

 **President's Report**

TO: Atlantic Cape Community College Board of Trustees
FROM: Dr. Barbara Gaba
DATE: May 23, 2023
(Cape May County Campus)

Student Accomplishments

Commencement

- The 56th Annual Commencement Ceremony was held on May 18th in the quad of the Mays Landing Campus.
- The Class of 2023 is composed of more than 797 graduates, ranging in age from 17-76, and more than 350 graduates walked in the Commencement Ceremony.
- Judge Steven Perskie delivered the Keynote Address. At the President's Breakfast, Judge Perskie made a donation of \$10,000 to the Foundation from his family. The student speakers, SGA President Jasmin Caldwell and 4.0 High Honors student Ariqua Gilliss, had inspiring remarks for their fellow graduates. Rev. Marcia Stanford delivered the Invocation and Benediction, and Assistant Registrar Robyn Berenato sang the National Anthem.

End of Academic Year Student Recognition Events

- Several events to celebrate the success of our students have been held in April and May.
 - Atlantic Cape's **Psi Beta Honor Society**, the Community College National Honor Society in Psychology, recently held its first induction ceremony since 1997 on April 18th in the Walter Edge Theater.
 - The 16th annual *Communication Awards* was held on April 28th recognizing the efforts of the students in the Communication program. One hundred (100) awards in more than 40 categories including journalism, public relations, public speaking, performing arts, film and

- television were presented to students, alumni and faculty. Student Katherine "Kat" Jaques was named the *2023 Communication Major of the Year*.
- The Student Government Association (SGA) hosted their annual *Club Recognition Ceremony* at our Mays Landing Campus on May 4th celebrating the accomplishments of the campus clubs and student leaders.
 - The Center for Student Success hosted their annual *Graduate Awards Ceremony* on May 5th. Thirty-four (34) graduating students were acknowledged for their perseverance and commitment to education.
 - The *Scholarship Awards Ceremony* was held on May 15th to recognize our donors and scholarship recipients.
 - The *Athletics Banquet* was held on May 16th to recognize the academic and athletic accomplishments of our student athletes. Thirty-six (36) students received academic honors, 10 received athletic awards, and 20 received acknowledgement for completing their degrees at Atlantic Cape.
 - The *Academy of Culinary Arts Awards Ceremony* was held on May 17th to recognize students with medals and certificates for completing their programs.
 - The *Nurses' Pinning Ceremony* was held on May 17th for the nursing graduates who received their pins, took a vow to care for the sick, recited the Florence Nightingale pledge, and received awards and honors.
 - The Student Government Association hosted a *Celebration Toast* event in the Innovation Center on May 17th. Graduates decorated their caps, had formal graduation photos taken, met with alumni representatives, and held a celebratory toast with faculty and staff.

Chloe Cramutola Receives PTK Hites Transfer Scholarship

- Atlantic Cape student Chloe Cramutola has been selected as one of only 15 students to receive Phi Theta Kappa's *2023 Hites Transfer Scholarship*, the Society's most prestigious and largest scholarship offering at \$10,000.

- Hites Scholars are selected based on outstanding academic achievement, leadership, and engagement in college and community activities. They were selected by a panel of independent judges from more than 2,700 applicants.

EOF Statewide Graduate Awards

- The Atlantic Cape Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) Program Graduates participated in the EOF Statewide Graduate Awards Ceremony at Fairleigh Dickinson University on April 21st. Thirty-three (33) Atlantic Cape EOF students received Distinguished Scholar, Academic Achievement, and Outstanding Academic Achievement awards.

Recognition Ceremonies

- Atlantic Cape held a signing ceremony with the University of Phoenix for an RN to BSN articulation agreement on April 26th.
- On May 11th, during Nurses’ Week, the college unveiled a painting, titled “Resilience”, which is a collaboration between local artist Nadajia Hall and members of the Atlantic Cape Art Club. Installed in the Nursing wing (H-building), the painting is dedicated to the brave healthcare professionals who sacrificed their time and health during the pandemic.

Community Outreach

Cape May County

- Our Cape May County Campus Advancement and BizHub staff attended the Middle Township Chamber of Commerce's *2023 Business of the Year Awards Dinner*.
- Atlantic Cape hosted the Mexican Mobile Consulate of Philadelphia at our Cape May County Campus on April 29th. The event served 290 local community residents from Cape May County with assistance with national Identifications, passports, and birth certificates.

Atlantic County

- In celebration of National Minority Health Month, Atlantic Cape partnered with South Jersey Family Medical Centers (SJFMC), Hope Exist, and Atlantic

City Board of Education to host *All Hands on Health* on April 20th at the Worthington Atlantic City Campus. Over 200 students, faculty, staff, and community members attended. Resources provided included health insurance information, COVID vaccination information, preschool registration assistance, and a free produce distribution.

Community Partnership

- Atlantic Cape is proud to be a part of the "*Wind Power Ready - Atlantic City*", a training program being offered by Orsted for offshore wind technician preparation, that will provide South Jersey residents with paid wind industry training.
- The classes will be held at our Worthington Atlantic City Campus. Upon completion of the wind technician portion, Atlantic Cape will provide the next step; the necessary safety and sea survival training at our new Wind Training Center at the Worthington Atlantic City Campus. Dr. Gaba spoke at a press conference regarding Atlantic Cape's participation in this program.

Grants Update

- The college has been awarded the "Atlantic City Works 2" grant by the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) in the amount of \$769,810 over the period April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024. This is a continuation of the "Atlantic City Works" program to deliver training to Atlantic City residents and employees of Atlantic City businesses, and the "Atlantic City Works 2" program will focus on Foundations for Success (Adult Basic Education and English as a Second Language), Certification and Credential Programs, and Incumbent Worker Training programs.
- Through the State-funded County College-Based *Centers for Adult Transition Grant*, the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education (OSHE) awarded Atlantic Cape a grant of \$269,620 to operate adult centers for transition of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- Atlantic Cape was awarded a grant in the amount of \$5,000 to participate in the *Level Up Your Library Mini-Grants* program. The funds will be used to

expand the Atlantic Cape Libraries' "Textbooks on Reserve" collection to enhance students' access to textbooks and reduce financial barriers to student success.