Message from the President



Last year, as we produced the fifth annual publication of the College's Review of Accomplishments, I introduced the concept of "legacy" and shared with our audiences that as the years pass, our achievements and influential moments are being remembered, thus becoming "legacy points."

Since I became President, I have consistently shared my belief that education transforms lives by empowering individuals; this empowerment allows people to achieve, create, and thrive – thereby creating progress. To build momentum and keep everything moving forward, the college community, along with our Board of Trustees, elected officials, business and community leaders, and area partners, share responsibility for supporting the continued development and strengthening of Suffolk County Community College. In so doing, each of these networks has numerous opportunities to take action and make decisions that can propel our College forward – maintaining our goal of being an institution of excellence. I am honored to share with you that between the covers of this document, you will find many examples demonstrating steps already taken in that direction.

Having accomplished so much, we are now poised to build on a legacy that responds to the needs of our local communities here in Suffolk County. The legacy of welcoming people of all backgrounds and abilities, the legacy of good stewardship of resources, the legacy of enhanced academic programs and student services, the legacy of improved facilities, and the legacy of changing lives in a profound way for the better, are all hallmarks of this institution.

This past year has been a defining moment in the history of the College. When challenged by numerous external demands, so many members of the college community willingly stepped forward to address the work required to meet those demands, enabling all of us to advance the institution and enhance our legacy of excellence.

As I have led our efforts and joined with the college community in completing the hard work required to maintain and enhance excellence within the College, my vision for the institution – the big picture – is to ensure that Suffolk County Community College evolves and is better tomorrow than it is today. The point is not to finish quickly those actions that can be completed in the short-term, but rather to make bold and well-considered decisions that keep our institution moving forward, and building upon our legacy of leadership, innovation, and transformation.

Clearly, our community supports the College's mission and the contributions made by each colleague. Our faculty and staff of professionals, who possess exceptional skills, creativity, and a healthy competitive drive, continue to maintain a student-centered focus and respect for our collective work. I remain grateful to each of them, and I am grateful for the dedication of our Board of Trustees. Through their continued focus and commitment, I know our students and this College will continue to achieve great things. Now, as we start a new academic year, we also commence the next phase in the College's growth, and I join our community in anticipating the newest legacy points that will emerge.

In this way, adhering to our mission, we will generate the transformational power of education that brings success to our students and provides opportunities to create a legacy of change and growth. I am honored to serve as the College's President and I look forward to another exciting academic year. With meaningful actions, such as those chronicled within the following pages, it is clear that we are making purposeful progress in shaping our institutional legacy, while enhancing teaching and learning across the College.

Sincerely,

Dr. Shaun L. McKay