

 **President's Report**

TO: Atlantic Cape Community College Board of Trustees
FROM: Dr. Barbara Gaba
DATE: March 24, 2020
(Worthington Atlantic City Campus)

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

- A Coronavirus Task Force was established by Dr. Gaba on March 6, 2020 to ensure that the College is taking all appropriate measures for the health and safety of the college community. The team has been meeting daily and will continue to meet as needed until the situation has been resolved.
 - On March 13, 2020, the [Coronavirus webpage](#) went live on the college website to provide updates and information to the college community.
 - Communications to students, staff and faculty have been sent via email and social media.
- Dr. Gaba has been participating in regular conference calls with the New Jersey Community College presidents and New Jersey Council of County Colleges (NJCCC) leadership and participated in a conference calls with the NJ Secretary of Higher Education, Dr. Zakiya Smith Ellis.
- Following the regularly scheduled Spring Break (week of March 16), classes have been cancelled for the week of March 23 to allow for Facilities staff to disinfect and clean the campuses and to give faculty time to prepare to deliver online course instruction.
 - Deep cleaning of all three campuses is currently underway. The Facilities team is working to sanitize offices, classrooms, restrooms, surfaces, vents, elevators, floors and walls.
 - Students are being surveyed so the College can gain an understanding of their technology needs as we transition to online instruction. As of

Friday, March 20, 1,126 responses have been received, and the survey closes on Wednesday.

- Online instruction for all courses will begin on Monday, March 30 and will continue until further notice.
 - Late-Start courses scheduled to begin on March 23 have been pushed back one week to begin on March 30.
- Pursuant to Governor Murphy's Executive Order on March 16, non-essential employees began working from home on Wednesday, March 18.
 - Currently, all full time and part time staff are being paid and are expected to be available via phone and email during regular working hours.
 - Phone lines are being answered at all three campuses and calls are being directed to the appropriate department for response.
- A number of College and Foundation events have been cancelled or postponed due to the Coronavirus outbreak.
 - The Distinguished Alumni Dinner scheduled for April 1 has been cancelled.
 - The Restaurant Gala has been postponed to May 27, 2020.
 - All team sports have been cancelled for the remainder of the semester following the decision by NJCAA Region XIX.
- Communications to the Board and college community will continue to be sent on a regular basis.

Legislative Advocacy

- Dr. Gaba testified before the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on March 12 at Rowan University. Student Government Association (SGA) President and Community College Opportunity Grant (CCOG) recipient Joelle Motley also testified at the hearing about the importance of continued funding for higher education assistance programs such as CCOG.

Capital Improvement Plan

- Renovation projects for Buildings H, D and K are in process.
 - Bids for H Building are due on March 25 and a bid award recommendation will be brought to the April Board meeting. The scheduled start date is April 18 with anticipated completion in August 2020.
 - Bids for D and K Buildings will be due on April 23 and a bid award recommendation will be brought to the May Board meeting. K Building work is expected to run from June to November 2020 with D Building to follow from December to July of 2021.
- As included in the meeting agenda, the Chapter 12 request for FY21 is being submitted for Board approval and totals \$4.8M.

Partnerships – University

- On March 3, 2020, Atlantic Cape hosted a signing ceremony to formalize its 3+1 Pathways Program agreement with Thomas Edison State University. Dr. Gaba and Dr. Merodie Hancock, President of Thomas Edison, gave remarks highlighting the value of this program, which enables students to seamlessly transfer up to 90 credits completed at Atlantic Cape towards a Bachelor's degree at Thomas Edison State University.
- Atlantic Cape co-sponsored Rutgers' "Interprofessional Day of Learning" held on March 6, 2020 at the Rutgers Building on the Mays Landing Campus. Dr. Gaba delivered welcome and closing remarks at this event, which brought together over 200 professionals from around South Jersey working in the fields of public health, social work, and healthcare. The focus was to discuss and exchange knowledge on pertinent community health issues such as mental illness, homelessness, substance abuse, and domestic violence.

Community Relations (Atlantic City)

- Atlantic City's first "Quality of Life Series" workshop was held on the Worthington Atlantic City Campus on February 27, 2020. The monthly public

meeting focuses on quality-of-life issues for city residents and community members. These workshops are organized by the Atlantic City Mayor's Office.

- Atlantic Cape hosted a coalition of Atlantic City multicultural community organizations in order to discuss community issues in the area. A reunion of community representatives from Latino, Chinese, Vietnamese, Pakistani, Bengali, and Indian organizations will discuss ongoing community issues and efforts, specifically around the efforts of establishing a multicultural community center in Atlantic City.
- Atlantic Cape is partnering with local community organizations and the Atlantic City Complete Count Committee to stress the importance of the upcoming United States Census, and ensure that all our community members are counted in the upcoming census.
- In an effort to continue reinforcing our partnership with the Atlantic City Public Library, Atlantic Cape has agreed to have a presence at the Atlantic City Public Library through their new "Fresh Start Program." Victor Moreno, Community Outreach Manager, will be visiting the Library on a regular basis to share educational resources available through Atlantic Cape to Fresh Start program participants.
- Victor Moreno, Community Outreach Manager, met with John Brooks Recovery Center staff in Atlantic City on March 5, 2020 to discuss clients' educational needs and building a stronger partnership with Atlantic Cape. An information session will be held on March 27 with 30 of their clients, so they can learn more about what educational opportunities are available through Atlantic Cape.
- Victor Moreno, Community Outreach Manager, met with the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA), Deputy Executive Director Rosa Farias. The CRDA has agreed to give Atlantic Cape free publicity space on their electronic screens around the City of Atlantic City.
- Victor Moreno, Community Outreach Manager, met with Turning Point Day Center for the homeless on March 9, 2020 to discuss how Atlantic Cape can collaborate and build a stronger partnership.

- Atlantic Cape welcomed the NAACP Youth Council members to our Worthington Atlantic City Campus. The high school students received demonstrations from our Paramedic and Health Professional Institute (HPI) departments.
- Atlantic Cape will lead the College and Career workshops for Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. GEMS program. The Delta GEMS program offers a road map for college and career planning through activities that provide opportunities for self-reflection and individual growth.
- The Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) Committee led a community meeting on March 5, 2020 at the Worthington Atlantic City Campus to discuss alternatives to detention for juveniles and young adults with a focus on education and workforce.

Workforce Development

- Workforce Development is working with Cape Regional Medical Center to begin training the first cohort under the Healthworks Grant. Cape Regional is planning to train nine (9) current Customer Service Representatives as Medical Assistants.

Retention

- The Men of Atlantic Cape (MAC) held their annual new member induction ceremony on the Mays Landing Campus on March 3. Dr. Gaba and Dean Paula Davis delivered welcome remarks. The event highlighted the importance of this retention program and the participants' success at Atlantic Cape and beyond. Michael Forest, Counselor, has done excellent work coordinating the program.

Public Relations

- Dr. Gaba was interviewed by the *Press of Atlantic City* for Women's History Month and her profile appeared on the front page of the Sunday, March 15 issue.

Public Appearances

- Trustee Maria Ivette Torres visited Mrs. Tiller's 4th grade class at Pleasantville's South Main Street School to read to the students. Mrs. Tiller is an Atlantic Cape alumna.
- Dr. Gaba spoke to the middle school students of Uptown School Complex in Atlantic City for their "Career Day" on February 28, 2020 about her career path and the importance of education.
- Dr. Gaba spoke on a panel at Mt. Olive Baptist Church's Annual Black History Month Program in Cape May on February 29, 2020. The theme of the event was "Examining Our Past, Present, and Future."