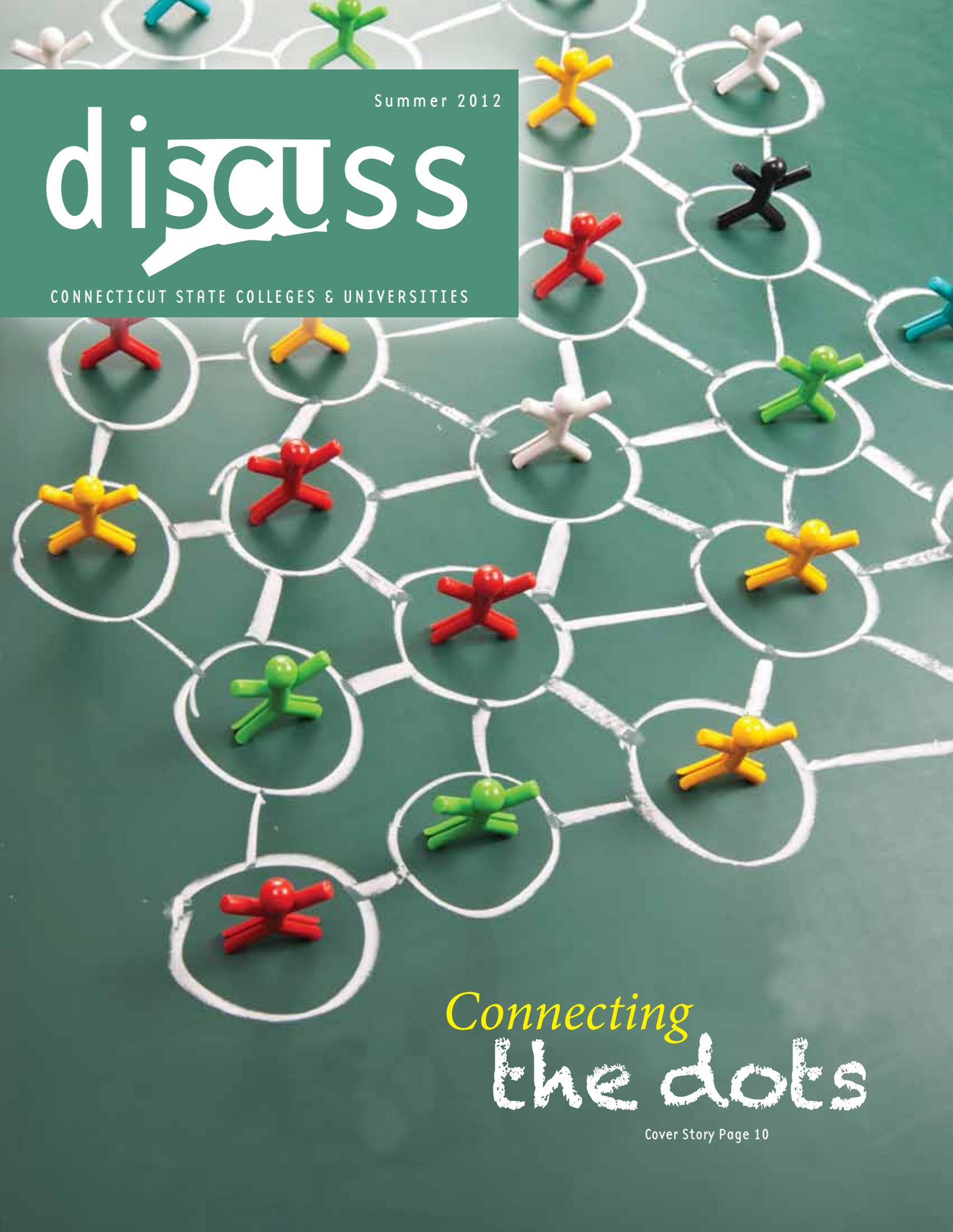


Summer 2012

discuss

CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES



Connecting
the dots

Cover Story Page 10

It is our pleasure to introduce you to the first issue of *diSCUss* — the public affairs magazine dedicated to sharing some of the interesting stories and the latest news across the 17 campuses of the Connecticut State Colleges & Universities (ConnSCU), governed by the Board of Regents for Higher Education.

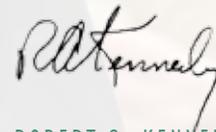
There is no question that each college and university within our new organization has a compelling story to share on its own. But together, as a statewide organization of 17 campuses offering the residents of Connecticut an affordable and accessible way to earn their degree or take part in career training and advancement, the story we have to tell is that much more powerful.

With 96,000 students across our campuses, almost all of whom stay in Connecticut after graduation, it is clear the role our schools play in the workforce development of our state. The partnerships we can — and must — create between our community college and university campuses, as well as with the private sector and Charter Oak State College — the state’s only public, fully online, degree-granting institution — will help us all better understand what our state’s employers are looking for, and what we can do to better prepare the next generation of Connecticut’s workforce.

We hope you enjoy the inaugural issue of *diSCUss*. Please visit www.ctregents.org to learn more about our schools, our campuses and our students.



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Chairman, Board of Regents
for Higher Education



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President, Board of Regents
for Higher Education



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Community College, Southern Connecticut
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The consolidation of the four state universities, 12 community colleges and one online college into the 17 campuses of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities ConnSCU, governed by the Board of Regents for Higher Education, offers an accessible option to further student education.

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Three Community Colleges Selected for New Manufacturing Centers >

Housatonic Community College (HCC) in Bridgeport, Naugatuck Valley Community College (NVCC) in Waterbury and Quinebaug Valley Community College (QVCC) in Danielson were selected for the creation of manufacturing centers to meet the state's workforce needs.

The colleges were selected in response to the passage of Governor Dannel P. Malloy's bipartisan Jobs Bill, which encouraged new job creation, while strengthening the state's workforce competitiveness. "Having a workforce that is able to fill these jobs is vital to spurring economic growth, and these Manufacturing Centers will play a significant role in boosting those efforts," said Malloy.

Included in the bill is \$17.8 million in state bond funding for the development of manufacturing programs at the three community colleges. This funding includes capital equipment purchases and the renovation and expansion of existing college facilities to accommodate a manufacturing center.



Naugatuck Valley Community College's Technology Hall.

The proposal review committee included representatives from the Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR), the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology (CCAT), the Connecticut Business and Industry Association (CBIA) Education Foundation and Asnuntuck Community College.

The idea for the three new manufacturing centers was spurred by the success of Asnuntuck Community College's successful Manufacturing Technology Center in Enfield. Also included in the Jobs Bill package is \$2.2 million in bonding authorization to expand Asnuntuck's precision manufacturing program.

MANUFACTURING AND ENGINEERING ACROSS CONNSCU

>Engineering Programs to Expand

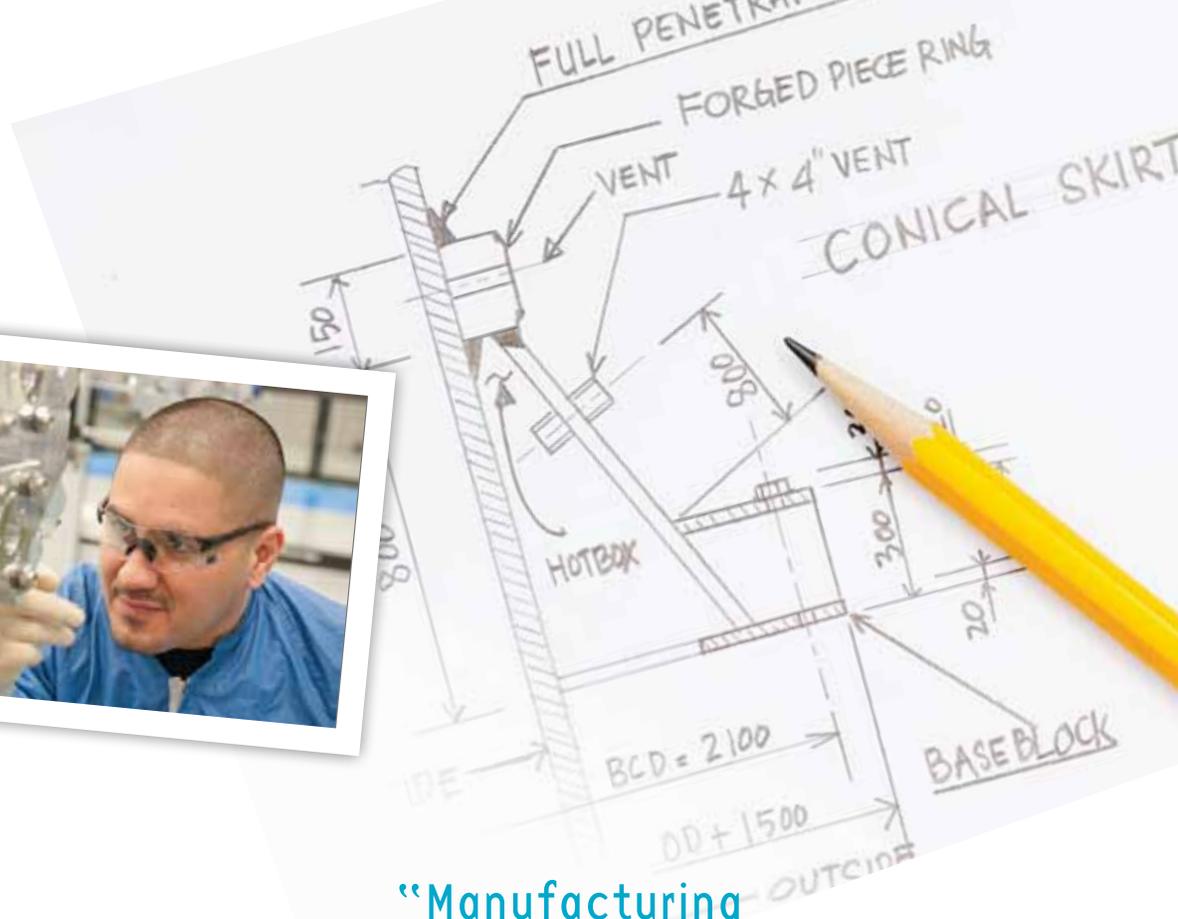
As part of the concept to reallocate \$5.5 million in central office savings to the campuses for tenure track faculty and direct student support services positions, the Board of Regents for Higher Education approved a proposal by Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) to strengthen and expand their renowned engineering program, while at the same time, support the community college pipeline through which a number of their students progress.

CCSU will receive funding for six new faculty positions for their engineering department and other related areas. But as a critical element to CCSU's proposal, seven community colleges



that have mechanical and/or advanced manufacturing engineering pathways will each receive funding for one position to teach and advise students who wish to earn their bachelor's degree at CCSU.

"This is exactly the kind of partnership that we need to support and expand across our campuses," said BOR President Robert Kennedy. "Central President Jack Miller and his staff should be commended for thinking creatively, and involving the leaders of other campuses with whom they already work."



Community colleges will also be responsible for providing measurable outcomes — which include students graduating from the program and final job placement in the state’s manufacturing industry. Programs must meet the specific needs of the region’s manufacturing sector, offer a standard core curriculum and industry recognized credentials, which is a priority for the **Dream It. Do It.** initiative, led in Connecticut by CCAT and co-chaired by President Kennedy.

Visit www.ctregents.org/manufacturing for more information

“Manufacturing education programs that respond to the needs of the state’s manufacturers will prepare students for the 21st century global workforce.”

- BOR President Robert Kennedy

Photos by the Regional Center for Next Generation Manufacturing - A National Science Foundation Center of Excellence

>The following community college campuses will each receive one position as part of CCSU’s proposal to expand its engineering program:

- >Asnuntuck Community College
- >Housatonic Community College
- >Manchester Community College
- >Naugatuck Valley Community College
- >Norwalk Community College
- >Quinebaug Valley Community College
- >Tunxis Community College



Manufacturing Centers: Students Wanted >

NOW ENROLLING STUDENTS FOR FALL 2012

The three new community college manufacturing centers at Housatonic Community College, Naugatuck Valley Community College and Quinebaug Valley Community College — in addition to the existing manufacturing center at Asnuntuck Community College — are currently enrolling students for the fall 2012 semester, with an expected Advanced Manufacturing Certificate completion date of May 2013.

“If we’re going to increase job growth and remain competitive, we must be aware of how critically important it is for manufacturers to have access to employees with an advanced skill set,” said Governor Dannel P. Malloy.

“Following the successful Asnuntuck model, these three new manufacturing centers will serve more students from across our state and ensure that they are ready to compete in the 21st century global economy,” said Board of Regents President Robert A. Kennedy.

Students who earn their Machine Technology Level I Certificate will receive a primary level of skill in the machining area of manufacturing. The Advanced Manufacturing: Machine Technology Level II Certificate will provide additional skills in machine technology and Computer Numeric Control (CNC) manufacturing environments.

These credits may be applied to the College of Technology’s (COT) Technology Studies Advanced Manufacturing degree option which may be used for seamless transfer to several four-year universities including Central Connecticut State University.

Interested students can visit www.ctregents.org/manufacturing



More than 300 high school students attended a Pathways to Manufacturing and Engineering Technology Careers Expo at Tunxis Community College.

Photo by Connecticut Business and Industry Association

MANUFACTURING AND ENGINEERING ACROSS CONNSCU



Students examine a laser engraving and cutting system at Gateway Community College.

Photo by Connecticut Business and Industry Association

>Pathways to Manufacturing and Engineering Technology Careers

Tunxis Community College and Gateway Community College held Pathways to Manufacturing and Engineering Technology Careers Expos that drew hundreds of high school students to campus.

At Tunxis, the expo was sponsored by the Connecticut Community Colleges’ College of Technology’s Regional Center for Next Generation Manufacturing (RCNGM), a National Science Foundation Center of Excellence. The Connecticut Business and Industry’s (CBIA) Education Foundation coordinated the event. Students from 11 high schools attended demonstrations and workshops by more than 25 Connecticut manufacturers on digital manufacturing, CNC machining, electric vehicle technology and jet engine design. Presentations were made by representatives from UTC Power, ebm-Papst, and GE Energy.

Gateway also hosted high school students and parents from 10 high schools schools to educate them about careers in next-generation manufacturing and Connecticut’s growing manufacturing sector. The expo was offered by RCNGM with support from CBIA, the New Haven Manufacturers’ Association and other partners.

Initiative Seeks to Expand State's Pool of 'Dream' Manufacturing Jobs >

By Robert Kennedy, Glenn Marshall and Anthony Cacace

In President Barack Obama's State of the Union speech, the president called for laying out a blueprint **"for an economy that's built to last — an economy built on American manufacturing, skills for American workers and a renewal of American values."**

That sounds like something industry, higher education and government should support — but in practical application, how would that work?

In Connecticut, we've started to tackle the issue. As co-chairs of **Connecticut. Dream It. Do It.**, an initiative modeled after the Manufacturing Institute's national effort to enhance the manufacturing workforce, we're bringing together a coalition of business and industry associations, educational institutions, economic development organizations and manufacturers to enhance Connecticut's manufacturing sector and create the next generation of skilled workers.

Our message is loud and clear. It's not your grandfather's or even your father's world of manufacturing anymore. Today's manufacturing is high-tech, clean and cutting-edge. Jobs — and exciting careers — do exist and you can find them in manufacturing companies throughout the state. From making jets fly to building helicopters and submarines to creating life-saving biomedical devices to robotics, Connecticut's advanced manufacturing industries compete worldwide and offer high-tech, rewarding career opportunities.

But even in this economy, every day we hear from employers who can't find enough skilled workers to fill existing jobs. The manufacturing workforce is graying and we must focus on filling the talent pipeline with the people who have the right skills and the right credentials for these high-tech jobs.

The right credentials are a vital part of the solution. Credentialed individuals demonstrate that they have learned and practiced the skills needed to be successful in entry-level positions in any manufacturing company. The **Connecticut. Dream It. Do It.** initiative supports the use of the National Association of Manufacturers-Endorsed Skills Certification System to help increase the number of prepared

applicants for manufacturing jobs. The system focuses on credentials that are nationally portable, third-party-validated, and industry-driven.

We are also moving to close the skills gap, align manufacturing programs with future cutting-edge technologies, and step up training in our state. Last October, the state legislature passed Governor Dannel P. Malloy's bipartisan Jobs Bill, which encourages new job creation while developing and strengthening the state's workforce competitiveness. In response to the bill, three community colleges — Housatonic, Naugatuck Valley, and Quinebaug Valley — have been selected for the creation of manufacturing centers to meet the state's workforce needs. The bill provides for \$17.8 million

in capital funding for the manufacturing centers, and \$2.2 million to expand the precision manufacturing program at Asnuntuck Community College.

Although state funding provides a foundation to address the need for

skilled workers, building manufacturing centers alone won't ensure success. We need to attract students to these centers. We need to educate students, families and educators to the challenging and rewarding opportunities of the manufacturing world. This is the talent pipeline we need to build.

Let's start by making **Connecticut. Dream It. Do It.** our rallying cry and push hard for federal support to buttress what we are able to do at the state level. We must maximize President Obama's commitment to train two million workers through a streamlined workforce system built on partnerships with businesses. Federally funded training programs will enable us to build a highly-skilled, educated workforce that will make manufacturers more innovative, more productive, and more competitive. It's what will drive our state's economic recovery today and secure our prosperity in the future.

Robert Kennedy is president of the state Board of Regents for Higher Education Glenn Marshall is former commissioner of the state Department of Labor, and Anthony Cacace is executive vice president of business development of GKN Aerospace Corp. in Cromwell. This article ran in the "Other Voices" section of the Hartford Business Journal on Feb. 27, 2012.

**Connecticut.
Dream it. Do it.**

>Capital Community College and Hartford Stage Collaborate with “One Play”

Hartford Stage and Capital Community College in Hartford have partnered through “One Play” to expose students to the theatre world.

“One Play,” which began in 2011, focuses on a single Hartford Stage play and offers lectures, panel discussions with actors and professional development opportunities for faculty. Many instructors include the play in their courses and Hartford Stage offers Capital Community College nights.



Last fall more than 400 from Capital attended the first “One Play” — *Water by the Spoonful* — about a Latino family in contemporary America; and this spring, more than 500 attended *The Whipping Man*, about a Jewish Confederate soldier and two former slaves raised as Jews in his household after the Civil War.

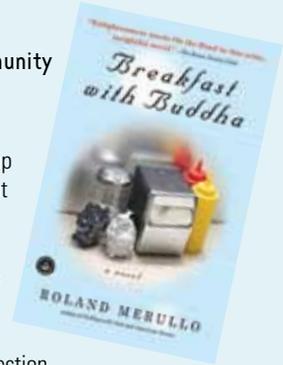
The initiative grew out of a National Endowment for the Humanities grant spearheaded by Jeffrey Partridge,

Capital’s chair of Humanities. The grant provides the college’s Humanities faculty with the opportunity to study Hartford’s history, literature, communities and culture by interacting with scholars at area institutions to engage students.



>One Book, One Community

The fifth annual One Book, One Community project — a partnership of Western Connecticut State University (WCSU), Danbury Library, Danbury public schools and Wooster School — recently kicked off with the selection of *Breakfast with Buddha* by Roland Merullo.



Each year, organizers plan events and readings around the theme of the selected book. This year, the book dovetails with the October visit of the Dalai Lama, the spiritual leader of the Tibetan people, to WCSU.

WCSU President James Schmotter said the program has been good for bringing together many levels of the Danbury community. **“It shows how we can come together to make Danbury a more vibrant, aware, and intellectual place,” he said.**

>Manchester Community College Partners with Hartford Public Schools at Great Path Academy

Manchester Community College (MCC) President Gena Glickman and Hartford Public Schools Superintendent Christina M. Kishimoto held a signing ceremony to mark the five-year agreement under which Hartford Public Schools will be managing Great Path Academy, MCC’s middle college high school.

President Glickman and Superintendent Kishimoto were joined by Matthew K. Poland, chair of the Hartford Board of Education, Deputy Mayor Jay Moran of Manchester and Dr. G. Duncan Harris, Dean of Student Affairs at Manchester Community College.



(Left to right, seated): MCC President Gena Glickman; Superintendent Christina Kishimoto, Hartford Public Schools; (left to right, standing): Regina Ferrante, MCC; G. Duncan Harris, MCC dean of Student Affairs; Dianna Roberge-Wentzell and Alexander Nardone, Hartford Public Schools.

>Bridgeport Early College Partnership

Housatonic Community College, The University of Bridgeport, Fairfield University and Sacred Heart University are taking part in the Bridgeport Early College Program. **The program — part of the city-wide school reform effort — allows Bridgeport high school students to experience college before they graduate from high school.**

High School seniors who meet the academic requirements will be able to take college classes for dual credit. In order to qualify for the early college program in their senior year, as a junior students must have at least a C average, be in good standing and pass a special test.



>NVCC Partners with AmeriCorps to Make a Difference

Waterbury AmeriCorps is a mentoring program in which volunteers work directly with “at-risk” middle school students in the Waterbury Public School system. John Corcoran, the program’s coordinator who helped launch the partnership between the city of Waterbury and Naugatuck Valley Community College (NVCC), said the group of 35 community advocates is close to reaching full-swing after receiving its initial funding from the Corporation for National and Community Service in 2011.

Volunteers include students from NVCC and UConn Waterbury, along with community members who volunteer at the Boys and Girls Club, Girls Inc., Family Services of Greater Waterbury, Salvation Army, city schools and the Children’s Community School.

AmeriCorps members recently constructed raised garden beds for the South End Neighborhood Association to grow a supplemental food supply, which will help provide 12 low-income families with their own produce throughout the summer.

Work Hub at Eastern>

Even Eastern Connecticut State University students — majoring in Business Information Systems, Mathematics and Computer Science — have learned valuable skills at an on-campus “Work Hub” that opened last fall. Several students were even offered jobs before graduation.

The hub, housed in Winthrop Hall, offers workspace for student interns who can work remotely for businesses and features separate offices, computer terminals, technology and mentors. In the “Work Hub,” students literally “go to work” for private and public sector organizations.

Bloomfield-based insurance company Cigna was their first client, and hired 12 students to work on web development and information technology projects. The ECSU Foundation, Inc. also funded a new computer system, furniture and office renovations.

“My goal is to get companies to outsource to Eastern, not to India. All Eastern students are required to have some kind of pre-professional experience before graduation, whether it’s through an internship, cooperative work experience, community service, or research. The goal is to provide a well-rounded education — a liberal education that’s practically applied.” - Eastern President Elsa Núñez



Photo by Nick Lacy



New Health Information Management Major at Charter Oak State College >

The Board of Regents recently approved Charter Oak State College's first major — an online bachelor's degree completion program in Health Information Management. The program now goes to the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) for approval.

The B.S. in Health Information Management prepares graduates to sit for the RHIA (Registered Health Information Administrator) licensure exam. Charter Oak plans to offer courses in late October.

Students will graduate from this online program equipped with the skills to develop, maintain and enforce organizational policies, procedures and guidelines for the management of health information and health information technology systems. They will manage, modify and purge healthcare data in accordance with organizational policies and state-specific Statute of Limitations. The curriculum — developed in response to a growing demand in the field — includes coding schemes for reimbursement of healthcare services.

Visit www.charteroak.edu for more information about this new program

“We chose to make this program our highest priority because we believe that there are, and will continue to be, numerous jobs that will require the combination of healthcare knowledge and technology expertise as the healthcare industry moves its patient data into digital systems that permit customers access to their own information.”

- Ed Klonoski, Charter Oak State College President

HEALTH & SCIENCE ACROSS THE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

> Grant Helps WCSU Professor with Lyme Disease Study

Neeta Connally, assistant professor of biological and environmental sciences at Western Connecticut State University (WCSU), received a \$35,000 grant from the state Department of Health to help her hire students to conduct a tick prevention study in several area towns.

Connally, a former Yale research scientist and expert on Lyme disease, has established a research program at the university on the ecology of the deer tick and disease prevention in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control, Yale School of Public Health and the state Department of Health.

The Ridgefield Health Department partnered with Connally to assess the risk for tick-borne illnesses at Ridgefield public recreation areas. A “Tick SWAT Team,” composed primarily of WCSU biology students, has been conducting timed “tick drags” at local public schools and sports fields to monitor tick density and evaluate habitat.



Western Biology student Jillian Gioia drags for ticks in Ridgefield

>New Allied Health Labs Coming to Gateway

Gateway Community College will open two new Allied Health labs at its new downtown campus this fall — a Nuclear Medicine Technology (NMT) Lab and a new Computerized Tomography (CT) Lab.

The NMT Laboratory will allow students to practice imaging procedures and radiation safety techniques using the newest technology, including the high-tech gamma camera and radiation detection instruments. The gamma camera produces two- and three-dimensional images of patients' internal organs. The lab also will include uptake probes, dose calibrators, well and Geiger counters. NMT students will join radiography and radiation therapy students in using a new CT Laboratory featuring a refurbished Siemens Somatom Emotion CT unit that will allow students to simulate basic CT procedures using "phantom" body parts.



> Northwestern Graduates First Nurses

Northwestern Connecticut Community College graduated its first class of nurses in May. There were 19 nursing graduates in the accelerated program who received degrees and were given pins in a separate ceremony. The commencement's keynote speaker was U.S. Rep. John B. Larson, D-1st District, who was instrumental in securing \$350,000 in federal funds to design and equip a high-tech nursing lab at the college.

HEALTH & SCIENCE ACROSS THE UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGES

Capital Launches Health IT Internship >

Capital Community College has collaborated with Connecticut's leading health care organizations to develop Health Information Technology (Health IT) student internship and job opportunities to train the workforce to meet the state's Health IT needs.

Health IT is the computerized management of health records with an aim to improve health care quality for 300 million U.S. residents by preventing errors, reducing costs, decreasing paperwork and providing real-time health records at the point of care. The aim is

to improve health care quality by preventing errors, reducing costs, decreasing paperwork and providing real-time health records at the point of care.

In Connecticut, the nationally developed training takes place exclusively at Capital where 108 people have successfully completed the six-month curriculum since 2011, with 50 more recently finishing the program. Students enrolled in Capital's Health IT Workforce Training Program follow the Health IT consultant or Health IT engineer track.

Federal funding for this program comes from the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to train a workforce that supports the implementation and maintenance of electronic health records (EHRs) for physicians, health centers and hospitals nationwide.

Capital's Health IT training program has been recognized by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology. Partners include the Health Information Technology Exchange of Connecticut (HITE-CT), e-Health Connecticut, UConn, Hartford HealthCare, St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Capital Workforce Partners, the Community Health Care Association of Connecticut, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Connecticut Departments of Health and Social Services, among others.



Photo by Julie Bidwell



Connecting the dots

Since arriving in Connecticut last September to lead the newly consolidated Board of Regents for Higher Education, President Robert A. Kennedy has travelled from one end of the state to the other — from the “Gold Coast” to the “Quiet Corner” and everywhere in between — and one thing is clear, Connecticut’s Board of Regents institutions — 17



— are just as vibrant, collaborative and energetic as ever. “But instead of stifling growth and creative, out-of-the-box thinking in our new, significantly larger organization, the consolidation seems to have people thinking more about partnerships and collaborative activities than ever before. There’s a sense that we’re ‘in this together’ and the future of our state’s workforce and economy lies in our collective hands,” said President Kennedy.

“Understandably, there was a great deal of anxiety associated with the higher education consolidation proposed by Governor Malloy in 2011,” said Chairman of the Board of Regents Lewis J. Robinson. “Change is never easy, and many people were concerned that the community colleges would lose their identity, or the state universities would lose their independence. But now, a little more than six months after the consolidation officially

occurred, I think people have a better sense of how this is all coming together, and they’re ready, willing and able to address a number of the issues that have stymied our state over the course of the last few decades in a way that just wasn’t possible before.”

Prior to the consolidation, there were five separate boards for public higher education management in the state — the University of Connecticut Board of Trustees; the Board of Trustees for the Community College System; the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State University System; the Board for State Academic Awards for Charter Oak State College, the state’s only fully online, public, degree-granting institution; and the Board of Governors for Higher Education. Governor Malloy’s plan — which was approved by the legislature in the spring of 2011 — created one Board of Regents for Higher Education

“There’s a sense that ‘we’re in this together’ and the future of our state’s workforce and economy lies in our collective hands.” - BOR President Robert Kennedy.



charged with governing the four state universities, 12 community colleges and Charter Oak State College. The plan also eliminated the Department of Higher Education and its Board of Governors for Higher Education. Following the Minnesota model, Connecticut's land grant university, the University of Connecticut, remained separate and apart from the consolidation.

When he proposed the consolidation, Governor Malloy was clear that while escalating spending at the central offices, to the detriment of on-campus instruction, was a central reason for this proposal, it was by no means the only one.

"The facts are clear: every state is growing in the percentage of adults with degrees, but Connecticut's rate of increase for young adults has dropped to 34th out of 50 states," said Governor Malloy. "Tuition has increased, and the time it takes to earn a degree at these institutions exceeds the traditional four- or two-year curriculum. We need to make sure we're preparing our young men and women to have a competitive edge and at the moment, we're not doing a good enough job."

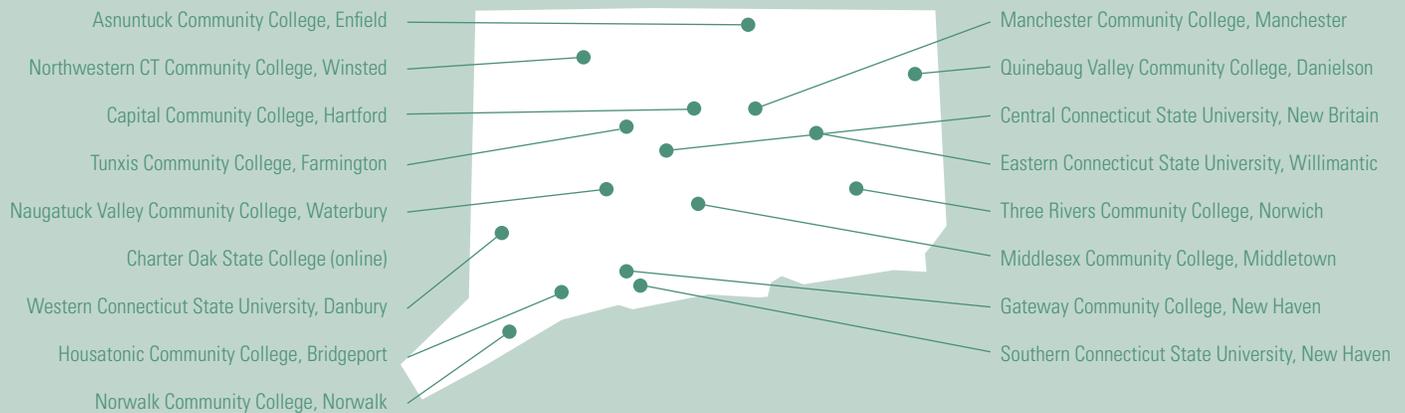


When the Board of Regents took over the sole responsibility for governing the 17 Connecticut State Colleges & Universities within the newly-combined organization on Jan. 1, 2012, President Kennedy and his staff began working to consolidate the central office operations of the state universities and community colleges. Those savings — \$5.5 million — will be redirected to the campuses for tenure track faculty and direct student support services, such as counselors or advisors.

"It's never easy to talk about eliminating positions — the people who fill them have families to support and lives to lead," said President Kennedy. "But I also couldn't, with a clear conscience, combine the two operations together as one and keep the same number of people, while the campuses are desperate to add more professors and counselors."

In addition to merging the central offices into one more streamlined and efficient operation, having one board responsible for the academic policies and procedures for the organization as a whole has provided an opportunity to address — and fix — some of the problems that have stymied Connecticut's higher education community for years: a seamless transfer policy across the community

Connecticut State Colleges & Universities



colleges and state universities and rethinking remedial education — helping students who arrive at college unprepared to face the rigors of higher education.

“When I went to work at the Department of Higher Education in 1978, a workable seamless transfer policy was the issue upon which everyone was focused,”

said Dr. Merle Harris, chairwoman of the board’s Academic and Student Affairs Committee.



Thirty-four years later, with strong help, support and guidance from the board’s Faculty Advisory Committee and Student Advisory Committee and leadership on the campuses, the Board of Regents passed a Transfer and Articulation Proposal with an aggressive timeframe and a high bar.

“This is a tremendously complex issue to tackle, but you don’t hear a single person say we shouldn’t try,” said Board of Regents Vice President for State Universities Dr. Elsa Núñez, who is also president of Eastern Connecticut State University. “I see students all the time who come to Eastern and expect their credits to transfer and a number of them do not. They’re spending time, money and effort to obtain credits that do nothing to help them graduate faster with their degree. We’re finally in a place where we can get in a room and hash this out and that’s exactly what’s happening. The faculty deserves an incredible amount of thanks for helping us to refine the proposal, and now, implement it.”

In the 2012 legislative session, the General Assembly tackled the issue of remedial education. According to the Board of Regents Department of Policy and Research, just 13.6 percent of full-time students taking remedial courses actually earn an associate’s degree in four years, which is double the time it should take to earn this degree. While it’s true many community college students balance school with work and family obligations, which may limit the number of courses they can take in a semester, more must be done to expeditiously help community college students finish their degree. Dr. Núñez and Dr. David Levinson, vice president for Community Colleges and president of Norwalk Community College, have begun working on the issue with a cabinet of fellow presidents convened by President Kennedy.

“No one disagrees this is a significant problem that spans the full P-20 educational spectrum,” said Dr. Levinson. “But the question is, what can we do to fix this? It’s encouraging to see the State Department of Education collaborate with the Board of Regents on the Common Core Curriculum, but in the meantime, we have a very short amount of time to figure out a way to help get our students up to speed when they come to our door, without exhausting their financial aid. It’s a tough question, but I’m heartened to see our state have the courage to acknowledge it in a meaningful way.”



In addition to the academic issues the Board of Regents is addressing, workforce development and

“Launching three new manufacturing centers across the state has been one of top priorities, and it underscores our commitment to being responsive to and partners with the state’s private sector.”

- Board of Regents Executive Vice President Michael P. Meotti



connecting the seventeen schools to the state's employers and private sector is also a key component of the consolidation.

"Overwhelmingly, our 96,000 students across the system are from Connecticut, and they stay in Connecticut after graduation," said President Kennedy. "If we don't know what employers are looking for in their future hires, how can we make sure we're training them properly?"

To that end, President Kennedy and Board of Regents members — many of whom represent various sectors of Connecticut's economy, as well as ex-officio members, Catherine Smith, the state's commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development, and Dennis Murphy, the state's acting commissioner of the Department of Labor — have sent a message to the state's chambers, private industry, start-ups and other entrepreneurial ventures that ConnSCU institutions are ready, willing and able to partner with them on internships, co-ops, workforce training and certification.

"Launching three new manufacturing centers across the state has been one of our top priorities, and it underscores our commitment to being responsive to and partners with the state's private sector," said Board of Regents Executive Vice President Michael P. Meotti.

In addition, President Kennedy has been a fixture at Chamber of Commerce events across the state, and meets with private industry and trade groups often to discuss the ways in which ConnSCU institutions and the Board of Regents can have a seat at the table.

It is clear there are no easy answers, and all that needs to be done will require partnership, teamwork, and approaching old problems with new frames of mind.

"We know what our strengths are, and we know where our weaknesses lie," said President Kennedy. "It's incumbent upon us to address the weaknesses and build upon the strengths. More than any other state in which I've worked, Connecticut has all the right parts. We just need to connect the dots."

Board of Regents for Higher Education

On June 21, 2012, the Board of Regents for Higher Education approved a concept for the reallocation of central office funding — totaling \$5.5 million — back to the campuses for tenure track faculty and direct student support services positions across the 17 campuses.

The funding will be used for anywhere between 40-45 new positions in already identified areas of expertise and those which support the state's workforce development objectives, including manufacturing, bioinformatics/genetics, business, and science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) disciplines.

Importantly, funding for five to ten of those positions will be devoted to those campuses which propose to use the positions to increase collaborative activity or build programmatic relationships across campuses.

State Wins Innovative GEAR UP Grant >

Will Support College Access, Readiness

The State of Connecticut was chosen by the U.S. Department of Education to receive a seven-year, \$31.5 million Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) grant to help improve college access and readiness for Connecticut's students.

"We need to better understand and break down the barriers Connecticut's students face when they are preparing for higher education," said Connecticut Governor Dannel P. Malloy. "Access to higher education is critical not only for these students' own future personal success, but for Connecticut's future economic success as well."

The funding will be used to significantly increase the number of low-income students prepared to enter and succeed in post-secondary education, and to provide scholarships for eligible high school seniors. The Connecticut state GEAR UP project will serve 3,000 students attending 12 middle schools in East Hartford, New Haven and Waterbury through 2019, and will follow these students through middle school, high school and their first year of college.



(Left to right) SCSU President Mary Papazian, NVCC President Daisy Cocco De Filippis, BOR President Robert Kennedy, and MCC President Gena Glickman at the GEAR UP press event.



Governor Dannel P. Malloy held a press event at Naugatuck Valley Community College to announce state GEAR UP funding awards.

GEAR UP in Connecticut is a partnership between the Connecticut Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR), Manchester Community College (MCC), Naugatuck Valley Community College (NVCC) and Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) — and their local school districts. The colleges and universities, collaborating with the local school districts, will develop, provide and evaluate services to students, parents and teachers in order to fit localized needs and specific provider strengths.

"Innovative GEAR UP programs that intervene early give students the opportunity to determine if they are ready for college and can make all the difference in whether they attend college," said BOR President Robert A. Kennedy. "These grants provide the mentoring and support that gives thousands of students a chance to achieve academic success in postsecondary education."



>NCC Students Power Up

Students in Norwalk Community College's (NCC) (BEST) Building Efficiency and Sustainable Technology) program and in NCC's environmental science course worked together with solar installers from Elektron Solar of Westport to install "Off-Grid" power to NCC's new "Building Science Shed."

The Off-Grid Solar Photovoltaic System will provide electrical power to the Shed and to a new irrigation system for an organic garden and compost bed. NCC's organic vegetable gardens are used as teaching laboratories for NCC's Biology and Environmental courses and provide fresh, organic produce for NCC's Culinary Arts Program. The solar array was made possible by Innovation and Excellence funding from the Norwalk Community College Foundation. ▼



Photo by Alisha Martindale

>SCSU Places Fourth In National Energy Conservation Contest

Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) placed fourth of 98 schools in the country in reducing its electricity use during the Campus Conservation Nationals 2012 — a competition among colleges and universities to reduce energy consumption. SCSU posted a reduction rate of 20.5 percent during the three-week period from March 26 to April 16. A benchmark usage rate was taken at each school before the contest began.

The other top five schools in electrical energy savings were: Bowling Green University, University of Kentucky, Hofstra University and Western Technical College. The competition is coordinated by the U.S. Green Building Council.

The energy reduction posted by Southern — equal to 76,251 kilowatt hours — translates to a cost savings of \$11,437 for the university. But as one of the top 10 schools in the conservation contest, SCSU also will receive a credit for 200 megawatt hours of renewable energy from Sterling Planet, a company that works with organizations toward becoming carbon neutral. The 200 megawatt hours of free energy should power one of the university's smaller residence halls for about a year. ▲



(Left to right, front row) Eric Gribin, BEST Program coordinator; and BEST students Nivedita Gopalakrishnan, Krystal Sayles, and Radu Tarta (Back row) NCC alumna Danielle Jablonski and David Clark

>The Princeton Review Names Central and Eastern Green Colleges

For the third year in a row, Central and Eastern Connecticut State Universities were named among the nation's Green Colleges for 2012 by the prestigious *Princeton Review* and the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). Each were noted for being "one of the most environmentally responsible colleges in the U.S.A. and Canada."

The education services company selected the universities for the third annual edition of "The Princeton Review's Guide to 322 Green Colleges: 2012 Edition" — highlighting institutions that demonstrate notable commitments to sustainability in their academic offerings, campus infrastructure, activities and career preparation.

Central and Eastern are committed to environmental sustainability. In 2007, Central President Jack Miller and Eastern President Elsa Núñez — with the Southern and Western presidents — became signatories to the American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment.

At Central, a state-of-the-art Energy Center was constructed, a new fuel cell power plant is in place, outdoor lighting has been converted to light-emitting diode lamps (LEDs), and dining services have gone trayless. At Eastern's Science Building, a UTC Power fuel cell power plant produces 400 kilowatts of electric power while generating usable waste heat, a lighting system upgrade is being installed in the J. Eugene Smith Library, and an M.S. in geography with a specialty in global sustainability has been established.



Photo by Nick Lacy

Second Phase of Tunxis Campus Expansion Underway >

Tunxis Community College is officially in the second of a multi-phase campus expansion project, with completion of Phase II expected in summer 2013. The completed project will expand the campus to 292,000 square feet.

Phase II will include construction of a 56,000-square-foot three-story classroom building and add approximately 19 classrooms to campus. Foundation work for the new building is currently in progress. A formal ribbon cutting to celebrate the opening of the new building is planned for fall 2013. **Visit tunxis.comnet.edu for information, images and video about ongoing campus expansion updates.**



New Master's Degree Program In Applied Physics At Southern >



Photo by Isabel Chenoweth

The Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR) licensed a master of science (M.S.) degree program in applied physics at **Southern Connecticut State University** beginning in fall 2012.

The program has two tracks — materials science/nanotechnology and optics/optical instrumentation — intended to develop the state's optics industry and nanotechnology sector. Yale University is now the only institution in Connecticut to offer a graduate program in applied physics.

The program is interdisciplinary between SCSU's School of Business and departments of Physics, Chemistry and Computer Science with courses aligned to meet industry needs. The program will be guided by an industrial advisory committee that includes Smiths Detection, Phonon Corp., Nights Inc., Sikorsky and Zygo Corp.

Continuing Education Program Expands at CCSU >

Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) has established a new Continuing Education program to help address the educational needs of business and industry in the state, as well as in the New Britain community. Beginning this fall, CCSU is offering an array of credit and non-credit courses designed to help businesses succeed and create opportunity for professional development and personal growth.

The courses will be led by professionals with extensive experience in both the classroom and workplace. Most classes will be held on weekday evenings or Saturdays, and CEUs will be available for most courses. Alumni and groups are eligible for fee discounts, and some federal and grant funding is possible.

Visit www.ccsu.edu/con-edu for more information



GCC Awarded Grant to Boost Vocational Program Completion Rates >

Gateway Community College (GCC) was awarded a three-year \$2.7 million grant that will fund a pilot program aimed at increasing the likelihood that students will complete selected vocational programs by offering three weeks of intensive immersion in college math and English before the programs begin.

The grant aims to improve retention rates in manufacturing, energy or transportation-related programs and GCC opted to apply the funds toward its intensive non-credit Railroad Electronics Technician Program and its Automotive and Alternative Fuels Vehicles Technology credit certificate programs.

The grant is from the U.S. Department of Labor for the Connecticut Manufacturing, Energy, and Transportation Initiative, funded by the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grants as implemented by the U.S. Department of Labor Employment & Training Administration.

Two New Deans at Western >

Western Connecticut State University appointed **Mary “Missy” Alexander** dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, and **Jess House** dean of the School of Professional Studies.



Mary “Missy” Alexander



Jess House

Photos by Peggy Stewart

Alexander was assistant dean of the School of Communications and the Arts at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., where she also is director of the Master of Arts program in communications and associate professor of communications. House chaired the department of educational leadership at Western Illinois University, was chairman of the educational leadership department at Northern Arizona University and coordinator of doctoral programs in education leadership and curriculum and instruction at the University of Central Florida.

New Technology at the Community Colleges >



Asnuntuck Community College, with financial support from Asnuntuck Community College’s Foundation, is installing a Mac computer lab. Foundation Chairman Karen Jarmoc announced the foundation’s commitment during the college’s commencement ceremony. The \$75,000 project will receive a third of its funding from the foundation. The new lab will include 28 workstations and will be open to students for the fall semester.

At **Middlesex Community College (MxCC)**, a new interactive instructional classroom with 25 collaborative computer (cPod) workstations has opened in a newly renovated area of the Jean Burr Smith Library. The project was funded by the MxCC Foundation, a grant from Comcast, and a donation from an anonymous supporter of the school. The facility includes Dell computers and monitors with Internet access, an instructor’s workstation and an overhead LCD projector, printers and extensive video/web conferencing equipment.

Fernandez Appointed to LPRAC



Robert Fernandez, director of financial aid at Quinebaug Valley Community College, was recently appointed to the State of Connecticut's Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs

Commission (LPRAC) through January 31, 2014. Fernandez has worked for the College for 12 years and was formerly the QVCC Willimantic Center associate director.

ConnSCU Institutions Make Honor Roll

The President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, launched in 2006, annually highlights the role colleges and universities play in solving community problems and placing more students on a lifelong path of civic engagement by recognizing institutions that achieve meaningful, measurable outcomes in the communities they serve.

Eastern Connecticut State University was one of only 110 schools in the country to be admitted to the special honor roll category "With Distinction" for their work through volunteer programs and other activities.

Central Connecticut State University, Manchester Community College and Norwalk Community College were also named to the honor roll.



Citizen of the Year

The Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut named Three Rivers Community College

President **Grace Sawyer Jones** its Citizen of the Year. Chamber President and CEO Tony Sheridan commended Jones on her hard work, professionalism and contributions to the southeastern Connecticut community.



Governor Dannel P. Malloy (center) with Henry Barnard Distinguished Student Award winners.

Photo by Peggy Stewart

12 Outstanding CSU Students Receive Henry Barnard Award

Twelve outstanding college students from the four Connecticut State Universities were honored by the Connecticut State University System (CSUS) Foundation for academic excellence and community service at the 24th annual Henry Barnard Distinguished Student Awards Banquet in April. The event's keynote speaker was Connecticut Governor Dannel P. Malloy.

The winners were: From Central, **Enisa Alanaj**, a mechanical engineering major and mathematics minor; **Jeremy Bradford**, a double major in physics and mathematics; **Nicole Catherine Cloutier**, a mathematics/elementary education major; and **Kaylah Justine Smith** an anthropology/Spanish major. From Eastern, **Brittney Cava**, a political science major and peace and human rights minor, and **Kathryn Elizabeth Harner**, an English major and writing minor. From Southern, **Christopher Buter**, a public health major, **Melanie Ann Guillerault**, an elementary education and a psychology major, **Christopher Knickerbocker**, an exercise science major with a concentration in physical education, and **Jonathan Uhl**, a chemistry major. From Western, **Kelley Bradley**, a meteorology major and **Jennifer Groom-Reid**, a social work major.

To be considered for a Barnard Award Distinguished Student Award, a student must have at least a 3.75 GPA, a record of significant community service, and be nominated by their respective universities and presidents. The CSUS Foundation is a nonprofit organization that supports education and research within the four state universities. Major sponsors for the banquet included CL&P and Yankee Gas – Northeast Utilities Companies, Otis Elevator Company and People's United Bank.

Cid Receives Women's Leadership Award

Carmen Cid (second from left), dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at Eastern Connecticut State University, was named the first recipient of the American Council on Education's Women's Network/Connecticut Women in Higher Education "Distinguished Woman in Higher Education Leadership Award." Throughout her career, Cid coordinated collaborative projects to enhance the recruitment and retention of women and minorities in the biological sciences, was responsible for coordinating doctoral fellowship distribution to women Ph.D. ecology applicants and distributing more than \$2 million in grants/fellowships to women pursuing doctoral programs.



Pictured with Cid are (left to right) Martha Shouldis, president and CEO of St. Vincent's College, Bridgeport; Cid; Henriette Pranger, chairperson, Department of General Education, Goodwin College; and Christine Boronico, associate vice president for retention, University of New Haven.

BOR/CSU Research and Teaching Awards

The Board of Regents for Higher Education named the Board of Regents/Connecticut State University Research and Teaching awards, which recognize the exceptional research and teaching by faculty at Central, Eastern, Southern and Western Connecticut State Universities. Eight outstanding tenure-track or tenured assistant and associate professors across the four universities were acknowledged as University-Level award recipients and two of the eight were named System-Level award recipients.

The two system-wide winners are: The BOR/CSU Norton Mezvinsky Research Award, **Leah S. Glaser**, associate professor of history, Department of History, Central Connecticut State University; and BOR/CSU Teaching Award, **Peter A. Drzewiecki**, associate professor of environmental earth science and assistant department chair, Department of Environmental Earth Science, Eastern Connecticut State University.

The BOR/CSU Research Award winners are: **Glaser**; **Jamel Ostwald**, associate professor of history, Eastern Connecticut State University; **Valerie A. Andrushko**, associate professor of anthropology, Southern Connecticut State University; and **Mary Ellen Doherty**, associate professor of nursing, Western Connecticut State University.

The BOR/CSU Teaching Award winners are: **Drzewiecki**; **Jason Sikorski**, assistant professor of psychology, Central Connecticut State University; **Deborah A. Carroll**, associate professor of psychology, Southern Connecticut State University; and **Jessica J. Eckstein**, assistant professor of communication, Western Connecticut State University.

Community College Recognition

John C. Norman, dean of Continuing Education at Northwestern Connecticut Community College, received the 2012 Community College Recognition Award by the New England Regional Forum, a College Board affiliate.

The award recognizes those who have demonstrated outstanding service and contributions to community college education.

Charter Oak Founder Receives Honorary Degree



Doris G. Cassidy, a founder of Charter Oak State College, received an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree at the college's 2012 commencement ceremony.

Cassidy was a member of the Task Force on External Degrees and Alternate Approaches to Higher Education for the State of Connecticut that created the college, and served as president of the American Association of University Women of Connecticut from 1969 – 1974.

She was the first chair of the Board for State Academic Awards, was the first Charter Oak State College Foundation president and then served as

executive director from 1980-95. In 1998, the Board for State Academic Awards established the Doris G. Cassidy Award for her lifelong commitment to adult education.

A Fulbright at Three Rivers

Chotsani Elaine Dean, instructor of Art and Ceramics at Three Rivers Community College, was awarded a 2012–13 Fulbright Scholarship. Dean will teach and conduct research at Banaras Hindu University in Varanasi, India, working with artists and scholars.

She chose Varanasi for the parallels between its historical and cultural influences and those of the African American quilt traditions which have been a major focus of her artwork.

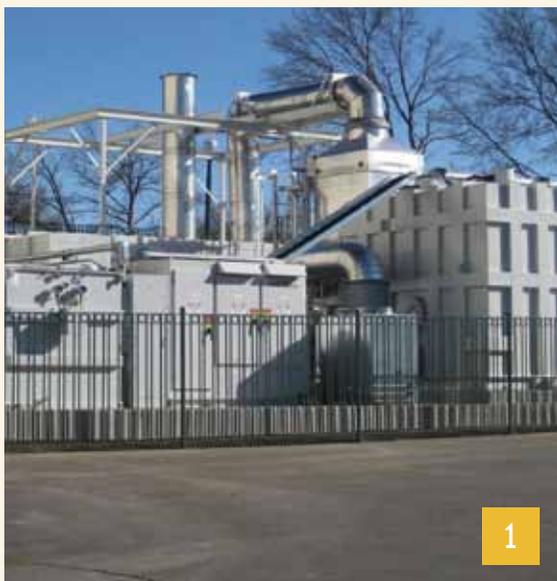


2012 All-Connecticut Academic Team

Ten Connecticut Community College students and one student from Goodwin College were honored at the 2012 All-Connecticut Academic Team awards ceremony at the State Capitol in April. The All-Connecticut Academic Team recognizes the outstanding academic and leadership accomplishments of students enrolled in Connecticut's Community and Junior Colleges.

All eleven students also represented Connecticut in the All-USA Academic Team and New Century Scholars Competitions where they competed against 1,720 students from more than 860 community colleges across the country. One Connecticut student, **Carlos Julca**, from Norwalk Community College, was honored as a New Century Scholar and awarded a \$2,000 scholarship from the Coca Cola Foundation.

The 2012 All-Connecticut Academic Team include: Asnuntuck Community College, **Sean Navin** and **Michael Oney**; Capital Community College, **Jennie Nazario**; Gateway Community College, **Bryan Gregor**; Goodwin College, **Nora Garriga**; Housatonic Community College, **Amy Glover** and **Natasha Jones**; Manchester Community College, **Jacquelin Jackter**; Northwestern Connecticut Community College, **Michele Johansson**; Norwalk Community College, **Rachael Lederman** and **Carlos Julca**.





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1 Central Connecticut State University unveiled a new 1.4 megawatt fuel cell at a “Power Cutting” ceremony. This fuel cell will generate enough power to run one third of the campus and is expected to save \$100,000 a year for CCSU and taxpayers. 2 Norwalk Community College (NCC) President **David Levinson** (center) cut the ribbon for the new Science, Health and Wellness center. In attendance was BOR President **Robert Kennedy**, Norwalk Mayor **Richard Moccia** and NCC Foundation members. 3 Eastern President **Elsa Núñez** (center), state officials and members of the Eastern Connecticut State University community, helped the women’s softball team dedicate its new field on April 24 before its doubleheader with Western Connecticut State University. 4 BOR President **Kennedy** (left) and Governor **Dannel Malloy** (right) made remarks at Board of Regents Day at the State Capitol to showcase ConnSCU’s 17 colleges and universities. A reception featured food prepared by culinary students at Gateway, Manchester, Naugatuck Valley and Norwalk Community Colleges. 5 The 27th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry Pvt. **Julius Hull, Jr.** (center) and **John Skrainki** (right) offer a firearms demonstration at Housatonic Community College, while Sgt. **Andrew Ocetnik** of Milford looked on. The three demonstrated the daily life of Civil War soldiers. 6 **Stacy Lanigan**, associate director of Career Services at Asnuntuck Community College, founded “Stacy’s Closet” six years ago and asks the public and college community to donate professional clothing so students can have appropriate interview clothes. 7 Evening bus service for Waterbury was celebrated at Naugatuck Valley Community College, as more than 400 students now have access to unlimited local bus service. NVCC President **Daisy Cocco De Filippis** and others took a celebratory bus ride. Pictured with students (second from left) is State Senator **Joan V. Hartley**. 8 **Gateway Community College** will welcome its first students to its new \$198 million downtown New Haven campus on Sept. 4. It is the only public college campus in Connecticut designed to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. 9 In April, **Dr. Anna M. Wasescha** (pictured with her daughter) was formally presented as the sixth president of Middlesex Community College (MxCC). She was previously provost and special assistant to the president at Minnesota State Community and Technical College. The inaugural celebration theme was “Going Green,” and Wasescha also signed the American College & University Presidents’ Climate Commitment. 10 Southern Connecticut State University faculty and students warmly welcomed their new president, **Dr. Mary A. Papazian**, last winter. Papazian was provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at Lehman College in The Bronx — part of the City University of New York (CUNY) system. She was previously dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and professor of English at Montclair State University in Montclair, N.J.; and associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Oakland University in Rochester, Mich.



CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

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Manchester Community College Graduates
Photo by Ann Montgomery



Connecticut State Universities



Connecticut State Colleges & Universities: Asnuntuck Community College, Enfield; Capital Community College, Hartford; Central Connecticut State University, New Britain; Charter Oak State College; Eastern Connecticut State University, Willimantic; Gateway Community College, New Haven; Housatonic Community College, Bridgeport; Manchester Community College, Manchester; Middlesex Community College, Middletown; Naugatuck Valley Community College, Waterbury; Northwestern CT Community College, Winsted; Norwalk Community College, Norwalk; Quinebaug Valley Community College, Danielson; Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven; Three Rivers Community College, Norwich; Tunxis Community College, Farmington; Western Connecticut State University, Danbury