

The Official Newsletter of

NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Where Success Starts...and Continues

Winter 2008

## THE HOSPITALITY BUSINESS DEPARTMENT AT NCC DYNAMIC PROGRAMS LEADING TO DYNAMIC CAREERS

Mention the phrase 'hospitality business' to people and you'll no doubt get a variety of responses. Some might think you're talking about restaurants, others hotels. Still more people would guess that you were referring to those who work in spas or country clubs. All of these people would actually be right to some degree, but at Nassau Community College the Hospitality Business Department specializes in coursework related to the nutrition, hotel and restaurant industries.

According to department chair Prof. Anne Cubeta, M.S., R.D., C.D.N., the hospitality business is a constantly evolving field that must keep pace with changing times. For instance, "There's a tremendous amount of emphasis today on good nutrition and the science behind it," said Prof. Cubeta. In response to that increased interest, five years ago the College began a food and nutrition program, developed for students wishing to transfer to a four-year college with the goal of becoming a Registered Dietitian. These students take a variety of courses at Nassau, from the expected (Fundamentals of Food Production, Food & Beverage Operations) to the possibly unexpected (General Psychology, Anatomy & Physiology). There has been a twofold increase in enrollment in the Food and Nutrition program this year over last year, says Prof. Cubeta.



Prof. Eric Schaffer with Nassau Community College Hospitality Business students.

Photography by William Baker

Another trend in the hospitality business, say experts, is the emphasis on hospitality in hospital patient service programs. Gone are the days when all patients would be served similar food at the same time in the same, institutional way. "Many hospitals have become part of corporate health care systems," explains Prof. Linda Boire, who runs NCC's Dietary Management certificate program, "These corporations have greatly expanded their quality management programs." Patients are often served what is essentially room service at times of their choosing, and much more attention is paid to the quality and presentation of the food.

In addition to coursework, the Hospitality Business Department at

### NCC DEBATE TEAM WINS TOP HONORS

The NCC Speech and Debate Team recently traveled to the Ed Leonard Memorial Tournament at Seton Hall University and placed 2nd overall, just behind El Paso Community College and beating the likes of Penn State, Brown University and Towson University.

Coordinator Prof. Trent Webb and his team are looking forward to the Phi Rho Pi National Junior College Championship in Chicago in April. For more information about the NCC Speech and Debate Team, contact Prof. Webb in the Communications Department at [516-572-7170](tel:516-572-7170).

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# A Message From the President

## STUDENT SERVICES AT NCC EXPANDED

by Dr. Sean A. Fanelli



In an age when technology, culture and attitudes are moving nearly at the speed of sound, it has become increasingly important for institutions of higher learning to be proactive in the wide spectrum of services offered to students. Colleges must maintain excellence in the entire array of categories that comprise the learning environment, while at the same time critically evaluating and constantly improving their student services. At Nassau Community College, our administrators, faculty and staff regularly review non-academic services and are encouraged to make improvements where necessary. It is as important to have excellent services as to have them at all.

Beginning in the fall of 2008, the College will have completed the first phase of the Banner computer infrastructure system—an administrative software application developed specifically for higher education institutions that integrates student, alumni, financial and personnel data—which will enhance our ability to serve our students. Banner will create accessibility to both students and staff when an admission application is made online. Operationally, it will provide students with quicker and more efficient financial aid applications from their home or other remote locations. Having to come to the College physically to register or apply for financial aid will increasingly become a practice of the past. The second phase of the Banner implementation

system, which will happen later on, will give students the ability to register online, thus eliminating the need to come to the campus until the first day of class.

### The Complete College Experience

Nassau Community College is an institution that offers its students a complete college campus experience. We've always had an exhaustive list of programs for day students—over 100 clubs, social events, world-renowned speakers on current topics, special day events like food festivals, cultural dances and more. However, thousands of students

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## NCC BRINGS THE COMPLETE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE TO ITS STUDENTS

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attend classes only in the evenings or on weekends. Until now, our ability to offer these students similar programs and services has been limited. It's long been acknowledged that college is more than classroom participation for day students. Now we have included these activities for evening students, too. The second phase of this initiative will include the availability of such specialized support services as psychological counseling, transfer counseling, and career and

educational counseling. Time and again, we've heard evening students express their appreciation for these expanded services. As one student said, "I feel like I'm really in college, although I have to work during the day to support my family. When I come here in the evening, I can attend a special lecture or hear a speaker on a particular topic as well as attend class."

By their very presence, international students enrich the quality of life for the entire campus. Over 1,200 students from 97 countries are represented on the NCC campus. Two additional counselors have joined our staff to better serve this population and we have also augmented our contacts with educational institutions in several European countries.

With more than 900 students, NCC has one of the largest populations of students with disabilities of any State University of New York college or university. We recently completed renovating the Center for Students with Disabilities, providing a healthy and efficient space to conduct meetings and provide counseling.

Several years ago, the College and Disney created a pact that gave our students the privilege to serve as interns [see cover article—Ed.]. They travel to and work at Disney World. While at Disney, various professional skill-sets are developed as they are exposed to entertainment business, marketing, hotel and restaurant management studies and more.

Lastly, the College has expanded its security operations. We will be adding peace officers to complement our state-of-the-art surveillance system. NCC is one of the safest campuses in New York and it is the College's goal to make sure that is maintained.

The complete college experience is what NCC tries to bring to its students. Nassau Community College has long been recognized for its academic excellence, and we want it known that we strive for excellence outside of the classroom as well.

Nassau Community College:  
*Where Success Starts...and continues.*

## Alumni Profile

### MATTHEW HOLTZMAN, M.D., SURGICAL ONCOLOGIST, CLASS OF '93

Matthew Holtzman's parents had high hopes for their son. He had high hopes for himself, as well. "I always wanted to be a doctor," says the Garden City native, whose father is a physician. A graduate of Garden City High School, Holtzman was, by his own admission, a less than serious student as a youngster. He was searching for a way to fulfill his goal of becoming a doctor. Then his mother showed him an ad from Nassau Community College. The ad portrayed a doctor and the tag line said, "I'm a Respected Neurosurgeon Now, but I Went to Nassau First!" Holtzman's mother said to her son, "You can do this, too." This ad prompted Holtzman to begin believing that he could do anything he wanted. One of the first things he did was attend Nassau.

Newly motivated, he began studying at the College. Although he was a liberal arts major,

Holtzman also took several preliminary science courses he knew he would need before going to medical school. "I absolutely feel that Nassau prepared me for continuing on with my education and a

career in medicine," he says. "The class sizes were small and my professors were great. The whole atmosphere was very nurturing." Once he graduated from NCC in 1993, Holtzman continued on to SUNY Binghamton, where he further excelled and graduated Cum Laude with a degree in biology. He then proceeded to the State University of New York Health Science Center at Brooklyn, where he received his M.D. degree, Magna Cum Laude. After

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**"NCC REALLY SET ME ON THE ROAD  
TO WHERE I AM TODAY."**

— Dr. Matthew Holtzman

that, Holtzman completed a fellowship in surgical oncology at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

Holtzman is now an Assistant Professor of Surgery at the university and is board



Dr. Matthew Holtzman, NCC Class of 1993.

certified in general surgery through the American College of Surgeons. He is also an active member of several societies, including the Society of Surgical Oncology, the American College of Surgeons and the American Society of Clinical Oncology. One of the clinical areas he's interested in is the management of advanced gastrointestinal malignancies.

With everything he has already accomplished, the 34-year-old Holtzman has a right to be proud. "My Nassau Community College diploma is proudly displayed in my office," he says. "NCC really set me on the road to where I am today."

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## FACULTY & STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

**Prof. Janet Caruso, Dean of Business and Professional Education**, published an accounting practice set entitled *Jet Stream Cleaning Service* for Thomson South-Western. She also prepared two volumes of the test bank for the 19<sup>th</sup> edition of *College Accounting*.

**Dr. Richard Glass, Mathematics, Computer Science and Information Technology, and Marsha Spiegelman, Library**, presented at the following venues: the Long Island Library Resources Council; the 33<sup>rd</sup> annual American Mathematic Association of Two-Year Colleges National Conference; the 20<sup>th</sup> annual International Conference on Technology in Collegiate Mathematics; and the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual Long Island Mathematics Association Council.

**Dr. Gary L. Klinger, Allied Health Sciences**, was elected president of Congregation Beth-El of Massapequa.

**Dr. Salvatore LaGumina, History (Emeritus) and Director of the Center for Italian Studies**, received an award from the Society of Catholic Social Scientists and the NCC Center for Catholic Studies at the Society's 15<sup>th</sup> annual conference at St. John's University.

**Prof. Jack Mandel, Marketing/Retailing/Fashion**, was interviewed on a *News 12* Cablevision segment about back to school costs. *Eyewitness News* asked his opinion on the newly released *Halo 3* Microsoft game. Prof. Mandel also spoke about "Planning for a New Business" at the Shelter Rock library, "The Personal Success Contract" at the Jericho library, and "How to Start a Part-Time or Full-Time Consulting Venture" at the Syosset library.

**Dr. Mario Susko, English**, was a guest reader at the Ars Interpres Poetry Festival in Stockholm. He also gave a reading and was a speaker at the advanced Creative Writing Workshop class at Loyola University in Chicago.

**Prof. Patti Tana, English**, has edited a poetry anthology entitled *Songs of Seasoned Women* (Quadrassoul, 2007), which includes poems by

20 NCC faculty members. The book has a total of 119 poems by 63 women.

**Dr. Elizabeth Wood, Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work**, was interviewed for an article in the October issue of *Contemporary Sexuality*. The interview was used to provide a critique of the recent study "Why Humans Have Sex." Dr. Wood was interviewed because she published a critique of the study on her blog, *Sex in the Public Square*, where she regularly comments on issues of sex and society.

**Prof. William Zatulskis, Student Personnel Services/Educational Counseling**, has been selected for inclusion in the 2008-2009 edition of Montclair Publishing's *Who's Who in Collegiate Faculty*. Prof. Zatulskis is an educational counselor specializing in freshman development.

*Note: All members of the College are invited to send articles pertaining to professional and community activities for inclusion. Call College Relations at 516.572.9634 for more information.*

# Nassau Community College Celebrates Constitution Day

## ERNEST GREEN, A MEMBER OF THE "LITTLE ROCK NINE," SPEAKS AT NCC ABOUT INTEGRATING LITTLE ROCK HIGH SCHOOL IN 1957



Ernest Green, a member of the "Little Rock Nine," the first African American students to integrate Little Rock High School in 1957, spoke at Nassau Community College this fall. The program also celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the integration and Constitution Day. It was

sponsored by the Nassau Community College Constitution Day Committee.

Green spoke about his experiences as a high school senior, when he was escorted into Little Rock High School by federal troops. He and eight other students were sent to the school following the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Brown vs. Topeka Board of Education* that declared segregation illegal. Green, who graduated from Little Rock High School, went on to receive his bachelor's degree in social science and master's degree in sociology from Michigan State University.

Green emphasized the importance of education and related how much impact the Supreme Court decision had on African Americans.

Green also is currently the Managing Director of Public Finance for Lehman Brothers' Washington, D.C. office. He is

also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Executive Leadership Council, the Legislative Action Committee of the Public Securities Administration and the chair of the National Association of Securities Professionals and Africare.

At age 17, Green was the youngest ever recipient of the NAACP's Spingard Medal. In 1999, President Clinton presented him, along with the rest of the Little Rock Nine, the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest honor given to a civilian, for outstanding bravery during the integration of Little Rock High School in 1957.

During Green's presentation, listeners were given insight into part of American history by a person who, as NCC President Dr. Sean Fanelli mentioned during his introduction, is, "A pioneer for justice; an eyewitness to history; and an inspiration to us all."

## NCC Hospitality Business Department – Hands-On Experience, Internships and More

Continued from page 1

Nassau provides students with as much 'real world' experience as possible. For example, the campus boasts a culinary kitchen featuring all the facilities necessary for students to prepare and serve meals. Software programs currently used by hotel and nutrition corporations supplement several other courses. Students studying hospitality business have also worked for major airlines and national restaurant chains.

Students are required to complete internships in their area of concentration. Many have worked in hospitals, such as St. Francis or North Shore University Hospital at Franklin General, or in international hotel chains, including Marriott Hotels and Hilton Hotels. One popular option is working at Walt Disney World in Florida for a semester, where chosen students earn six credits for their internship while living and working at the resort. Companies employing Nassau interns are uniformly satisfied with their work. Maura Dillion, MHA, Director of Food and Nutrition Services for St. Francis Hospital in Roslyn,

says, for instance, "We appreciate working with NCC nutrition students. They bring their enthusiasm and ideas, and our staff has the opportunity to share its hands-on experience."

The department also has courses in which students travel overseas, either for a semester or during the winter break. These programs may run at various times during various years. In one, selected students went to France for three months, spending one month in language school and two months in a working French culinary resort. In another, students traveled to Australia to learn about international hospitality. Still another course is being planned for South Africa. Students who have taken these courses report that they have provided invaluable experience for their career.

Hospitality Business has articulation agreements with several colleges and universities. Among them are Johnson and Wales, C.W. Post and SUNY Plattsburgh. Students can transfer their credits to hospitality programs at these schools and

graduate in four years.

### Career Paths

What professions do hospitality business students enter into? Registered Dietitians can work in a variety of settings: in health care facilities; in sports nutrition and corporate wellness programs; in food and nutrition-related marketing or product development companies; in public health settings; or in doing research for food and

**"WE APPRECIATE WORKING WITH NCC NUTRITION STUDENTS. THEY BRING THEIR ENTHUSIASM AND IDEAS, AND OUR STAFF HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE ITS HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE."**

– Maura Dillion, MHA, Director of Food and Nutrition Services for St. Francis Hospital

pharmaceutical companies and universities. Other hospitality professionals work as food inspectors, health inspectors, dietary managers, hotel management and hotel front office personnel. "Between the concept of wellness, people living longer and expecting a better quality of life, and ongoing food safety issues, the hospitality business will continue to thrive," says Prof. Cubeta.

## NASSAU'S CULTURAL PROGRAM ATTRACTS THE BEST



Feminist Activist Gloria Steinem speaks to Nassau students during a Cultural Program.

Each year, the Nassau Community College Cultural Program brings to the College some of the most thought provoking, topical, and sometimes even controversial, individuals to share their points of view with our students, faculty and staff, as well as the community at large. Over the years, many well-known and influential people have visited NCC: Gloria Steinem, Ralph Nader, actress Marlo Thomas, author Joyce Carol Oates, sportscaster Marv Albert and former New York City mayor Ed Koch, to name a few. Other speakers may have been less well known, but experts in their fields or experiences. Ernest Green, for example,

and her personal experiences as an autistic individual and how they can help others understand people with the condition.

All cultural programs are designed to be pertinent to the year in which they take place. In the aftermath of 9/11, for instance, “America After the Attack” was a series of programs that focused on those tragic events from several points of view. This year—an election year, with a war going on in Iraq—cultural programs featured two marine combat veterans debating the war and an American Arab and an American Jew discussing how to attain peace in the Middle East. Program topics are often related to politics, government or world

was one of the “Little Rock Nine,” the first students to integrate Little Rock High School in 1957. He spoke at Nassau on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that integration. Noted Animal Scientist Dr. Temple Grandin, author of *Thinking in Pictures and Other Reports from My Life With Autism*, discussed her work

events, in an effort to enlighten and foster dialogue, especially among people who might otherwise not discuss such matters.

Cultural Program participants don't only make their presentations. Many of them also visit classrooms, sharing their knowledge and expertise in a smaller setting with students who may not have had the opportunity to attend their event.

Many people from the community attend Cultural Program events at Nassau Community College. The subject matter of the programs, as well as their often interactive nature, makes for lively and noteworthy discussion.

The NCC Cultural Program also offers “Classics for Kids,” a Sunday afternoon concert series for young children and their families. Over the years, children have seen ballet, opera, international music and dance, storytelling, mime and more. “Classics for Kids” always proves to be an extremely popular program.

The Cultural Program at Nassau strives to bring the best from the worlds of current events, history, media and music to the College community. Those interested in finding out about upcoming events should call the Office of Student Activities at 516-572-7148 and ask to be put on the Cultural Program mailing list.

## NCC EQUESTRIAN TEAM RIDES HIGH

Yes, Nassau Community College has an equestrian team. Dawn Lipner has been coaching the team for over a year now. It practices at the Babylon Riding Center and competes in English riding shows against 12 other colleges and universities, including Yale, Molloy, C.W. Post and Hofstra. This year, Lipner estimates that as many as seven team members will qualify for the regional show by earning 35 points or more—a prestigious achievement. In February, the team will open its spring session by hosting a show at the Parkview Riding Center in Islip. They are always looking for new members. For more information about the Nassau Community College Equestrian Team, e-mail Dawn Lipner at Dawn.Lipner@ncc.edu.

— contributed by Michael Fenrich



Jocelyn Smith of the NCC Equestrian Team

Photograph by Paul Pilipshen

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### Firehouse Art Gallery 2008 Annual Open Competition

Jan. 22 – Feb. 21

Juror: Kenneth Wayne, Ph.D.,  
Chief Curator of Collections and Exhibitions  
Hecksher Museum of Art, Huntington, NY  
Call 516-572-0619 or visit  
[www.ncc.edu/firehousegallery](http://www.ncc.edu/firehousegallery)  
for more information

### Theatre and Art Department An Evening With

#### Langston Hughes and Friends

Jan. 25 – 27; Jan. 30 – Feb. 3

8:00 PM daily, except for Sundays at 3:00 PM

Langston Hughes' work has been called 'the music of the Harlem Renaissance.' *An Evening With Langston Hughes and Friends* brings this body of work to life in an evening of poetry, music and song. Call 516-572-7676 for more information

### Classics for Kids

#### Snow White Ballet Long Island

Sun., Feb. 10, 2008

1:30 PM & 3:30 PM

A classic fairy tale becomes an original ballet set to classical music  
Call 516-572-7153 for more information

## NCC CULTURAL PROGRAM



### THE TRAVELING PROFESSOR SERIES WINTER 2008

#### Ireland: Its People and Its Culture

Prof. Marynita Anderson, History  
Wed., February 6 – 11:00 a.m.

#### They Mayan Ruins of Yucatan

A Photographic Tour  
Prof. Rose DeSiano, Art  
Wed., February 6 – 12:30 p.m.

#### A Trip Through Southern Africa

Tanzania, Botswana, Namibia and South Africa  
Prof. Ron Lieber, English  
Tues., Feb. 26 – 1:00 p.m.

All programs, which take place in the College Center Building, are free and open to the public. For more information, call 516-572-7148.



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