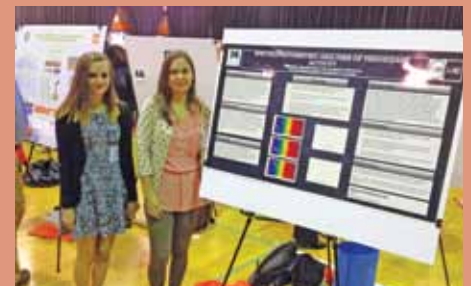


Freshman Criminal Justice major Kyle Seelow of Mayfield introduces himself to Dr. Levin. Kyle said that during his courses at HFM BOCES he viewed videos featuring Dr. Levin and his research. Kyle plans to become a State Trooper.

Coming Together with Others

Sixteen students studying Methods of Science Research and Biology, along with science faculty members Gilbert Ayuk and Susan Mac Leod, attended the 2016 SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference (SURC) at SUNY Cobleskill.

SURC brings together undergraduate student researchers and faculty mentors from across the SUNY system for a full day of activities, including sessions devoted to student presentations, a luncheon with keynote speakers, a SUNY Graduate School and Career Fair, and professional development workshops for students and for faculty.



Students Hannah Ennello and Merida Rodriguez next to their poster presentation.

Navigating the New News

The Barto Lecture Series, in conjunction with FM's Foundation, hosted guest speaker Rex Smith, *Times Union* Editor and Vice President, to speak to the campus community. Rex's topic, "Navigating the New News," covered the shift from print media to electronic media delivery methods and the effectiveness on keeping the public informed.

The William M. Barto Memorial Speaker Series is named after a popular FM Professor of History and Psychology who died in a tragic accident in August 2000 at the age of 37. The lecture series honors Dr. Barto because he initiated the practice of inviting significant guest lecturers to speak at FM. This series is part of FM's commitment to provide opportunities for cultural, intellectual and athletic enrichment for students and the community.



Rex with Barto Speaker Series Committee Member and Adjunct English faculty member Dr. Stephen Astmann.

Studying Abroad

The International Business: Study Abroad course is a special topics elective that includes an experiential learning objective – this year's was studying abroad in London, England.

Students studied similarities and differences in the cultural and business practices of the United States and the United Kingdom. The group received guided tours of popular London sites.



Students and faculty in front of The Tower of London.

Regional High School Art Exhibition

The Perrella Gallery hosted the 24th Annual Regional High School Art Exhibition, an annual tradition to highlight the artistic achievements of young artists throughout the Region in grades 9-12, which included 77 student works from 14 school districts within a 50-mile radius of the College. A total of 300 works were submitted to the exhibition for judging.



Five Juror's choice awards of \$100.00 each were presented at the reception. They included, left to right, Lee Chen Zhu, grade 11, Bethlehem Central High School; Brynn Marion, grade 12, Guilderland High School; Bradley McCrary, grade 12, Guilderland High School; Nicole Ferris, grade 11, Cobleskill-Richmondville Central High School; Thomas Knack, grade 10, Amsterdam High School; with Fine Arts Professor Joel Chapin.



Coiled Infinities

Coiled Infinities, paintings and sculptural installations by Schenectady artist Terry Bat-Sonja Zacuto, was featured in the Perrella Gallery. The exhibition's theme was based on Terry's exploration of ideas and emotion that we are inspired by the concept of snakes. Terry has exhibited nationally and regionally and has works in many private collections.



FM Student Art Show

The FM Students' Works Art Show contained 41 works of art selected from over 115 works submitted for judging by regional artist and retired Dolgeville High school art educator Holly Flood. The cash awards were sponsored by the Student Art Guild and the Graphic Arts Club of FM.

Catherine Hladik with her acrylic piece titled "1922"

Alumni Invitational Exhibit – Past, Present, Future

The Perrella Gallery featured the works of 19 artists, all alumni of the College's Fine Arts program. The Exhibition was the fourth Alumni exhibition since the Gallery's inception in 1999; it occurs every five years as part of the Gallery's offerings. Featured artists graduated FM between the years 1970 – 2015, displaying a wide variety of mediums, including painting, sculpture, photography prints and installation pieces.

Mercy Weiss, Class of 2013, with exhibited piece.



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