Dr. Steven Rose, President of Passaic County Community College, is the recipient of the 2012 Faith in Paterson Award from the Greater Paterson Chamber of Commerce and its member businesses.

Dr. Rose was the guest of honor and received his award, along with several proclamations, at the Chamber’s annual 103rd annual gala held last month at the Westmount Country Club in Woodland Park.

This year’s Faith in Paterson award went to Dr. Rose “for his contributions to economic development, job creation and improved quality of life for not only all Patersonians, but for all Passaic County residents as well,” according to James Dykes, president of the Chamber.
Dr. Rose has served as president of PCCC since 1996, overseeing unprecedented growth and expansion, which includes the opening of three new campuses – for a total of four throughout the County – and an increase in enrollment to over 9,000 current students.

Considered the fastest growing college in New Jersey, PCCC won several major grants in recent years, including a $1.7 million federal grant for STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education and a $4.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to train healthcare workers. PCCC was recently included in the prestigious Achieving the Dream national initiative to promote student success in community college education.

As a member of the Chamber’s Board of Directors and the Workforce Investment Board of Passaic County, and as a trustee of the Greater Paterson Opportunities Industrialization Center, Dr. Rose works closely with the business community to bring the College and area commerce together in collaborations that enhance job training, internship opportunities for students, and general economic development in the region.

More than 200 area businessmen and women attended the gala where the PCCC president also received proclamations from Mr. Dykes, Paterson Mayor Jeffrey Jones, Assemblywoman Shavonda Sumter and Assemblyman Benji Wimberly in recognition of his commitment to the residents of their respective districts and to the City of Paterson.

Paterson Mayor Jeffrey Jones presents a proclamation to Dr. Rose. Photo courtesy of GPCC.

Photo: Congressman Bill Pascrell introduced Dr. Rose at the gala and presented him with a framed photograph of the historic Great Falls of Paterson. Photo courtesy of GPCC.
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Prior to becoming President of PCCC, Dr. Rose served as the College’s Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dean of Faculty, and Dean of Admissions and Enrollment Management. He holds a doctoral degree in education from Rutgers University, a master’s degree in higher education from the University of Vermont, and a bachelor’s degree in political science from Muhlenberg College. He is also an officer of the New Jersey President’s Council.