FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CAMPUS VP

Greetings York Campus Community!

In my years in higher education, I have seen the midterm to be a crucial time when many students are at a delicate stage of their educational journey. Students have failed to submit assignments, midterms are looming, and class presentations are due. There is also the realization that life sometimes gets in the way of our students—the trusted car breaks down, childcare is suddenly unreliable and family members become ill. Students do experience discomfort, joy, and outrage. They will take offense and give offense. Their struggles are real.

While writing this month’s newsletter, I am thinking of my own experiences and my awareness of what it means to be empathetic and how to create a campus culture of empathy. Empathy is the ability to grasp the experience of another person and the ability to communicate that understanding. “You never really understand another person until you consider things from their point of view…until you climb inside his (her) skin and walk around in it”, wrote Harper Lee in To Kill A Mockingbird. I believe that empathy is a skill and not a trait. It can be taught, practiced, and refined. Another way of saying this is, empathy is the skill to identify the feelings, and thoughts, of another person, and not feeling or thinking as he or she does.

Faculty and staff who use empathy skillfully are more apt to avoid power struggles and can calm agitated students. Empathetic communication or active listening is one of the most effective skills utilized by counselors, and it can aid faculty and staff in achieving satisfying communication exchanges. Through active listening, the listener lets the speaker know, “I understand your issue and how you feel about the issue, I am genuinely interested in what you are saying and I am not judging you”.

As we grapple with issues involving respect, inclusivity, and institutional racism in higher education, we must aspire to be mindful of others, their situations, and their experiences. The author Moshin Hamid said, “Empathy is about finding echoes of another person in yourself”. The development of empathy relies on reading someone’s body language, hearing their voices, looking in their eyes, and interpreting their facial expressions. As you go about your day, I encourage you to practice active listening, acknowledge that others’ challenges are real, think about what you say, consider how you are being perceived, and strive to be your best authentic self as you listen for the echoes.

As a campus community, let’s strive to create a climate in which a person feels understood, valued, and appreciated!
To celebrate Banned Books week and honor our rights to read, speak, and write freely, the Library held a series of lively conversations with students on Wednesday, September 27 and Thursday, September 28.

Some of the topics of conversation included questions like “Are there situations and content in which censorship is appropriate?” “Who decides what is appropriate?” and an analysis of why the book and Netflix show *Thirteen Reasons Why* was removed from one school library. Students also discussed how the *White Rose Journal* must sometimes grapple with decisions about the appropriateness of submissions.

Remind your students to visit the York Campus Library for help with their research projects, citation styles, computers and technology!

For more information, check timeline of banned books throughout the years from the American Library Association [here](https://www.tiki-toki.com/timeline/entry/51787/Banned-Books-Week-Celebrating-30-Years-of-Liberating-Literature/#vars!date=1983-05-01_11:50:01)!
HACC’S ANNUAL SECURITY REPORT FOR 2017 AVAILABLE

HACC, Central Pennsylvania’s Community College, is required by the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (20 USC § 1092(f)) to publish an annual security report by Oct. 1 of each calendar year. This report contains three years of campus crime statistics for incidents that occurred on a HACC campus, in unobstructed public areas immediately adjacent to or running through a campus and at certain non-campus facilities owned or controlled by the College.

Also included in the report are policy and procedure disclosures for emergency response, the reporting of crime, investigative and disciplinary procedures for rape, sexual assault/misconduct and drug and alcohol control, among others.

This report is now available on HACC’s website at http://www.hacc.edu/AboutHACC/PublicSafetyandSecurity/upload/HACC_ASR.pdf

Free paper copies are available upon request at any campus public safety and security office or Welcome Center.

UPCOMING EVENT

Protest: Art and Impact
Symposium & Art Gallery
November 2nd, 2017

The symposium will focus on the history of confronting important political and social issues through protest, and the leaders, artists, and activists that have helped shape these movements. We will be hosting a variety of events including a lecture series, poster presentations, interactive art installations, and exhibitions.

PARTICIPATE!
Fill out this form to join us
NEWS FROM HACC YORK TUTORING AND TESTING

HACC York Tutoring is now on Facebook! Join our group for all the latest news and info related to the York Campus Learning and Writing Centers. You’ll also get to see the Word of the Day, the English Language Learner’s Word/Phrase of the Day, and fun posts about math, science, psychology, and other subjects. Join the group at https://www.facebook.com/groups/haccyorktutoring/.

Academic Coaching is available to students having a difficult time with studying, time management, test taking, or other concerns that are not course specific. Students can either drop in or make an appointment with Barbara Seasholtz (baseasho@hacc.edu) or Jackie Noerpel (jenoerpe@hacc.edu) during the hours listed on the tutoring schedule at http://www.hacc.edu/Students/Tutoring/upload/Fall-2017-Tutoring-Schedule-Website-2.pdf, or make an appointment with Cathy Rosenkranz or Kim Mong during regular business hours.

And finally, on Tuesday, October 10, HACC York Tutoring and Testing hosted a professional development day, entitled Building for Success: Tutoring Tools and Techniques to Improve Student Success, in the Glatfelter Community Room. The keynote speaker for the day, Leonard Geddes, is the Associate Dean of Co-Curricular Programs and Director of the Learning Commons at Lenoir-Rhyne University in Hickory, North Carolina, and founder of The LearnWell Projects. This was the first professional development day for HACC Tutoring and Testing. Tutors from all five campuses were in attendance. The day was generously funded by the HACC Foundation’s President’s Fund for Excellence.

Right: Jackie Noerpel and Barbara Seasholtz, academic coaches
CONGRATULATIONS!

Welcome to the HACC family Bisona Dugah!

Dr. and Mrs. Divine Dugah welcomed Bisona Dugah into the world on October 7, 2017. Bisona weighed in at 7lbs 6oz and a whopping 20.5 inches long. Mother and daughter are all doing great. Divine is an Associate Professor of Chemistry at the York Campus.

Divine has his hands full now with three little girls, but we know he loves it.

TREE DEDICATION

On September 1, 2017 the campus held a dedication ceremony to honor the memory of Mrs. Ernestine E. Cooney, the grandmother of Academic Dean, Margie Mattis. The ceremony was attended by Margie’s family, including from left to right, Margie’s mom, Anne; Margie; niece, Alivia and sister, Pam.

Margie shared, “My grandmother was always my biggest cheerleader and advocate. I’ll never forget that her generosity and encouragement allowed me to obtain the education that she never could. Her family could not afford to send her to college. Instead, she took a job during the war working the graveyard shift for the local Sylvania plant. She worked on a line producing proximity fuses for something she was told was top secret. Later she learned it was the ignition fuse for the atomic bomb. I love sitting at my desk and seeing my grandmother’s tree. It gives me a sense of reassurance that she’s always close by and still watching over me”.

If you are interested in donating a tree to the campus, please see Dr. Darryl Jones for more information.

YORK CAMPUS EMPLOYEES SERVE FOUR LEGGED FRIENDS IN THE COMMUNITY

On Sunday, October 1, 2017 many York Campus employees arrived bright and early at John Rudy County Park to kick off our 5th year event. Thank you to the volunteers, donors and participants of Zoey’s Fun Run & One Mile Dog Walk! It was a beautiful day, with lots of pups in costumes, food, vendors, and good friends. Mark your calendar now for next year’s date – Sunday, October 7, 2018.
OPIOID AWARENESS EVENT
Almost 100 students, staff, and invited guests attended the Opioid Collaborative Symposium in the Glatfelter Community Room on September 28, 2017. The featured guest speaker was Chief Deputy Coroner Claude Stabley. Also presenting were CEO of the York Opioid Collaborative, Dr. Matt Howie, and representatives from several other organizations that are leading the fight against the drug epidemic in our community. Attendees not only received a great deal of beneficial information, but were able to interact with the presenters during the question and answer time. This community service event was sponsored by LIGHT Christian Fellowship Club.
IN THE COMMUNITY

The Community Service Club (CSC) is back at it, representing HACC York around York County! On Saturday, September 23, the club spent the day working at a Habitat for Humanity build in Dover, PA. The club participates in one Habitat build per semester and learns something new every time. This time they learned how to install flooring and paint trim. It was a beautiful day to serve the community!

On Friday, October 6, several members of the CSC volunteered at the annual Walk A Mile In Her Shoes event in downtown York. The event, sponsored by the YWCA of York, hosted over 300 men and boys participating in a mile long walk through the city in high heels. More than $120,000 was raised in support of programs working to fight gender violence.

Club members agreed that HACC York should have a team participating in the next event! Save the date - it is scheduled to take place on Friday, October 5, 2018!
2017 PRESIDENT’S AWARD

Every April, members of the College are encouraged to submit a President’s Award nomination for colleagues that continually demonstrate initiative, creativity, innovation, and efficiency through projects that enhance the College’s reputation and may also result in cost savings.

Members of the President’s Cabinet select the nominations that best meet the President’s Award criteria.

- Demonstrates initiative, creativity, and innovation in implementing and/or carrying out a project;
- Efforts that enhanced the College’s reputation;
- Efforts that resulted in increased efficiency or effectiveness with collegewide implications;
- Efforts that resulted in cost savings to the College.

Congratulations to the 2017 President’s Award winners from the York Campus. Margie Mattis, was awarded for her outstanding leadership as the interim campus vice president, and James Schadewald, and Lori Shoemaker were honored for the coordination of and their dedication to the annual “Disable the Label” event. Winners and nominees were honored at a breakfast on October 4, 2017.

Kudos, also, to nominee Alfred Siha, recognized for his continued work with iTunesU!

Please be sure to congratulate each of these remarkable staff members!

You make us HACC PROUD!

Top: James Schadewald and Lori Shoemaker receive their certificates from Dr. Ski; Left: Award winner Margie Mattis and Dr. Ski; Right: Alfred Siha, nominee