YOUR Year in Review

The 2016-17 HACC and HACC Foundation annual report features compelling stories from HACC students, alumni, community partners, faculty and staff. Dr Ski, HACC’s President, shares that “this report is not about numbers and charts though. It is about people like YOU, who change the lives of the students and communities we serve.

This report is about…

• Alfred Siha, Ed.D., and Rob Swatski, Apple® Distinguished Educators who are semi-famous in the world of iTunes U®
• The more than 650 students who enrolled in HACC’s first-ever winter term
• Students like Diane, a retired state government employee, who completed HACC’s Gerontology Program online with the help of a student success coach
• Our commitment to investing in sustainable initiatives like LED lighting, solar power and geothermal well fields
• Employees like Sharon Hymon, who serves on a Campus Diversity Committee and helps create a safe, respectful environment at HACC

At a time when community colleges like HACC must constantly evolve, strategic planning is vital. You are an important partner in our ongoing ‘Journey to Excellence’.”

From your HACC Alumni Association, we look forward to another #HACCProud year with you – thank you!
We Heard You!

Close to 800 alumni completed the 2017 HACC Alumni Survey – thank you! The responses help the Alumni Association ensure we are serving you well. The answers reflected the following:

- **Email is the top preference for staying connected to HACC, followed by Alumni Connect and Facebook**

- Top engagement preferences include family-oriented activities, followed by theater or arts events and utilizing career services

The 2018 lineup of alumni events is based on these results, starting with a HACC Alumni Night at the Theater on March 15. We invite you to join the HACC Alumni Association for ‘A Celebration of Leonard Bernstein’ at Rose Lehrman Arts Center on HACC’s Harrisburg Campus!

Curtis on Tour, a global-touring initiative of the Curtis Institute of Music, celebrates the 100th birthday of Leonard Bernstein with a program of works by Bernstein, Copland and Gershwin.

HACC alumni are invited to an exclusive reception before the show, including an optional pre-show discussion of Bernstein’s work.

Your special invitation includes:

- 6-7:30 p.m. – HACC alumni reception including light fare
- 6:30-7 p.m. – Pre-show discussion of Bernstein’s work
- 7:30 p.m. – Live performance of Curtis on Tour: ‘A Celebration of Leonard Bernstein’ (tickets must be purchased separately)

Stay Connected!

Share your interests and update your information through our [online form](#) and be sure to never miss a beat with the [HACC Alumni Facebook Page](#)!
HACC Supporters Transform Lives Locally, Nationally and Globally

Mr. Hasu Shah and Mrs. Hersha Shah came to the United States from India. They pursued a business dream that would grow from a single motel property in Central Pennsylvania in 1984 to a national presence in the hospitality and lodging industry. Their company, Hersha Hospitality Trust, has been publicly traded for more than 15 years and is presently listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

Through their company, Mr. and Mrs. Shah have developed, managed or owned more than 80 hotels primarily in the Eastern United States. Many of these hotels have been developed from the ground up, including seven new hotels in New York City. Other affiliated businesses in the Hersha Group include a management company, a developer of hotel properties and a company that provides furnishings and supplies to hotels across the country.

In 2005, Mr. and Mrs. Shah funded a hospital in Gujarat, India, and established the Shree Krishna Foundation to provide eyesight to one million disadvantaged blind people living in India. Mr. and Mrs. Shah received the prestigious National Tocqueville Award from the United Way Worldwide in 2010 for their outstanding humanitarian efforts locally, nationally and globally, joining a distinguished list of honorees that include President Ronald Reagan, President Jimmy Carter, Bill Gates and Bob Hope.

In 2004, Mr. and Mrs. Shah contributed $75,000 to the HACC Foundation to provide funding for the hotel, restaurant and institutional management program at HACC. As a result, the Hasu P. and Hersha Shah School of Hospitality and Tourism Management was established.

“Our success in the hospitality industry is directly correlated with the caliber of our managers, employees and communities,” said Mr. Shah. “We believe that HACC serves our communities in the Pennsylvania capital region-and increasingly the hotel industry at large-exceedingly well. We believe in their students and admire the school's mission.”

To hear more about why Mr. and Mrs. Shah contribute to the HACC Foundation, please watch their video.
Alumni News Near You

Here’s what’s been happening near your favorite HACC campus!

‘FRIDAY THE 13TH’ DOWNTOWN GETTYSBURG TOUR


NEW HARRISBURG CAMPUS VP

Noah J. Roufos-Abbey joined HACC’s Harrisburg Campus as vice president on Oct. 30, 2017. Since 2009, Noah has served in a variety of leadership positions at Penn State University Harrisburg, including positions in resource development and alumni relations. He is also a Penn State adjunct instructor teaching homeland security policy and administration classes. Noah earned both his master’s degree in public administration and a bachelor’s degree in speech communications from Penn State.

LEBANON “FAKE NEWS” PANEL

On Nov. 15, 2017, Lebanon Campus students, faculty and staff gathered to hear and respond to a faculty panel presentation entitled “Fake News Affects All of Us: A Multidisciplinary Overview.” Faculty members:

- Defined fake news and shared how/why it is generated and spread, the impact on our lives and strategies for evaluating online news sites
- Presented philosophical approaches to determining truth
- Explained how historical changes to the process of journalism, driven largely by technology and economics, have increased the demands on individual journalists
- Explored how clickbait and other sensationalized news causes emotional and biological neuro-system responses
- Examined “fake news” in a sociological context and talked about its longer-term impacts in relation to hegemony in society.

The 60 attendees interacted with panelists while enjoying a lunch, and an online streaming option allowed attendees to participate from other HACC campuses. The event provided a better understanding of this hot topic along with strategies for becoming more savvy consumers of information.
RAD TECH ALUMNI GATHER IN LANCASTER

On Nov. 4, 2017, the Lancaster Campus hosted the Pennsylvania Society of Radiologic Technologists fall conference. This is the first time that the conference has been held at HACC.

Sara Crill, assistant professor of radiologic technology, was the contact and coordinator for this event. Technologists and students participated in this event to gain 7.5 CEUs.

Directly following the conference, the Rad Tech Alumni and Friends Networking event was held at Annie Bailey’s Irish Pub in downtown Lancaster. Alumni enjoyed catching up with their former classmates, while supporting the George D. Heiser Memorial Award.

To support the George Heiser Memorial Award, please visit www.hacc.edu/givenow.

NEW SCHOLARSHIP FOR YORK STUDENTS

The Hazel Marie Gutshall Scholarship was established in July 2017. The scholarship will be awarded to York Campus students who have unmet financial need and a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0. The scholarship is available for full-time and part-time students. Preference will be given to students enrolled in the automotive technology; biology; electrical technology; math/computer science; social sciences; technology studies; or welding technology programs.

This scholarship fund supports HACC’s mission to create opportunities and transform lives to shape the future – TOGETHER.

To contribute to this fund, please visit www.hacc.edu/givenow.

Thank you!
AAA Central Penn Just Made HACC History!

Commencement is a tremendous milestone for our students, their family members and friends.

We are EXCITED to announce that AAA Central Penn just made HACC history by becoming our first-ever Commencement ceremony sponsor!

We cannot think of a better way for organizations to show their commitment to education and our future leaders than by supporting this type of event.

Thank YOU, AAA Central Penn, for supporting YOUR community college!

If your organization is interested in supporting HACC while gaining exposure, please consider becoming a sponsor through one or more of our available opportunities. Your support changes the lives of HACC students while marketing your organization, products and services to new target audiences.

Save the Date!

Please mark you calendar for April 18 for the Day of Giving! This is HACC’s biggest fundraising event of the year to support students, and we need YOUR help to show that alumni give back to HACC.

Stay tuned for more information about this 24-hour giving event, including stories about Funds for Excellence. These special funds allow HACC to continue to provide a quality education through innovative projects and special initiatives.
Alumni Spotlight

Hagir Elsheikh started HSE Staffing Agency LLC in 2013. It is one of the fastest growing and leading staffing agencies in Central Pennsylvania, earning Harrisburg Magazine’s 2017 Simply the Best distinction for staffing services.

Hagir gives back to her community through her activism with YWCA of Greater Harrisburg and the Capital Area Coalition on Homelessness. She also founded Tomorrow’s Smiles Inc., a nonprofit organization that combats domestic violence through increasing awareness, education and motivational speech. She talks about these and other important issues on her YouTube show, The Hagir Show, and as co-host for the T.S.O. (Teens Speak Out) radio talk show.

Hagir’s work has earned her Central Penn Parent’s 2017 Health Administration Hero Award, and she was named among Central Penn Business Journal’s 2017 Women of Influence.

As a young mother, Dr. Morris-Priester, put her dreams of medical school on hold. This was a devastating blow to her family, who expected Morris-Priester would be the first member of their family to graduate from college.

By age 29, she embarked on a journey to pursue her goals. Working multiple jobs to support her young family, she attended HACC, graduating summa cum laude with an associate degree in nursing in 1996.

From there, she applied to medical school and became the first grandmother to graduate from Yale Medical School in 2009. She has been recognized by Oprah Winfrey for her perseverance, inspiration and compassion for others.

In 2007, Dr. Morris-Priester was honored with the HACC Circle of Distinction, which recognizes alumni whose professional pursuits demonstrate the quality of education and values from their time at HACC.

To hear more about these and other HACC alumni stories, please visit the successful alumni page.

Click here to enter your story under ‘News Item’. If you’ve already completed the form before, please email us at AlumniAssociation@hacc.edu.