2014-2015 Year in Review

Academic Highlights Advance our Educational Mission

In December 2012, the SUNY Trustees passed a resolution regarding their intention to implement seamless transfer of students between SUNY institutions. Under this mandate, associate degrees in all academic programs are required to consist of 64 credits or fewer. In addition, all A.A. and A.S. programs must comply with "transfer paths" crafted to align community college curricula with their four-year counterparts. Under my leadership, the Office of Academic Affairs worked closely with Student Affairs, College administrators, program faculty, staff, and governance bodies to meet SUNY's seamless transfer expectations. Members of the college community completed this monumental task in less than a year. I applaud the professionalism and expertise demonstrated by everyone during this period. As they have shown time and again, our faculty and staff can always be counted on to come together and attain the best results, when those efforts will benefit our students. Of the College's 77 programs and program options, 66 required some level of revision. All affected programs made sound, necessary curricula revisions in time to meet the December 2014 deadline set by SUNY. New students are now being accepted under the new seamless transfer parameters; continuing students are able to choose between following their existing program requirements or switching to the new streamlined requirements. Messaging was developed and shared with students, counselors, and faculty advisors who are now engaged in the process of assisting students in making degree completion decisions.



Through SUNY Seamless Transfer, academic program requirements will change this fall.

The 2014-2015 academic year began with the College's annual Academic Convocation featuring a keynote address by alumnus Eric Martinez (Class of '86), JD, CPA. Mr. Martinez spoke about growing up in a single parent household and how his Suffolk experience allowed him to believe in himself and his ability to become successful through dedication to hard work and a disciplined approach to education. His message resonated very well with the over 300 students, faculty, alumni and staff in attendance. Professor (ret.) Bud Macy presented the College's ceremonial mace as the current President of the College's Retirees Association, an alumnus of the Class of '68 and a retired Professor of Mechanical Technology. Presidential medallions were bestowed upon Mr. Martinez and Professor Macy. During the afternoon program, the College honored three new professors emeritus: John Hamilton, Jean Ann Scharpf, and Marianne McAuley.



Alumnus Eric Martinez ('86) joined me in welcoming the students during Convocation.

As the largest community college in the SUNY system, we often are expected to provide leadership in areas that will enhance teaching, learning and innovation. I encourage this role and we continue to work with our SUNY partners to accomplish great things. As an example, we have been chosen to assist with the pilot for Quantway Pathway, which is an accelerated program to move students through developmental mathematics sequences quickly and successfully. The College is one of five SUNY institutions participating in the pilot, which includes having members