

President's Corner



Dear Atlantic Cape Alumni,

First and foremost, I hope that you and your families are healthy and safe. Over the past several weeks, the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

has developed into a global pandemic that poses enormous and unprecedented challenges to our communities. I wanted to use this opportunity to reach out to you with an update on what we have been doing at Atlantic Cape to respond to this crisis and to continue to provide our students and community members with the services and support they need during this difficult time.

First, to protect the health of our students and faculty and to enable them to practice social distancing, all course instruction will be delivered online for the remainder of the Spring semester. We did not make this decision lightly, and in anticipation of the challenges it may pose for students, we have set up a number of support services that can be utilized remotely. Students that do not have their own personal computer will

be able to borrow a laptop from the College so that they can successfully complete their coursework at home. Additionally, our free online tutoring services have been expanded. Our bookstore has gone online with free shipping, and our library offers a wide variety of digital resources that are accessible 24/7. Our dedicated team members in Admissions, Financial Aid, and Counseling are ready to provide assistance by phone and email, and our Academic Advisors will be reaching out to every student over the coming weeks to schedule phone and video chat appointments.

Additionally, we are doing all that we can to address the essential needs of our community members through donations of food and supplies. Our campus food pantries have distributed food and Shop Rite gift cards to students in need, and additional packaged food items from both the campus food pantries and the Culinary program's storeroom have been donated to local food pantries and food banks. Our Nursing Program was able to donate its supply of masks, gloves, and other personal protective equipment (PPE) to AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center and Cape Regional Medical Center to protect our heroic

healthcare workers as they work tirelessly to care for their patients.

As we continue to navigate this extraordinary situation, it is more important than ever to come together as one Atlantic Cape family to support and take care of one another. If you are able to do so, please consider making a donation to the Atlantic Cape Foundation. These funds will provide critical emergency assistance to our students who have been adversely affected financially by this crisis. If you are interested in donating, please visit atlantic.edu/foundation or reach out to Kristin Jackson at (609) 463-3621 or kjackson@atlantic.edu.

I thank you for your continued support and I know that we will get through this together as one Atlantic Cape family. I encourage you to visit atlantic.edu/coronavirus for updates and additional information about the specific actions we are taking to protect and support our community.

Sincerely,

Barbara Gaba
Dr. Barbara Gaba
President

Thank you Alumni

working on the
COVID-19
frontlines!

#NJCCHeroes



Top Row: **Angelina Hawk '17** Nursing, A.A.S., ICU Nurse, Cape Regional Medical Center **DiChera Helm '13** Nursing, A.A.S., ICU Nurse, Inspira Health Network
Felix Contreras-Castro '14 Biology, A.S., Human Services, A.S., and Sociology, A.A., Clinical Research Manager, Mount Sinai Health System (New York City)

Bottom row: **Katherine Melo '18** Nursing, A.A.S., Registered Nurse, AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center **Jessica Dorta '16** Elementary and Middle School Education, A.A., Teacher, Port Norris Middle School **Djaniella Dimayuga '17** Nursing, A.A.S., Registered Nurse, Bellevue Hospital (New York City)
Rebecca Portnoy '17 Nursing, A.A.S., Registered Nurse, San Diego County Psychiatric Hospital

CONGRATULATIONS, 2020 ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS!

2020 President's Distinguished Alumni Award



Mayor Beth Holtzman '82
Business Administration, A.S.

Beth Holtzman knew by her junior year in high school that she wanted to pursue a career in accounting. After graduating in the top 15% of her class, she attended Atlantic Cape and earned an A.S. in Business Administration in 1982. She continued on to Stockton, obtaining a B.S. in Business and Accounting in 1985.

After working in the hospitality industry in Atlantic City and Washington D.C., Beth returned to the area and took a job as an accountant for Atlantic County. She eventually worked her way up to Fiscal Officer. In June 2020, Beth will mark 31 years of service to the Atlantic County government. In May 2016, Beth was sworn in as mayor in Ventnor City. She is very active in the community having served as the Treasurer for the Ventnor Little League, a Ventnor City School Board member, and the State of New Jersey Support Group Leader for the CARES Foundation.



Dennis Kelly '78
Liberal Arts, A.A.

While a student at Atlantic Cape, Dennis Kelly earned four varsity letters in three different sports and was a featured columnist for the college paper. After completing his first year of college, Dennis left to serve in the military during the Vietnam War and when he returned, he obtained an A.A. in Liberal Arts in

1978. Dennis also earned a B.A. in Communications and Media and a Master of Business Administration, both from Fairleigh Dickinson University. Dennis's lengthy and successful career in higher education includes serving as Dean of Admission at Centenary College, Vice President for Enrollment Management at Georgian Court University, and currently, Senior Vice President and Chief Enrollment Officer at Wilmington College in Ohio. Dennis continues to support Atlantic Cape in a variety of ways and will serve as the college's 2020 Commencement speaker.

2020 Young Alumni Achievement Award



Richard Russell, Jr. '99
General Studies, A.S. and
Liberal Arts, A.A.

Richard Russell has a life-long connection to Atlantic Cape, starting as a child attending the daycare located on the Mays Landing Campus and as an attendee of the Kid's College program. In 1999, Rich obtained an A.A. in Liberal Arts and an A.S. in General Studies. He later graduated magna cum laude from

NYU with a B.A. in English, from the New School University with a M.S. in Teaching, and from the University of London with a M.A. in English. After years of teaching high school English, Rich joined the faculty ranks at Atlantic Cape in January 2007. He was promoted to Assistant Professor of English in January 2014 and served as the English Department Coordinator from January 2014 to May 2019. He has earned numerous professional awards including the Faculty Pioneer Award in 2012 and Faculty of the Year in 2019. Rich supports several Atlantic Cape scholarships and is the advisor for Rewrites, the college's literary magazine.



Kyle Schachner '16
Communication, A.A.

As a high school student, Kyle Schachner hadn't considered the prospect of attending college and instead, opted to join the workforce after graduation. But it wasn't long before Kyle decided to explore new opportunities and on a whim, he visited Atlantic Cape and enrolled in classes.

Kyle earned an A.A. in Communication in 2016 and transferred to Rowan University where he graduated summa cum laude with B.A. degrees in both Public Relations and Advertising. He works as a business analyst at Lynkd, a Holman Enterprises company, where he uses software and consumer data to help car dealership groups better manage their businesses. Kyle is a founding member of the Atlantic Cape Communication Alumni Council and currently serves as its treasurer. He finds time to regularly mentor current Communication majors and supports fundraising efforts for the program.



SAVE THE DATES!

May 14th and June 25th

RUTGERS INSTANT DECISION DAYS FALL 2020

for Rutgers programs offered
on Atlantic Cape's Mays Landing Campus

Attend virtually!

Participate in one of the Instant Decision Days
to receive an admissions decision
and no application fee!

Interested in participating?

To make an appointment for Instant Decision Day,
contact Patrick Keener at pkeener@docs.rutgers.edu

We are here to help you with the next steps
of your academic journey
<https://statewide.rutgers.edu/accc/>



**Congratulations
Class of 2020!**

**STAY CONNECTED BY JOINING
THE ATLANTIC CAPE ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION FOR FREE TODAY!**

Visit atlantic.edu/alumni to
join the Alumni Association.
For more information contact
Kristin Jackson at (609) 463-3621
or kjackson@atlantic.edu.



ALUMNI IN THE NEWS!

Atlantic Cape board of trustees members
Harrison Furman '13 and **Ahmet Sahingoz '19**
attended the Community College National Legislative
Summit with Atlantic Cape president, Dr. Barbara
Gaba, in Washington D.C. in February. The event
brought more than 1,000 community college leaders
together and highlighted the importance of the
country's community colleges to Congress and the
administration. They also had the opportunity to
meet with U.S. Rep. Jeff Van Drew (R-2nd) and
Sen. Bob Menendez (D-NJ).

Christopher Prychka '96 was recently promoted
to lieutenant with the Hamilton Township Police
Department. Christopher earned an Associate in
Science in Criminal Justice and a Bachelor of Arts in
Criminal Justice from Fairleigh Dickinson University.
He will complete his final course for a Master of
Science in Homeland Security, also at FDU, in May.

Christopher Rizzo '04 was recently promoted
to sergeant with the Hamilton Township Police
Department. He obtained an Associate in Science in
Business Administration and is currently working
toward earning a bachelor degree at Fairleigh
Dickinson University.

Idalis Santana '19 was one of fifteen student athletes
to receive the 2019 Woman of the Year Award by the
Garden State Athletic Conference on February 9 at
the 28th Annual National Girls & Women in Sports
Awards Luncheon held at Seton Hall University.
Idalis was a member of the Atlantic Cape women's
basketball team and received the award based
on her GPA, character, and campus involvement.
Congratulations, Idalis!

IN MEMORIAM

Christine Gildiner '16 passed away on Thursday,
March 26. Christine earned an Associate in Science
in Human Services in May 2016 and worked at the
Mental Health Association in Atlantic County. In
2018, she was awarded Advocate of the Year for her
volunteer work on behalf of victims of domestic
violence. Christine will be remembered for her love
of helping others.

RAFFLES RAISE EMERGENCY FUNDS

Winners for both raffles will be pulled on **WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2020**



Raffle proceeds support an emergency fund for Atlantic Cape students facing unexpected economic hardships related to food insecurity, healthcare, childcare, housing, and transportation.



is generously matching proceeds up to \$2,500!



50/50 CASH RAFFLE

Donation: \$100 each
300 tickets available

- 1st prize: 30% of total sales*
- 2nd prize: 15% of total sales*
- 3rd prize: 5% of total sales*

*Actual prize amounts will be based on the number of tickets sold. Winners need not be present to win.



BORGATA DINNER FOR 8 RAFFLE

Donation: \$50 each
100 tickets available

One lucky winner! An exclusive dining experience for eight at Old Homestead located in Borgata Hotel Casino and Spa! Dinner includes wine expertly paired by the Borgata's sommelier. Prize valued at \$1,500.

To purchase tickets and for more info please visit atlantic.edu/raffle

SAVE MORE THAN \$15,000 IN TUITION COSTS!

TESU/NJ 3+1 PATHWAYS PROGRAM

Thomas Edison State University (TESU) has partnered with Atlantic Cape Community College to offer an affordable and accelerated path to earn your bachelor's degree online!

Atlantic Cape Alumni Benefits:

- No application fee and guaranteed admission
- Earn up to 90 credits at your community college
- Choose from 50+ undergraduate programs
- Personal one-on-one advising services from TESU
- Monthly term start dates
- Deferred payment plan options for nursing specific degree programs

To learn more, contact **Juliette Punchello**, Senior Director Undergraduate Recruiting at jpunchello@tesu.edu or **215-275-2197**, or visit tesu.edu/3plus1

For nursing degree program information, contact **Maggie Ciocco**, School of Nursing Advisor at mciocco@tesu.edu or **609-633-6460** ext. 3264

BE INVOLVED. STAY CONNECTED.

And continue the Buccaneer tradition of excellence!

Opportunities for Alumni to volunteer:

- Mentor students
- Classroom guest Speaker
- Volunteer at Alumni or College Events
- Serve on the Advisory Committee
- Assist at College Open Houses and Recruitment Events

Tell us how you want to volunteer.

Please contact **Kristin Jackson** at kjackson@atlantic.edu or **(609) 463-3621**.

