mid-February. This year, we also hosted the Section XI high school boys and girls County basketball Championships as well as a national cheerleading event, Epic Cheer, which attracted 3,000 individuals from the Tri-State area.

To assist in efforts to market our space, the Office of Special Events worked with Google a complete a virtual tour of the Lecture Hall, Field House, pool and fitness facility. We now have the ability to reach a broad audience, allowing them to feel like they are inside our facility even if they are miles away.

In October, Ammerman Campus Nursing Department chair Susan Dewey-Hammer organized and led a meeting in Albany for all of the Deans and Directors of associate degree nursing programs from across New York State.



I appointed Dr. Candice Foley to serve as Suffolk's "point of contact" liaison for the inaugural SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference (SURC), which took place at SUNY Brockport in April. In this capacity, Dr. Foley was responsible for receiving and sharing SURC information with campus constituents and for encouraging eligible students to submit presentation proposals, with the goal of having student representation from all 64 campuses at the Conference.

Advanced Institutional Reputation

I was reappointed by the Board of Directors of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) to its Commission on Diversity, Inclusion and Equity. This latest term runs through June 30, 2017. In his letter to me, AACC CEO Walter G. Bumphus stated, "We are sure that your insights and leadership will significantly contribute to the Board's decision-making process and its ability to serve the interests of all AACC member institutions." It is a distinct honor to serve on this Commission and I look forward to being a strong and vocal advocate on behalf of our students as well as the more than 13 million students who attend community colleges across the country. Included among the major programs and issues that will be addressed by this Commission are: leadership development, job shadowing, preparing students for STEM careers and closing the achievement gap for students of color and low income students.



I was also elected to the AACC's Presidents Academy Executive Committee (PAEC), where I was appointed to a three-year term that commenced on July 1, 2015. My appointment to the committee resulted from a vote taken by my peers. I look forward to bringing positive attention to the College and its accomplishments during my term on this nationally-recognized committee.

In July, I attended the American Association of Community Colleges' (AACC) Presidents Academy Summer Institute. The Institute provides an opportunity for presidents from institutions of higher education to come together and learn from each other by establishing mentoring relationships and attending workshop sessions on leadership.

I was honored by my selection as one of this year's John & Suanne Roueche Excellence Awards honorees. This prestigious recognition celebrates outstanding contributions and leadership by community college faculty and staff and marks the third consecutive year that someone from Suffolk County Community College has received the award. The recognition ceremony took place in Boston as part of the League for Innovation's annual conference.

Nearly a dozen Suffolk County Community College students are spending their