SPOTLIGHT

The Passaic County Multi-Skilled Healthcare Worker Training Initiative (HCTI) is a $4.5 million project funded by the U.S. Department of Labor designed to provide participants with the skills they need for employment in the healthcare industry, an industry which is predicted to become the largest employer in the U.S. over the next five years for skilled workers. PCCC is one of only 55 training programs across the country to receive the three-year grant.

Through the program, unemployed individuals and selected incumbent entry-level workers are trained, at no cost to the trainee, for high-demand jobs. HCTI offers six components: Pharmacy Technician, Phlebotomy, Electronic Medical Records, Medical Coding, Supervisory/Front Line Management, and Customer Service Training. Students receive a certificate or preparation for certification exams and may also earn up to 15 credits to be applied towards a college degree. The classes are taught by PCCC instructors and offered at the College’s four campuses or at worksites of participating employers.

The program has succeeded in helping local residents move from unemployment to positions with employers such as Walgreens, CVS Pharmacies and Aculabs. According to Donna Stankiewicz, Project Director, “The labor market is our big challenge. The participants’ self-esteem takes a big hit being unemployed, but it’s rewarding because then they get jobs. Each day we are faced with trying to help them, and we do.”
**PCCC Advance**  
A Grants Update by the Office of Institutional Advancement

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**GRANT PROJECT DIRECTOR APPRECIATION RECEPTION RECOGNIZES LEADERSHIP**

On November 10, the Office of Institutional Advancement hosted its first-ever, Grant Project Director Appreciation Reception. Held in the Paterson Room and attended by 25 faculty and administrators, the purpose of the reception was to say “thank you” to all of the College’s Grant Project Directors for their strong leadership and tireless efforts in managing more than $5M in grant funding this year.

“The extraordinary commitment and wonderful contributions that these individuals have made to the College through their leadership and involvement in these grant-funded projects is remarkable and deserves our gratitude,” said Todd Sorber, Executive Director of Institutional Advancement and Workforce Development. In addition to receiving certificates of congratulations, the Project Directors also had the opportunity to create partnerships among the projects, brainstorm ideas, and share best practices.

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**NEWS 12 NJ REPORTS ON HCTI GRANT AT PCCC**

Donna Stankiewicz, Project Director of the HCTI Grant, was interviewed by Channel 12 News reporter Douglas Clark about the Healthcare Training Program. The segment aired on November 17 and was filmed at the Phlebotomy Technician training class on the main campus. Several students were on hand to demonstrate blood drawing techniques such as the butterfly.

“This (grant) program is a great opportunity for a person who wants to succeed,” said class assistant and HCTI graduate Aileen Morales. “My passion is to be in the medical field.”

For January enrollment call: 973-684-5663 or visit: [http://hcti.pccc.edu](http://hcti.pccc.edu)

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**COMING SOON—NEW GRANTS PAGE**

The Office of Institutional Advancement is pleased to introduce plans for a new Grant Programs Web Page. The page will be used to promote and disseminate information about the many grant-funded projects happening on campus. The main Grants Page will have links to various projects, funding opportunities, helpful links for faculty, and much more.

Each grant project will be organized under the Grant Web pages with tabs for students, employers, links to applications, links to existing information on the PCCC website, and other helpful information. Everything one needs to know about a particular program will be there. The Grant Page will be live by the beginning of the spring semester. To view the Grant Page, please go to: [www.pccc.edu/grants](http://www.pccc.edu/grants).
Passaic Partners for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Success is a project with an award of $4.1M from the U.S. Department of Education. Led by Project Director, Dr. Ida Greidanus, the goal is to provide students with the skills they need to succeed in STEM fields at the community college, transfer and thrive at four-year institutions, and ultimately enter the high-skilled workforce. Over 3,000 high school and college students will benefit from this STEM project over the next five years.

Beginning in the high schools, the project establishes joint learning experiences with bridge courses, creates an awareness of opportunities in STEM fields, and provides academic and career counseling. Students benefit from hands-on STEM experiences in areas such as cyber security, DNA extraction, bridge building, robotics, and solar energy. There are summer bridge courses such as Math Blast Boot Camp for ESL and developmental students, and programs for science and engineering.

At the two-year college level, a range of activities will ease in the transition for students moving from the community college level to a four-year university. These activities include transfer services and articulation agreements. Research opportunities will also be available and are unique in that they are not typically afforded to community college students.

From high school to community college to the university, this STEM project identifies obstacles to student success and tears them down by finding the right pathways to student learning. The result is a prepared student who becomes the highly skilled worker with 21st century skills and opportunities in a global marketplace.

U.S. Department of Justice Grant-Funded Project

Assistant Professor and former Paterson Police Department Director Michael Walker will design and implement a data collection and analysis strategy for a new grant funded by the U.S. Department of Justice, National Justice Sharing Initiative. This $270,00 federal project will address information sharing capabilities along the Passaic River Corridor, an area with 25% of New Jersey’s population but which represents 48% of all homicides and 35% of all violent crimes committed in the state.

The project is designed to allow for the tracking of crime from Elizabeth and Newark to Passaic and Paterson. The idea behind tracking this particular area is the mobility of criminal activity and how perpetrators travel to one city to commit a crime and then return to their home in a different city, often confounding investigations as police districts tend to be siloed. This tracking will aid in creating strategies that will connect police in these areas with information sharing among departments, thereby making it easier to investigate crime, establish a motive, and identify patterns of activity even if the criminals cross city lines.

The project will address this problem by providing systems, purchasing software, computers and other technology to improve information sharing among participating agencies.
The Dual Enrollment Initiative is a collaboration between PCCC and the Paterson and Passaic Public School Districts. Funded by a grant of $60,000 from the NJ Commission on Higher Education, the project serves to increase the number of dual enrollment courses (where high school students take college courses and receive college credit) that are offered and to increase the number of students who are participating in dual enrollment, especially those who are low income and first-generation students.

Project Director: Bill Morrison

Disengaged Adult Students Returning to College is a project awarded by the NJ Commission on Higher Education to re-engage 125 returning students in pursuit of their educational degrees. The project targets those individuals most likely to complete a degree or certificate within a 12 month period for careers aligned with high demand occupations. It also targets students who are 25-40, who are either unemployed or under-employed, those who left PCCC with a GPA of 2.5 or higher, and those interested in high demand occupations.

Project Director: Darlene McGrath-Florance

National Endowment for the Arts Poetry Grant is a prestigious $10,000 award which provides funding to offer free poetry workshops to seniors in Passaic County and publish anthologies of their work.

The Poetry Center reaches more than one million people annually and is unique not only because of the number and variety of services it offers, but because of its connection with an urban, multicultural, multi-ethnic community, which brings national attention to PCCC.

Project Director: Maria Gillan

Health Profession Opportunity Grants to Serve TANF and Other Low-Income Individuals is a five-year, region-wide capacity-building initiative to strengthen and expand health care industry occupational training. Through workforce readiness and integrated skill preparation, workforce supportive services and occupational skill development, the program paves the way to certification and employment for TANF, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, and other low income individuals. The project aims to serve 5,000 people with portable skills in the healthcare sector and allows them to advance along pathways towards higher paying skilled professions, addresses critical workforce shortages, and formalizes partner relationships by creating regional consortium of ten public higher education institutions. This project is supported by a $23 Million grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

PCCC Site Coordinator: Janet Albrecht

Hispanic Serving Institutions Assisting Communities Program (HSIAC) is an effort funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development with an award of $599,950. Over three years, two objectives are being addressed: 1) engage over two hundred middle school students in hands-on, project based learning activities that teach them educational and workplace readiness skills; and 2) support three hundred limited-English speaking adults in learning pre-occupational skills in high demand areas such as childcare, business administration and healthcare.

The College’s partners in this community outreach initiative include the Paterson Public School District, the Paterson YMCA, and St. Paul’s Community Development Corporation.

Project Director: Gaby Rinkerman
RECENTLY FUNDED PROGRAMS continued

GEAR UP The College will receive $1,879,200 over the next six years for GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs). GEAR UP is a discretionary grant funded by the U.S. Department of Education and administered by the NJ Commission on Higher Education. Its goal is to increase the number of low-income students who are equipped and ready to succeed in postsecondary education. The project serves students in middle and high school.

Institutions encourage students to obtain college degrees by providing after-school and Saturday tutoring, summer programs, mentoring, counseling, test preparation, information about financial aid, and college visits. The initiative also emphasizes the importance of taking rigorous high school courses to prepare for postsecondary education and includes scholarships for students who attend eligible New Jersey institutions. NJ GEAR UP also provides professional development for educators.

GEAR UP students are also eligible for the state’s Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) program, which provides financial assistance and support services including a summer program before the freshman year in college. New Jersey’s financial aid agency, the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, partners with NJ GEAR UP to provide information about how to pay for college in New Jersey.

Project Director: Clarence Wright

NEW GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Funding Opportunity for Navy and Marine Corps Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Programs

**Area of Interest:** The purpose of this funding opportunity is to inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers by engaging mostly K-12 students in STEM-related hands-on learning activities.

**Deadline:** Fiscal Year 2012

**Average Grant Size:** Up to and exceeding $100,000

**URL:** [http://www.onr.navy.mil/~/media/Files/Funding-Announcements/BAA/2012/12-002.ashx](http://www.onr.navy.mil/~/media/Files/Funding-Announcements/BAA/2012/12-002.ashx)

National Endowment For Humanities Challenge Grant for Two-Year Colleges

**Area of Interest:** Encourage two-year colleges to develop models of excellence that enhance the role of the humanities on their campuses.

**Deadline:** February 12, 2012

**Average Grant Size:** $300,000

**URL:** [http://www.neh.gov](http://www.neh.gov)

National Science Foundation Advanced Technological Education/Division of Undergraduate Education

**Area of Interest:** STEM/High-technology fields. The program involves partnerships between academic institutions and employers to promote improvement in the education of science and engineering technicians at the undergraduate and secondary school levels. The ATE program supports curriculum development; professional development of college faculty and secondary school teachers; career pathways to two-year colleges from secondary schools and two-year colleges to four-year institutions; articulation between two-year and four-year programs for K-12 prospective teachers that focus on technological education.

**Deadline:** October 18, 2012

**Average Grant Size:** $25,000 for a small project; up to $5 million for a new Center of Excellence