



Virtual Learning Focus

April/May 2016

Reflections

At the spring 2016 Virtual Learning retreat, I asked faculty and staff to reflect on why we do what we do—not what we do or how we do it—but *why*. I listened carefully to the answers. Now, after even more reflection, I'd like to put those thoughts into a simple but accurate phrase: at HACC—Virtual Learning, "we are the builders of bridges." If there is a geographic divide between a student and his/her educational goals, we will build a bridge. If there is a technological divide between a student and his/her educational goals, we will build a bridge. If there is a financial divide between a student and his/her educational goals, we will build a bridge. If there is a societal divide between a student and his/her educational goals, we will build a bridge.

Thank you for being the builders of bridges for our over 6000 online students. Enjoy your summer, and I look forward to a great 16-17 academic year with you.

—Amy Withrow

"Education is all a matter of building bridges"

Ralph Ellison

focus on Faculty

From the Dean of Academic Affairs

Please join me in welcoming Jen Myers, our most recent full-time hire for education. Jen will officially start in July but will be taking on some of the coordination/placement duties for the education discipline in May. Jen will be housed at the York Campus in Leader 150E. Please see her biography, below, for more information.

The full-time gerontology search has reached a successful conclusion. Details on that hire will be forthcoming. The search for the split position for sociology was not successful and will be reposted. The search for the split position in communications is still underway.

I'd like to share with you an article that discusses the optimal online student's characteristics as well as optimal design for online courses. You can view this article here: <http://www.researchinlearningtechnology.net/index.php/rlt/article/view/26507>.

— Kelley Engle

Welcome Our New Education Faculty Member, Jennifer Myers

Vocational Background: Adjunct at HACC in the education discipline since 2010, adjunct at Penn State in education, student teaching supervisor, workshop presenter, elementary teacher for 14 years at Central York School District and Southern York County School District.

Education: B.S. Ed Shippensburg University, M.Ed. Millersville University, and certified in early childhood education, elementary education, and reading specialist.

Family: Lives in York, Pennsylvania, with her husband and three daughters.

Hobbies: "I enjoy spending time on the beach relaxing and surfing, reading, completing triathlons and distance races, and Cross-fit/Hiit workouts."



From the Dean of Student Affairs

The New Student Orientation (NSO) is now available online. If a student is taking a class at one of HACC's five campuses, he/she must complete the NSO at a campus and the NSO online. If the student is taking only online classes (enrolled in a Virtual Learning program) or lives more than 50 miles away from a HACC campus, he/she will have the option of only doing the NSO online. NSO at a campus and NSO online differ, so please let students know they will benefit by attending both.

— Dwayne Hunt



Thank You, Kathleen Pratt

On April 29, 2016, HACC presented the *President's Leadership Symposium - Civility in Higher Education* event.

As part of that day, Kathleen Pratt, assistant professor of management and marketing for the Gettysburg Campus and Virtual Learning, led a breakout session entitled: "Classroom Culture and Civility."

We appreciate Kathleen Pratt sharing her wisdom and experiences to help us all create a culture of civility in the classroom.

Congratulations Tenured and Promoted Faculty

Dr. Lise-Pauline Barnett (2008) - English Assistant Professor to Associate Professor

Dr. Ming Gao (1993) - Psychology Professor to Senior Professor

Dr. JuliaGrace Jester (2011) - Received tenure

Diane Mauro (2005) - Marketing/Mgmt. Associate Professor to Professor

Caroline Mellinger (2006) - History Assistant Professor to Associate Professor

Dr. Richard Moss (2011) - History Assistant Professor to Associate Professor; Received tenure

Cheryl Wilson (2000) - Communication Associate Professor to Professor



Left to Right: Dr. Kelley Engle, Dr. JuliaGrace Jester, Amy Withrow, and Dr. Dwayne Hunt celebrate Dr. Jester's tenure.

Online Students Celebrate "Star Faculty"

Fourteen Virtual Learning faculty were selected, through a student-led spring 2016 survey, as "star faculty." Both "star faculty" and "stellar students" were celebrated at the recent Virtual Learning Student Advisory Council Awards Ceremony. *More on page 6.*

Kudos to each of the following for being "star faculty" to our online students:

- Tim Barshinger
- Doug Brown
- Annamarie Fazzolari
- Rachel Gifford
- Tamara Girardi
- Lori Hockley

- Ray Lacina
- Elaine Madden
- Maggie Major
- Marie Melusky
- Richard Moss
- Karen Polite
- Vicki Villone
- Karen Woodring



Margaret "Maggie" Major, adjunct professor of allied health and foundational studies



Tamara Girardi, assistant professor of English



Annamarie Fazzolari (rt), adjunct professor of gerontology



Tim Barshinger, adjunct professor of English and director of advising and career services



Lori Hockley, assistant professor of management, Dr. Ski, and Diane Mauro, associate professor of management and marketing

Words of Wisdom from Senior Professor of Mathematics, Pauline Chow, who is retiring after spring 2016.

It has been a wild joy ride and wonderful professional journey to be a math faculty at HACC, accomplishing all the things that I only dreamed of doing when leaving the graduate school. I have always been an educator, innovator, trailblazer, and leader who doesn't go with the norm, doesn't have the word "no" in the vocabulary, and doesn't like to follow the template.

I personally thank Qiquan Wang for his guidance and global vision of mobile technology. When I asked Qiquan in 2008 to put my podcasts in the public domain, I never imagined my work could reach 4.1 million people who browsed, subscribed, downloaded, and streamed my six courses in iTunes U. I was and am lucky to be part of the iTunes U team to help HACC become a world class two-year institution. More importantly, the iTunes U platform allows me to single-mindedly pursue the global vision of math by educating random people.



I am passionate about the teaching of mathematics, care about my students' success, and in a stubborn way, want students to see what I see, "the beauty of mathematics" from every angle, every aspect, and every application through the lens of technology. I challenge my students to get out of the comfort zone and empower them to go beyond the mundane mindset of "tell me how to get the answer" or "what will be on the test" by instead asking, "show me how to explore" and "show me why I am doing wrong." Students enjoy my classroom humor such as "Chow Top Ten of math pickup lines in a bar." They passionately call me "Chowminator" or just "Chow."

HACC provides the stage – a classroom for me to showcase and fine tune my craft of teaching all the right stuffs in mathematics at all levels and the iTunes U platform to transform, capture, and expand my teaching of mathematics into free resources for my online students and people at large.

I made my decision to fully retire with a heavy heart, but would like to remain as an online adjunct for a class or two. However, with the full retirement, I will spend my unbound energy in my new passions: tweeting, blogging/writing, and traveling. I will continue the passion of sharing my teaching expertise and knowledge of web-based technology to develop, author, and produce at least three more iTunes U courses. The best has yet to come!

Focus on **Student Success**

Virtual Learning Student Advisory Council (VLSAC) Awards Ceremony

The Virtual Learning Student Advisory Council (VLSAC) hosted its first awards ceremony for Virtual Learning students on May 7, 2016, at the Central Penn College Conference Center. Student recognition is a motivating factor in student success. In an online learning setting, this concept is even more significant. For this reason, we celebrate both our online student stars and stellar faculty in a special way to acknowledge and encourage their success.



Dr. Ski starts off the night as the Master of Ceremonies



Lamar Holmes, VLSAC Vice Chair, receives his award.



Left to Right: Stacey Cullen, VLSAC Communications Chair; Ambrose Neil, future HACC student; Brianna Neil, VLSAC Chair, and Jazmin Simpson, Virtual Learning Student Success Manager



Wes Waterbury receives a Stellar Student award.



Get to know the Virtual Learning Student Advisory (VLSAC) Vice Chair, Lamar Holmes

Lamar Holmes, 26, is a graduate of Baltimore Polytechnic Institute in Baltimore, Maryland. Lamar is presently attending HACC and seeking to acquire his associate degree in marketing. He is currently a marketing consultant for several small family-owned businesses in the South Central Pennsylvania Area.



Birthplace:

Born and Raised in Charm City- Baltimore, Maryland.

Hometown:

Baltimore will always be my home! My current place of residence is Enola, PA.

Family/Home Life:

Father of a beautiful daughter, Ariyah, 3.

Education:

As a marketing major, there were a few trials and tribulations along the way. Happily after a seven-year hiatus, I have found myself concluding an amazing journey on my way to acquiring a secondary education. I very much look forward to attending the University of Pennsylvania for a Bachelor of Arts in Communication.

What inspires you?

The premise of being able to assist underprivileged youth along their way to developing their futures and furthering their education.

Why do you enjoy working for VLSAC and/or personal quote or comment?

I enjoy working for the VLSAC because of the fortuity of the following quote by Mahatma Gandhi. Changing ourselves will eventually result in a changed world. The VLSAC allows me to embrace the greater good of others. Through these efforts, I will indirectly refine my own skills of expertise and better myself as well. *"If we could change ourselves, the tendencies in the world would also change. As a man changes his own nature, so does the attitude of the world change towards him. ... We need not wait to see what others do."* – **Mahatma Gandhi**

Virtual Learning Student Advisory Council (VLSAC) Scholarships

The VLSAC is pleased to announce the creation of **two new scholarship funds** dedicated to Virtual Learning students who would typically not be eligible for a campus scholarship or the PHEAA Grant based on taking more than fifty percent of their courses online.

The first fund is the ***Legacy of Learning Scholarship***, which is an endowed scholarship in the amount of \$35,000. It is understood that funds will not be disbursed from this account for three to five years, in order to accrue enough interest for future scholarships. This will ensure a VLSAC legacy is created to benefit students for many years to come.

The second scholarship is an annual fund called the ***Dynamic Champion Award***. The amount is \$15,000, which will be awarded in the sum of \$1,000 to 15 students during the scholarship cycle. The prerequisites for this scholarship are that the student enrollment in online courses is over 50 percent, they must show an unmet financial need by the filing of the FAFSA, and they must participate in at least one VLSAC meeting per month. Minimal requirements allow students with varying backgrounds to take advantage of this opportunity.

Virtual Learning scholarships are a new frontier that need to be cultivated and nurtured. These scholarship funds are creating a new opportunity that Virtual Learning students were not able to reach prior to its creation. Although the first year will only help 15 students, it is the hope that many more students will be positively impacted from the endowed scholarship fund for many years to come. It is also our plan to continue fundraising efforts, which will allow more students to benefit from this annual scholarship fund.

Virtual Learning Emergency Assistance Funds Update

During spring 2015, Virtual Learning faculty, staff, and students raised over \$3000 to create the first Virtual Learning emergency assistance fund. I am pleased to update the Virtual Learning team that the first disbursements of those funds have been made to assist a student recovering from a house fire. These funds will help this student persist in school despite a challenging time.

Thank You for Helping to Make History with HACC's First-Ever Day of Giving

THANK YOU for making history by supporting YOUR favorite community college during HACC's first-ever [Day of Giving](#) on April 21, 2016!

Our goal for the Day of Giving was \$51,000 – \$1,000 for each year of the College's existence. We **EXCEEDED** our fundraising goal!

Please view hacc.edu/HearthACC for details and information about the various reports that will be shared with you through the month of May.

Because of you, we:

Made an impact for HACC and – most importantly – our students

Raised funds for the [fundraising campaign priorities](#)

Want to see all the FUN we had on April 21?

Check out the following:

[Thank-you video](#)

[Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages

[Photos](#) from the Day of Giving festivities

Online Auction Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who donated, bid, or otherwise supported Virtual Learning's online auction during HACC's first Day of Giving on Apr. 21, 2016. Through those efforts, we received \$2119 in bids/pledges that will directly benefit students.

ehacc.hacc.edu Login Fix

While Virtual Learning is encouraging students and faculty to use myHACC for online course access, please note that the online course "back door" (ehacc.hacc.edu) will now accept **both** student H-numbers OR their HAWKMail prefix as the userID. This, along with the myHACC password, will allow students to access their online courses in case the myHACC portal goes down for any reason.



Focus on Innovation

HACC to Host an Accessibility Expert

The Accessibility Committee - made up of representatives from Academic Affairs, Virtual Learning, the Library, Student Affairs, OIST, and many other areas, met with an expert from George Mason University (GMU) on April 28 and 29. GMU is a leader in making higher education accessible.

The first day of the visit involved discussing current processes and developing an overarching accessibility plan for the institution that will help direct and inform future efforts. The second day, April 29, focused on more specific training opportunities for any interested parties.

We are approaching this as a "train the trainer" opportunity, so there will be plenty of chances to learn more as we continue to work toward our goal of making HACC a top choice for an accessible education. Thank you for supporting this important endeavor! Please contact Jason Beaudin (jbeaudin@hacc.edu) with any questions or suggestions.

Outlook Web App (OWA) Hyperlink Advice

When you receive an email in Outlook Web App (OWA) that contains a hyperlink, the link may not work because OWA inserts extraneous information into the web address.

You can avoid creating problem links such by using the following:

- Forward the original email message rather than copying and pasting.
- Choose a different copying option, depending on your browser:
 - Internet Explorer:** Highlight the link, right-click, and choose Copy, rather than Copy Shortcut.
 - Firefox:** Highlight the link, right-click, and choose Copy, rather than Copy Link Location.
 - Chrome:** Highlight the link, right-click, and choose Copy, rather than Copy Link Address.
- Rather than copying the link from the incoming email message, go to the website, and copy the URL from the address bar in your browser.

Focus on *Upcoming Events*

#haccvirtual Twitter Chats

Monday, May 16, 12-12:30pm

Learn about the Geospatial Technology program with Nicole Ernst

For more information about access the Twitter chats or to view past chats, visit: <http://www.hacc.edu/NewStudents/Connect/Twitter.cfm>

Program Webinar:

Tuesday, May 10, 12pm- Geospatial Technology with Nicole Ernst

For more information about the webinars or to view past webinar recordings, visit: <http://www.hacc.edu/NewStudents/Connect/Webinars.cfm>

Spring 2016 Commencement:

Thursday, May 12, 6pm
The Giant Center in Hershey, PA

Staff Meeting (everyone welcome)

Thursday, May 19, 9-10:30am
W-226D or VoicePlus, 221-1305
Conference ID 211303#

Virtual Learning Team

Faculty Leadership:

Full-time:

Karen Woodring, VCFA Chair
Xiaoqing Zhu, from Operations House

Shared:

Mary Jo Keiter

Adjunct:

Diane Edmond, from Operations House

Non-Voting:

Kari Meck, CITE Coordinator
Tamara Girardi, VCFA Secretary

Leadership:

Kelley Engle
Dwayne Hunt
Amy Withrow

Admin. Assistants:

Elaine Holland
Joanne McPherson

Student Support:

John Conforti
Gina Bowers-Miller
Emily Fox
Jazmin Simpson

Technology:

Melissa Dietrich
Josh Rumpff
Joe Mendrzycki
Qiquan Wang
David Wartell