

ATLANTIC CAPE COMMUNICATOR

Atlantic Cape Community College's Information Source

Jan. 23, 2004

NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW

Foundation Donates \$50,000 For Cape May County Campus Enhancements



ACCC Foundation officers present a check for \$50,000 to Dr. John May, fourth from left. They are, from left, Stephen Nehmad, secretary; Dennis Stacey, treasurer; Glenn Ferguson, president; Lynda Pagliughi, vice president; and Frank Forde, vice president.

At a meeting on Jan. 21, the ACCC Foundation donated \$50,000 to ACCC to be used for enhancements for the Cape May County campus, under construction in Middle Township.

“The ACCC Foundation is a great scholarship granting organization, but as we looked at our assets, we thought, “What else can we do for the college?” said **Glenn Ferguson**, president. “We decided we would like to make a significant gift to the college as seed money for needed items at the new Cape May County campus.”

Dennis Stacey, treasurer, noted that the Foundation’s investments had done well in the past year and the board’s Executive Committee felt it was time to consider

how that money could be used to benefit the college. “The Foundation Board is very excited that the Cape May County campus is finally going to be a reality,” said **Lynda Pagliughi**, vice president of the Foundation. “This \$50,000 check will give Dr. May funds to use for the Cape May project.”



Denise Coulter

Denise Coulter Named New English Department Chair

Denise Coulter, assistant professor of English, was named English Department chair recently. Coulter came to ACCC in 1993 as an adjunct instructor before accepting a full-time appointment in September 1996. She also taught part time at Burlington and Ocean county colleges.

Prior to joining the college she served as owner/operator of Coulter’s Enclave, a retail business specializing in collectable records. She was also coordinator of the Barnegat Municipal Alliance Committee where she authored two state grants to organize entertainment and educational substance abuse prevention activities for the community. She was also a newspaper journalist for two years.

The Barnegat resident earned a master’s degree in English from Rutgers and a bachelor’s in English from Georgian Court. She also studied voice, stage and commercial acting at New York’s Lee Strasberg Theater Institute. Two years ago Coulter earned a Developmental Education Specialist certificate from the Kellogg Institute at Appalachian State University.

A pioneer in the college's on-line endeavors, Coulter created the English Department's first Web page and was also a member of the department's Developmental Reading and Writing Subcommittee.

Dr. Agnes Armao, vice president of academic and student affairs, called Coulter "someone who responds eagerly to college needs and can be depended upon to support college initiatives." Coulter has served as advisor to the International Club and the Atlantic Cape Review.

Her memberships include the N.J. Writing Alliance, N.J. College English Association, N.J. Association of Developmental Educators, National Association of Developmental Educators, Two-Year College Association Northeast, Conference College Composition Communication and National Council of Teachers of English.

Coulter replaces **Dr. Ron Jenkins**, who resigned, Jan. 9.

Reminder: Put Phones on Send Calls Before Leaving Each Day

Employees are reminded to set their phones to "send calls" before leaving work at the end of the day. This allows out-of-hours callers to immediately hear a recorded message rather than waiting for several annoying rings. Make sure your voice mail greetings are up to date. Refer to pages 72-73 of the campus directory for directions for programming "send calls," if your telephone does not have a "send calls" button and for instructions on updating your greetings.

Original Tuition Waiver Forms Must Be Submitted

Requests for tuition waiver must be submitted on the actual (original) NCR form. Faxes and copies are no longer acceptable. If you have any questions, please call **Joe Rossi**, human resources, ext. 5109.

'Martin Luther King Commemoration' Jan. 27

ACCC's International Education and Multicultural Awareness Committee and the dean of students' area will present a tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, titled AGAPE, 12:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 27, in the outer cafeteria on the Mays Landing main campus. The national theme of this year's celebration is titled *Remember... Celebrate... Act!* The ACCC event will commemorate the birth, work and impact of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., in particular his concept of "agape" defined by Dr. King as "understanding, creative, redemptive goodwill toward all men."

You're invited to help celebrate Dr. King's life and work with this one-man performance by Derrick McQueen, ACCC adjunct theater instructor. The program will review key elements of the civil rights struggle under Dr. King's leadership, his philosophy and its origin. Through song, McQueen will share the wellspring of emotion generated by the Freedom Singers. The Freedom Singers were a core group of meeting workers whose job it was to rally the audience/ congregation by the singing of spirituals, re-worried pop songs and new folk songs based on current events. His program is a cappella, as most meeting places did not have musical instruments.

McQueen will show how Dr. King was able to bring all people together to understand that the civil rights struggle is a fight to spread agape and to infuse it into the thread of American democracy.

Blood Drive, Mobile Mammography on Campus March 2; Make Appointment

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive on the Mays Landing main campus, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 2, in the gym.

The RNS Mobile Mammography will also be on campus that day, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Employees need referrals from their physicians. To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-246-2404.

TIAA-CREF Visits Announced

TIAA-CREF Individual Consultant Robert Marronaro will be on campus:

Friday, Feb. 20	9 a.m.-4 p.m.	Mays Landing main campus, room J-207
Tuesday, March 23	9 a.m.-4 p.m.	Mays Landing main campus, room J-207
Tuesday, April 13	9 a.m.-noon	Worthington Atlantic City Center, room 215
	1-4 p.m.	Mays Landing main campus, room J-207
Tuesday, May 18	9 a.m.-4 p.m.	Mays Landing main campus, room J-207

Please call (800)842-8412 to make an appointment. Remember to bring your most recent quarterly statement.

Support Men's Basketball Team

All are encouraged to attend ACCC's men's basketball games. Home games include: Tuesday, Jan. 27, Burlington; Thursday, Jan. 29, Delaware Tech; Tuesday, Feb. 10, Ocean; Tuesday, Feb. 17, Gloucester; and Saturday, Feb. 21, Cabrini JV. All weekday contests tip off at 7 p.m. Saturday games start at 3 p.m. Come support your team!

Black History Month Events Planned

Events will be held on ACCC's Mays Landing main campus unless otherwise noted.

Feb. 2-26: ACCC Art Gallery presents *Quilts by Barbara Imes Jordan and Jaqueline Imes Jenkins; Sculpture by Steven Evans*. A reception to meet the artists will be held Sunday, Feb. 8, 1-4 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 3, 12:30-1:30 p.m., free film, "Partners of the Heart," Walter Edge Theater. Partners of the Heart tells the remarkable but obscure story of Vivien Thomas, whose medical collaboration with surgeon Alfred Blalock opened new paths for healing at a time when most doors were closed for African Americans.

Tuesday, Feb. 10, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Student Activities presents *An Exhibit by Ralph Hunter*, outer cafeteria. Hunter is founder of the African American Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey in Newtonville. The traveling exhibit is entertaining and interactive and boasts an impressive collection of items including graphics, drawings, paintings, advertisements and household and decorative items, all depicting blacks in a historical context.

Thursday, Feb. 12, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Student Government Association and Student Activities presents Slave and Jim Crow Display titled, *Lest We Forget*, outer cafeteria. *Lest We Forget* is a private collection of slavery artifacts and Jim Crow memorabilia. This exhibit of authentic items brings history alive for African Americans.

Tuesday, Feb. 17, 12:30-1:30 p.m., Dedication ceremony for lighthouse commissioned by the Minority Affairs Committee and created by Leonard Wilkinson as part of the college's Beacons by the Sea Lighthouse Festival. A donor plaque dedicating the lighthouse will be placed outside Walter Edge Theater. Contact **Patricia Gandy**, ext. 5111, for more information.

11 a.m.-2 p.m., Soul Food Lunch, Williamson Hospitality will be serving soul food on the lunch menu in the Mays Landing main campus cafeteria.

11 a.m.-2 p.m., Black Student Alliance presents African-American Market Place, J-hallway. For more information contact **Ed Marshall**, advisor, ext. 5096.

Wednesday, Feb. 18, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Black Student Alliance presents African-American Market Place, J-hallway

Thursday, Feb. 19, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Black Student Alliance presents African-American Market Place, J-hallway

10 a.m.-2 p.m., Sid Trusty Exhibit, outer cafeteria

Tuesday, Feb. 24, 12:30-1:30 p.m., Student Activities presents Jasmine Jai, singer, songwriter and lecturer, Student Life Center

6:30 p.m., Educational Opportunity Fund Melvin L. Newton Scholarship Benefit Dinner in Careme's, sold out

Thursday, Feb. 26, 12:30-1:30 p.m., Student Activities presents Louise Gorham-Neblett as Zora, a one-woman dramatic presentation based on the life of the colorful literary figure Zora Neale Hurston, one of the most prolific authors of the Harlem Renaissance, Walter Edge Theater.

Discount Tickets Available for 'Stars on Ice' at AC Boardwalk Feb. 21

A group at City Center is purchasing tickets to the Saturday, Feb. 21, 7:30 p.m. performance of 'Stars on Ice' at the Atlantic City Boardwalk Hall. If enough people express interest, a group rate is available. Tickets would be \$30 each plus a \$10 handling fee, instead of the usual \$55 and \$40 plus handling. Contact **Jean McAlister**, City Center, ext. 4801, for tickets. Deadline is Feb. 12.

Holocaust Contest Winners Announced Feb. 29

The annual Bernard Sless Memorial Holocaust Awareness Event sponsored by ACCC and Richard Stockton State College will be held 3:30 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 29. The theme for this year is, *Why Should We Have Memorials to the Holocaust? - Your Vision of a Memorial as Depicted in Writing, Art or Multimedia*. Winners will be recognized at the annual awards ceremony in Walter Edge Theater on ACCC's main campus.

Rita Michalenko and **Buddy Jacobs**, judges for the art entries, were impressed with the quality and creativity of the work. Awards will be given at a special program on Sunday, Feb. 29, 3:30 p.m., in the theater at the Mays Landing main campus. On that day the winning art entries consisting of posters, paintings, drawings and sculptures will be on display in the Art Gallery.

Adjunct Faculty Health Benefits Applications Due Jan. 31

Community College adjunct faculty who are members of the N.J. Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) may enroll in the State Health Benefits Program's NJ PLUS plan. "Pensionable" adjuncts (three consecutive semesters) must pay the full premium cost of the NJ PLUS plan at the group rates. Prescription coverage is also available. All forms are due to human resources on Jan. 31.

Enrollment paperwork is processed through ACCC's Human Resources Department. Adjuncts will receive monthly premium bills directly from the N.J. Division of Pensions and Benefits. This is the only payment option. The law takes effect in January 2004 with an effective date of March 1. An alternative is the annual benefits open enrollment period in October.

Adjuncts serving more than one New Jersey college must choose which institution they wish to be enrolled from. If an adjunct terminates employment or is not offered an assignment for the next semester (fall to spring to fall, etc.), Human Resources will send a COBRA notice informing his/her of the right

to continue group coverage for up to 18 months.

NJ PLUS is a managed-care plan administered by Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of N.J. It is a point-of-service plan offering 100 percent in-network benefits identical to an HMO, and also out-of-network coverage. The State Prescription Plan offers pharmacy and mail order benefits with a co-pay of \$5 for brand names and \$1 for generic medications.

Please call or e-mail the Human Resources Department at ext. 5611 or ext. 5109 or e-mail bmusitan@atlantic.edu or rossi@atlantic.edu to indicate your availability (day or evening) for an informational meeting about group coverage medical benefits.

Here are the current monthly rates for this benefit:

	NJ PLUS	Prescription
Single	\$314.85	\$113.09
Member & Spouse	\$686.27	\$258.49
Family	\$816.83	\$271.50
Parent & Child(ren)	\$473.67	\$150.94

HERE'S THE SCOOP

by **Aline Bennett & Joe Rossi**

Effective January 1, **Michael Kammer** is the facilitator for English as a Second Language college credit courses. Mike can be reached at ext. 4879.

Congratulations to new grandmom, **Terry Sampson**, business services, on the birth of her granddaughter, Aneecia Luz Moreles, who arrived on Dec. 22 weighing 6 lbs., 7 oz. and measuring 19 inches long.

Deepest sympathy to **Marion Caccavale**, accounts payable, on the death of her father, Peter Minichino, age 67, on Jan. 22.

Welcome back to **Lou Cole**, library, who was out with an injured back.

Welcome back to **Ellen Clark**, ACA chef educator, who is dealing with knee complications.

We wish a fond farewell to **Tobi Oves**, counseling, who resigned Dec. 18 to be a full-time mom.

It's good to see **Nancy Porfido**, director of the student programs/athletics, back after a bout with pneumonia during the holiday break.

Welcome back to **Nancy Hand**, accounts payable, who was out sick with viral bronchitis and the flu.

Congratulations to Ian and **Gina Skinner**, assistant dean of enrollment services, on their new home overlooking the inlet in Atlantic City.

Deepest sympathy to **Tom Boghosian**, English, on the loss of his father on Dec. 24.

Deepest sympathy to **Diane Damask**, academics; **Sue DeNick**, human resources, and **Michelle Bevan**, academic computing, on the loss of Diane's mother and Sue and Michelle's grandmother, Vera Doughty, on Dec. 30. Diane sent this note: "On behalf of my family and myself, I would like to thank all

in the college community for their kind words, flowers and cards of sympathy in the recent loss of my mother. It is so warming to know that we here at ACCC are surrounded by those who really care.”

Deepest sympathy to **Carlo Canale**, ITS, on the loss of his father, Orlando Canale, on Jan. 1.



Ray Brewer

We are saddened to report the passing of our friend and colleague, security officer **Ray Brewer**. He was 75. Mr. Brewer joined the college in June 1998 after serving in the U.S. Army and as a gourmet captain for Resorts of Atlantic City. He was born in Morton, Pa., and resided in Cherry Hill before moving to Absecon 25 years ago. Security sergeant Al Jayne, said, “Ray was extra helpful to the students, and carried out all his duties very professionally, always willing to go the extra mile without complaining. I worked with Ray many years. His knowledge, wit and humor will be missed. Among other things, he was a fine officer and an honest, hardworking guy.” Well said, A.J.!

More than 50 colleagues, friends and relatives greeted **Don Hurff** at his Dec. 18 retirement party at Epic Grille. Retirees in attendance included former president **Dr. Larry Winchell**, long-time deans **Bob Goudie** and **Pat Luciano-Federici**, and former science professor and chair, **Dr. Tom Brown**.

Although you had to be a science major to understand some of the jokes, there was good natured commentary about Don’s distinguished history at the college, including his tenure as a bargaining unit founder and leader and his theory on “ducks.” Don, the college’s first full-time faculty hire, will serve as an adjunct lab instructor in spring 2004.

Congratulations to former ACCCers **Patrick and Tara Heaton** on the birth of their son, John Michael. The family, including Tara’s son, Steven, send greetings to the college community. The Heatons can be reached at 625 E. Lackawanna Ave., Olyphant, PA 18447.

Hats off to student services staff who put in many hours for yet another busy registration and advising process.

Congratulations to **Cynthia Correa**, human resources, on her new 2004 all-wheel drive Volvo Turbo.

Happy birthday to: **Carol Drea**, Jan. 23; **Diane Damask**, **Suzanne Feye**, Jan. 24; **Angela Smith**, Jan. 25; **Karen Brown**, **Karen Morelli**, **Larry Reber**, Jan. 26; **Michael Sargente**, Jan. 30; **Marge Battistelli**, **Liriana Samuel**, Jan. 31; **Doris Hunt**, Feb. 1; **Elizabeth Franchetti**, **Patricia Gandy**, **Paula Hamilton**, **Ronald McArthur**, Feb. 3; **Robbin Haynes**, **Rita Bellanger**, Feb. 4; **Gayle Edwards**, Feb. 5. Adjunct birthdays: **Janet Brown**, **Tim McLaughlin**, Jan. 25; **Cathleen Cocuzza**, Jan. 27; **Joyce Simon**, Jan. 30; **Joanne Thomas**, Feb. 3; **Michaele Ely**, Feb. 4. Have a great day!

NEWS FROM ACCC’S EXTENSION CENTERS

Greetings from Freezing Cold Charles D. Worthington Atlantic City Center by Jean McAlister

Dr. Adele McGowan-Gihlooly, formerly of ACCC and now at City University of New York, presented a workshop titled, *Whole Language--Teaching ESL Students for Fluency and Clarity* at ACCC’s Worthington City Center.

Welcome to **Mary Jean Burke**, director of the Nurse Workforce Solution Project. Mary Jean can be found next to **Pat Owens’** office. Her extension is 4714.

Looking for **Judy Matsunobu**? She is located in room 251. That room is also available for adjunct instructors, credit or non-credit, to use the computer or phone while on site. This is an alternative to the Faculty Development Room in the LAC and is available on a first-come, first-served basis. **Mike Kammer** and **Susan DePhillippis** are still in room 237.

There are two Rutgers MBA classes located on the Mays Landing main campus, room A-102, this semester: Financial Accounting will meet 9 a.m. Saturdays, and Marketing will meet at 6 p.m., Thursdays. Only one class meets in Atlantic City on Tuesdays in room 204. All hospitality courses are in Atlantic City, room 288.

Many thanks to **Nick Ganaway** for completing all the phone change requests so quickly. We appreciate your hard work.

Don't forget to take a look at the spring non-credit program guide. There are some wonderful classes for you and your family. **Steve Miron** is heading up the registration for all non-credit programs. He can be reached at ext. 4829. **Kailin Hackney** is handling the registration for the Pinelands Wastewater Seminar. Please refer those calls to her, ext. 4802. All registration forms should be sent to her as well for that conference.

Have a great spring semester!

Hello from Blustery Rio Grande, the Cape May County Technical School and the US Coast Guard Training Center – Cape May!

by **Lisa Apel-Gendron**

Well, everyone's back and things are rolling.

We're offering two credit classes on the Coast Guard Base. **Jim Ney** and **Wayne Whelan** are teaching there.

Buzz Hauf has our mini Division Office open at the Tech School in Room 319. If you need to reach Buzz, he's at ext. 4010 or e-mail bhauf@atlantic.edu

At CMCEC, a full complement of credit and continuing education classes is running. All student and faculty services are in place, including math and reading/writing tutoring, which begins Jan. 26.

Enjoy the weekend!

ACCC IN THE NEWS

Kathy McGowan, college relations, was quoted in The Press' Answer Guy column on the design of ACCC's logo.

The announcement that Borgata was added to ACCC's Educational Partners program, offering reduced, in-county tuition rate to the casino's employees who live outside Atlantic or Cape May counties, appeared in The Press.

A letter to the editor written by adjunct **Jackie O'Neal** regarding Gov. McGreevey's signing of the Community Colleges Compact appeared in The Press. O'Neal noted that the governor is playing a supportive role to create brighter futures for New Jersey's community college students and sending a message that education is important.

A news release on the board's reorganization meeting in November appeared in the Cape May County Herald.

The Press and News Channel 40 covered the ACA graduation held on Dec. 18.

The Press recently ran a story on the judicial system representatives from Beijing who are being trained by ACCC to prepare for Beijing's hosting of the 2008 Olympics.

A story in The Press on BYO restaurants featured a photo of Café J owner **Donna Vassallo**, instructor of hospitality management.

A news release and ad promoting Health Careers at ACCC appeared in The Press' Health Topics section last week.

A photo of the long lines during the first days of registration appeared with an article titled *A stampede on nursing programs: Area colleges overflow with pre-nursing hopefuls* in The Press on Dec. 5.

ACCC was included in University Business magazine's list of *70 Smart Revenue Generators and Moneysavers* for buying its utilities through a consortium and installing a geothermal system to get more economic usage.

Chef Michael P. Williams, a part-time ACA instructor and executive consulting chef at Laguna Grill and Martini Bar, was included in an Atlantic City Weekly feature that asked area chefs to describe their perfect Thanksgiving meals.

Chris Sitren, a second-semester ACA student, was recently welcomed to the rank of Eagle Scout by Boy Scout Troop 195. An article about Chris, of Franklin Township, and his achievement ran in The Spectator.

Dr. Richard Perniciaro, associate dean for the Center for Regional and Business Research at ACCC, was quoted in a Philadelphia Inquirer article about the comeback of table games in Atlantic City.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS



From left, Cheryl Knowles-Harrigan, ACCC assistant professor of art, poses with her students, Phyllis Pelham and Elsie Dawson (showing her "Still Life with Fruit" painting.) Photo by Jane Lueder of Innovative Creations.

Cheryl Knowles-Harrigan is delighted that students from her fall Mixed Media Painting class are included in Gallery 50's annual "Artists in the Making" college student exhibition. Elsie Dawson, Phyllis Pelham, Stella Sparks and Michael Waters spent a Saturday with Cheryl preparing their work for professional exhibition. Dawson's "Still Life with Fruit" was chosen for the gallery's full color exhibition announcement. Gallery 50 is located on Commerce Street in Bridgeton and the exhibition continues through Jan. 30. ACCC was one of 15 participating colleges from the tri-state area.

ACA student **Ori Beider** taught two cooking workshops, one for third and fourth graders and one for fifth, sixth and seventh graders, at Beth El Synagogue last month.

Maryann Carol, director of instructional technology, earned her master of arts in instructional

technology from Richard Stockton College of NJ. Maryann received the MAIT Founders Award - given to the graduate whose final project showed the most solid application of instructional technology design, implementation and evaluation. Her project was the “Online Teaching Workshop for ACCC Faculty.”

Former ACCC employee **Gail Beckley** earned a master’s degree in educational technology from American Intercontinental University, graduating with a 4.0.

ACA Chef Educator **Michael Huber** wrote an article for The Press titled, Mom’s Pizzelles, which included a recipe for the traditional Italian cookie. His new column, titled *The Clueless Gourmet* started in The Press last Sunday featuring a local carpenter who, after a quick day of instruction from Chef Huber, cooked a three-course gourmet meal for his wife.

ACCC was ranked number 49 in the Top 50 Fastest-Growing Public Two-Year Colleges in the 5,000-9,999 enrollment category in Community College Week’s Dec. 8 issue. The ranking was based on an analysis of U.S. Department of Education data, with ACCC experiencing 8.9 percent growth in enrollment.



JoAnne Barbieri

JoAnne Barbieri, professor of computer information systems, was recognized as a Technology Champion by the American Association of Community Colleges recently. Barbieri was nominated for the David P. Pierce Faculty Technology Award by **Dr. Agnes Armao**, vice president of academic and student affairs. The award is sponsored by AACC and Microsoft. A letter from the AACC states: “ACCC is indeed fortunate to have JoAnne as a technology leader and champion at your college.” A letter to JoAnne from the AACC reads: “...thank you for the extraordinary commitment, enthusiasm and talent you bring to your classroom and your college.” “...you are a dedicated professional whose work distinguishes community colleges as the learning-centered institutions of which we are so proud.”

Online Classroom, a newsletter with ideas for effective online instruction, featured ACCC’s Systems Analysis and Design online course. **Otto Hernandez**, associate professor of computer information systems, was quoted extensively in the story, titled, *Collaboration, Case Studies Simulate Real-World Experience*. The program’s industry board “always emphasizes to us that their concerns with graduates are not technical bugs rather than communications based. Students need to put forth written documents—interoffice communications, memos and training documents—and they need to be able to present ideas to a group,” Hernandez explained.

When he teaches a face-to-face and online version of the same course in the same semester, he will occasionally include the face-to-face students in the threaded discussions. “It creates an interesting dynamic. I can see things that I’m not doing in one that I’m not doing in the other based on the responses I get from students. It also creates a bigger community with more ideas to share,” he said. “The underlying goal of all these discussion boards is to keep students engaged with the online course. If they are not online a handful of times a week, they lose interest. The more they log on, the more they’ll say.”

Gina Skinner and **Carmen Royal**, Rowan University alumnae, were recognized in Rowan Magazine for their recent promotions to assistant dean of enrollment services and dean of students, respectively. Rowan Magazine featured artist **Marie Natale** and the fiberglass lighthouses she painted for the Beacons by the Sea Lighthouse Festival. Natale, a Rowan alumna, created seven lighthouses for the fund-raiser, including one for Rowan that depicts key architecture and historical events at the university

ALUMNI

ACA grad **Craig Turner** '92, is executive chef at the Rockledge Country Club in Rockledge, Fla. Craig completed an apprenticeship at Caesars Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City and previously worked at the Crab Trap, Trump Marina and Scarborough Inn Bed and Breakfast.

Buy Gala Raffle Tickets Today!

Consider participating in the 2004 Restaurant Gala 50/50 Raffle to help students in financial need at ACCC. Last year, two ACCC employees were winners of the 2003 Restaurant Gala 50/50 Raffle! This year YOU could be the lucky winner! Five lucky winners will share \$37,500. Only 750 tickets will be sold. Based on all 750 being sold, first prize will be \$22,500; second prize will be \$7,500 and third, fourth and fifth prizes will be \$2,500 each. The drawing will be held April 22 at the gala. Winners do not need to be present to win. Tickets are \$100 each and can be purchased with friends, co-workers, or family members to share the wealth! For tickets or more information, contact **Ellen Gregory** in the president's office, ext. 4901.

Effective Outcomes Assessment Depends on Research

Office of Research

The Middle States Commission on Higher Education was founded by an association of colleges and secondary schools in 1919 to evaluate and accredit educational institutions in its region. Today, its focus is on developing and implementing comprehensive institutional and learning outcomes assessment; in other words, how effectively a college measures its performance in providing educational services. These measurements depend on research, which at ACCC is conducted by the Office of Research. Over the next few months, the Communicator will publish a series of articles describing some research instruments and surveys that are part of the foundation for effective institutional and learning outcomes assessment.

The ACCC Student Satisfaction Graduation Questionnaire

Office of Research

Like every research instrument designed at ACCC to gauge students' opinions, attitudes or demographics, participation in the student satisfaction graduation questionnaire is anonymous and strictly voluntary. The 20-question survey is distributed to potential respondents as an attachment to the Degree Processing Card. The college graduates approximately 500 students every academic year with about 400 of them returning the questionnaires.

The questions range from students' satisfaction with their instructors' knowledge of the subject material to their assessment of various staff services to the applicability of the curricula to employment opportunities. The graduation questionnaire began in pilot form in 1999 and went operational in 2000. Since then, some 99% of students responding each year declared they were satisfied or very satisfied with "the quality of education received at ACCC." Questions also measured the percentage of students who used such services as financial aid, counseling, and career services and their level of satisfaction with them. The survey also polled whether students had Internet access from home, use of on-line library resources, and use of campus library resources.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The calendar is updated regularly at www.atlantic.edu/about/monthlycal.shtml.

--**Kathy McGowan**, *editor*