Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I am very pleased to present this Report to the Community. It reflects the important, life-changing work we do at Dutchess Community College, and illustrates what a pivotal asset the College is for Dutchess County and the mid-Hudson Valley as a whole.

I became the fifth president of DCC in August, following the retirement of Dr. D. David Conklin. I share the gratitude of the College for his contributions over more than two decades, and for leaving us well-positioned to continue its tradition of excellence.

At the core of this excellence are the people of DCC. We are fortunate to have a strong, committed board of trustees and an impressive grouping of faculty, staff and administrators, who are deeply dedicated to their students and the communities of Dutchess County. Beyond the College, I am taken by the loyalty of the alumni I have met since arriving here. DCC graduates are everywhere – and they are passionate about their institution. In addition, our County Executive and Legislature are important advocates for higher education, and crucial to our success, as are those from throughout the area who contribute to the DCC Foundation.

One expectation I have as president is to tap the tremendous potential to expand community partnerships. College and career readiness, for example, are among the challenges we are facing in higher education. We need to increase our work with local kindergarten through grade 12 partners to prepare students for college-level work and also collaborate with employers, to ensure that our graduates have the skills necessary to get, keep and even create jobs. By partnering with area institutions on a range of issues, we can leverage the human and physical resources of DCC to help our community enhance the quality of life for all.

I am sure that I will meet many of you over the next several months as I make my way around the region. If you recognize me, please feel free to introduce yourself, and share with me your thoughts about DCC.

I am thrilled that the mid-Hudson Valley is now my home, and intend to do my part to make this great place to work and live even better.

Sincerely,

Pamela R. Edington, Ed.D.
President

Conklin also is known for his volunteerism in the community, most notably his service on nonprofit boards and participation in many initiatives designed to enhance the mid-Hudson Valley.


A portrait for the presidents gallery wall was unveiled in May during an on-campus reception to honor retiring DCC President D. David Conklin.

President Conklin Retires
After 22 Years of Service

Dr. D. David Conklin, who announced his retirement in summer 2013, stepped down as president of the College this past August. With 22 years of service to the College, he was the longest actively serving president in the SUNY system.

Board of Trustees Chair Thomas E. LeGrand lauded Conklin for providing the institution with exemplary leadership for more than two decades. “The former president’s work with faculty and staff to enhance academic programs, services and facilities has resulted in Dutchess Community College being one of the most highly regarded community colleges in the SUNY system,” he noted.

Accomplishments Under Conklin’s Leadership Include:

- More than one-third of college-bound high school seniors now choose to attend DCC
- Construction of the Washington Center for Science and Art
- Relocation and expansion of the library
- Creation of a one-stop Student Services Center
- Addition of a day care center
- Opening of a residence hall
- Establishment of endowed faculty chairs
- Creation of a scholarship for students in the top 10% of their high school
- Growth in Foundation assets from $280,000 to $9.3 million
- Acquisition of $2.6 million in campus artwork at no taxpayer expense

Conklin also is known for his volunteerism in the community, most notably his service on nonprofit boards and participation in many initiatives designed to enhance the mid-Hudson Valley.

Cover photo: Dr. Carol Stevens, vice president and dean of Student Services, stands with recipients of the 2014 SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence (see page 13) during an awards convocation ceremony in May.
For the first time in more than two decades, Dutchess Community College has a new president. Pamela R. Edington, Ed.D., became the College’s fifth president in August 2014, following a national search and a process that included students, faculty, staff, the College board of trustees, Foundation board of directors, alumni and the community at large.

Edington comes to DCC with nine years of experience at Norwalk Community College in Connecticut, where she began as Dean of Academic Affairs and in 2011, earned the additional title of Provost, serving as second in command to the president. Previously, she worked for 19 years at Middlesex Community College (Bedford/Lowell, Mass.), first as an Assistant Professor of Sociology, and then as Division Chair — and ultimately Dean — of Social Science and Human Services.

“As an experienced educator and administrator with 28 years of service at community colleges in Massachusetts and Connecticut, Dr. Edington distinguished herself as the most highly qualified individual to lead DCC in embracing the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead,” said Thomas E. LeGrand, chair of the College’s board of trustees. “She is a visionary with demonstrated accomplishments in key areas that include enhancing student success; developing community-wide partnerships; strengthening educational pathways in science, technology, engineering and math; and fostering campus collaboration.”

Shortly after arriving at DCC, Edington outlined the key educational initiatives that she will seek to advance as president. “I believe we must work to increase the number of DCC students who complete their degree, develop additional programs of study to meet emerging workforce needs in the mid-Hudson Valley, implement a service-learning program that offers opportunities for students to deepen their academic learning while helping to meet community-defined needs, and create strategic relationships with community partners to enhance the educational pathway in Dutchess County from pre-K through college.”

Edington holds an Ed.D. in Educational Policy, Research and Administration from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, an M.A. in Sociology from the University of Notre Dame and a B.A. in Sociology from the College of St. Benedict/St. John’s University, Collegeville, Minn. She was one of just 37 community college leaders selected in 2010 by a national review panel to attend the prestigious Executive Leadership Institute sponsored by the League for Innovation in the Community College. In 2011, the Community College National Center for Community Engagement honored Dr. Edington as a “Beacon of Vision, Hope and Action” for her commitment to service-learning and civic engagement.

DCC’s new president was born and raised in Minnesota but has lived on the East Coast for most of her life. She and her husband, William, have two adult daughters.

Why did you choose to come to DCC?
“I was first drawn to the people. We have a board chairman (Thomas LeGrand) who can’t say enough good things about the College and the impact it has on the community, and dedicated board members who are passionate about the institution and the students we serve. The College also is fortunate to have a solid group of educators – faculty, staff, and administrators – who are dedicated to the students and the community. When you have that type of support within the institution, plus all the DCC graduates who live and work in the community, there is little that can’t be accomplished.

“Second – and it’s a very close second – is the community support of the College. From everything I’ve seen, the support of Dutchess County residents and key political and economic bodies is an essential asset for the college.

“The third strength that attracted me to DCC is the SUNY system. The combination of local support along with the potential to leverage partnerships with other SUNY institutions could provide almost limitless opportunities for the College.”

How can DCC build on its strengths?
“Building relationships is key. I’m looking forward to getting to know the community and hearing from all of the various constituents directly about their ideas and hopes for the College. Also, when people are your most important asset, it’s essential that you continuously invest in their development. Faculty and staff need to continue their learning in order to be highly effective in leading the development of cutting-edge programs and pedagogies.”

What opportunities for development does DCC have?
“One of the most exciting things about education is that there always are opportunities for growth and development! Ensuring that our programs are current and relevant is essential, as is continuously improving student outcomes, and collaborating with community partners on shared goals. As we work on our plans, we’ll simultaneously be identifying and talking with people who want to invest in the future of Dutchess Community College.”
Student-Produced Documentary Screened at International Film Festival

“Civil Courage,” a half-hour documentary film shot and produced by students in Dutchess Community College’s Overseas Documentary Production class, was screened August 15 in Vancouver, Wash. as an official selection of the Columbia Gorge International Film Festival. It made its debut at Upstate Films in Rhinebeck last December, and was shown in March at the Freeze Frame Festival in Beacon.

During the summer of 2013, students Alyssa D’Adamo, Adrienne Davis, Rosa Knaus and Dan Tornelli, along with Associate Professor of Communications Dana Weidman, traveled to three countries and eight Holocaust sites to produce the film. The trip was made in conjunction with DCC’s Holocaust Study Abroad class, led by Dr. Werner Steger, head of the College’s History, Government and Economics department. The title of the film refers to a term used to describe people who stood up to the Nazi regime to help Jews, often losing their own lives in the process.

“It was very tough to be in those locations, as opposed to just reading about them in history books,” said D’Adamo. “It was a very overwhelming trip.”

Each of the students has since transferred to a four-year school, but they all attended the film festival in Vancouver.

Over 1,100 Degrees, Certificates Awarded at Graduation

DCC held its 55th graduation ceremony on campus May 15, with more than 4,000 in attendance. The ceremony also was streamed live on the Internet for graduates’ friends and family members who could not attend.

Associate degrees and career certificates in 54 programs of study were conferred on 1,161 graduates, who ranged in age from 17 to 61. Associate in Science degrees were awarded to 50 percent of the students; 20 percent received Associate in Arts degrees; 25 percent received Associate in Applied Science degrees; and 5 percent earned certificates. Nearly 38 percent of the class graduated with honors, having achieved a 3.2 GPA or higher.

In his welcome address, DCC President D. David Conklin congratulated the graduates and reminded them that their educational achievements will stay with them throughout their lives.

The keynote speaker was Sheila Appel, DCC alumnus and U.S. Regional Director of Corporate Citizenship and Corporate Affairs for IBM. Other speakers included DCC Board of Trustees Chair Thomas LeGrand, Professor Ornella Mazzuca and Student Government Association President Yoshinori Tsuji.

At an Honors Convocation earlier in the day, 157 students were recognized for outstanding academic achievements and were presented with scholarships totaling more than $130,000 (see story on page 11).
Lepore Named Business Person of the Year

Almost 200 guests attended the 2014 Poughkeepsie Journal Business Person of the Year luncheon at DCC in June to honor award recipient Joseph Lepore, president of LCS Companies.

Lepore founded LCS Maintenance Inc. in 2001 to offer cleaning services; the company has since grown to include landscape maintenance, stewarding for food services businesses and property development. LCS Companies employs over 250 people – more than half of whom were hired in the past five years. A family business, LCS also employs Lepore’s wife and son.

The Poughkeepsie Journal Business Person of the Year Award is presented annually to recognize an individual whose leadership, hard work and dedication made a measurable impact on the economic viability and vitality of the region and the surrounding community. The award recipient is selected by a panel of judges from all sectors of the community.

The award luncheon was co-sponsored by the Poughkeepsie Journal, the Dutchess Community College Foundation and the law firm of Corbally, Gartland, and Rappleyea.

Previous recipients were Michael Arnoff, Steven Lant, Mary Madden, Fred Schaeffer, Joseph Kirchhoff, Joseph Bonura Sr., Ira Effron, Wayne Nussbickel, John P. O’Shea, Donald, Patrick and Ralph Adams, Richard Chazen, Sandy Williams, Roger Smith, Charles Conklin, Abel Garraghan, Stanley Grubel, Joseph Tockarszewsky, Linda S. Sanford, Thomas LeGrand, Peter Van Kleeck, Robert Hannan and John E. Mack Ill.

Students Volunteer for Community Initiatives

Members of DCC’s Student Government Association work to enhance both the campus environment and our surrounding community. Last year, the SGA and student clubs raised approximately $11,000 for deserving organizations.

Some of the groups that benefited from the fundraising efforts included St. Baldrick’s Foundation, the Red Cross, Dutchess Outreach, Toys for Tots, diabetes organization JDRF, the U.S. military and various food pantries.

Some students volunteered to have their heads shaved in April as part of a St. Baldrick’s Foundation fundraiser to help combat childhood cancer.

Eleanor Roosevelt Program Develops Future Leaders

Last October eight students participated in the Eleanor Roosevelt Community College Emerging Leaders (ECCEL) program, an initiative designed by the Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val-Kill to prepare students for leadership roles academically, professionally and in their personal lives. DCC’s Acting Dean of Academic Affairs, Dr. Ellen Gambino, is on the ECCEL steering committee. Other schools participating in the program were SUNY Orange, Rockland Community College and SUNY Ulster.

The students took part in workshops on speaking, writing and other topics led by authors, professional coaches and other experts during three weekend retreats and additional on- and off-campus gatherings.

“The connection that was made with my peers and advisors was special and I gained a new understanding of the type of leader I want to be,” said Joshua Wright, a DCC student who graduated in May. “It is one of those once-in-a-lifetime experiences. You leave having become a better you.”

Current Student Government President Zoe Kozma also took part in the program, and though she was described by DCC Counselor Joe Reilly as being somewhat timid before starting college a year ago, she’s very outgoing now. “For Zoe, this past year has been an incredible transformation,” said Reilly. “ECCEL has very much been a part of that amazing change.”

On a survey given to students following the program, 94% of participants rated their experience as “Excellent” or “Good,” and all said the ECCEL program met or exceeded their expectations.

The DCC Foundation helped to fund the initiative.
Academically Speaking

Full Scholarships Earned by Top High School Grads

Forty-six Dutchess Community College freshmen were awarded the 2013 Charles E. and Mabel E. Conklin Scholarship for Academic Excellence. When combined with the Conklin scholars who began at DCC the prior year, more than 70 students benefited from the initiative last year. The Conklin Scholarship provides up to two years of full tuition for any Dutchess County high school student who graduates in the top 10% of his or her class.

The Charles E. and Mabel E. Conklin Scholarships for Academic Excellence are made possible through generous gifts from the Conklins and the Dutchess Community College Foundation. The full-tuition scholarship was created 19 years ago by DCC President D. David Conklin and subsequently funded by Charles and Mabel Conklin, who are of no relation to the college president.

Lectures Focus on Roosevelt Era

Author Richard Breitman came to DCC in December to talk about his newest book, “FDR and the Jews,” which focuses on FDR’s refusal to accept Jewish refugees from Europe during World War II. Breitman was invited to campus by Associate Professor of Communications Dana Weidman, recipient of the Greenspan Trust-Handel Foundation Endowed Chair in Holocaust and Genocide Studies. The lecture also was supported by the Gillespie Forum.

Breitman, a professor at American University, has authored or co-authored 10 books and many articles on German history, U.S. history and the Holocaust, including “The Architect of Genocide: Himmler and the Final Solution.” He served as director of historical research for the Nazi War Criminal Records and Imperial Japanese Records Interagency Working Group, which helped to declassify more than eight million pages of U.S. government records under a 1998 law.

Dr. Ira Katznelson, Columbia University’s Ruggles Professor of Political Science and History, gave a lecture in March titled “Reflections on Fear and Democracy: The New Deal and Its Legacies.” The lecture was presented by the Handel Foundation Endowed Faculty Chair to Perpetuate the Legacy of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt.

His most recent book is “Fear Itself: The New Deal and the Origins of Our Time.” His other recent books include “Liberal Beginnings: Making a Republic for the Moderns,” “When Affirmative Action Was White: An Untold History of Racial Inequality in Twentieth-Century America” and “Desolation and Enlightenment: Political Knowledge After Total War, Totalitarianism, and the Holocaust.”

Katznelson is president of the Social Science Research Council and research associate at Cambridge University’s Centre for History and Economics. He has been a Guggenheim Fellow and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society.
Graduating Nurses Recognized at Pinning Ceremony

After completing a challenging curriculum that included many hours caring for patients in local hospitals and other care facilities, it was the nurses themselves who were being attended to on a warm May evening. Almost 100 graduates of the Dutchess Community College Nursing Program received pins during a ceremony celebrating their enormous effort and dedication to their chosen field. The Pinning Ceremony signifies their transition from hard-working students to professional nurses ready to begin their careers.

DCC's highly regarded nursing program includes classroom lectures, labs and clinical experiences in local health care organizations. More than 70 percent of the nursing staff in local hospitals and health care facilities have graduated from the program.

Business Honor Society Inducts Members

Delta Zeta, the DCC chapter of business honor society Alpha Beta Gamma, welcomed 23 new members into its ranks in April.

The inductees were: Christopher Alksnis, Geniene Arnold, Marcie Bartels, Michael Bettini, Russell Brearley, Matthew Cave, Frank DeMarco, Bryan Guillen, Andrew Herrmann, Caitlin Holt, James Hund Jr., Bradley Hunt, Paul Leitnern Jr., Brandon Olivieri, Eric Porter, Deborah Powell, Katherine Recinos, Rajat Saha, Nicole Scaglione, Bridget Thomas, Fernando Velardo, Donna Venable and Fleshia Williams.

ABG is an international business honor society established in 1970 to recognize and encourage academic achievement among two-year college students in business curricula. The organization reserves more than $500,000 in scholarships for members who transfer to four-year colleges and universities.

Constitution Day Lecture Focuses on Dutch Law


Albert Rosenblatt is a retired judge of the New York Court of Appeals and professor of law at New York University. He also is president of the Historical Society of the New York Courts and co-authored “The Judges of the New York Court of Appeals: A Biographical History.” Julia Rosenblatt is the co-author of “Dining with Sherlock Holmes: A Baker Street Cookbook” and, along with her husband, “Historic Courthouses of the State of New York.”

Students Welcomed into International Honor Society

A total of 237 students were inducted into international honor society Phi Theta Kappa in May, the largest group to date. Students who have a 3.5 GPA, or who have a total of 12 hours of college-level work completed and maintain a 3.2 GPA, are invited to join DCC's Alpha Psi chapter of the society.
Academic Skills Programs Unlock Student Success

Several DCC initiatives have been successful in helping students with an academic or financial need pursue higher education and successfully adjust to college life.

In July, 134 students graduated from SmartStart, a summer initiative of skills-building classes for incoming freshmen who need extra help to place into college-level courses. Classes focus on mathematics, reading, writing and study skills. SmartStart students graduate at a rate double that of students who are eligible for SmartStart but don’t participate.

The College’s FOCUS program also centers on student success, but is held during the school year. Eighty-five percent of fall 2013 FOCUS students registered for the following semester, compared to 71 percent of those who qualified, but chose not to participate.

Bridges to Excellence is a program that gives eligible students in need of additional preparation for college the opportunity to transfer to Marist College after completing two years at DCC. In its fourth year, the program accepted 19 students this fall. Ten students are on track to graduate from DCC and transfer to Marist in 2015, while six students who entered the program in its first two years currently are attending Marist.

Completion Day Urges Students to Finish their Degrees

In October, DCC hosted a video presentation by “Community College Success” author Isa Adney and an outdoor fair that featured giveaways and a large graduation puzzle as part of Completion Day, a State University of New York initiative that urges students to finish an associate degree. In addition, representatives from various campus offices were on hand to make suggestions and help guide students toward degree completion.

Completion Day adopted the slogan, “Commit. Complete. Compete.” to emphasize that graduation puts students in a better position to compete for scholarships, internships and jobs in an uncertain economy.

The U.S. Census Bureau reports that individuals with an associate degree can expect to earn $400,000 more in their lifetime than a high school graduate. Obtaining an associate degree also better positions students for success at the four-year institutions to which they transfer.

Fire Science Courses Earn FEMA Recognition

The College’s Fire Science courses recently were awarded Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (FESHE) recognition by the National Fire Academy of the U.S. Fire Administration, a division of FEMA. The recognition not only signifies that DCC’s courses meet national standards, but it provides a model to ensure schools stay current with their fire science course information. In addition, FESHE-recognized courses easily transfer to many fire science programs at four-year schools.

DCC offers a Fire and Occupational Safety associate of science degree and a Fire Protection Technology associate in applied science degree.
Faculty Engage in Academic and Community Pursuits

Seemi Ahmad (History) coordinated an article series for the Poughkeepsie Journal’s Hudson Valley Views.

Michael Araujo (Business) was quoted in an article in the Poughkeepsie Journal, entitled “Provider-to-client connections key success of wedding and event planners” in March. He gives advice on how to be a successful business owner.

Jordan Bell (English) gave a presentation to the College during Black History Month titled, “From Nigger to Nigga: Progress?” He also played an important part in re-establishing a student newspaper at DCC, the online Falcon Free Press.

Pamela Blum (Visual Arts and Communications) presented a 3D encaustic sculpture demonstration at the 8th Annual International Encauxtics Conference in Provincetown, Mass. in June.

Lucia Cheruci (English) was Featured Poet at Adriance Library, Poughkeepsie, in April, and several of her creative writing pieces were published in a variety of journals and magazines.

Congratulations to Joe Cosentino (Speech and Theater) for publishing a novel, “Paper Doll,” in May, and for a reading of his play “Reach for the Sky” in September by the Fourth Wall Players at the Beacon Theatre.

Mark Courtney (Engineering) authored an ENACT SUNY 2020 grant proposal in June 2013 for a new Materials & Mechanical Engineering Laboratory, to be housed on the first floor of Taconic Hall. The proposal was accepted by SUNY and funded for $600,000. Planning is underway, with completion expected by next fall.

Carolyn DaMota (Biology) and Katherine Espinosa (Biology) presented at DCC’s “Math and Science Matter ... Especially for Young Women” event for elementary and middle school students in March.

Juan Garcia-Nunez (Communications) participated in an art exhibit at the Carrie Haddad Gallery in Hudson during December and January.

Jackie Goffe-Mcilnsh (English) is the President of the American Association of University Women for the local Poughkeepsie Branch and chaired and presented at a NYS Region Four Conference on Diversity in December.

Cathleen Greenan (Behavioral Science) was honored by GLSEN-Hudson Valley with an Ally Award in recognition of her fundraising efforts to benefit anti-bullying initiatives for LGBTQ youth.

Ingeborg Grutzner (Nursing) was the recipient of the NYSNA District 12 “2014 Excellence in Nursing Education” award.

Karen Ingham (Medical Laboratory Technology and Phlebotomy) participated as a reviewer for a self-study report for the MLT program at National American University in Kansas City for the National Accrediting Agency of Clinical Laboratory Sciences.

Weldon McWilliams (History) made presentations to the College on “Afro-Descendants and Music: An Intimate Relationship” during Black History Month in February and on “Dimensions of Racism” in April. He was a featured guest of WRCR radio in January and was named as one of the top 21 people to watch by The Journal News of Rockland. Weldon published an essay “To Set at Liberty Them That are Bruised: Exposing Liberation Theology within Hip-Hop” in “Urban God Talk: Constructing a Hip-Hop Spirituality” (Lexington Books, 2013).

Matthew Murray (Government) published two op-ed articles in the Poughkeepsie Journal. The first, published on September 12, 2013 analyzed the Obama administration’s policy options in Syria following a major speech given by the President on the subject. The second, “Drone Use is Legal, But May Not be Best Policy,” appeared on November 16, 2013 and analyzed some of the legal issues surrounding the use of drones in the war on terror.

Kathleen O’Connell (Exercise Science) received her doctorate in Higher Education Leadership from Northcentral University. Her dissertation topic was “Predictive Validity of the Learning and Study Skills Inventory on Developmental Community College Student Success.”


Werner Steger (History) was a guest on the NPR Roundtable on October 17. He published an op-ed article in the Poughkeepsie Journal in November, titled, “Kristallnacht was Bridge to Holocaust,” which appeared in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the November Pogrom in Germany.

David Walsh (Fire Science) presented at the Montaur Falls Regional Fire Administration in December, for the Westchester Fire Training Officers in January and April, at a NYS Firefighter Recruit Academy in March, and at the Fire Department Instructors National Conference in April.
**Family Festivals Offer Entertainment for Youngsters**

Many talented and engaging performers were welcomed to campus by the Office of Student Activities during the fall and spring semesters to perform for children and adults on Saturday mornings as part of the College's free Family Festival program.

“The Day it Snowed Tortillas” by Crabgrass Puppet Theatre, “The Tortoise and the Hare: The Results Show” by Flying Ship Productions, “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow” by Two Silly Fathers and “Mr. Punch’s Christmas Carol” by Crabgrass Puppet Theatre were presented in the fall, while spring shows included “Grace the Pirate” by Kit’s Interactive Theatre, “Anansi, Spiderman of Africa” by Crabgrass Puppet Theater and “Puss in High tops” by Flying Ship Productions.

The Family Festival series reflects DCC's commitment to engage young children and offer fun, educational and interactive programs for families.
Arts Across Campus

Wide Array of Exhibits Featured in Art Gallery

Dutchess Community College’s Mildred I. Washington Art Gallery attracts campus and community members with its rotating exhibits of student artwork as well as pieces and collections by regionally and nationally known artists.

A student exhibit in September 2013 featured artwork created in the spring and summer 2013 semesters, followed by a January 2014 show that showcased select works from students in fall 2013 art classes. Both exhibits featured photography, drawings, ceramics, graphics, paintings and more. The work was chosen for display by instructors teaching both introductory and advanced art classes.

“100 Artists/100 Dreams,” a long-term initiative that explores the recurring or creative dreams of artists, was on display throughout October. Seventeen pieces from the fine art component of the project, which includes sculpture, installation, paintings and photography, were shown in the gallery.

Photographs created by DCC Faculty members Eric Somers and Lori Adams were displayed in November and December. Somers’ “Stonescapes” series of photos featured close-up images of rock formations. Adams’ exhibit, “Little Flowers with Big Attitude,” featured colorful compositions of various flowers.

In February, artist Toby Sisson displayed a selection of paintings, prints and drawings. The work was created mainly in black and white, using the combined medium of encaustic, graphite, charcoal, oil and ink on paper or wood.

In April and May, the gallery hosted “An Artist’s Safari,” a series of African wildlife paintings by Eva van Rijn, who traveled to South Africa, Botswana, Namibia and Tanzania gathering photos and sketches of birds and animals as the basis of her paintings.

Varied Theater Offerings Entertain Audiences

Students in the DCC Performing Arts program and Masquers’ Guild troupe hit the stage to showcase their talents in a range of performances that attracted theatergoers from throughout the region.

Members of the two groups collaborated to present the musical “Rent” in November. The story illustrates a year in the life of impoverished young artists and musicians struggling to survive and create in New York’s Lower East Side, under the shadow of HIV/AIDS. DCC’s production was directed and choreographed by Kevin Archambault.

Performing Arts students brought John Logan’s “Never the Sinner” to the stage in April.

Five students involved in “Never the Sinner” were selected to participate in workshop sessions as part of the regional Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. Cheyenne See, who portrayed prosecuting attorney R. Crowe, and Brandon Argento, who played Clarence Darrow, have been invited to compete in the Festival’s Irene Ryan Acting Competition in January 2015, while Jeremy Johnson, Sarah Cross and Jennelle Liscombe each won a merit award from the Festival for excellence in student design.

The Masquers’ Guild presented its annual Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS Musical Revue in December. Almost $3,000 was taken in for the fundraising organization.

Daniel Hurley and Joseph Martino helped make ‘Never the Sinner’ a success.

Cheyenne See was invited to compete in a Kennedy Center acting competition.

'Student exhibit created in the spring and summer 2013 semesters, followed by a January 2014 show that showcased select works from students in fall 2013 art classes. Both exhibits featured photography, drawings, ceramics, graphics, paintings and more. The work was chosen for display by instructors teaching both introductory and advanced art classes.'
‘V-Day’ Raises Funds for Grace Smith House

DCC students, faculty and staff staged a reading of Eve Ensler’s award-winning play “The Vagina Monologues” on Feb. 20 and raised $500 for the Grace Smith House, a local nonprofit agency providing services to victims of domestic violence. The reading was held to mark V-Day, a global movement featuring benefit performances to raise awareness and funds for anti-violence groups.

In addition to the money raised for the Grace Smith House, a flower/cookbook sale brought in more than $300 for a student scholarship created by the Association of Women at DCC (AWDCC). The performance was presented by the AWDCC, the Women’s Activities Committee and the Masquers’ Guild performance troupe.

Music from Varied Genres Performed in December

A wide variety of music was performed during four winter concerts.

The DCC Jazz Ensemble, directed by Dr. Christopher Brellochs, and Guitar Consort, directed by Helen Avakian, performed instrumental works including jazz, classical and contemporary pieces. The DCC Winter Choral Concert featured the DCC Chorus and Chamber Choir, conducted by Ann Foster, and included performances of classic holiday and vocal music. The Mid-Hudson Community Orchestra performed pieces by world-famous composers as well as holiday favorites. The last concert was a recital featuring students of voice, piano, saxophone, guitar and more performing selections in a wide variety of styles from classical to jazz to musical theater.
More Than $100,000 in Scholarships Awarded

At the Honors Convocation in May, 157 students either starting their second year at DCC or graduating and entering four-year colleges in the fall, were recognized for outstanding achievements and received scholarships totaling more than $130,000.

The scholarships are funded by individuals and organizations to reward academic excellence. A number of new scholarships have been created over the past year, they are: the Senator Steve Saland Scholarship, the Kirchoff Family Scholarship, the Young Engineers Scholarship, the DUE Scholarship in Honor of Allan E. Rappleyea, the Henry McDermott Scholarship, the Hudson Valley FIRST LEGO League Scholarship, the Virginia Ann Apollo Memorial Scholarship and the William J. & Pauline Egan Memorial Scholarship.

The annual ceremony provides an opportunity for students to meet the members of the community who have created and funded their scholarships. Faculty from each academic department at DCC also take part in the presentations.

The scholarship ceremony began in 1997 to honor students who demonstrate academic excellence, leadership skills and civic responsibility. Many of the awardees have excelled academically while balancing work, family and other commitments. More than $1.3 million in scholarships has been awarded by the DCC Foundation in the past 18 years.

To learn more about establishing a scholarship, contact the DCC Foundation at (845) 431-8400.
Sixteen students who graduated in May from Dutchess Community College's Honors Program in Liberal Arts and Sciences: Humanities and Social Sciences were presented awards earlier in the month to celebrate their academic achievements. The Honors Advisement Sequence challenges select students with an enriched liberal arts education and an upper-level interdisciplinary seminar.

The honorees were Tiffany Calle, Maria Cardascia, Alix Ciferri, Jackie Cimmino, Jennifer Cronin, Victoria Cordisco, Alexander Davis, Sarah Erts, Erin Hein, Angelika Juerss, Victoria Leggio, Andrea Montealeone, Nicole Perlik, Gabriela Quintanilla, Leah Pica and Keara Wright. The Richard Reitano Scholarship in Political Science awardee was Christopher Acevedo-Miranda.

Educators Recognize Student Academic Achievement

Dutchess United Educators (DUE), the teachers union of Dutchess Community College, honored 35 students in May at the 29th Annual DUE Awards for Academic Excellence.

Nineteen students were nominated by professors for individual awards, while 16 others received special awards given by entire academic departments or in honor of past DCC faculty/staff members.

The 19 individual award winners were: Kendall Anderson, Wayne Bennin, Emerson Coulthrust, Melinda D'Alessio, Gina Dellagala, James Devens, Sarah Erts, Ryan Glinski, Peter Haylett, Allison Horne-Minott, Kerri LaCour, Gail Mackenzie, Tara Omuleski, Katrina Pardee, Desiree Thomas, Yoshinori Tsuji, Nicole Wheeler, Joshua Wright and Louis Zapp.

The 16 special award winners were: Frank Apollo, the Department of Behavioral Sciences Award in Honor of Carl Denti; Chelsea Relyea, the Department of Business Award; Jonathan Flynn, the Department of English and Humanities Award in Creative Writing; Weston Baines, the Department of Mathematics, Physical and Computer Sciences Award in Mathematics; Matthew Perl, the Department of Mathematics, Physical and Computer Sciences Award in Computer Science; Megan Brainerd, the Department of Nursing Award; Lucia Spano, the Founders' Award in Memory of Cynthia Feldman; Larissa Alvarado, the Visual Arts Award in Memory of Lowell Butler; Abigail Nohai, the Visual Arts Award in Ceramics in Memory of Lynette Mckinney; Shan Hemwani, the Physical Sciences Award in Memory of Richard P. O'Connor; Rosia Kittel, the Biological Sciences Award in Memory of Rochel Stein; Caitlin Holt, the Business Technologies Award in Memory of George N. Freedman; Matthew Cerasaro, the Academic Excellence Award in Memory of Sabra Toback; Rachel Puchkoff, the Academic Award in Honor of Mary Louise Van Winkle; Keara Wright, the Political Science Award in Honor of Richard Reitano; and Paulina Weiss, the Legacy Award in Honor of Lewis Krevolin.

In addition, DCC faculty member Yvonne Sewell, now retired, was presented with a 2014 DUE Honorary Award recognizing her career-long contributions to supporting academic excellence at DCC.
Eight Earn SUNY Chancellor’s Awards

Superior achievement by faculty, professional staff and students is recognized annually by the State University of New York with the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence. Eight members of the DCC community earned this honor in the past year.

Sally Toomey Weglinski, assistant director of Academic Services and Testing, was awarded the 2014 Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Professional Service. She came to DCC as a math tutor in 1992 before being promoted to her current position in 1998. Her contributions to the campus are many, and include planning a training conference for local peer tutors and program coordinators as well as helping to achieve a Level 1 College Reading Learning Association certification for the College’s tutoring program. She initiated Reclaim My Math, a review option for students who wish to place in higher-level math courses, and was instrumental in DCC’s Office of Academic Services and Testing being selected for the 2013 Frank L. Christ Outstanding Learning Center Award for two-year colleges.

Dr. Kathleen Hanlon O’Connell, instructor of Exercise Science, received the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. She began in her current role at DCC in 2008, and currently serves on the Dean’s Committee for Student Success, the Curriculum Committee, the Women’s Activities Committee, and the American Association of Women at DCC, acting as president in 2012, among many other campus affiliations. She initiated a webpage for Exercise Science and Wellness faculty members to share best practices and also is a certified peer reviewer of online courses. O’Connell gave a presentation called “Savvy Strategies: Dealing with Cyber-bullying in Online Discussions” at the 12th Annual Massachusetts Community College Conference on Teaching, Learning and Student Development. Outside of the College, she is involved with the American Red Cross, the Grace Smith House, the Pine Plains Rails and Trails Committee and many other organizations.

Dr. Wendy Joyce, a math and science adjunct instructor, earned the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Adjunct Teaching. She has taught math for the past 16 years and chemistry for the past seven years. In addition, she serves as an academic advisor, and has served as a lab monitor and professional tutor up until recently. Joyce was a member of the DCC Presidential Search Committee over the past year and assisted in the College’s annual Math and Science Matter ... Especially for Young Women initiative. She is a past recipient of the Dutchess County YWCA Salute to Women in Industry Award, and has served in a number of roles for the Church of St. Denis, including Parish Council President for six years.

Angelika Juerss, Rosia Kittel, Yoshinori Tsuji, Joshua Wright and Keara Wright were among the 274 students from 64 SUNY campuses presented with the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence. The award was established 17 years ago to recognize students who have best demonstrated the integration of academic excellence with accomplishments in the areas of leadership, athletics, community service, creative and performing arts or career achievement.

Model UN Team Earns Recognition

Students from the DCC/Vassar College Model United Nations team were presented with a Distinguished Delegation award, recognition for several Outstanding Position Papers and awards for Outstanding Delegates at the National Model United Nations simulation held in New York City in the spring.

The National Model United Nations program is sponsored by the National Collegiate Conference Association, a not-for-profit organization that promotes understanding of international issues and the United Nations.

The program provides students with a better understanding of the inner workings of the U.N. and fosters the development of skills in civics, diplomacy and compromise. Students take on different roles and are required to use effective communication skills to debate human rights, environmental, economic and other issues.

The joint DCC/Vassar team, led by Professor Richard Reitano and Instructor Matthew Murray, prepares with an academic course that begins in January, with the five-day simulation in the spring serving as the culminating event.

This spring’s winners of the Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence were, clockwise from top left, Yoshinori Tsuji, Joshua Wright, Keara Wright, Angelika Juerss and Rosia Kittel.
Faculty, Staff Lauded for Milestone Service Anniversaries

During the past year, members of the DCC community were honored for a combined 655 years of service to the College.

Thirteen members of the College's professional staff earned milestone length-of-service achievements in January.

Seemi Ahmad, Beth Kolp and Leigh Williams were honored for 20 years of service. Joseph Allen, Tara Sweet-Flagler and Sally Weglinski were recognized for 15 years; and congratulations on a decade of service went to Richard Barnhart, Kevin Cavanaugh, Gail Chaky, Renee Lathrop, Peter Phipps, Lisa Pignetti and Dana Weidman.

A luncheon was held in May to celebrate milestone service anniversaries for Civil Service, DCC Association and cafeteria employees. Peggy Noll was honored for 40 years of service. Celebrating 30 years of service were James Brazee, Dolores Hoover and Mervin Willis. Honored for 25 years of service were Linda Aiello, Cristina Crawford, Deborah Herrin and Kristine Horend. Tyrone Hill and Doreen Roome were honored for 20 years of service. Celebrating 15 years were Perry Cuttino, Grace Diaz, Alexander Harrison, Janet Kolarik, Jenni Oyler, Maryanne Sheehan and Doreen Wallace. Those honored for 10 years of service were Kent Chiavaroli, John Duncan, Ronald McKeon, Shelley Squires-Trani, Ryan Weaver and Kimberly Williams. Five-year honorees were Phyllis Black-Ruffell, Nancy Geer, Alexander Mersand, Daniel Milanese, Ricky Thomas, Cathy Thomas-Charles, Dawn Vaeth, Cheryl Verdile and Clifford Young.

Retirements

DCC extends many thanks to the following employees for their dedication and hard work, and wishes them well in retirement.

The retirees are: Richard Barnhart (Behavioral Sciences); Lydia Binotto (Community Services); Wendy Bohlinger (CSTEP); Jeffrey Clapp (English); D. David Conklin (President); Charlotte Johnson (Registrar's Office); Peggy Noll (Instructional Media); Mary Ellen O'Donnell (Health, Physical Education, Athletics and Dance); Donald Puetz (Health, Physical Education, Athletics and Dance); Maryann Sanchirico (Academic Affairs); Yvonne Sewell (Business); Patricia Trocino (Academic Affairs); and Doreen Wallace (Admissions).

New Employees

DCC welcomed the following new employees in the past year: Troy Adams (Community Services); Teresa Burke (Biology); Mark Cardinale (Registrar's Office); Pamela Edington (President); Tyrone Gadsden (Housekeeping); Anne Gorrick (Financial Aid); Lindsey Guile (Visual Arts); Jason Gumaer (Mathematics); Irene Hughes (Business Management); Ahmed Ismail (Accounting); Jessica Jackson (DCC South); Manish Jadhav (Physics/Astronomy); Frank Kolarik (Criminal Justice); Gordon Lake (Biology); April Leszczynski (DCC South); Elvis Lopez (Housekeeping); Richard Merry (Building Maintenance); Debra Miller (Health, Physical Education, Athletics and Dance); Solita Moran-Frye (Communications and Public Relations); David Patterson (Housekeeping); Debra Ramsay (Financial Services).
Magnetic Attraction

The semi-annual Magnetic Levitation (MAGLEV) competition for middle and high school students was held in November with approximately 100 students participating. The competition is sponsored by DCC’s Department of Engineering, Architecture and Computer Technology and facilitated by Electrical Engineering Program Chair Daniel Barbuto. Participants designed a car that uses magnets to levitate itself and a propulsion system, such as a battery-powered fan, a wind sail or a balloon. The students then built the cars and raced them on tracks lined with oppositely charged magnets to keep the vehicles afloat. The first-place division winners were: Becca Campos from Union Vale Middle School; Allyson Sirard from Union Vale Middle School; Joe Ciallela from George Fisher Middle School; Dealia Anderson from Webutuck Middle School; Aldo Martinez from Webutuck Middle School; Mackenzie Swanson of Union Vale Middle School; Tyler Wade from George Fischer Middle School and Patrick Hannon from Webutuck High School.

An additional competition was held in April of this year to accommodate increased interest in the program. First-place division winners were Kevin Desnoyers, Olivia Rockrahr, Emily Pinheiro, Justin Hyatt and Bridget Campion from Union Vale Middle School; and Katelin Zichittella from Linden Avenue Middle School.

Math and Science Opportunities for Girls

To encourage girls to pursue careers in the male-dominated fields of science, technology, engineering and math, DCC has for 18 years hosted an annual “Math and Science Matter … Especially for Young Women” program for girls in grades five through eight.

The program offers hands-on workshops developed by DCC faculty and is designed to engage girls in activities that highlight opportunities in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) fields. Students conducted experiments, examined fossils, learned about fire, studied the mind and more. The popular offering is coordinated by Tony Zito, department head of Mathematics, Physical and Computer Sciences.

Learning by Design

Local high school students interested in architecture worked with professionals in the field in March for DCC’s Ninth Annual Day of Design.

The teens worked in groups with local architects who volunteered to work with the students to develop concept boards and architectural models. The program is sponsored by the DCC architecture faculty, the Dutchess Community College Foundation and Catskill Art and Office Supply.

Another architecture-focused event was the 22nd annual DCC High School Architectural Design Competition in June. DCC’s Architectural and Construction Technologies program presented the initiative. Approximately 20 students entered the competition, and were judged on their designs for a single-family home with a view of the Walkway Over the Hudson. Andrew Jaehnert, Michelle Carchi and Tyler Conklin of Arlington High School took home first, second and third place, respectively.

Both events were coordinated by Dave Freeman, assistant professor and program chair for Architecture.

Pumpkins Fly

A team of students from Ulster Community College took first place at DCC’s 15th Annual Pumpin’ Chunkin’ competition in October 2013. Ulster was the only school to land a direct hit on its target. Teams from Arlington High School and Dutchess Community College also participated.

Punkin’ Chunkin’ gives students in physics, engineering and technology classes and clubs the opportunity to design, build and operate a sophisticated mechanical device to hurl pumpkins at a target. The event is coordinated by Mark Courtney, DCC associate professor and head of the Engineering, Architecture and Computer Technologies department.

LEGO League Robotics

Robots were on the march in the DCC gymnasium in February when the College hosted the 2014 Hudson Valley FIRST® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) LEGO® League Tournament robotics championship matches. The regional competition features teams of children ages 9-14, who use LEGO components to build small robots that complete specific tasks.

The theme for 2014 was “Nature’s Fury,” which focused on helping participants discover what can be done when intense natural events meet the places people live, work and play. The autonomous robots designed by the teams performed tasks involving object collection and manipulation.

Dr. Leah Akins, a professor in the College’s Engineering, Architecture and Computer Technologies department, served as coordinator for the event. FIRST is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1989 to foster an appreciation of science and technology in young people. Each year, more than 120,000 students in eight countries participate in the league.
Softball

For the third straight year, the women’s softball team won the Region XV Championship, beating Nassau Community College in the finals to earn the 2014 crown. The 20-win squad then traveled to Rochester, Minn. for the national tournament, finishing seventh. DCC softball is ranked in the top 10 nationally for National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division III. Alyssa DiMaio was named the Region XV Tournament MVP and was joined by teammates Michaela Yatsko, Chelsea Dexter and Tori Ostrom on the All-Tournament Team. DiMaio, Ostrom and Dexter were chosen for the Region XV All-Region First Team, while Sara Laurelli, Danielle Region and Jackie Santilli were selected for the All-Region Second Team. Yatsko was chosen for the Region XV Honorable Mention Team and DiMaio earned a spot on the Region XV Sportsmanship Team. In addition, DeMaio won the NJCAA Softball Marucci Elite Hitter Award for District E for her .519 batting average.

Baseball

The baseball team won 11 games this year, falling just shy of the Region XV Tournament. Hernys Blanco was named to the All-Mid-Hudson Conference First Team, while Mike Schoonmaker and Henry Blanco were selected for the All-Mid-Hudson Conference Second Team. Brothers Hernys and Henry Blanco were named to the Region XV All-Region Second Team. Henry Blanco was chosen for the Region XV Sportsmanship Team. Former Arlington High School baseball coach Al Hammell has been tapped as the new head coach for the 2015 season. (Photo at right taken at Dutchess Stadium.)

Soccer

The men’s soccer team won three of its last four games to secure a fourth seed in 2013 Region XV Tournament play. The Falcons led all Mid-Hudson Conference teams with six players named to the All-Conference Team – Brady Battistoni to the First Team and Matt Meck, Taj Humbert, Obed Noguera, John Condorelli and Kevin Cerdas to the Second Team. Meck and Noguera also were selected for the National Junior College Athletic Association Region XV All-Region Second Team. Battistoni also was named to the Region XV Honorable Mention Team.
Men’s Basketball

Co-captains Roland Archie and Noah Morton led the men’s basketball team through a tough season that saw the Falcons rack up just two victories in a tough Region XV schedule. A bright spot was the second-half roster addition of Joshua Wizer, whose inspiring play elevated team spirit.

Women’s Basketball

The Lady Falcons basketball team had its best season in four years, winning 11 games, finishing seventh overall and earning a seed in the Region XV Tournament. Tanisha Coleman was named to the All-Mid-Hudson Conference First Team and the Region XV All-Region First Team. Tori Ostrom was selected for the Region XV Sportsmanship Team.

Volleyball

The women’s volleyball team tallied eight wins during the 2013 season, making an appearance in the Region XV Tournament. Rose Cardascia and Maria Cardascia were voted to the All-Mid-Hudson Conference First Team while Rose Cardascia was an All-Region Honorable Mention as well. Lydia Teubl was selected for the All-Mid-Hudson Conference Sportsmanship Team.

Cross Country

Both the men’s and women’s squads competed at a very high level all season. Sophomore Meghan Kiernan led the women’s team with the best cross country performance in school history, winning the women’s Region XV title at Sunken Meadow State Park in Long Island and finishing third overall in Nationals in Holyoke, Mass. with a time of 20:45. She earned First-Team All-American honors, topping her selection to the Third Team the prior season. She also was named Mid-Hudson Conference Athlete of the Week twice during the season. Men’s runner Connor Lynch also participated in the National Junior College Athletic Association Nationals, setting a personal-best time.
First Class Graduates from Production Technician Course

The inaugural class of the Certified Production Technician program finished its 12-week, 160-hour course in August. The diverse group of students, which included military veterans, women and retirees, learned in the classroom, as well as online and through job shadowing at local factories.

Having taken the course and passed tests in the primary subjects of safety, quality, manufacturing and maintenance awareness, the graduates now are prepared for front-line manufacturing jobs such as assembler, machine operator, setup mechanic and more. The program also included the 10-hour OSHA training component for general industry, math requirements and communication and shop literacy skills. All of the graduates have interviewed for multiple positions, and almost half were hired within four weeks of completing the program.

Over 1,600 Trained Through SUNY Grant

Dutchess Community College utilized a workforce grant from the State University of New York during 2013 and 2014 to train 1,670 employees from 28 small and mid-sized companies within the manufacturing, business and healthcare sectors.

The training programs helped companies to be more competitive in the challenging economic climate and provided employees with essential skills to be more efficient and productive.

Some of the companies that took part in the customized training were Adams Fairacre Farms, Williams Lumber and Home Centers, Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union, Package Pavement, Schatz Bearing Corporation, Stanfordville Machine & Manufacturing Company, Inc., Hipotronics, Paragon Aquatics, NERAK Systems, Arnhof Moving & Storage, Elant, Jabl, Omega Institute, Mechatronics and the Council of Industry.

“Thanks to Dutchess Community College, Adams Fairacre Farms has had the privilege of participating with other area businesses in the SUNY Workforce Business Consortium,” said Gaye Mallet, director of Human Resources at the company. “Receiving the grant is a tremendous economic benefit to Adams – equally as beneficial is to learn with other businesses and discover that we experience similar challenges and have the opportunity to share solutions.”

Some of the courses offered included Leadership, Customer Service and Sales, Performance Appraisals and Team Work, Lean Six Sigma -Yellow Belt, AutoCAD, Certified Professional Coding certification, Mine Safety and Food Certification.

In addition, companies were able to offer English as a Second Language in the workplace. Twenty employees of Mechtronics, a design and engineering company in Beacon, completed a 12-hour course prior to beginning their workforce training.

“This type of support from DCC is very valuable to us and the continued success of our company,” said Julia Mercado, Human Resources manager at Mechtronics. “Through collaboration with the Office of Community Services we can provide training to our employees that will enhance their personal and professional experience, build a stronger community and improve people’s lives.”
Music School Names New Director

The Music School at DCC, which has offered non-credit classes and lessons for children and adults since 1972, named Laura G. Doe director in August.

Doe has performed in over 30 theatrical and operatic productions and has taught music in various schools throughout New York state. She has directed the Music School’s Summer Music Institutes for the past two years. In addition, she has taught for the school’s Performing Arts Institute, Piano Institute and Guitar Institute and founded the Intergenerational Women’s Choir. She holds a master’s degree in vocal performance and a bachelor’s degree in vocal music education from the Crane School of Music.

Non-Credit Music Scholarships Available

The Music School at Dutchess Community College offers free or low-cost music lessons to local students with strong musical potential who otherwise could not afford them through the MusicLink Scholarship Fund. MusicLink receives backing from long-time DCC benefactor Allyn J. Washington, The Bentley Fund and the Kanter Kallman Foundation in addition to getting support from fundraisers such as the Sing-a-Thon/Play-a-Thon.

Tax-deductible donations to MusicLink can be made to the DCC Foundation, 53 Pendell Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Please note “MusicLink” on your check.

For more information or to volunteer for fundraising activities, contact Music School Director Laura G. Doe at (845) 431-8916 or by email at laura.doe@sunydutchess.edu.

Increased Demand Prompts Additional Holistic Classes

A new series of holistic classes was introduced last fall, and the almost instant popularity of the programs has led to the creation of additional courses.

Instructor Lorraine Hughes’ hands-on approach to learning helped make the initial classes in Home Apothecary, Ayurveda and Foot Reflexology a success, the latter requiring the creation of additional sections to meet student demand. Over the past months courses including Herbal Detox and Weight Loss, Qi Gong and Connecting to the Wisdom of Plants have been added at the request of members of our community. Be sure to check the Office of Community Services’ spring mailing for more exciting offerings or visit sunydutchess.edu.
DCC Benefactors Inducted into SUNY Chancellor’s Society

Dutchess Community College benefactors Charles E. Conklin and Bernard Handel were welcomed into the State University of New York Chancellor’s Society at a reception in New York City in November 2013.

Conklin and his wife fund the Charles E. and Mabel E. Conklin Scholarship for Academic Excellence, which provides two years of full tuition for any Dutchess County high school student who graduates in the top 10% of his or her class (see page 4). The Conklins reside in Pleasant Valley.

Handel, a Poughkeepsie resident, is a longtime supporter of the College and a current member of the DCC Foundation board. He has funded an endowed faculty chair and renovations to the staff dining room, among many other contributions to DCC. Each year at the DCC Foundation gala, Handel presents a community leadership award in his name to a recipient whose outstanding public service has benefited residents of Dutchess County (see page 21).

The Chancellor’s Society was established to recognize philanthropy at the 64 SUNY campuses. The event was hosted by SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher.

Young Alumni Join to Create Scholarship

Three young professionals who graduated from DCC’s Engineering program in 2011 and now work at Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corp. have established a new scholarship to benefit students in the program. Adam Podpora, Michael Campagna and Joseph Kisch (pictured left to right) wanted to recognize the positive impact DCC had on their lives by paying it forward and helping future students. With matching funds from Central Hudson, each year’s scholarship recipient will receive $1,000.

After graduating from DCC, the three continued on for bachelor’s degrees – Campagna and Podpora to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Kisch to SUNY Buffalo.

The scholarship will be added to the more than 160 awarded by the Foundation each May.
Seven Honored at Gala, Scholarship Funds Raised

The Dutchess Community College Foundation’s annual Gala in March drew approximately 400 guests to honor seven outstanding individuals and raise funds for student scholarships.

Patrick, Stephen, Mark and Sue Adams, James Fedorchak and Wayne Nussbickel were inducted into the Alumni Hall of Fame.

Adams Fairacre Farms is one of the most successful independently owned and operated businesses in the Hudson Valley. Since it opened as a farm stand in the early 1900s, Adams has earned a reputation for providing value, variety, convenience and customer service as it has grown to include four stores.

Patrick Adams is company CEO, while Stephen serves as General Manager. Mark Adams owns Adams Greenhouses with his wife, Sue, who is vice president.

Fedorchak currently serves as Dutchess County attorney following a successful 30-year career as a lawyer in private practice. He is an adjunct instructor at both DCC and Marist College, and his professional affiliations include membership in the Dutchess County Bar Association and New York State Bar Association, where he has served as a member of the House of Delegates for four terms. He serves on the DCC Foundation Board and is a former College Trustee.

Nussbickel is the President and CEO of N & S Supply, a family-owned, full-service plumbing, heating and air conditioning wholesaler headquartered in Fishkill. His honors include the Poughkeepsie Journal’s 2006 Business Person of the Year award, the 2006 Marist College President’s Award for Community Service and the 2009 Gateway for Entrepreneurs of Tomorrow Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

The Bernard Handel Community Leadership Award was presented to Dr. D. David Conklin, who retired as president of DCC in August. Dr. Conklin was recognized for his commitment to community service, demonstrated not only by his work to make public higher education accessible to area residents, but also his personal involvement with numerous organizations across the county. He served as chair of the Dutchess/Poughkeepsie Empire Zone Administrative Board for 16 years. His additional civic contributions have been many. Currently he sits on the Dutchess County Economic Development Corporation board of directors as well as its External Marketing Council, and on the Vassar Brothers Medical Center Board of Trustees.

“David’s work, both as president of DCC and with organizations across the county, has demonstrated his commitment to the surrounding community,” said Bernard Handel, who established the award six years ago.

He added, “thousands upon thousands of DCC students have benefited from David’s vision and leadership over the years, and the fact that he consistently has chosen to give of his time and talent to many other local groups as well makes him a clear choice for this award.”

Handel is a longtime supporter of the College and a current member of the DCC Foundation board and has funded an endowed faculty chair, among many other contributions to DCC. Each year he awards a $1,000 scholarship to a deserving DCC student in the leadership award recipient’s name.

Previous winners of the Community Leadership Award were Linda Saland, Steven Lant, Lou Lewis, Sally Mazzarella and Dr. Daniel Aronzon.

Gala co-chairs were John Rath and Tim Massie. Gala sponsors included Bonura Hospitality Group, Clear Channel Radio of the Hudson Valley, the Poughkeepsie Journal, Absolute Auction & Realty, Adams Fairacre Farms, Rhinebeck Bank and Royal Carting.

Quilt Show Raises $6,500 for Scholarship

The DCC Foundation hosted the 16th bi-annual Dutchess Heritage Quilt Show in October 2013, raising $6,500 to support the Dutchess Heritage Quilters Scholarship, which is given annually each May at the DCC Honors Convocation. It is awarded to a non-traditional student in the Performing, Visual Arts and Communications department.

The quilt show included vendors, quilt judging, workshops and lectures.

Craft Fair Attendance High

The Foundation hosted its 42nd Annual Craft Fair on Thanksgiving weekend, drawing more than 3,000 visitors and 100-plus artisans and specialty food-makers. Some vendors traveled from across New York state, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and New Jersey to offer their unique items to local residents looking to kick off the holiday shopping season.

Items for sale included jewelry, fiber arts, clothing, candles, soaps and oils, decorative painting, photographs, toys, collectibles, ceramics, porcelain, floral arrangements and works in glass, metal, leather and wood.

The Craft Fair supports student scholarships at the College. The 2014 event will be held November 29-30; hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
DCC at a Glance
2013-14 Academic Year

Board of Trustees: Thomas E. LeGrand, Chair; Vincent J. DiMaso, Vice Chair; Betsy Brown, Secretary; Barbara Hugo; Richard Keller-Coffey; Daniel F. Kuffner; Kip Bleakley O'Neil; Robert G. Rollison; Sherre Wesley; Yoshinori Tsuji (Student Trustee)

Sponsors: Dutchess County Legislature; State University of New York

Budget: $62,179,113

Locations
Main Campus: 53 Pendell Road, Poughkeepsie
DCC South: Hollowbrook Office Park, 31 Marshall Road, Wappingers Falls
Off-Campus Site: Carmel High School

Fall 2013 Semester Statistics
Student enrollment: Credit - 10,232
Non-credit - 9,500
Degree and Certificate Programs: 58
Full-Time Faculty: 128
DCC Alumni: 41,703
Library Volumes: 88,698