summer living and interning at Disney's World Resort in Florida, as part of an internship program that began 26 years ago. The program allows participants to network, take part in personal and career development classes, and build transferable skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, guest services and effective communication. This fall, 13 additional students will join the program, including two of our theater students, who will work in costuming with a former Suffolk student.

On September 20th, Walter Hazlitt, whose term on our Board of Trustees had recently ended, received one of the 2014 Donald M. Mawhinney Trustee Leadership Awards at the New York Community College Trustees' (NYCCT) Awards Banquet. The awards ceremony was part of the NYCCT's Conference entitled "Celebrating 60 Years of Trustee Education and Leadership." In attendance to represent the College's Board, were Chairwoman Dafny Irizarry, Vice-Chair Theresa Sanders, and Student Trustee Gardy Amilcar.



*Congratulations to former Trustee Walter Hazlitt for his selection as a recipient of the 2014 Donald M. Mawhinney Trustee Leadership Award.*

Staff presented a poster titled "Best Practices for Increasing Alumni and Employer Feedback in Curriculum Evaluation" at the 41st Annual National Conference on Professional Nursing Education and Development at the Mayo Clinic, MN.

Five Suffolk students were chosen from among more than 30 students representing institutions from across the East Coast, to be part of the NBA All-Star 2015 event's technology "Dream Team." The students: Justin Owens (Shirley); David Hachikian (East Northport); Jaime Silverman (Shoreham); Bryan Seidenspinner (Sayville); and Raymond Thompson (Bayport), set up and maintained all Internet and wireless communications at the All-Star Basketball events. The students learned about technology configuration and deployed technology at the Barclays Center and Madison Square Garden. The NBA All-Star Game is a world class sporting event that will rely on these students to implement the network that will carry the event. The students are enrolled in the College's Cisco classes, where they prepare for the CCNA (Cisco Certified Network Associate) exam. The courses teach students how to design, configure and manage an IT network either in a local company or world-wide interconnection. The CCNA is recognized in the industry as a technical professional working with traditional Cisco-based networks that predominantly include local area network (LAN) and wide area network (WAN) routers and switches.




My schedule allowed me to travel to San Antonio, Texas for the 2015 Spring Conference hosted by the Higher Education Research and Development Institute (HERDI), followed by the American Association of Community Colleges' 95th Annual Convention. As part of the Annual Convention, AACC schedules its various commission meetings, so in my role as a Commissioner, I was able to attend the Diversity, Inclusion and Equity Commission meeting. I was also able to attend my first AACC Presidents Academy Executive Committee (PAEC) meeting. During the conference, I served as a panel moderator for one of the presentation sessions and participated on an additional presidents' discussion panel before returning home.

The College's campus chapters of Phi Theta Kappa, the honor society for two-year colleges, came together collaboratively to host the New York Region's Phi Theta Kappa Honors in Action conference at our Ammerman Campus in October. I was invited to address the assembly during this event, which was the first time Suffolk hosted a regional Phi Theta Kappa conference on this scale. We enjoyed bringing students and their advisors from all over New York to Suffolk County.