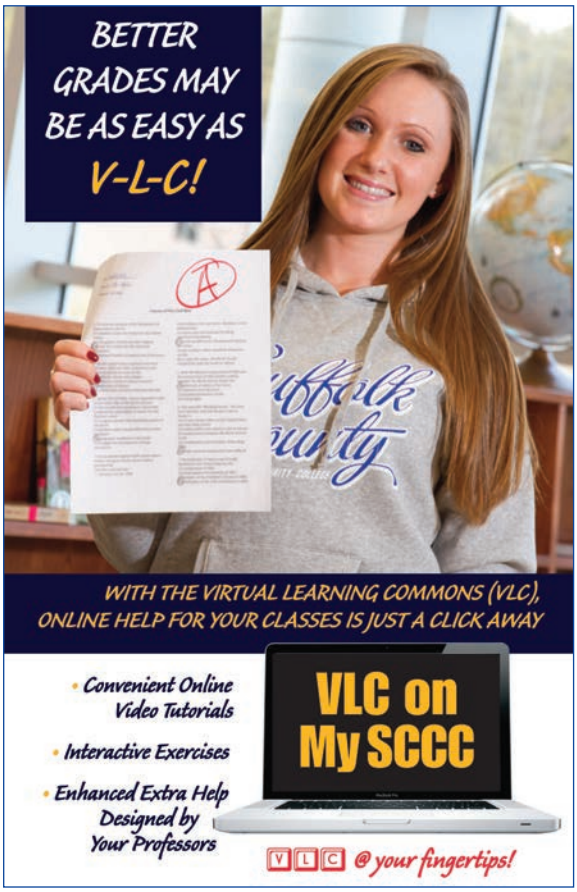


While our attention initially has been concentrated on external donor prospects, an internal initiative will now begin that is focused upon executive and campus level giving. Co-Chairs have been identified to lead the internal solicitation effort and several major donations have already been received. As we commenced this portion of the campaign, my family and I announced a considerable contribution commitment in support of Vision 2015. This donation will be directed to support for the College's Theatre Arts program. Additionally, earlier this year we received a major gift from Board Chairwoman Dafny Irizarry. This gift established a new ESL scholarship in her mother's name and was awarded for the first time this past May.

**Title III Team Progress.** Now that we have completed year two of this five-year $2 million grant initiative, we continue to build and implement our design for improving student success and engagement at the College. Tremendous progress has been made this year by the Title III teams: Enrollment and Admissions, Gateway Course Support Enhancement, Virtual Learning Commons, Faculty Mentoring and Student Engagement.

In the first Annual Performance Report to the U.S. Department of Education, the College reported having achieved all scheduled objectives. Specifically, the following accomplishments were realized: E-transcripting was established and we received e-transcripts from high schools and other colleges for the first time; electronic review and delivery of application and enrollment data was established, significantly streamlining the application process; the College's web-enabled application system was established, allowing students to apply online; five high-enrollment "gateway" courses were enhanced with online, self-guided materials that support the key concepts that students must master to succeed in each course; online support materials were prepared and we are ready to pilot for five more gateway courses; and the site and process maps for the new Virtual Learning Commons (VLC) were completed. The College also implemented an internal marketing plan for the VLC, which is accessible through the College's student portal and offers a one-stop online location where students can find help with their studies, information on College resources and other support services.

I remain impressed by the large number of faculty, staff and students who are willing to take on leadership roles associated with our Title III initiative. The project leaders are clearly focused, highly organized, and genuinely enthusiastic about the project. Their creativity and initiative is proving invaluable to the task of transforming the College's learning environment. It is just this type of spirit that will enable us to successfully meet and ultimately surpass the goals for this grant: to help our students become accomplished learners and to transform the College's processes for enrollment, advising, learning, and engaging so that student success, satisfaction with the college experience, persistence and retention will measurably improve.




**Initiated Task Force Review of College Operations.** During the past year, task force groups were assigned with specific charges to examine two areas that reach deeply into the core of our operation. Each group was charged with assessing the need for implementing modifications throughout the existing system, as well as the potential for positively impacting our operational efficiency and our service to students. The areas under review were counseling and the College Association budget.

The Counseling Review Task Force successfully assessed staffing structures college-wide within student services areas. Specifically, charge questions were addressed under each of the following goals:

1. Establish comprehensive review of staffing and systems across the College;
2. Analyze support programs that aim to retain academically at-risk students;