Governance Changes. Suffolk County Community College is governed by a 10-member board of trustees. Five are appointed by the Suffolk County Legislature, four trustees by the Governor of New York State and one student trustee is elected by the student body. The trustees also serve on the board of directors of the Suffolk Community College Association. On July 1, 2013, Felipe A. Espitia Cetina from the Michael J. Grant Campus was elected to serve as the next Student Trustee on the College's Board of Trustees. He replaces Anthony Mangual, who served in this role for two terms.

With the retirement of Ellen Schuler Mauk, we welcome Kevin Peterman to the role of President of the College's Faculty Association. I look forward to working with Kevin in the coming years. The College Governance Council, which represents the three faculty governance bodies to the administration, now has its own office space, telephone extension and email address where members of the college community may contact both their campus and college-wide representatives. The office is located on the Michael J. Grant Campus in Room 101B of the Sagtikos Arts and Sciences Building. The telephone number is 631-851-6321 and the email address is cgc@sunysuffolk.edu. In May, Dr. June Ohrnberger became the Chair of the College Governance Council replacing Dr. Jeff Kluewer who had served for eight years and will continue to consult with Council members.



In the spring, I worked very closely with members of our faculty and representatives from College governance to address an issue related to the election of academic chairs and the consolidation of departments. This issue arose after some campus academic chairs stepped down and no one came forward to fill the vacancies. In such a situation, the College is left facing the possibility of needing decisions made during the summer regarding sections and courses, and having no one in place responsible for making such decisions. As a result, some small departments without academic chairs were combined under larger departments. While some concern was initially expressed, I was able to share examples of similar arrangements working effectively at other campuses.

Computer Information Systems (CIS). During the past year, the office of Computer Information Systems (CIS) developed various projects in support of College initiatives. The Prospect Module was implemented in Banner to expand our student recruitment efforts. The final migration to Banner as well as data archival was completed and the old mainframe retired. A new application to track adjunct seniority was created, providing online access to certifications and seniority for both administration and faculty. To streamline the process for admitted students, a system was implemented to handle scheduling of testing and advising appointments.

On the student side, the Virtual Learning Commons (VLC) within the MySCCC portal was expanded from six content areas with over 100 learning objects to nine content areas with almost 750 learning objects. In addition, a new degree audit system currently in development will enhance students' planning and mobility across all institutions within the SUNY system. Degree Works will provide a common, university-wide system with the facility to perform a degree audit at the institution one is attending as well as an audit for an institution that one is considering transferring to. Additional features include "What-If" scenarios for a change of curriculum, real-time financial aid compliance, and the ability to ascertain how a proposed course fits into the current curriculum. Progress has also been made in updating the College's current MySCCC portal, including a load test for Priority Registration – results confirming that the new version provides greater user capacity, approximately 3-4 times more logons than the current portal.