



Fulton-Montgomery  
Community College

# Annual Report

## 2017-2018



Futures Made. Here.



# President's Message



Higher Education is undergoing one of the most challenging times in its history. However, Fulton-Montgomery Community College still demonstrates a strong dedication to our students, a clear commitment to our core values and an absolute resolve to be the best of the best for our students and community.

The awards earned by students, faculty and staff, the professionalism of our sports teams, the improvements to our facilities and the involvement in our community – all demonstrate FM's commitment to the future and to a high quality experience for students inside and outside of the classroom.

As you read through the pages of the 2017-18 Annual Report, I believe that you will be as impressed as I am with all that FM has accomplished. You can see why when I talk with people about FM, when people tour our campus and when colleagues from other campuses see what we are able to do at FM they are often surprised. I hear, "I can't believe you can do all of this." Or, "I had no idea FM has all of this to offer." At FM we do more for our students and our community than some colleges three-times our size.

There is no doubt that gaining a college degree leads to a better life. It adds to an individual's lifetime earnings;

college graduates tend to live healthier lives; and college graduates tend to contribute more to their communities. It is clear that FM prepares students for their future in so many ways. Fulton-Montgomery Community College – Futures Made. Here.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Dustin Swanger". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Dr. Dustin Swanger  
President





## Board Of Trustees 2018-2019

Ryan B. Weitz  
CHAIR

Geoffrey Peck  
VICE CHAIR

Jennifer M. Gardella

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William Easterly

Taiyebah Ghazi-Moghadam

Edmund C. Jasewicz

Dr. Vicma I. Ramos

James R. Landrio

Valerie Elwood  
STUDENT TRUSTEE



Left to right: Edmund Jasewicz, Valerie Elwood, Vicma Ramos, Ryan Weitz, Geoff Peck, Jennifer Gardella, William Easterly, James Landrio.  
Missing: Taiyebah Ghazi-Moghadam, Lee Hollenbeck.

# About Us



## Core Values

Fulton-Montgomery Community College has identified the following as core values in its approach to serving students and the community:

- Excellence in education and teaching
- Student learning and scholarship
- Innovation
- Civility and integrity
- Caring personalized service
- Diversity
- Accessibility
- Quality environment
- Community engagement

## 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.

## 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.



# Accolades & Awards

## Distinguished Alums

The Foundation of FM hosted its 11th Annual Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner honoring Stan Kucel '75, Sue Nigra '87, and Neal Packer '71.

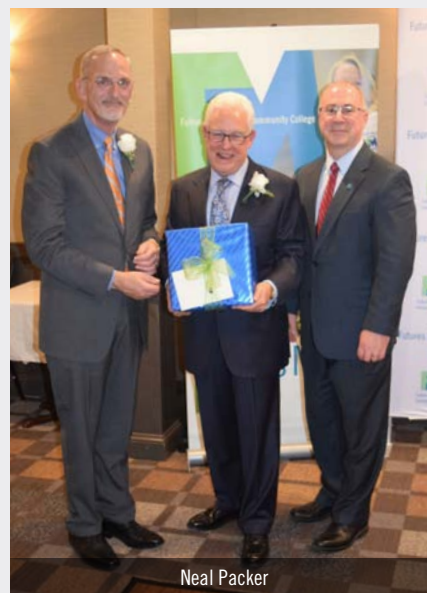
Stan Kucel joined his father, Stan, Sr. in the locally owned family business of Kucel Contractors, Inc. After years of building mainly stick

framed homes, Stan diversified the company so that it now offers high quality modular homes.

Sue Nigra is currently the Director of the Paul Nigra Center for Creative Arts in Gloversville, after nearly a twenty-year career as a news reporter and anchor for WTEN and WRGB.

Neal Packer is the CEO for Hill & Markes, Inc. and joined his family's business in 1975. The culture of a family business is clearly a focus for him.

The Keynote Speaker for the event was Laura Barquera, current Amsterdam City Clerk and graduate from the FM Class of 2006.



## Phi Theta Kappa Award

Jesper Bergstrom, an international student from Stockholm, Sweden received this year's Phi Theta Kappa All-New York Academic Award. Jesper, a Business Administration major with a 3.98 GPA is pursuing a bachelor's degree at SUNY Oswego. While at FM, he was involved in many clubs and organizations and contributed to community involvement.





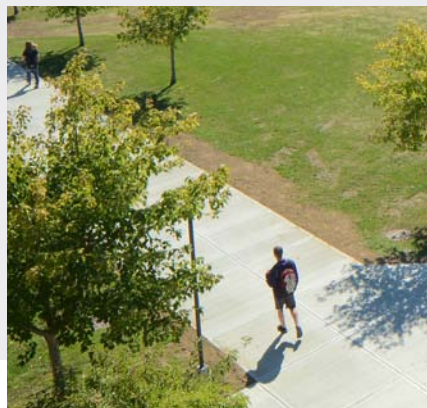
## Swanger Recognized by Montgomery County Legislature

The Montgomery County Legislature recognized Dr. Dustin Swanger, President of Fulton-Montgomery Community College for his contributions and commitment to FM. As stated by Mike Pepe at the meeting, Dr. Swanger has brought the College into the 21st century. He

listed the numerous accomplishments that Dr. Swanger has had since his arrival as President in 2006. “Montgomery County is a strong supporter of the College, so this unexpected recognition is very special to me” stated Swanger.

## Swanger Publishes Paper

President Swanger wrote a paper entitled “The Future of Higher Education in the U.S.” The paper has been well received by SUNY educators across the State and has fostered discussions on several campuses regarding how to position colleges for the future.



## SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence

This award acknowledges students within the SUNY System who perform well academically while in College, who are involved and engaged on the campus and those who participate in community service. This award represents the highest honor that is bestowed upon a student by the State University of New York. The award recipient for the 2017-2018 academic year was Jarisa Escalante. Jarisa is from Brooklyn, New York, and studied Health Sciences at FM. She graduated with a 3.79 GPA and is currently attending SUNY Potsdam to pursue her bachelor's degree.



## SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching

Lou Fagan, Assistant Professor, was awarded the prestigious Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching on May 24, 2018 at FM's annual commencement exercises, held at Proctor's Theatre. Mr. Fagan has been a member of the FM community for eleven years where he has taught a range of different courses from Introduction to Writing, to Modern Novel, to Creative Writing and more. Students reported that they enjoy Mr. Fagan's classes and that they find his courses rigorous yet balanced with support both in and out of the classroom.



# Sports



Dante Morgan & Julie Hampton

## Athletes of the Year

**Julie Hampton** (Volleyball, Basketball and Softball)

**Dante Morgan** (Basketball)

## Conference & Regional Awards

**Dante Morgan** (Men's Basketball)  
2nd Team All-Region and 1st Team All-Conference

**Bri Eagan** (Volleyball)  
1st Team All-Region and 1st Team All-Conference

**Gabrielle Smith** (Volleyball)  
2nd Team All-Region and 1st Team All-Conference

**Diasia DeBoue** (Women's Basketball)  
2nd Team All-Region and 2nd Team All-Conference

**Julie Hampton** (Women's Basketball)  
3rd Team All-Region and 3rd Team All-Conference

**Megan Ryder** (Volleyball)  
3rd Team All-Region

**Brad Smith** (Baseball)  
2nd Team All-Region

**Cory Moore** (Baseball)  
Gold Glove Team

**Gabby Smith** (Softball)  
Mountain Valley Conference Team

**Dave Hennessey** (Baseball)  
Mountain Valley Conference  
Coach of the Year



Aiden Van Loan

## Men's Soccer

MVPs: **Aiden Van Loan**,  
**Austin Heroth** and **Jack Albertin**

## Volleyball

Coach's Award: **Bri Eagan** and  
**Gabrielle Smith**

MVP: **Megan Ryder**



Clane Newcomer

## Cross Country

Coach's Award: **Travis Geniti**,  
**Clane Newcomer** and **Nick Ferrera**

## Women's Basketball

MVP: **Diasia DeBoue**

Coach's Award: **Julie Hampton** and  
**McKiea Weekes**



Sam De La Fleur

## Men's Basketball

MVP: **Dante Morgan**

Most Improved: **Brandon Cooper**

Coach's Award: **Jamal Vazquez**

## Men's Bowling

MVP: **Bryan Green**

Most Improved: **Charlie Cusano**

Coach's Award: **Richard Taylor**



Richard Taylor





McKiea Weekes



Women's Volleyball



Makayla Williams

## Women's Bowling

MVP: Makayla Williams

Most Improved: Kendra Sweet

Coach's Award: Angelique Lafreniere

## Softball

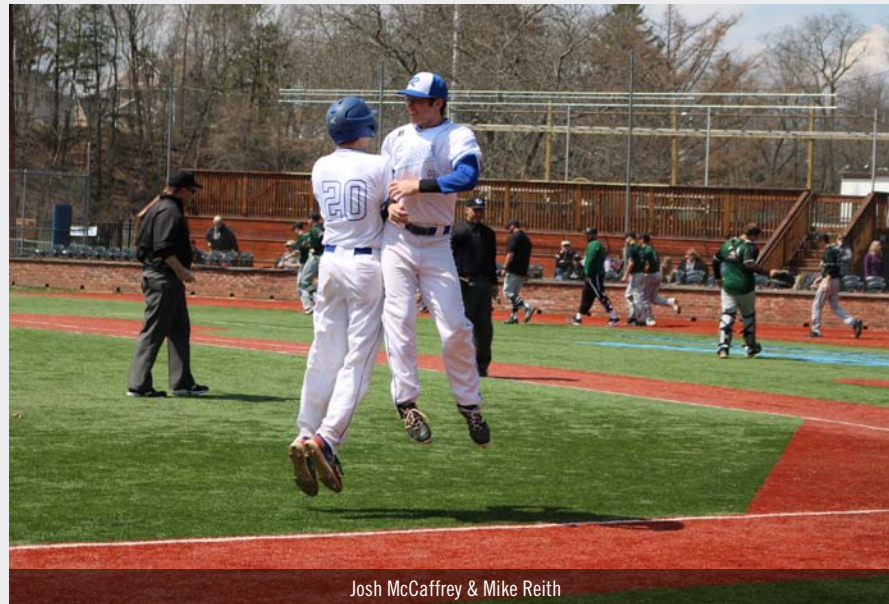
Offensive: Gabrielle Smith

Defensive: Sam De La Fleur

Coach's Awards: Julie Hampton



Jamal Vazquez



Josh McCaffrey & Mike Reith

## Bowling

The 2017-18 Men's and Women's bowling teams performed quite well in just their second year of competition. Both teams finished third in Mountain Valley Conference league play. The women finished 9th at Nationals and the men finished 10th.

Freshman **Bryan Green** of Scotia paced the Men's team and set team records for High Triple (727) and High Average (198). Freshman Co-Captain **Makayla Williams** of Esperence led the women as she holds all school records for High Triple (633), High Single (247), and High Average (186).

The bowling team is coached by Tom Rathbun.



Fulton-Montgomery Community College

# A Culture of Continuous Improvement

## Campus Upgrades

Many upgrades were made to existing spaces across campus and a new building, The Allen House, was added. The College's science labs had not been upgraded since the College opened in 1964. Year one of a three-year capital project was completed this past summer to upgrade science labs so that students can learn in state-of-the-art facilities. An update to the men's and women's locker rooms, located in the Physical Education Building, was also completed. Again, prior to the upgrade, facilities were original. Students can now enjoy new locker rooms, new team rooms for intercollegiate sports, and a training room. Finally, The Allen House, which was made possible through a generous donation from Frances Allen, was built and opened in March 2018. This building's main purpose is to host larger scale community events. The offices of the President, Provost, and Foundation Executive Director are also located in this building.



Science Lab



Allen House



Athletic Facilities





# Giving Back



Paint & Dip Outreach Event

## Community Outreach Events

The Community Outreach Club fundraised for a number of community based organizations, including hosting a bake sale for the James A. Brennan Human Society in Fulton County, partnering with HFM BOCES Cosmetology students to host “HairWeShare”, an event that collects pony tails of donated hair and creates hair pieces for those in need, “Paint &Dip” that raised funds for Mountain Valley Hospice, and what has become a tradition for this civic minded club, adopted a family for the holidays through the Salvation Army. The club was able to purchase gifts for two children and a single mother.

Hannah Ball, FM student, and her rescue dog (Sage).  
Montgomery County SPCA fundraiser held  
in October of 2017.



FM Professor Paula Brown-Weinstock teaches a Gender and Society class. This class raised awareness during Women's History Month and held a bake sale where all of the proceeds were donated to the local Soroptimist International of Fulton County, which benefits women and girls.



Annual Golf Tournament



## Annual Golf Tournament

FM held its 25th annual Golf Tournament on Wednesday, May 23rd at Fox Run Golf Course in Johnstown, New York. To commemorate this anniversary, each golfer received a 24 inch flat screen television for participating in the tournament.

The FM Golf Tournament raises money each year to support scholarships for students. Over the last 5 years nearly \$150,000 has been awarded to FM students.



In December 2017, members of the Education Support Personnel Unit teamed up to make a sizable donation of toys for the Toys for Tots program. Pictured left to right: Cathi Willette, Suzanne Aldi, Beth Carpenter, Courtney Spencer, Deb Shang, Tammy Beauregard, and Sue Sammons.



# Community Engagement



Instructor Erica Gauer works with Dolgeville students while visiting FM.

## Third Grade Visitors

In November 2017, a group of third grade students from Dolgeville visited the FM campus. While on campus, they participated in a

science class with Science Instructor, Laurie Lasinski and early childhood education class with Early Childhood Instructor, Erica Gauer. FM strives to expose young community members to FM at an early age.



## Fifth Friday Series

Fulton-Montgomery Community College Foundation hosts a “Fifth Friday Series” each month that has a fifth Friday. Speakers have been brought in on various topics for the community to attend. The most recent topics have included for 2017-2018: Government Efficiencies, Health Care in the Region, The Economic Impact of the Arts, The Opioid Crisis, and The Relationship between Law Enforcement and Minority Populations.

On October 16, 2017 Senator James Tedisco visited the campus. President Swanger was able to show him many of our campus highlights, while stressing the importance of community colleges in our region.



## TEDx Event

On Wednesday, January 31, 2018, FMCC hosted their second TEDx event (TEDxFMCC). The theme of the event was, “Recycling the Past, Re-purposing Energies, and Re-positioning for the Future.” The speakers were Barbara Madonna, Library Director, Gloversville Public Library; Tolga Morawski, Director of Board, Mohawk Valley Collective; Doug Plummer, Mayor of Sharon Springs; Jason Radalin, Assistant Professor of Theater Arts at FM; and, Entrepreneur and Restaurateur, Aneesha Waheed. Greg Young of the Fulton Montgomery Young Professionals Network (FMYPN) and Dr. Swanger offered opening remarks to the event and FM student Muhammad “Kash” Usman emceed the event.





Michael Ruller, *The Valley*

## Perrella Gallery Exhibitions 2017-18

### Fall Semester 2017

*Made in China*; Photography by  
Zhan You Bing

September 6 – October 13, 2017

Michael Ruller, *The Valley*

October 20 – December 15, 2017

### Spring Semester 2018

Erica Harney; *Romanticism and the  
Theater of Everyday Life*

February 2 – March 16, 2018

26th Annual High school Regional  
April 3 -19, 2018

Annual FMCC Student Show  
April 27 – May 11, 2018



Michael Ruller with students



Erica Harney, *Bye Bye, Countryman*

## Erica Harney, Romanticism and the Theater of Everyday Life

Harney, originally from the Saratoga region, now lives and works in Philadelphia, PA. Harney's current body featured drawings, paintings and mixed-media assemblages that explores what Harney describes as, "the act of creating selective

realities." Harney likens these realities to intentionally fabricated staged theater. Harney's recent work has been directly affected by her experiences as a working scenic artist, painting sets and backdrops for operas,

plays and musicals, where every element of the set has been carefully and deliberately chosen to express a mood, idea or ambience.



*Made in China*; Photography by Zhan You Bing



# Faculty Highlights

## Belize, A Confluence of Art and Nature

FM offers an international study abroad course that enhances cross-cultural skills and develops a greater understanding of language skills, cultural, historical and political concepts associated with the country



Professor Joel Chapin and students in Belize.



that is being visited. Students gain exposure to world culture, through on-site lectures, multimedia presentations and site tours.

This spring's trip took eight FM students to Belize, the western hemisphere's newest nation, in March 2018. The focus for the course was on Mayan civilization, arts and architecture both past and present and culminated with the trip during FM's spring break. The trip also explored how the Mayan culture survived, adapted and ultimately altered the tropical rainforest environment of Belize. Students learned about Belize's culture, people and natural resources from visiting firsthand its jungles, countryside and coral reefs.

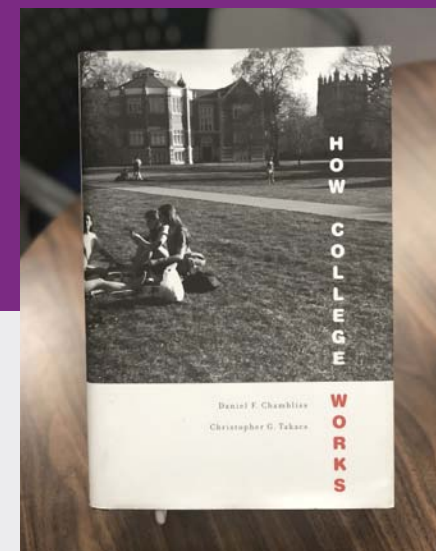
## FMCC's Student Nurses Association Goes to the Fair

Prior to the start of the fall semester, four members of the Student Nurses Association (SNA) volunteered to work at The Great New York State Fair in Syracuse. They spent the day at the Future of Nursing booth which represented the national initiative to find solutions that will lead to

## FM Reads! Author Event

Dr. Daniel Chambliss, the author of the inaugural FM Reads! selection *How College Works*, visited FM on Friday, April 13, 2018 for a series of discussions with campus faculty and staff. *How College Works* (co-authored by Christopher Takac) reveals the surprisingly decisive role that personal relationships play in determining a student's collegiate success and puts forward a set of small, inexpensive interventions that yield substantial improvements in educational outcomes.

Dr. Chambliss met with the Leadership Team in the morning, lunched with members of the Book Club, spoke



with the campus Retention Team and concluded the day with an open campus forum. The college book club, which ran from February to May, consisted of 22 professional staff members who met throughout the spring semester to discuss various aspects of the book and how its solutions might be implemented at FM. The book club was sponsored by the Evans Library and supported by funding from the FM Foundation and the Barto Lecture Series.



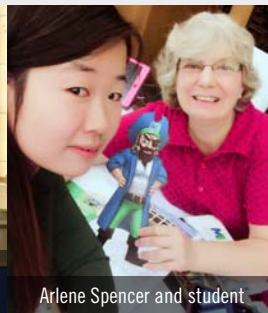




FM faculty and staff on Founder's Day



Hailiang Education Group Inaugurates the Community Colleges China Union with ELS Partner Institutions



Arlene Spencer and student

## FM International Program

In Fall 2017, a special partnership was formed between FM, English Language Services (ELS), and Hailing Education Group in China (private Chinese elementary, middle and high school group). FM is one of the founding members of this Community College China Union (CCIU) which provides a pipeline of Chinese students from the high school to FM.

## Top Performer

According to The Association of International Educators Economic Value Tool for 2017-2018, FM was listed as the top community college for international student enrollments in the New York Congressional District 20 contributing over \$2.9 million dollars to the economy and supporting 16 jobs in the area according to a formula designed by NAFSA's International Economic tool. These jobs are created or supported by spending occurring at campus, accommodations, dining, retail, transportation, and health insurance and telecommunications sectors.

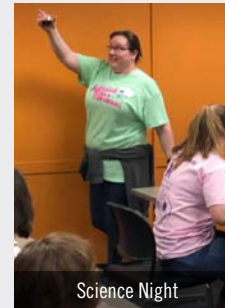


Instructor Laurie Lasinski and students at the Future Women of STEM Conference



## Student Learning

Instructor Laurie Lasinski was involved in many student learning activities over the past year. Her students participated in Science Night at Maple Ave. Middle School in the Saratoga Springs School District, and



Science Night

attended the CSTEP Conference in Spring 2018 as a poster judge for undergraduate research.

## Future Women of STEM

In May 2018, the second annual Future Women of STEM conference was held at FM. Female STEP students from Amsterdam High School helped over 150 middle school students from 12 schools navigate the day. Faculty from FM, Julia Merritt, Ruth Scott, Julie Mihalcik, Flor Trespalacios, Karlyn LaBate, Kullen Bailey, Sonnet Gravina and Lourdes Thebaud facilitated workshops. This year four workshops were presented by FM students; Valerie Elwood, Joline Hall, Michelle Ferraino, Denise Grimon, Lisbeth Serrano, Isabel Gonzalez, Katie Zarrelli and Kaellina Poppell.



Early Childhood Program: ECE students hosting children from Playmates Daycare for an Annual Art Fair, and facilitating a variety of developmentally appropriate activities.



# Students Come First



FM Commencement at Proctor's Theatre

## Human Service Students Impact Our Community

Human Service students at FM will tell you that they are provided with many opportunities to use and refine their skills through Service Learning Projects. These projects allow students to apply the knowledge and skills they learn in the classroom to help with real community needs.

One example of involvement was Kadeejah Brown, a residential student, featured for her work on a project which served a meal at the Gloversville Senior Center. Another project collected food for the Salvation Army. Sarah Kempter-

Swain was a vital part of this project and reports the group was able to collect over 100 pounds of food using an incentive program at a local Elementary School. Jody Harris was a part of a group which collected four huge boxes of toiletries for the Rob Constantine Recovery and Outreach Center in Johnstown. When asked about the impact this project had on her, Jody reported, "This project impacted my self-esteem greatly and helped me realize that with just a small effort and donation of time we can easily enhance the lives of others. It also helped me realize what a joy it is to have found my place in the community."

## Commencement Held at Proctor's Theatre

Over 2,000 family members, friends, and community leaders attended the May 2018 Commencement exercises at Proctor's Theatre, in Schenectady. Historically, the College has held its commencement in the main gymnasium in the Physical Education Building. Changing the venue to Proctor's Theatre due to renovations on campus proved to be an exceptional experience for all who attended. Commencement will be held at Proctor's again in 2019.



FM Students at Commencement



## New Chemical Abuse Counseling Program

FM students may enroll in the new Chemical Abuse Counseling A.A.S. degree program. This new program allows students to both obtain their Associates degree and complete the 350 hours of course work necessary to become a Credentialed Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC).

It is not a secret that the areas of Fulton and Montgomery County have been hit hard by the opioid epidemic and many people and families are suffering. Programs throughout the region have received increased funding and a number of grants have been made available to address this crisis. However, there is a fundamental need for more people to work in this field. The creation of this new program at FM will fill this gap in the workforce by providing trained and credentialed employees to agencies working on prevention and treatment of opioid dependence.





Dr. Kristina M. Johnson and President Swanger

## New SUNY Chancellor Visits FM

Dr. Kristina M. Johnson, Chancellor of SUNY, visited the FM campus in April 2018. As the 13th Chancellor, she visited colleges within the SUNY system. She met with many different campus members and held a forum in the Rao Theater on campus to discuss the future of SUNY. Throughout her distinguished career, Dr. Johnson been a faculty member, administrator, and visionary in higher education but also a dedicated public servant, national energy czar, successful entrepreneur, and an acclaimed inventor.

## Library Student Aides & Institutional Learning Outcomes

The Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs) adopted by FM have been mapped to the Library Student Aides' job requirements and competencies in order to assess student learning at the library.

Six of the library's seven competences map to FM ILOs; these six were utilized to develop the rubric used to determine if our student workers show "developing," "competent," or "proficient" skills at work. This year's assessment ILO rubric showed at least 50% of Library Aides as "competent" in all areas, exceeding established benchmarks. This process provides direct evidence of assessing ILOs in areas outside of credit-bearing courses.

And what does all this mean? In a nutshell, our library student aides ROCK!



Library Student Aides

## How An Educator Changed My Life

Kyle Kearsley, R.T.(R), wrote an article highlighting his educational experience in the Radiologic Technology program at FM and about his mentor, Karlyn LaBate, who teaches in this highly competitive program of study.

In his article, Kyle stated that with Ms. LaBate's help, he went from being a high school dropout to a straight-A student and began a career in a profession that he loves. He said of Ms. LaBate, "She's been a catalyst for my growth since the day we met."

Returning to school as an adult student can be extremely intimidating. After doing some research and volunteering at the local hospital, Kyle decided to look into radiography and radiation therapy. Luckily, through an open house event at FM, he met Ms. LaBate, who at that time was a clinical coordinator for the radiologic technology program. As Kyle was still trying to decide which program to join, Ms. LaBate convinced him to consider radiography within moments of shaking her hand. "She didn't talk to me about classes or the technical aspects of being a technologist. Instead, she spoke about being a professional and living up to a higher standard." Karlyn instantly communicated respect and a belief in my potential that I had rarely experienced.



Karlyn LaBate and Kyle Kearsley

Throughout his studies at FM, Ms. LaBate inspired Kyle to be the best version of himself and empowered him to work hard to make the world a better place. The field of Radiology is always changing, and we need people like Ms. LaBate to guide that change in a positive direction.



At our annual academic awards ceremony, held in May, Dr. Greg Truckenmiller, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, presents an award to graduating student Rio Blundell.



# Fast Facts 2017-18

## ENROLLMENT

Fall 2017 Headcount .....	2,403
Fall 2017 Full-Time-Equivalent .....	1,721
Number of International Students Fall 2017 .....	94
Number of Students from	
Sponsoring Counties Fall 2018.....	1,873 (78%)
College in the High School Headcount Fall 2017.....	708
Number of Graduates 2016-2017 .....	458
Three-year Graduation Rate .....	35%
	<i>(national average is 22%)</i>
Retention Rate: Fall 2016 thru Fall 2017 .....	50%

## APPROVED BUDGET 2017-18

Total Operating Budget.....	\$18,477,732
NYS Aid.....	\$5,081,458 (28%)
Tuition.....	\$7,375,000 (40%)
Fulton County .....	\$1,495,821 (8%)
Montgomery County .....	\$1,495,821 (8%)
Chargeback .....	\$949,000 (5%)
Use of Fund Balance .....	\$515,632 (3%)
Other (fees) .....	\$1,565,000 (8%)

## FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES

Total .....	153
Teaching Faculty.....	51
Student Support Faculty.....	33
Education Support Personnel .....	28
Buildings and Grounds.....	17
Administration/Management Confidential .....	24

**TOTAL SALARIES** ..... \$10,627,281

**PERCENT OF COURSE  
TAUGHT BY FULL-TIME FACULTY** ..... 81%

**NUMBER OF DEGREE PROGRAMS**..... 39

**NUMBER OF RESIDENTIAL  
STUDENTS FALL 2017**..... 247

**FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT** ..... \$5,487,783.80  
Scholarships and Awards..... \$136,310



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